



REPORT FROM IRAN: Destroyed Homes, Dead Children After US-Israeli

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DL: Good day, this is Dimitri Lascaris coming to you from Tehran, Iran on March 21st, 2026 for Reason2Resist. I've been here now for approximately two days having crossed the border from Turkey in the early morning of the 20th, and as I recounted in my first report from Tabriz, which lies on the road from the border with Turkey to Tehran, we travelled all night on the 20th and arrived at Tabriz at about 4:30am. We spent the entire day in Tabriz and the surrounding area, inspecting bomb sites and speaking to victims of those bombings by the US and Israel. And that's what this report is going to be about. It's about the atrocities that we were able to investigate when we were in Tabriz for a day. And then late at night on the 20th, we left for Tehran. We arrived here this morning at 4:30 a.m. And then at 6 a.m. we left for the Mosalla mosque for a massive service involving well in excess of a hundred thousand people. That and all I've seen and done today – and Tehran will be the subject of a separate report which I'm going to publish tomorrow – today I'm gonna focus on Tabriz.

Now I just want to remind people to like and share this video if they find it to be informative. And also, if you're not already a subscriber to Reason2Resist, please become one and help us do expand the reach of our unapologetic resistance journalism. I just want to summarise what I said in my first report about Tabriz. It's one of the largest cities in Iran and it is the capital of the province of East Azerbaijan in the north of the country. An interesting fact that we learned while we were there is that in the recent protests and riots that occurred in January of this year in Iran, Tabriz, we are told by local residents, remained quiet. And the explanation given to us for that, which sounded rather interesting and persuasive, is that during the era of the Shah, the Shah who was a Persian nationalist, was not well disposed towards the large Azadi population in that part of Iran and particularly in Tabriz. And so there's a lingering dislike of the shah, which even surpasses what you have in other parts of the country. And there's no sympathy at all or almost none for the Pahlavists in the Iranian diaspora and some in Iran itself who are calling for the return of the Shah. And so that explains why Tabriz did not see any of the kind of protests and riots, at least not on the same scale, as was seen in some other Iranian cities in January. And the people you're going to hear from in this report, I think it's fair to say, are no fans of the monarchists and remain very committed to the

preservation of the Islamic Republic. Now our first stop in Tabriz was a residential building destroyed by a US Israeli airstrike. A few days ago the airstrikes killed a father and his two sons aged three and 13. The mother was present when the strike occurred but was lightly injured and survived the attack. At the site of this atrocity, when we visited it, we spoke to the mother and to the emergency workers who came to her family's aid. And as you'll see, both were highly distraught when we spoke with them. Here's what we found when we arrived at the site. And the gentleman speaking in the first part of this report is a professor at an Iranian university in the area of Tabriz, and his name is Mohammed.

Mohammed: Washing machine, refrigerator, gas, completely a simple house.

Mohammed: Welcome to our city, Tabriz. We are here in one of the most important cities in Iran. Here is Tabriz, Tabriz is one of the mega cities in Iran. It's the third city of Iran after Tehran and Mashhad. And it's completely an economic city. The heart of this city is its bazaar. And here we are in a residential area. And this neighbourhood is completely a residential area. And you see here on this billboard, it's written that it's a document of American crime. It's one of our famous slogans during our Islamic revolution. 50 years ago, till now, we have this, I mean this sentence, that it is the document of American crime. Here is a residential area, and it's a residential apartment. In this apartment, we have three martyrs. The father, he was just a barber man, a haircutter, and two of his sons. Just last week, they were targeted directly by the Israeli Air Force and you can see how it happened here. One important point that I want to tell you is that in Iran we haven't any separated neighbourhood or area for, I don't know, military forces, families, or government supporters. All the neighbourhoods in Iran are mixed. I mean, they are residents, normal people, military families, they are all living together. So you can't just say that we targeted, I don't know, a special military neighbourhood or something like that. Because it's completely mixed. And you can see what happened to the normal people of this city.

