

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Nepal / Iran : Repression intensifies against monarchists

Yesterday February 22d 2010, thousands of Nepalese monarchists poured into Kathmandu following the appeal of the Monarchist Parliamentary Party « Rastrya Prajatantra Party Nepal » (RPP-N). Demonstrators, boasting a popular petition that gathered about two million signatures demanding a constitutional referendum, occupied the centre of the Nepalese capital, almost paralyzing the city.

There were reportedly several incidents, although we don't have precise information in that regard. But it seems, according to our sources, that the police forces arrested about half a thousand citizens. Among the people under arrest are to be found the leaders and representatives of the RPP-N.

In front of the magnitude of repression, the exiled sovereign, H.M Gyanendra met the Indian authorities who stated that they were highly concerned about the home affairs situation of Nepal. Less than two years after the Republic was proclaimed, Nepal seems to be on the verge of another Revolution, this time in favour of a return of Monarchy. This reversal of situation is taking place after a rapid social and economic deterioration of the country. This illustrating the incapacity of Maoist revolutionaries and their moderate republican allies to handle with the situation.

Since 09:00 a.m this morning, thousands of Rastrya Prajatantra Party Nepal (RPP-N) are pacifically blocking the accesses to Singha Durbar and before Padmodaya School Putalisadak, Anamnagar and Maithigar, demanding constitutional monarchy to be integrated to the new Constitution. During the demonstrations, executives of the RPP-N were wounded by the authorities and there were numerous arrests.

The International Monarchist Conference calls for a complete stop to repression as well as the arrests of Nepalese monarchists as well as the organisation of a people's referendum which manifestly corresponds to the wishes of a majority of Nepalese people.

The International Monarchist Conference is once more amazed by the silence of the media whereas repression in Nepal, already latent, seems now to enter into a massive scale.

The International Monarchist Conference reasserts its support to their Nepalese comrades and hopes that a pacific solution will be found quickly before the situation of the country falls into definitive chaos.

Besides, from Iranian sources, The International Monarchist Conference has been warned of the arrest this week end (in the night from the 20th to the 21st of February) that another Iranian monarchist activist, Omid Dana, aged 26.

Dana is charged with bearing monarchist symbols during a forbidden demonstration from opponents to the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

This arrest, coming only a few days after the executions of Mohammad-Reza Ali-Zamani and Arash Rahmanpour, is sparking off founded and expanding concern on the future fate of Omid Dana who, according to our sources, could be accused of being an « enemy of God », charges often meaning death sentence in Iran.

The International Monarchist Conference denounces this new arrests and asks the international community as well western governments to implement significant political and economical response to put an end to this repressive escalation in Iran.

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