Constitutional Charter

For

Transition of Sovereignty

to

Iranian People

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Translator's Note Translator's Note

This document, *The Constitutional Charter for the Transition of Sovereignty to the Iranian People*, is an integral part of *The Constitutional Law Based on Quintuple Rights* by the late Abol-Hassan Bani-Sadr, originally published in March 2019. The English translation of the full work is forthcoming. Nonetheless, it has been deemed appropriate to publish this Charter as a standalone text. Accordingly, it is fitting to include the author's acknowledgments of the many individuals who contributed to the drafting of these foundational documents.

"With deep appreciation for the sustained collaboration of Jaleh Wafa, who has also proposed several of the principles; Dr. Hassan Rezaei, who contributed to the drafting process and whose research yielded some of the constitutional provisions; and Dr. Ali Sedarat, who initially suggested the idea of drafting this constitution, proposed some of the principles, as well as participating in the clarification and refinement of the principles.

I would also express my gratitude to Dr. Firoozeh Bani-Sadr, Aghileh Jafari-Marbin, Fariba Saedi, Jaleh Wafa, Mohammad Reza Raei, Dr. Ali Sedarat, Jahangir Golian (Golzar), Dr. Mehran Mostafavi, and Dr. Nasrollah Nejatbakhsh, who, through their participations in two separate committees, have critically examined the principles one by one, or participated in reviewing and refining the transitional Charter.

My gratitude also extends to many legal experts whose names remain undisclosed.

It is my hope that the critiques already offered, along with those yet to come, will contribute to the further perfection of this constitution."

Prologue

An Antidote to the Anxiety from Tyranny

Anxiety, fear, apprehension, and insecurity are the means that every tyranny tries to create and deal with, directly or indirectly, and uses them against the people to tame, subdue, and silence them, in order to stay in power just a little longer.

The fear and doubt that, in the absence of tyrannical and domineering ruler, people would be much worse off, has been one of the most instrumental, important, and effective anxieties, used by all tyrants throughout history, without exception, even though in seemingly different forms. Without such a successful and long-tested policy, it would be for the tyrants, always a violent minority, to continue their rule over a passive and reactive majority.

Another important point is that the life span of a tyrant and the level of violence employed are directly proportional to the level of anxiety of the population, which in turn directly causes more passivity, reactivity, and apathy among the dominated people. That is, the majority of us, the people, the ones who, with our passivity, allow this anxiety, like a deadly poison, to engulf our

entire society and make us more passive through our inactions, so that we, ourselves, directly and indirectly, become a factor in the continuation of the tyrannical regime.

This poisonous venom not only poisons the fabric of our civil society but also affects various groups and organizations and the political community. As a result, unfortunately, various groups in the political community lose their individual and national self-confidence due to anxiety and depression. The result, unfortunately, is that we see that some people are greedily approach foreign powers, and some, with so-called names like reformists, fundamentalists, or evolutionists, continue to beg from various domestic powers, for someone to come and change the deplorable fate we are currently suffering from into a lesser bad one. All of them, in all these cases, willingly or unwillingly, directly or indirectly, have become, with their own hands, a means of advancing the slogan of the current tyrannical regime in Iran, that "preservation of the system is the most important duty".

It should also be noted that various government officials, civil or otherwise, and even the repressive elements in the intelligence and security services, are not safe from this poisoning, and they too, for different reasons and in different forms, have this anxiety about what will happen if this regime is gone. The reflection of this anxiety in this group causes more repression and violence, which in turn invites more reactions and chain violence and revenge, which could lead our national life to rapidly move towards the brink of destruction.

One of these anxieties, among many, is how the country's affairs will proceed during the transition period, that is, from

the time of the fall of the tyrannical regime to the establishment of its replacement system.

To address this anxiety for the people, it seemed incumbent upon all who advocate a democratic system to replace the existing tyrannical one, to come up with plans for such a transition, to allow the people to engage in the conversation about where they would like to see the country go, and how. This document, "**Constitutional Charter for Transition of Sovereignty to Iranian People**", required a good amount of effort, research, cooperation, and harmony among some of us who persevered on the principles of "independence, freedom and rights", is presented, as a suggestion to our heroic people, in full below.

