



REPORT FROM IRAN: In the Midst of War – No Fear in Tehran

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Dimitri Lascaris (DL): Good day this is Dimitri Lascaris coming to you from Tehran on March 21st, 2026 I'm standing near the Mosalla mosque where tens of thousands of Iranians and perhaps well in excess of a hundred thousand have gathered today for Eid al-Fitr. We arrived in Tehran this morning at about 5.30 a.m. after driving eight to nine hours from the city of Tabriz in the province of East Azerbaijan. And we were told by our guides upon our arrival at the hotel in central Tehran that we had an hour and a half to rest before coming to the Mosalla mosque to witness this extraordinary event. Extraordinary for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is that this country is defending itself from a criminal war of aggression by the Netanyahu and Trump regimes. There's absolutely no indication this morning however that there is a war going on. There's no fear. There is calm. We walked here, it was several kilometers. We had to come because the traffic was not open to the public and people were chanting along the way, "death to America", "death to Israel" and on the whole their spirits were high, they were waving the Iranian flag. And I absolutely saw no indication of any trepidation, any intimidation at all. Right, and this is the largest mosque in Iran?

Translator: Yeah, this is their main mosque of the Iranian people. We have a Friday prayer here, and also the Eid prayer.

DL: It's truly an extraordinary scene here this morning. One would not think for one second that this country has been plunged into a devastating war of aggression by the world's most reportedly powerful military and its proxy in the region that knows no scruples, exhibits no decency, no conscience whatsoever in its efforts to expand and dominate this region and its indigenous peoples. I see absolutely no indication of any fear or intimidation and it is extremely difficult for me to imagine that a people so devoted to their faith and to their nation could ever be defeated by a government or a regime, whether it be that of the United States or Israel that is so lacking in the values that we generally ascribe to God

DL: I'm Dimitri Lascaris, I'm from Greece.

Translator: You're from Greece? He said: "Nice to meet you".

DL: Nice to meet you. May I have your first names?

Translator: He said: Sayed Abul Fazl Mosabi.

DL: And this young man?

Translator: Muhammad Taham Irzai.

DL: Ask him how old you are? How old are you?

Translator: 18 years old.

DL: 18 years old. Are you going to be required to do military service?

Translator: He said: "Definitely, we would like to be in military service and we do everything that we can do for the defense of our country and our religion".

DL: There's a war going on and you may be called upon to fight in that war. Are you afraid of what you might experience in that war?

Translator: "Those people who are afraid are those who don't know what will happen in the end of this situation. We are not afraid." He said: "We are following our holy Quran, and in the holy Quran teaches us that if we will martyr in this situation, then we will win". They say there is a special verse in the holy book that says if we martyr and if we kill our enemy then we are victors.

DL: I would like to ask this young man, for people who live in the West and who support the United States and Israel – not many of them do – but those who do, do you have anything to share with them about your country?

Translator: "I suggest to them, those who are supporting the West and those who are supporting US and Israel, I want to suggest to them please open your eyes and then see where is the right and where is the wrong. So it is very clear what is right and you have to follow the right".

DL: Thank you very much. I appreciate it. My name is Dimitri Lascaris, I come from Greece. May I ask your name?

Translator: His name is Mohammad Ali Tavassoli.

DL: And how old are you?

Translator: 26 years old.

DL: And you're from Tehran?

Translator: Yes.

DL: What do you do for a living?

Translator: He is an M.A. student.

DL: What is he studying?

Translator: Mathematics.

DL: And have you done your military service?

Translator: No.

DL: If you are called upon to serve, how do you feel about that? If you're called upon to serve in the military during this war?

DL: He says "No, I am not afraid I want to go". He says, "I am not afraid and it is my responsibility to defend the country and I will definitely come to military service".

DL: And amongst your friends, is that generally how your friends feel, those who are your age, that they too are ready to do their service?

Translator: "They are ready to come and do military service, to defend our country."

DL: How do you feel about the way the war is going for Iran?

Translator: He says, "we are waiting for this war and then we will know the result of this war, we will win in this war".

DL: Has anything surprised you so far about how this war has unfolded?

Translator: "After the martyrdom of our leader, I saw that the unity among the people was strong and more and more and more. So it is very surprising for me that after the martyrdom of our leader the people come together and have a good relationship together and more unity together.

DL: Thank you very much. My name is Dimitri Lascaris, I'm a journalist from Greece. May I know your names?

Translator: His name is Hussein and his name is Soroush.

DL: May I ask what you do for a living?

Man: I'm a clerk.

DL: You're a clerk? Ok.

Translator: He's a driver.

DL: He's a driver. So my first question to you is: How do you feel about the way the war is going for Iran right now?

Translator: He says: "I want to give a message to the American people. The dignity of your people is not in this situation that you choose this president. He is a child, he is not a president. And he is a puppet of the Israeli prime minister. He is not your president. And in this situation you will lose more than us". [00:17:59] "I think that the American people must work 100 years to compare this news to get its dignity again".

DL: Do you feel that the war is going well for Iran?

Translator: "It was a good opportunity for us to show our ability and our capability to the world including our military capability and ability in the war. So it was a good opportunity to show to the world that in this situation we can improve ourselves".

DL: So you told me when you spoke to me before I started filming that you had a statement. Could you tell me what your statement is?

Translator: "Today I want to make two points to the original people and American people. I want to say first to the Arab governments in the region that they are open in obscene fields and they are helping the United States government. I want to talk to the Arabian people. They need to choose in this important situation on which side they are staying. This is the war between the right and wrong. They have to fear God if they don't complain against the US. I have one question for the American people: Up to when do you want to pay from your pocket to the US government for its acts in genocide? You have to decide". Okay, thank you.

DL: Thank you.

END

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