



(Right) Demonstrators chant "The People united, will never be defeated," as New York traffic passes in front of them. (Above) A line of demonstrators follow a staging of a mock execution condemning torture in Iran.



Stories and
photos by
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Group promotes Islam beliefs

A spokesman for the Moslem Student Association at UNL, Nasser, said he did not have enough information to comment on the New York demonstration, but said he does not believe in the struggle of the Mojahedin.

Nasser said the MSA is not necessarily pro-Khomeini, but pro-Islam and supports whatever Khomeini does to follow Islam.

"Islam doesn't rely on Khomeini," he said. "It is not based on any one person but Allah." Allah is the Arabic name for God.

Nasser said he believes it is impossible for the Mojahedin to believe in any of the ideals of Marxism (the Mojahedin see their struggle ending in a classless society) and yet call themselves Moslems.

"Our way of life is our religion," he said. "In Islam, we don't believe in separation. We obey the laws of Allah, not manmade laws and the Iranian people see Islam in Khomeini."

Nasser said he doubted any torture was occurring in Iran. He said the anti-Khomeini supporters are not executed because of their beliefs but because they took to the streets with guns attempting to assassinate the government's power structure.

"They are all fighting against the Islamic government and want to establish a Communist government in Iran," he said. "The interpretation of Islam to them is Marxism and the two cannot figure together," he said.

Association wants democracy

The Iranian Student Association of UNL, developed in 1975, was in full support of the New York demonstration against Khomeini, but not of the supporters of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran, according to Mansoor, an ISA spokesman.

"We don't recognize the alternative to Khomeini they are offering," Mansoor said. "We support a democratic government, not an Islamic one."

When Khomeini's regime falls, Mansoor said he believes a new government will be initiated that will lead the people against Khomeini, who would be publicly tried. Only then could a democratic atmosphere be established, he said.

Mansoor said the ISA's 35 active members are against Khomeini and imperialism. The ISA is made up of two groups, the Fedais, who believe Russia is a revisionist country and the Paycar, who believe Russia is a socialist imperialist country.

Mansoor said he has been harassed by Moslem fundamentalists in Lincoln, usually other students who know him and the organization and threaten their lives. He said the Iranian government places pressure on him because of his beliefs by cutting off his funds from Iran. He said he is unsure about his life after graduation as he could possibly face execution in Iran.

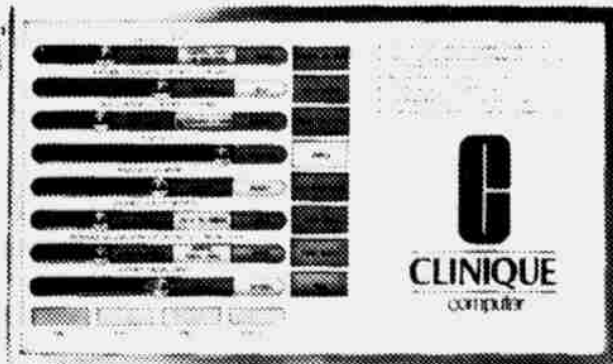
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