This document, like the intelligent slogan of the Iranian people, is "facing the people and away from power, and its main audience is the different layers of the people.

In this document, through the exchange of opinions of experts, advocates of Quintuple Rights, different aspects of the transitional period have been assessed, and solutions have been presented, though by no means believed to be shy of deficiencies.

This document does not belong to any particular person or group, and its true owner is, in fact, we, the people.

Therefore, everyone is invited to study this document and send their suggestions and comments.

Also, all those who have love for their homeland and their fellow human beings in their hearts are also invited to help in publishing and distributing it, if they do not have major

disagreements with the basic tenants of this document. Censorships, which are gradually leading to self-censorship, have surrounded the truth like high walls, built by the powerful and tyrants. The truth is that we, the people, with the help of each other, and with personal national self-confidence, are capable of creating good and better destinies for ourselves and for our children.

Ali Sedarat

August 17, 2019

The Imperative of Drafting this Charter

The Iranian people grapple with the question, *"What will happen after the collapse of the Islamic Republic regime?"*—a question for which they lack a clear and reassuring answer. This uncertainty stems from historical experiences, where the fall of the monarchy was swiftly followed by the emergence of a new form of tyranny under the pretext of protecting the revolution. The fear of history repeating itself during the transitional period has created deep anxieties that are difficult to dispel. Therefore, it is imperative to establish a well-defined legal framework for the transition in advance—one that can be openly scrutinized, refined, and improved—to reassure the Iranian people that the cycle of despotism will not be repeated.

This document proposes the transfer of sovereignty to the Iranian people in such a manner that from the first day, the institutions that are formed represent rights-based democracy. Moreover, the implementation of the Quintuple Rights and the principle of de-violentization by citizens does not necessitate the absolute eradication of tyranny before reforms can begin.

Rather, it requires the adaptation of dissolving authoritarian structures across all levels of social, civil, and governmental life.

The transition from tyranny to democracy, and the consolidation of a democratic order founded upon human rights and human dignity, necessitates the establishment of a national legal covenant that outlines both the alternative political arrangements and the pathways to achieving them. Thus, in this critical juncture, it is essential to draft a legal framework for the transitional period—one that will serve as the guiding foundation for the administration of the country in alignment with rights-based principles. The primary function of this legal framework must be to delineate the key phases of transition toward a stable, rights-oriented government.

Therefore, until the ratification of the Constitution, this document is proposed to be the legal authority for the transfer of sovereignty to the Iranian nation. The Constitution of the Islamic Republic is null and invalid. Laws and regulations that are incompatible with Quintuple Rights (human rights, citizenship rights, national rights, the rights of Iranians as members of the international community, and the environmental right), or these guiding principles, to the extent of their inconsistencies, are invalid. For the administration of the country's affairs and until new laws are enacted, some of the ordinary laws and regulations that are compatible with Quintuple Rights shall be valid and in force.

During the transitional period, governance will be structured on four main branches forming the Interim Government:

1. The National Council for the Transfer of Sovereignty to the People of Iran
2. The Transitional Administration
3. The Transitional Supreme Judicial Council
4. The Transitional National Media Council

Additionally, a Truth-Finding and Public Peace Commission will be established to address past injustices and promote national reconciliation. The structure, responsibilities, and functions of these five institutions are outlined in this charter.

The establishment of a permanent rights-based government shall be completed within a timeframe of one year, with a maximum extension of up to eighteen months from the official declaration of the formation of the Council for the Transfer of Sovereignty. However, it remains the responsibility of both the transitional authorities and civil society to ensure that this process is expedited to the greatest extent possible.

Chapter One

Fundamental Rights

Article 1: During the transitional period, the Quintuple Rights (hopefully be embraced by the Iranian people right away) shall be fully implemented. Consequently, all forms of discrimination based on gender, religion, ethnicity, language, skin color, or institutional affiliation are strictly prohibited. The rule of law shall be firmly established, ensuring that all individuals are equal in rights and responsibilities, with duties defined in accordance with these rights.

The Quintuple Rights guarantee every citizen legal and civil protection, affirming their status and dignity within society. Therefore, any form of exceptionalism must be eliminated, and all four branches of the transitional government bear the responsibility of safeguarding every citizen from discrimination. Legal and social relations shall be regulated based on these fundamental rights, and all discriminatory practices or inequalities arising from rights violations shall be nullified.

