

“WOMEN: KEY TO ESTABLISHING DEMOCRACY IN THE MIDDLE EAST”

Congressional Briefing U.S House of Representatives

Cannon Caucus Room

July 25, 2006



Congresswoman Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX)



Congresswoman Susan A. Davis (D-CA)



On July 25, 2006 the annual Women's Freedom Forum event was sponsored and organized in the U.S Congress. Members of Congress, European Parliament, experts of theology and women activists in the panel shared their thoughts and assessments on the important role of women in establishing democracy in the Middle East and their role in combating the threat of Islamic fundamentalism. Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, President-elect of the Iranian Resistance, and Dr. Thoraya Al-Barzanji, (President of the Organization of Peace for Children and women's rights activist) and Hassan Khalef Saleh, (Director of Iraq Human Rights Circuit, President of the Council for battered Iraqi Women, and Director of National Council for Iraqi Women) send solidarity messages.

Panelists:



Struan Stevenson, Member of the European Parliament for Scotland, Vice President of PPE-ED Group, and Co-Chair of Friends of a Free Iran



Mitra Saeedi Samani sharing her memories of 5 years of torture and imprisonment in Iranian jails



Video of Maryam Rajavi's speech at the July 1, 2006 Paris gathering among 30,000 people was shown. Her 16-point platform for fundamental freedoms in future Iran appeared in the Congressional Record.



Antonia Felix, writer and author of 15 nonfiction books including the political biography, *Condi: the Condoleezza Rice Story*



Professor Donna M. Hughes, Carlson Endowed Chair, Women's Studies Program, University of Rhode Island



Sister Louise Akers, Doctor of Devine, is coordinator of the Office of Peace, Justice & Integrity of Creation, in Cincinnati, Ohio



Paula Corrado, former flight attendant for American Airlines who has won a class action suit before the U.S. Supreme Court on women's right to work after marriage and motherhood



Zahra Amanpour, MBA in International Business from University of San Francisco, MA in Social Psychology from San Francisco State University

WOMEN'S FREEDOM FORUM, INC.

1750 Tyson's Blvd, 4th Floor, McLean, VA 22102

* Tel: (703) 744-1194 * Fax: (703) 744-1001 *

Email: info@womenfreedomforum.org * www.womenfreedomforum.org