

## **Why does Nobody Talk About November's National Massacre in Iran?!**

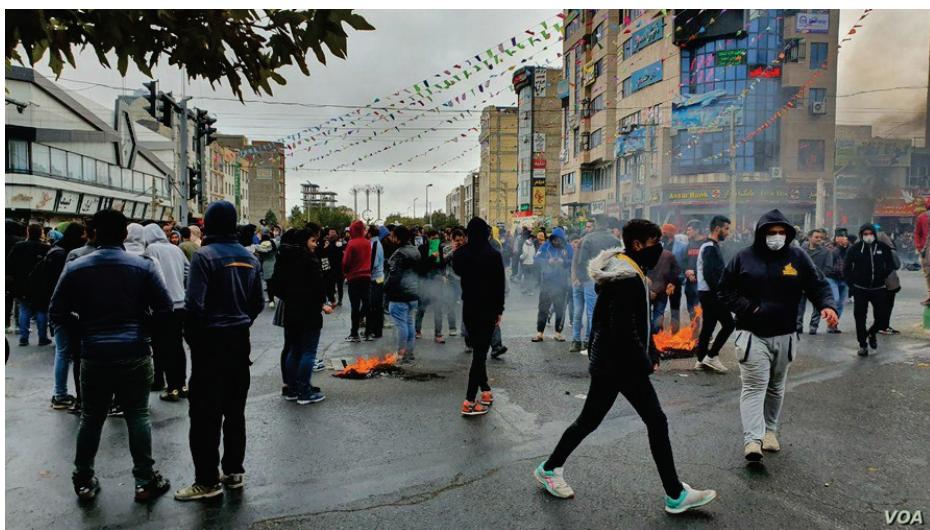
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I am quite sure that Iran's Islamic state has carried out her mission on behalf of global capital better than any other state. Why? Nobody knows anything about details of **November's National Massacre** in Iran. If one searches for news about middle east, it is very hard to find anything special about Iran. According to Amnesty International report more than 100 people has been killed during the November protests in Iran<sup>1</sup>. It is completely wrong. In the city of *Shahryar* alone people are reporting that 100 people have been killed by Iran's Authority<sup>2</sup>. Many foreign news services do not have an office in Iran. Those who have received this favour from Iran's Islamic state to have an office in Tehran, do not have any permission to make interviews with people or make independent reports about events. They can only analyze official news and reports. In addition, families of murdered people are under high pressure not to disclose their loss and remain silence in social networks. On top of the national shutdown of internet for more than 10 days, a selective blockage of the internet in sensitive areas and arrest of more than 7000 activists has made it almost impossible to gather concrete data about Iran's November National Massacre. Based on my personal search in Iranian independent news services, activists' first hand reports and local reports in different cities, I am going to demonstrate a very brief, but clearer vision of what has happened/is happening in Iran.

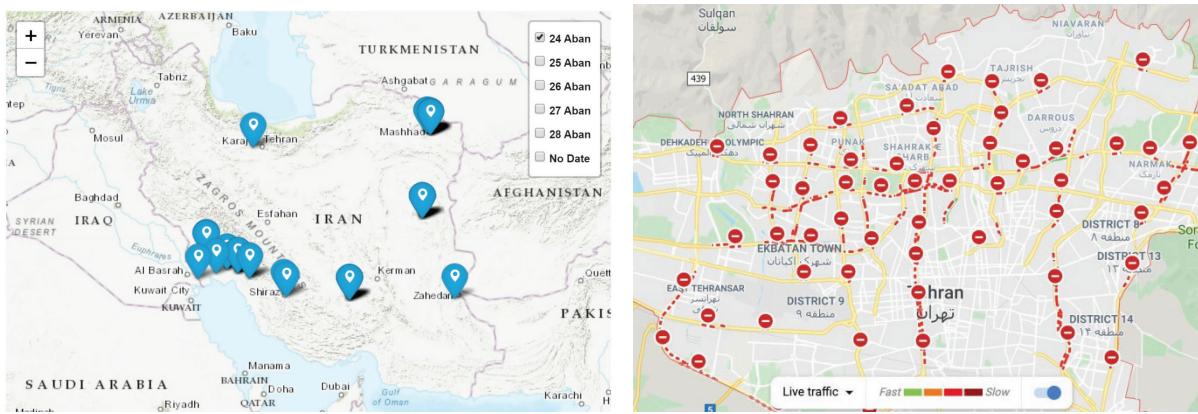
### **Nationwide Demonstrations:**

In the early hours of 15<sup>th</sup> of November, Iran's state surprised people by announcing 300% increase in the price of petrol in order to compensate part of her huge budget deficit, that is the result of harsh sanctions by the USA on Iran. The government had decided not to share its decision with people. This sparked a huge anger in people, since they felt that again, it is them that should pay for the aggressive politics of their government in Gaza, Lebanon, Iraq and Syria. The government, in order to reassure people about their economic safety, announced that they will help almost 60 million people (almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the whole population) by donating almost 5 dollar per month. Another move that sparked more anger. In the Friday afternoon, more than 6 provinces of Iran began their protest. The map (1) demonstrates dispersion of protests.