Particular attention shall be given to eradicating deprivation and inequality, with priority given to the most vulnerable segments of society. Furthermore, environmental rights shall be upheld as an integral component of governance. Every

citizen shall enjoy full human, citizenship, and national rights, while Iran's obligations and status as a member of the global community shall serve as the cornerstone of its foreign policy.

Article 2: Since all persons, as human beings, shall be afforded equal rights, irrespective of their sex or gender, all articles of the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as all civic, penal, administrative, and any other laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran that breach the fundamental rights of women, or are openly discriminatory against women, shall be nullified upon official establishment of the Council for the Transfer of National Sovereignty to Iranian People. Any woman who remains subject to indictment, punishment, incarceration, or legal scrutiny as a result of previous discriminatory laws, shall be freed immediately, and her conviction shall be vacated. Anyone who continues to incarcerate a woman under prior discriminatory, nullified laws, shall be in violation of the law and this Charter.

Article 3: Human dignity is inviolable. Any law, decree, or policy that contravenes human rights is hereby declared void, and its enforcement is strictly prohibited. No form of domination shall be permitted in relationships between individuals, between individuals and groups, or between groups within society.

Article 4: The rights and dignity of non-Iranians residing in Iran must be fully respected. All matters concerning their residency, education, employment, marriage, citizenship rights, and applications for Iranian citizenship shall be

governed by legal provisions pertaining to foreigners, provided they are in full alignment with the Quintuple Rights.

Note: In the transition period, all borders shall be closed and only Iranian citizens with passport shall be permitted to cross borders, and all foreigners who had already obtained an entry visa will be permitted to enter Iran.

Article 5: Execution, torture, and any practice undermines human dignity are immediately and unconditionally banned.

Article 6: The institution of government, the State, encompassing all four branches (legislative, executive, judicial, and national media), shall be entirely separate from religious institutions. Religious governance and state-sanctioned religion shall be abolished. The State shall not officiate or endorse any religion, ideology, or doctrine, nor shall it grant privileges or impose restrictions on individuals based on their religious beliefs or lack thereof. Every individual shall have the unrestricted right to practice, or abstain from practicing, any religion, ideology, or doctrine without interference.

Article 7: Iran is a sovereign, independent, and indivisible nation. The entire territory of Iran belongs equally to all its citizens, both individually and collectively as a unified nation.

Article 8: The Government of the Transitional Period shall function as a singular, independent governing authority, established in accordance with the rights outlined in the Quintuple Rights. It is entrusted, in cooperation with civil society, with the immediate mobilization of all available

resources to ensure the fulfillment of basic needs and the creation of necessary opportunities for the people. Its governance shall be rooted in social justice, independence, freedom, and environmental sustainability.

Article 9: The administration of affairs during the Transitional Period shall be structured through Citizens' Councils, which shall operate based on dialogue, consensus, and the principle of "one person, one vote." No official position, whether elective or appointed, shall be hereditary. All appointments and elections shall be determined solely on the basis of knowledge, merit, and capability.

Article 10: In accordance with the principle of independence, Iran's foreign relations shall be guided by the doctrine of non-dominance, ensuring the preservation of national rights, environmental rights, and Iran's right as a member of the global **c**ommunity. No individual, group, institution, or foreign government shall share or usurp the national sovereignty that rightfully belongs to the Iranian people.

Article 11: The structure of government during the Transitional Period shall be organized in strict adherence to the principle of transferring sovereignty to the Iranian people, a process that, in accordance with Article 8, must be compatible with the Quintuple Rights. This requires the dismantling of all dictatorial structures to ensure that the re-emergence of authoritarian rule becomes structurally and institutionally impossible.

Article 12: Every citizen holds the inherent right to participate in the governance of society. As members of the national community, citizens may exercise this right directly through referenda or **i**ndirectly by freely and secretly voting for their preferred candidates.

Article 13: There is no preference between the principles of independence, freedom, national unity, pluralism, right of agreement, right of disagreement, and territorial sovereignty. The protection and implementation of these principles are both the right, and duty of government and all citizens.

Article 14: The formation, Organization and activity of political parties, political, religious, and ideological associations, trade syndicates and cooperatives, shall be unrestricted and protected from discrimination.

