



Schoolgirls wave Iranian flags as they mark the start of 10-day celebrations for the anniversary of the Islamic revolution at Behesht Zahra (Zahra's Paradise) cemetery in southern Tehran yesterday.

Iran marks anniversary of Khomeini's return

AFP, Tehran

Bells chimed across Iran yesterday to mark the return from exile in 1979 of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the trigger for a revolution which spawned an Islamic state now engulfed in a deep political crisis.

To mark Khomeini's triumphant return after 15 years in exile, all schools, trains and boats rang their bells at precisely 9:33 am (0603 GMT), the moment his plane touched down at Tehran's Mehrabad airport on February 1, 1979.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and other senior Iranian officials paid homage to the cleric at his mausoleum in southern Tehran.

Monday marked the start of 10 days of celebrations which culminate on February 11, the 31st anniversary of the fall of the US-backed shah who had ruled the country for nearly four decades but who fled two weeks before Khomeini's return.

On his arrival on board an Air France jet 31 years ago, the bearded Khomeini, then 76, had vowed to establish a new government in Iran.

"I will appoint a government. I will slap this government on the mouth," he said in an address at Tehran's Behesht Zahra cemetery, referring to the government of the shah's last prime minister Shahpour Bakhtiar.

The charismatic cleric assumed the role of Iran's supreme leader, which he held until his death in 1989.

During his conservative rule, Iran became embroiled in a brutal conflict with Saddam Hussein's neighbouring Iraq. Over a million people were killed on both sides during the war.

Khomeini had also backed Islamist students who stormed the US embassy in Tehran in November 1979 and took its personnel hostage for 444 days, prompting Washington to sever ties with the Islamic republic.

UN appoints envoy to curb rape in wars

AFP, Addis Ababa

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on Sunday said he intended to make Sweden's Margot Wallstrom his special representative tasked with combating sexual violence against women and children in conflicts.

Ban announced he wanted to appoint the 55-year-old outgoing vice-president of the European Commission during a speech at the opening of the African Union's 14th summit in Addis Ababa.

"I have informed the UNSC of my intention to appoint Margot Wallstrom, vice-president of the European Commission, as my special representative to intensify efforts to end sexual violence against women and children in conflict situations," he said.

"We will continue efforts to end the conflicts in the east (of the Democratic Republic of Congo), restore state authority, facilitate the return of refugees, and protect civilians against all forms of violence including sexual violence," Ban said.

Plan to oust Saddam drawn up two years before the invasion

ANI, London

British Government officials drafted the "contract with the Iraqi people" to foster an internal coup against Saddam Hussein two years before the invasion of Iraq, The Independent revealed.

Britain promised aid, oil contracts, debt cancellations and trade deals once the dictator was removed, as then Prime Minister Tony Blair's team saw it as a way of creating a regime change in Iraq even before the 9/11 attack on New York.

The document, headed "confidential UK/US eyes", was finalised on 11 June 2001 and approved by ministers. It is yet to be published by the Iraq inquiry but The Independent has obtained a copy.

During his evidence to the inquiry last week, Blair had said it was only after 9/11 that serious attention was given to

China won't relax grip on Tibet

Talks held with envoys of Dalai Lama

AFP, Beijing

China said yesterday it made no concessions on Tibetan sovereignty during talks with envoys of the Dalai Lama over the future of the region -- the first such negotiations in more than a year.

"(China's) national interests are inviolable and there is no room for discussion on the issues of national and territorial sovereignty," said a government statement on the talks, quoted by the official Xinhua news agency.

The statement marked China's first confirmation that the secretive talks had concluded, and came as the Tibetan spiritual leader's envoys returned Monday to their exile base in India.

The negotiations between the two sides, which have held an intermittent but inconclusive dialogue over the years on the Dalai Lama's call for "meaningful autonomy" for the Buddhist Himalayan region, were the first in 14 months.

But the statement from the United Front Work Department -- a Communist Party organ that handles contact with the Dalai Lama -- indicated no major breakthroughs were achieved.

It said the idea of a "high degree of auton-

omy (for Tibet) violates China's constitution."

The Tibetan envoys flew to China a week ago and held meetings with Chinese officials first in the central province of Hunan before moving to Beijing at the weekend, the Dalai Lama's senior secretary Chhime Chhoekyapa told AFP.

Chhoekyapa declined to provide any details of the talks.

The envoys, Lodi G Gyari and Kelsang Gyaltzen, were to travel to the Dalai Lama's base in the northern Indian hill town of Dharamshala later Monday to brief the prime minister of the exiled Tibetan government, Chhoekyapa said.

The actual Chinese statement could not immediately be seen and there was no other official comment from China's government, although it announced it would hold a press briefing on Tuesday on the issue.

At the last round of talks in November 2008, the Tibetans handed over a memorandum insisting their demands for autonomy in the mountainous Buddhist enclave were in line with China's constitution.

Beijing said at the time it would not compromise on its position that Tibet is an integral part of China, but said it would keep

open the door for future discussions despite "serious divergences" between the two sides.

Gyari and Gyaltzen had flown to China on January 25 for what was the ninth round of meetings since the secretive dialogue process began in 2002.

The Dalai Lama, 75, who has complained Tibetan culture is in danger of being extinguished, has sought some degree of autonomy for the region since he fled his homeland after a failed uprising in 1959 against Chinese rule.

