

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 249

Condemning the death sentence issued against British author Salman Rushdie by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in Iran and calling for its immediate repudiation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 12, 1994

Mr. GINGRICH (for himself and Mr. LANTOS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Condemning the death sentence issued against British author Salman Rushdie by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in Iran and calling for its immediate repudiation.

Whereas the House of Representatives went on record in March 1989 condemning the death sentence on Salman Rushdie and others associated with the publication and distribution of his book and declaring the commitment of the United States Government to the promotion and protection of the right to the freedom of expression without fear and intimidation;

Whereas the Iranian Parliament in June 1992 confirmed the death sentence against Salman Rushdie and called on all Muslims and Hizbollah organizations to carry out the death sentence;

Whereas in 1993 an Islamic religious organization, the Fifteenth Khordad Foundation, raised the bounty for successfully carrying out the death sentence against Salman Rushdie to \$2,000,000 plus expenses;

Whereas the death sentence against Salman Rushdie continues to be a flagrant violation of freedom of expression and is contrary to international rules of behavior, the Charter of the United Nations, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

Whereas respect for and tolerance of differing religious views is a fundamental principle upon which the United States is based; and

Whereas this action against Salman Rushdie tests the commitment of the Iranian Government on the protection of basic human rights and jeopardizes efforts to improve relations between the United States and Iran: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That the Congress—*

3 (1) condemns the death sentence issued against
4 Salman Rushdie;

5 (2) calls for the immediate withdrawal of the
6 death sentence against Salman Rushdie as well as
7 any reward for carrying out the death sentence;

8 (3) calls upon the President to—

9 (A) request that the United Nations Security
10 Council condemn Iran for issuing the edict
11 against Salman Rushdie, and

1 (B) call upon the Government of Iran to
2 respect international principles of human rights
3 and lift the sentence on Salman Rushdie;

4 (4) calls upon the President to inform the Gov-
5 ernment of Iran that—

6 (A) the House of Representatives has
7 adopted this resolution,

8 (B) the Government of Iran will be held
9 liable in case an attempt is made on Salman
10 Rushdie's life, and

11 (C) the Government of Iran should make
12 all attempts to prevent the spread of propa-
13 ganda promoting Salman Rushdie's assassina-
14 tion;

15 (5) commends those people of all nations who
16 have firmly stood for freedom of expression despite
17 threats and intimidation; and

18 (6) reaffirms the commitment of the Congress
19 to the promotion and protection of the fundamental
20 right of freedom of expression, and reaffirms its
21 support for basic human rights in the world
22 community.

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