Article 15: No individual, group, political party, or association shall be permitted to impose domination over the people, or any individual, group, political party, or association, under the pretext of any ideology, doctrine, or majority support or rule.

Chapter Two

National Council for Transfer of Sovereignty to Iranian People

Article 16: The National Council for Transfer of Sovereignty to Iranian People derives its legitimacy from the popular uprising of Iranian people against The Islamic Republic, as well as from political agreements formed through active participation of the majority in this movement. Since the nature of the alternative governing structure depends on the circumstances of regime change, a transition brought about by popular uprising inherently determines the trajectory and establishes its role as the governing authority during the transitional period

Additionally, upon the completion of city and village council elections, the people of each province shall elect their representatives to join the National Council for Transfer of Sovereignty. Members of the National Council shall serve based on their declared political identity at the time of joining the Council. Should it later be revealed that a member has either concealed his/her true political identity or shifted allegiance in a manner contrary to his/her original stance, his/her membership shall be revoked by a majority vote in the Council.

The National Council shall be mandated to:

1- Select the head of Transitional Administration and approve members of the Cabinet.
2- Establish the Transitional Supreme Judicial Council.
3- Select members of the National Election Committee.
4- Establish the National Fact Finding and Peace Committee.
5- Oversee the adoption of Quintuple Rights in new laws enacted and their implementation by government organizations, as well as removing barriers to their implementation.
6- Make government contracts and agreements, as well as the general condition of the country, transparent, in cooperation with The Transitional Administration,
7- Oversee the fate of parallel institutions formed under "Velayate-Faghih", by reforming them, and/or merging them in organizations formed on the basis of rights.
8- Form the Transitional national Council for Mass Media.
9- Oversee the respect for, and implementation of, this ***Transitional Constitution***.

All activities of the National Council shall be conducted with full transparency and public accessibility, except for matters concerning national security, which may be deliberated in closed sessions upon approval by a two-thirds majority vote of the Council. All decisions made by the Council must be comprehensively reported to the Iranian people, except in cases explicitly exempted under this provision.

Article 17: Members of the National Council shall take the following oath, according to their individual beliefs:

" I swear, before the Iranian people as my witness, to abstain from authoritarianism, and to uphold and safeguard the indivisible principles of independence, freedom, national unity and territorial integrity. I pledge to remain steadfast in my commitment to these principles and to fulfill my responsibilities as a member of the National Council with sincerity and integrity. I shall devote my utmost efforts to protecting the comprehensive set of rights enshrined in the Quintuple Rights and shall perform my duties in strict adherence to the Transitional Constitution and the internal bylaws of the National Council."

Article 18: The duties and responsibilities of the Head of the National Council shall be determined by the Council's internal bylaws, which shall be enacted by its members.

Article 19: All members of The National Council shall be formally invited to attend the meetings. No sessions of the National Council shall be deemed official unless at least one-half plus one of its members are present. Decisions of the National Council will require the approval of one-half plus one of all members.

Article 20: The Constitution of the Islamic Republic is hereby rendered null and void. However, all existing laws and regulations, if not in conflict with the Quintuple Rights and ***Transitional Constitution***, shall remain in force. The National Council shall be the authority to determine their compatibility.

To oversee the review and evaluation of existing legal statutes, the National Council shall appoint a Transitional Legal Oversight Committee, composed of:

- Three jurists, elected by academic faculty of law schools from all universities.
- Three distinguished attorneys, selected by the National Bar Association.

In cases where an equal representation of female and male members is not feasible, at least two of the members must be selected from amongst female jurists.

The National Council, upon consultation with this Transitional Legal Oversight Committee, shall issue its rulings on legal compatibility without undue delay, and transmit its decisions to the Transitional Administration for implementation.

Article 21: National Council for Transfer of Sovereignty to Iranian People, as the supreme decision-making authority, shall ensure full transparency by keeping the public informed of all its activities. It shall actively engage civil society and incorporate citizen consultations into its decision-making process.