DL: Okay, so you said that there were a few families living here, other people were injured. '

Mohammed: Yes.

DL: Does the government have any idea why this building was struck? Do they think that there was, it was an accident or that the Israelis did it intentionally? What is their view about why this building was struck?

Journalist: Is it some place for targeted assassination or just a residential building?

Mohammed: I said that here is a completely residential area, and the residential area for middle-class people, and we think that was completely a blind strike. It's all the things that we know.

Woman in Video: And these things happen in different cities. There are just some residential areas without any excuse, even any law excuse, and they bomb them.

DL: Are there any military facilities nearby or is this all just residential?

Mohammed: There isn't anything. The man that was martyred here, he was a barber man. He was the famous barber man of this neighbourhood. In Iran, and especially in cities like Tabriz, we don't have any special neighbourhood for military force families or, I don't know, government supporters. In each neighbourhood, you can find an opposition. I don't know, women without veils, women with hijab, and military force family, government supporters. There are, I mean, we don't have that kind of social classification in neighbourhoods in Iran. So, you can't say that we just targeted the military force neighbourhood. It's completely incorrect. Especially in this neighbourhood you can see that here the neighbours, some of the neighbours were, I mean, culturally they were opposed to the government, but they are neighbours of this apartment. And also this apartment is completely a residential apartment. You can see that it's somehow an old apartment, and it belongs to middle-class people. And you can see it's written there, it's the document of American crime.

DL: Mohammed then introduced us to the mother of the victims of the airstrike. And again, please bear in mind as you listen to her that her family was murdered only a few days ago.

Mohammed: And also one important thing about the city of Tabriz, I have to tell you, in that street riot that we call it coup in January, 7th and 8th of January, we didn't have anything in Tabriz. On the streets of Tabriz, we didn't see any movement. Because Tabriz, you know, historically opposed Pahlavi. Because of that, it's a cultural history of Pahlavist crime. And she is the mother of this family.

DL: May I film her?

Speaker: Yes, yes. The mother of this family. And she's also injured in this attack. Her name is Solmaz Imani.

Speaker: If you have any question or if I can ask her to tell the story of what happened to her.

DL: Please.

Speaker: This is the first time I've ever been to a place like this in my life. I've never been here before, and I've always wanted to come here.

Speaker: She says that this attack happened at night. My son was coming back from the event straight and he took a pill. And it was 5am. And I was washing my hands to prepare for the prayer. Then I heard a sudden explosion. Then I was thrown on the other side of the apartment on the steps. And then I shouted. And then she says, I called Habib, come and help us. Then I heard nothing. He's saying nothing. Then it turned black everywhere. Then I saw that I could not move my body. And I was shouting, please help me. There was no way that I could come out of this building. Then I shouted, please, for God's sake, please help us. No one believed that it was an explosion, it was bombed. They believed that it might be an incident. It was not an incident, it was a bomb. Then she says that I came out, but our neighbours gave me a kind of veil and a kind of clothes. Then I ran here. And she said the rubble that you can see on the back they were all here. They were piled up here. And then she

says that this has fallen on my children. Then I said, please don't do this while all my children are inside. But they told me, no, we have taken them out. And you can see them. And the rubble was on my children. Then I told the aid worker, the ambulance, that until they take my sons out, I cannot leave this place. Then they told me that we could keep them safe, but they were dead. Then I ask everyone in the hospital, how is my family, my children, my father. They said they are safe. My father was a barber, a normal person. Then three of them were killed.

Speaker: You can see the photo of the famous hair cutter and barber man of this neighbourhood. The one that she was talking about and two of his sons.

DL: How old were they?

Speaker: One of them three, the other one 13. Mahur, he is just three years old. Mahur is three years old and Mahan just 13 years old.

DL: Does she have any children who survived?

