

**Reza Pahlavi of Iran's response to President Obama's statement
on Iran (June 23rd, 2009)**

June 24th, 2009

“President Obama’s strong support for human rights in Iran is greatly appreciated. But so is the dilemma of his policy of engagement. Obviously, it cannot succeed in an atmosphere when the clerical regime is revealing its insecurity by forcing arrested demonstrators to admit to Western plots.

But a secure Ahmadinejad government means that people have to go home, and submit to the authority of usurpers. That is a lot to ask for!

It is clear that engagement has to be suspended until there is a stable government supported by the Iranian people. Continuing engagement now is not only a slap in the face of my compatriots in their quest for democracy; it will not work.”

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