All mass media, under the oversight of the Transitional National Council for Mass Media, shall be mandated to publish and disseminate the decisions and resolutions of the National Council ensuring widespread public awareness and accountability

Chapter Three

Transitional Supreme Judicial Council

Article 22: It is vital for the judiciary branch to regain its independence. Any member of judiciary who has participated in extreme and systematic violation of human rights or issued ruthless verdicts, shall be banned to serve in Judiciary institutions. The Transitional Supreme Judicial Council, in consultation with the Bar Association, judiciary community, and human rights advocates, shall be responsible for reviewing and determining the status of such individuals.

Article 23: The Transitional Supreme Judicial Council shall oversee the administration and governance of the judiciary, including but not limited to the appointment, dismissal, promotion, and regulation of judges. The composition and structure of the Transitional Supreme Judicial Council shall be as follows:

1- Three members, or heads of branches, of the Supreme Court, selected by the General Council of the Supreme Court.
2- Six experienced and virtuous prosecutors, with at least ten years of continuous experience.
3- The General Prosecutor.
4- Head of the Council of Administrative Justice.
5- Head of the Supreme Court, who will be the head of the Transitional Supreme Judicial Council.

Article 24: Judges shall be prohibited from enforcing any bylaws, decrees, and directives issued by previous regime that are inconsistent with the guiding principles and tenets of this Transitional Constitution.

Article 25: The establishment of special or exceptional court shall be strictly prohibited.

Article 26: No criminal investigation or criminal judgment can be issued by any judicial authority except in strict accordance with the law. Consequently, all punitive rulings and sentences imposed by judicial branch of the Islamic Republic are hereby annulled and all victims shall have the right to rehabilitation and compensation.

Article 27: Every individual shall have the right to due process and access to legal representation. Those unable to afford one shall be entitled to state-appointed legal counsel, which the Transitional Administration shall be responsible for providing.

Article 28: Agitation and incitement to violence, as well as excommunication of others, shall constitute a crime. Only the judicial branch have the right issue legal rulings, and their enforcement shall be exclusively carried out by the executive branch.

Chapter Four

Fact-Finding, National Peace and Reconciliation Committee

Article 29: Given that:

- A vast number of Iranian citizens have suffered severe injustices at the hands of the Islamic Republic, its institutions, and political-ideological groups, due to their religious or ideological beliefs, political views, or activism, enduring execution, imprisonment, torture, and other forms of physical and psychological harm;
- The principles of rehabilitation and compensation require that victims of such violations, their families, loved ones, and society as a whole, be granted the right to redress for these grave violations;
- Crimes against humanity are not subject to statute of limitation.
- The free flow of information is essential to national healing, and sufficient time is required for the truth to emerge, for victims' suffrage to be fully acknowledged, and for society's moral and historical conscience to develop in a way that ensures tyranny will never be reconstructed;
- The victims of such crimes and injustices are not just the individual, but humanity as a whole;
- Every citizen has the right to defend the rights of others, and to demand the defense of his rights from others.

- Democracy, built on the equality of rights and the opportunity for all to exercise them, cannot be fully realized unless citizens recognize and respond to the suffering of others, and actively combat injustice;
- The historical conscience of a society requires the official recognition of victims' personal histories;
- The principle of restorative justice demands that society make every effort toward the rehabilitation and compensation of victims;
- The absence of a legal process based on restorative justice could lead to acts of personal revenge, thereby increasing violence and resentment in society, ultimately risking the return of dictatorship;

It is therefore essential that victims be granted the opportunity to seek justice, to no longer feel abandoned in their suffering, to trust in a political system founded on social justice, to regain hope in their present and future, to actively participate in building a just society, and to free themselves from the burdens of past grievances, helplessness, and disempowerment.

Accordingly, upon the establishment of the National Transitional Council for the Transfer of Sovereignty to the Iranian People, a Fact-Finding, Justice, and Reconciliation Committee shall be created. This Committee, in consultation with political parties, civil society organizations, independent political figures, human rights activists, and legal experts, shall oversee the documentation, investigation, and redress of political and ideological crimes. The Committee shall be mandated to:

1- Document all political-ideological crimes committed under the Islamic Republic and Pahlavi dynasty, including human rights violations perpetrated by government officials, agents, and/or members of political parties and political and ideological organizations.
2- Collect testimonies from former officials and individuals whose political decisions and actions contributed to these crimes, with the aim of establishing the historical record and presenting a comprehensive report to the Iranian People.
3- Hear the testimonies of all victims, as well as their narratives provided by their families and loved ones, ensuring that their experiences are documented accurately and officially.
4- To subpoena all such former officials and agents to participate in hearings. The Committee shall conduct its proceeding based on "presumption of innocence", guiding principles of adjudication, with the objectives of rehabilitation, compensation and reporting the truth. Suspects shall have one year, from the formation of the Committee, to approach the Committee and request to be heard and to ask for pardon.
5- Ensuring public access to all proceedings, unless security concerns or requests by the families of the victims, necessitates confidentiality, subject to Committee's approval. The media shall have the right to attend the proceedings. In cases where live broadcasts are not feasible, victims' and defendants'

statements must be made publicly available within a reasonable timeframe.

6- Grant amnesty under strict conditions. Amnesty shall be personal, and contingent upon full confession and cooperation. There shall be no group or collective amnesty granted. Amnesty shall apply only to irreparable but compensable crimes, such as murder, torture, incarceration, …., perpetrated in relation to political, ideological, and religious matters. Amnesty shall not be granted for restorative crimes such as theft, financial corruption, bribery, ….

7- Bar individuals convicted of grave abuses from holding government or elected positions.

8- Refer non-cooperative individuals to the Judiciary. Those who refuse to testify or fail to disclose the truth shall have their cases transferred to the Judicial branch for prosecution.

9- The Committee does not have the power of prosecution and rendering judgments, other than what have been delineated above. Prosecution is the responsibility of the judicial branch. Upon the expiration of the one-year deadline, the Committee shall give all information gathered about individuals who have not been pardoned to the Judiciary branch.

10- Compile and publish a comprehensive list of victims, ensuring their recognition in the historical records. A separate list shall be prepared detailing the names of victims' families and recommendations for the compensation for physical and psychological damage suffered.

11- Continue operations until all cases are addressed unless, upon the formation of the permanent government, the Committee submits its final report to the elected Parliament, which may determine whether to extend its mandate.
12- Investigate crimes spanning both the Islamic Republic and Pahlavi Dynasty era. The Committee shall operate for a maximum duration of four years, at which point it shall release a final report to the public, establishing an official historical record. The Elected Parliament shall have the authority to extend its mandate if deemed necessary.

This Fact-Finding, National Peace, and Reconciliation Committee shall serve as an essential mechanism for truth, accountability, and healing, ensuring that the injustices of the past are acknowledged, addressed, and prevented from recurring.

Chapter Five

Transitional Administration

Article 30: The President of the Transitional Administration shall be elected by a majority vote of the Transitional Council to Transfer Sovereignty to Iranian People. The President shall appoint a Council of Ministers from amongst distinguished national figures, whose credentials must be reviewed and approved by the Transitional Council. In the absence of the President Deputy President, shall preside over cabinet meetings. However, all resolutions passed by the Council of Ministers or Deputy President must be reported to and approved by the President. Ministers shall be accountable to the President and Transitional Council shall have the right to impeach the ministers. An Impeachment motion must be signed by at least one-third of the Transitional Council members.

Article 31: To consult and expedite decision-making, the Transitional Administration may request joint meetings with Transitional Council to Transfer Sovereignty to Iranian People.

Article 32: The Ministry of Interior of the Transitional Administration shall be responsible for organizing and conducting elections. However, monitoring and supervision of all elections and referenda shall be the

carried out by an independent Election Committee. This Committee shall consist of seven members, appointed by the Transitional Council. Committee members shall not be members of the Transitional Council, and should be selected, in as much as possible, from amongst members of organizations with a strong record of advocacy for human rights and popular sovereignty.

Note: Impartial international human rights and citizen rights organizations shall be permitted to monitor elections upon their request.

Article 33 Transitional Administration is required to create necessary measures for the return of Iranian experts forced to leave the country, as well as all expatriates, to participate in the process of establishment, perpetuity, and advancement of democracy, and service to the country.

Article 34: Foreign policy in the transitional period shall be guided by the principles of independence, freedom, the Quintuple Rights, non-interference and peaceful co-existence. At the suggestion of Transitional Foreign Minister and approval of the National Council, the President shall appoint, as soon as possible, ambassadors for different countries. These ambassadors shall serve as representatives of peace and fundamental rights, which shall form the foundation of the future constitutional order. In accordance to Article 4 above, ambassadors shall work to normalize diplomatic relations and restore the neglected rights of Iranian people on the international stage.

