

Iranian Voices: Thoughts on nuclear program

If you talk to Iranians outside Iran, you'll typically hear people critical of the current government.

Puya Jahandar is 36 year old activist blogger. After being imprisoned in Iran, she moved to the US in October 2010, and continues to speak her mind about Iran's corrupt government.

"I can't accept their activity. Because I think they try to empower and reinforce some groups, some special groups that help them to do some bad things. They spend many, many money and budget to other country, and didn't pay attention to the Iranian people. So I can't accept such an influence in the other countries."

A 29 year old freelance journalist, born and raised in Tehran and now lives in the US, still vividly remembers the protests that happened in her native home land.

"During the protests – the green movement protests – there was a slogan in Tehran that says, 'Na Gaza, Na Lobnan, Janam Fadaay-e Iran' which basically means, 'No to Gaza, no to Lebanon, and only Iran.' It's a mixed thing. I feel for the sufferings in Gaza. I have friends in Gaza. People are supportive of the peoples' movements, but they're not happy with the money being channeled through the government to the militant groups."

A 33-year old graphic designer born and raised in Isfahan, Iran, moved to the US in 2009 after winning the green card lottery and is now unafraid to speak-up about Iran's nuclear program.

"I'd like to say it's any country – any government's right to have the most up to date technologies of, for example, nuclear program. But about Iran, most of Iranians don't trust their own government. We don't even know what's going on in Iranian nuclear program... I don't trust them."

The 29-year-old freelance journalist and a 33-year-old graphic designer asked that their names be withheld out of concern for their safety and the safety of their families in Iran.