Speaker: Just two sons, just two sons and the barber.

Speaker: She says that it was hit very hard that all the belongings of the younger son they – the ball was flown here. Then up from the videos she says I later noticed.

DL: We then heard from the emergency worker who arrived at the scene of the airstrike and who tried in vain to save the father and the two sons. And as he was speaking, both he and the mother who survived the airdrikes broke down in tears.

Speaker: I am Mohamed Ahmadi, the head of the Red Crescent of this province. The day that this incident took place and we were announced from the system after that. Then we were announced that there was a target and there was a hit to the Zafaraniyeh neighbourhood, this neighbourhood. Then very fast, our aid workers and our group members were sent to this location. By the time that we arrived here, we saw that everyone in the street, they're trying and they're shouting, please help people and please rescue them. Then I found one person among many people, they were shouting. There was a man that was saying please hurry up, I feel that the people who were on the rubble, they are alive. In our country, in the Islamic Republic of Iran, we aid workers. We always feel that when we go to the incident location, we feel that the people there are like our own family. So we do our best to rescue them. Then I came inside to carry out the assessment. He was calling him and he was the person in the scene trying to push the group to carry out, please hurry up. For God's sake, please hurry up. In the first moment we didn't have access because the amount and the volume of this rubble was massive and we couldn't have access in the beginning. All the aid workers and the workers of the municipality here, they were doing our best with our hands, with machines. They were trying to move the rubble. The first person that we found was next to the wall. Then we found that there was a foot, then we cleaned it and we saw a human. She says: What's the problem, what's the scene of my children? If they kill all of us, we will not give up any God to the Jews and Israel. They have had a great problem because of the dead people,

the innocent people who were killed. They killed a three-year-old and a 13 year old child. If they really came to help us, so we are the nation of Iran, why did they hit us? She says that the Pahlavi and his supporters will have a great problem because we have lost dear ones and they will pay the price.

DL: Emergency workers then described to us the extent of the death and destruction in Tabriz and the surrounding area during the three weeks of war that the United States and Israel have waged on the people of Iran.

DL: How many buildings have been struck in Tabriz since the war?

Speaker: 3500 files have been documented in Tabriz.

DL: And of those 3500 how many are completely destroyed? They're not recoverable?

Speaker: He says that some thousand of them are out of service, you can not use them.

DL: They cannot be repaired.

Speaker: Thirty percent of them.

DL: And how many people killed, how many injured?

Speaker: 89 people killed and martyred in Tabriz. 119 people killed in this province.

DL: In East Azerbaijan?

Speaker: 96 people in the city of Tabriz. 23 people were buried here but they were killed outside the Tabriz city. For example they were living in Tehran, he was killed, but he was carried out here and buried here. And 39 people were the normal citizens, the normal people, and nine of them were children under twelve years old. And he says, two brothers and one sister in Bostanabad in another city in East Azerbaijan. The three children that I told you about right now, the two brothers and one sister, they were killed on the third or fourth day of war in Bostanabad.

DL: Finally, I asked Mohammed about the images of the slain Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, which we could see on the walls of the destroyed building and here's the explanation he gave.

DL: So could you please tell us what this means and who put this there?

Mohammed: Tabriz students, Iranian students, just write it down here, it's written that this red is better than living under American rules.

DL: Red meaning bloody.

Mohammed: Yes, the bloody death. It's the world that we learn from Imam Hussain. It's from the culture of Ashura and culture of Imam Hussain. We learned from that that we fight till death, but we never accept the rule of America and Israel.

DL: Can I ask you your name?

Mohammed: I'm Mohammed. I'm a professor at University and I'm a cultural researcher. I studied culture and communication. I have a PhD in culture and communication and I am a son of Tabriz.

DL: At which University?

Mohammed: At Imam Sadiq University in Tehran. Thank you very much.