Article 35: Transitional Administration shall conduct a comprehensive review of all foreign agreements and contracts entered with other countries. Additionally, it shall investigate major historical crises, including the hostage crisis at the American Embassy, the Iraq-Iran war, the nuclear policy, military interventions in the region, and other significant ones. The findings of these investigations shall be transparently reported to both the Iranian people and the National Council.

Article 36: The primary duties of Transitional Administration shall include:

1- Create opportunities for citizens to enjoy their rights, national security, and defending territorial integrity of the Country..
2- Manage national affairs, including political, economic,… affairs.
3- Communicate national situation to the public as transparently as possible.
4- Organizing provincial, city, and village council elections within four months of the establishment of the Transitional Administration. These elections shall be held in the entire country. Each Provincial Council shall elect one member for the National Council. These councils shall continue their duties until a new constitution is ratified and a permanent government is formed.
5- Facilitating national dialogues among legal experts and scholars regarding different

constitutional models, ensuring that citizens are well informed about their future governance. .

6- Hold constitutional election(s);
7- Hold a national referendum to ratify the new Constitution.
8- Holding elections under the new Constitutional framework and preparing for the establishment of a permanent government.

Chapter Six

Language, Alphabet, Flag and National Anthem

Article 37: Farsi shall be the official language and alphabet of the country. All official documents and government communications, and legal proceedings shall be conducted in Farsi, and it shall be taught in schools nationwide as the common language of the nation. However, all Iranian citizens shall have the right to use, learn, and teach their mother languages in education as well as mass media.

Article 38: Until Iranians have not chosen the specifics of their national flag, either directly or through their elected representatives, transitional national flag shall consist of three horizontal stripes in green, white, and red.

Article 39: National anthem of Iran must embody and reflect the values of life and dignity of humans and all living beings, national solidarity, global peace based on non-dominance, the Quintuple Rights. It must uphold the principles of independence and freedom, The Anthem must be a source of inspiration to trigger motivational forces of our society for development of the country in independence and freedom, based on social justice as the criteria. Iranian artists are encouraged to create an anthem that represents these ideals. All submitted anthems shall be publicly performed to allow the citizenry to express their opinions. The final selection of the

national anthem shall be approved alongside the ratification of the new Constitution. Until a new national anthem is officially adopted, “EY Iran”, along with any other anthem that does not symbolize former dictatorial regimes, may be performed and recited freely.

Chapter Seven

Military, Security, and Police Forces

Article 40: All military and police forces that pledge allegiance to the rights and articles contained in this Transitional Constitution shall operate under the command of the Transitional Administration.

Note: To safeguard the nation from potential instability, all military personnel shall remain in their designated barracks, and shall be placed on the state of high alert as necessary.

Article 41 The police force shall function impartially, and in strict adherence to the rule of law, and fundamental rights. Its primary responsibilities shall include ensuring the safety and security of citizens, maintaining domestic stability and public order, and protecting public property and preventing crimes.

Article 42: It is the duty of the National Council and the Transitional Administration to facilitate the creation of a singular and unified National Armed Forces. This new national military shall be formed through the merger of the two existing military forces in the country.

Article 43: All armed forces, collectively, shall remain neutral in domestic political affairs and partisan conflicts. They shall be strictly prohibited from engaging in economic or commercial activities. However, military resources and equipment may be utilized by the Transitional Administration

for national development projects, as well as confronting natural disasters and their aftermath.

Article 44: Since peace, security and territorial integrity are fundamental to the transition from dictatorship to democracy, any armed act aimed at restoring dictatorship or threatening national unity and cessation, shall be strictly prohibited. forbidden. It shall be the duty of the Transitional Administration to put an end to them.

Article 45 The president of Transitional Administration shall serve as the Commander in Chief of the armed forces. He/She shall take all necessary steps to reorganize and consolidate the National Armed Forces and Police Force, in accordance with Article 42 above. The President shall seek and utilize the expertise of distinguished and experienced military techniques and sciences to ensure the effective and lawful functioning of the armed forces.