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/11/iran-more-than-100-protesters-believed-to-be-killed-as-top-officials-give-green-light-to-crush-protests/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://iranwire.com/fa/news/tehran/34489>



Friday protests are less aggressive. People in Tehran, Karaj, Esfahan and Mashhad turned off their car in the middle of highways, blocking roads and creating long traffics. The map (2) shows all the blockages in capital.

Reaching night, everything changed. Police forces begin to repress brutally and arrest demonstrators. In response protestors became more radicalized and aggressive. A tough guy in Sirjan, a city in center of Iran, got shot in the head after attacking a huge petrol depot.

Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> of November was the most intensive day of protests. 29 out of 31 provinces, more than 100 cities start a radical, violent protest. Explosion of anger, expression of agony. The people who have now given up hope of any effective interaction with the state, began to shout “Clerics must get lost!”, “Death to Dictator”, “Death to Islamic Republic”. The map (3) indicates the intensity of second day of protests in almost all of Iran.



It is impossible to fully grasp, understand and talk about all the complex stories of November the 16<sup>th</sup>. In what follows, I just share a glance of the history of this day. In each city people blocked main entrance roads, making barricades in neighborhoods and begin to attack police stations, municipal offices, banks, TV stations, big supermarkets, gas stations, camps of Basij<sup>3</sup> and Islamic seminaries. In response, the government completely shut down internet connection and

began her massacre. Government used all of her power in this battle: police forces, Basiji militias, Islamic revolutionary guard corps, classical army and intelligence agency forces. All of them were allowed to shoot people. In Shiraz, protestors who took control of a neighborhood were murdered by shooting from a helicopter. There are many reports, photos and videos about government’s usage of heavy machine guns, tanks and other military equipment , in addition to tear gas, electroshock, plastic bullets and other anti-revolt instruments. People in Mahshar, a port city in south west of Iran, report that many of the protestors who blocked the main entrance road got trapped in canebrakes in margins of the road after the assault of Islamic revolutionary guard

<sup>3</sup> Basij is a paramilitary volunteer militia established in 1979 in Iran. They have major rule in oppression of protests.

corps, and then, burnt in fire made by Islamic soldiers. Same story is true about dozens of poor, crowded cities in other provinces. In many cities, injured people were arrested in hospitals. Security agents ambushed house of protestors at midnight in order to arrest them. Thousands of people has also been texted by intelligence service about the consequence of joining demonstrations.

In the days after 16<sup>th</sup> of November, until now, the government gradually repressed the people's revolt. In map (4), (5) and (6) one can see the gradual spread of demonstrations across different cities. Based on different state and non-state reports, between 600-1000 people were killed in November massacre. More than 1000 banks, more than 100 gas stations, 140 so-called public spaces (including Islamic seminaries and camps of Basij) and thousands of cars and motorcycles has been destroyed. It is very hard to grasp development of consciousness, tactics, behaviors and inner divisions of working class of Iran, without understanding its history through its bloody struggle with Islamic Republic of Iran; its *Bildungsroman*. For a sophisticated historical understanding it is necessary to start, at least, from 2009 Green Movement until now. I will write about it in more details. However, a vital question for the recent social movement of Iran remains open: why nobody talks about November's Massacre in global news?

It is undeniable that history is facing a new phase of '**world revolution**'. In many countries, people are resisting neoliberal project in many particular ways, be that the indigenous people of Ecuador, Yellow-Vests of France or revolutionaries in Iraq, Lebanon, Chile, Haiti or other places. It is the struggle of poor and marginalized workers with the states that are pursuing the goals (let us call it 'the neoliberal economic surgery') of three international organizations: **IMF**, **World Bank** and **WTO**. This phase of world revolution is a war against states that represent the will of these vicious sisters. An uneven war that on the one side, we are billions of poor and angry people, in the wasteland of agony, in the verge of oblivion, crying for a normal life and on the other side they are well-equipped, heartless soldiers using complex, brutal methods of repression in order to send us, we miserable creatures, into nothingness.