DL: Our next stop was a garbage collection facility that was destroyed by a US-Israeli war strike for incomprehensible reasons. At the garbage collection facilities or what remains of it, we spoke to a municipal worker who came to the scene of the crime shortly after the deadly attack.

Speaker: My name is Hussein. It was a [inaudible] really that we were on the way back here. We had some eight trucks here for carrying garbage. And some private cars that you can see, they have been heavily impacted. They were getting prepared to do their job, these trucks. I went out to prepare some gasoline for these cars. And I was in that location. Then I arrived here, and I saw that the driver of this car was dead, and some five or six of the workers were injured. It was turned by the wave of the explosion. And my friends, the boxes that you can see on the left side, all of them were packed with the service equipment, the municipality service equipment. These boxes.

DL: Was the roof damaged there before?

Speaker: Yeah, yeah, it was the wave of this explosion.

Journalist: So the driver was killed and several were injured? Just one man killed?

Speaker: One killed. Five people were injured. One killed, five injured. And he says over that residential area 30 people were injured.

DL: Now after I stopped recording at this garbage collection facility, we heard two large explosions in the distance, and at that point the municipality declared that Tabriz was under bombardment.

Speaker: And Ahmad, he says that the municipality just announced a red condition. The city is under bombardment right now. And the voices that you heard, they were explosions, two explosions.

Journalist: So can you just repeat right now, the municipality gave a warning that-

Speaker: Yeah, the city is under bombardment. And just a few minutes ago or seconds ago, there were two sounds of explosions, a kind of massive explosion.

DL: Just as we learned that Tabriz was under bombardment, we heard its air defences become active in the distance. Now when the authorities lifted the alert that the city was under bombardment, we left the destroyed garbage collection facility and departed for our next destination. This was the town of Azarshahr in the province of East Azerbaijan. This town has a population of about 37,000 people, and it's about a 30 minute drive from the city of Tabriz. On March 10th, a US Israeli airstrike on the town killed a postal worker at his place of employment. Our guides had arranged for us to speak to the family members of the slain postal worker. And upon our arrival, we heard from the victim's father and also from his ten-year-old son, whose name is Ali Akbar. As you'll hear, Ali Akbar vowed to avenge his father's murder.

Speaker: You can see the house of the Martyr Mehdi Mousapour. He was a post officer and he was killed here in the US and Israeli attacks. And next to me are standing his family members and his close friend that will explain what happened to him.

Speaker: I express greetings and I appreciate you thanks for coming. I appreciate you for coming here. My name is Rahman Mousapour. I am the father of Martyr Mehdi Mousapour. It was an honour for me that my son is a martyr. It was my honour and it was a dream for me. He also expresses greetings to you once again, to the Iranian armed forces and the leader of the Islamic Revolution. I do want them, loud and clear, in the blood of my son, it should be revenged.

Speaker: My father was a martyr when he was serving the people. And it was an honour for me. And he says that it was an honour for me, and when I grow up, I will take the revenge of the blood of my father from Israel and from the United States. And it's a dream for me that I will do the same to the Israeli regime. When I grow up, what they did to my father, I will do the same to their prime minister and to their officials. And I will be honoured and very proudly I will stand by my family and I would not let anyone hurt and harm my family. And I will not let anyone, anytime, to belittle the name, the fame, and the honour of my father. And I will keep the character of my father, the personality of my father, and I would not let anyone to darken and to say anything about my father.

DL: To complete our day in Tabriz, we returned to the city centre in the evening to attend the celebration of the Iranian New Year or Nowruz. Upon our arrival in the central square, this is what we saw. Later that evening, the throng of flag-waving Iranians rang in the New Year by chanting No Surrender, No Compromise, Fight Against the United States.

DL: That's my report from Tabriz. My next one will recount what we've seen here in Tehran during our first day, and it has been really quite an extraordinary day, and I hope you'll find both this report and the next one to be informative. For now, I'm signing off from Tehran on March 21st, 2026.

END

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