Chapter Eight

Transitional National Council of Mass Media

Article 46: For over four decades, the state-controlled media under the Islamic Republic has misused public resources to engage in censorship, historical distortion, and the suppression of free thought, serving as an instrument of propaganda to prolong the regime's rule. However, these public media outlets, along with their journalistic expertise, technological infrastructure, and financial resources, belong to the Iranian people and must not be squandered. The effective and rightful utilization of these national assets is crucial for the establishment, expansion, and sustainability of democracy. To facilitate this transformation, the Transitional National Council of Mass Media shall be created.

Article 47: To empower the mass media in its democratic role, Transitional National Council of Mass Media shall be formed as an independent body responsible for reviewing, regulating, and overseeing all state-run media outlets that were previously operated with government resources.

Article 48: The **s**trategic objectives and policies pursued by this Council shall include:

1- Ensuring the free and unrestricted flow of information, ideas, knowledge, arts, and news, providing media platforms for open discourse and intellectual engagement.
2- Abolishing all forms of censorship and retraining media personnel to disseminate information truthfully while prohibiting
    - partisan advocacy for or against any individual, group, ideology, or artistic expression,
    - dissemination of false news intended to induce fear or manipulated public perception,
    - state-controlled narratives dictating how citizens should think or behave,
    - election interference including propaganda for any candidate or attempt to influence electoral outcomes,
    - rebroadcasting of false foreign media reports to mislead the public,
    - spreading rumors, engaging in character assassination, or promoting disillusionment through narrative of "change from the top" designed to undermine citizen empowerment,
    - corporate influence and economic domination through advertisements favoring multinational corporations that enforce a consumption-driven economy.
3- Providing communication mediums for continuous education of Quintuple Rights.

4- Facilitating media platforms to encourage public dialogues on rights and historical and national issues, as well as current domestic, regional and global events.
5- Promoting civic education on rules of free and just elections, fostering the culture of independence and freedom, and improving the sense of spontaneity for using creative, and other potentials.
6- Preserving media neutrality by ensuring that mass media does not serve any particular group, or groups, including the National Council or the Transitional Administration, instead.
7- Facilitating government transparency by providing communication channels for the National Council and the Transitional Administration to be able to communicate with the public, and to ensure media access for public oversight, criticism, and evaluation of officials, their policies and actions (for instance through conducting dialogues).
8- Directors of national media outlets and the Judicial Council shall provide and guarantee professional freedom of journalists, particularly with regards to accessibility of sources of information, investigation of facts other than those restricted in accordance with Article 16 above. No journalist shall be forced to express, or deny, his/her professional activities. As for the identity of the sources of information to a journalist, chief editor of the respective media, who shall have complete judicial immunity, shall be obligated to reveal the identity of the source to the judge, if a legal order has been issued by the court, for the investigation purposes only. The judge shall not be

authorized to reveal the identity of the source either to the public or to the plaintiff. If the life and safety of the source is in danger, the Transitional Judicial Council, through Transitional Administration, shall be obligated to provide him/her protection.

Article 49: The Transitional National Council of Mass Media shall be responsible for:

1- Supervising national media operations to ensure their policies and goals are in accordance with Article 47 above.
2- Appointing directors of national media outlets for the transition period. Any Council member who accepts a position of directorship in a national media organization or a private mass media organization (other than personal pages in social media) shall automatically forfeit his/her membership in the Council.
3- Evaluating and restructuring the size and personnel of each national media outlet in accordance with allocated public resources.
4- Electing an executive committee, and drafting the internal bylaws of the Council, in its first session.

Article 50: The members of the Transitional National Council of Mass Media shall be appointed by the Transitional Council to Transfer Sovereignty to Iranian People to fulfil the duties outlined in Articles 47 and 48 above. This Council shall consist of nine to fifteen members, who shall have the necessary ethical integrity, scientific expertise, technical theirs, managerial experience, and policy-making skills required for their role. If

gender parity cannot be achieved, at least one-third of the members shall be females. No member of the Transitional Council for Transfer of Sovereignty, or the Transitional Administration, shall be allowed to serve on the Transitional National Council of Mass Media ensuring its independence from governmental influence.

Article 51: The Transitional Administration shall allocate funding for the Council as appropriated by the National Council.