That came nine years after Chinese troops invaded the region.

China says the Dalai Lama actually wants full independence and has insisted that he must renounce "separatist" activities -- which he denies supporting.

The resumption of talks had been warmly welcomed by Washington, which said it hoped for "positive results" in addressing longstanding differences over the future of Tibet.

The Dalai Lama will be in Washington at the start of a 10-day US visit on February 16. Chhoekyapa said he could not confirm whether the exiled spiritual leader would have a meeting with US President Barack Obama.



UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (R) walks along the UN controlled buffer zone that separates the internationally recognised Greek Cypriot south from the breakaway Turkish Cypriot north of Nicosia yesterday.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Fareast Islami Life Insurance Company Ltd. invites applications from Bangladeshi citizens for the following positions:

- (a) Name of the post : Deputy Managing Director (Finance & Accounts)

(b) Academic qualification : M. Com./MBA, Preference will be given to ACA/FCA.

(c) Age : Maximum 50 years

(d) Experience : Must have 10 years working experience in Life Insurance in the Finance & Accounts out of which 5 years in Senior Executive Position. Candidates should have well experience in Finance & Accounts, Policy Servicing, Actuarial & Valuation works, Product Development, Banking and Investments, Administration, Development Administration, Sales Management, Group Insurance and have fair knowledge of Insurance Act 1938, Insurance Rules 1958, Company Act 1994, Securities Laws (viz. Securities & Exchange Ordinance, 1969, Securities & Exchange Rules, 1987, Securities & Exchange Commission Act, 1993 & others), Depository Act, 1999, Income Tax & VAT rules etc. The Candidate must be computer literate with excellent communication skill both in English and Bangla.
- (a) Name of the post : Deputy Managing Director (Development)

(b) Academic qualification : Minimum Master Degree, Preference will be given to ABIA Diploma holder in Life Insurance

(c) Age : Maximum 50 years

(d) Experience : Must have 10 years working experience in Senior Executive Position in Life Insurance both in the Field & Administrative Jobs out of which 5 years working experience as Assistant Managing Director/Senior Executive Vice President/ Executive Vice President. Candidates should have well experience in Administration, Development Administration, Sales Promotion Organization, Sales Marketing and Management, Group Insurance and have fair knowledge of Insurance Act 1938, Insurance Rules 1958, Company Act 1994, Income Tax & VAT rules etc.

Salary & other benefits will be fixed as per Company's Pay Scale. Age and experience may be relaxed in case of extra ordinary and deserving candidates.

Interested candidates having requisite qualification and experience are requested to send detailed CV, recent two passport size photograph & copies of all academic, professional & experience certificates duly attested by a Gazetted Officer to reach the undersigned by 16 February 2010.

Name of the post applied for shall have to be written on the Envelope.

Confidentiality of the applicants will be maintained.

Managing Director (cc)

Fareast Islami Life Insurance Company Ltd.

Head Office : T. K. Bhaban (13th floor) • 13 Karwan Bazar • Dhaka - 1215



Vacancy Announcement Smiling Sun Franchise Program

Smiling Sun Franchise Program (SSFP), the largest health project of USAID-Bangladesh, is moving fast forward, to become one of the world's largest health social franchise. In fulfillment of this mission, SSFP has been maintaining a highly motivated and fairly large team of skilled personnel from medical, engineering, business and communication disciplines, employed by Chemonics International Inc. Smiling Sun Franchise Program (SSFP) in Bangladesh announces vacancies for the following positions for Dhaka.

1. Health Officer
2. Strategic Partnership Specialist

For details of the Terms of Reference and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.smilingunhealth.com/jobs>. Interested candidates are requested to send their CV in strict confidence, mentioning current salary by emailing to jobs@smilingunhealth.com. Please mention the position in the subject line. Application should be submitted no later than 13 February 2010.

"Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Submitted documents will not be returned to the applicants".

"Qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply"



Pubali Bank Limited

Human Resources Division

Head Office

26, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000

Career Opportunity

Applications are invited from the bonafide citizens of Bangladesh for the following post in plain paper stating full particulars which should reach the Division Head, Pubali Bank Limited, Human Resources Division, Head Office, 26 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000 by 18 February 2010.

Post	Number of posts	Requirements	Responsibilities
Hardware Engineer (In the rank of Junior Officer (Computer))	18 (Eighteen)	Academic Qualifications: Diploma/ Engineer in Computer/ Electrical & Electronics Technology from Bangladesh Technical Education Board. Experience: At least 1(one) year experience in the related field.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hardware trouble shooting and instant support to the branches. Implementing Virus Guard and managing IT Resources. Overseeing Internet facilities including email. Installing Operating System and software as per branch's requirement. IT Compliance as per Bangladesh Bank instructions.

Gross Salary: Tk.14,880/- (in the scale of Tk.7200-400-13,200/- with other admissible benefits)

General Terms & Conditions:

- Age: Maximum 30 years as on 31-01-2010.
- Strong academic background will be given preference.
- Experience will be relaxed for the highly deserving candidates.
- Copy of all educational and experience certificates and 3(three) recent passport size photographs duly attested to be enclosed with the application.
- Only short listed candidates will be called for interview.
- No TA/DA will be given for the interview.
- The name of the post applied for should be clearly written on the envelope and in the application.