

Lee Smith on Iran Protests

Assembled by Tony Lima

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Start here: <https://twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/status/947114629888700417>



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Why is the US press having such a hard time covering Iran protests? Here's a short thread explaining why: First, only regime friendly journalists are allowed to report from Iran. Arrest of Washington Post's Jason Rezaian drove this home. 1/



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The Post was understandably reluctant to send someone back to Iran. Still, no excuse for missing what may be the biggest story of the year—not pussy hats. 2/ [twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/sta...](https://twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/status/947114629888700417)



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The New York Times' man Thomas Erdbrink in Iran is a regime organ, as many have noted the last 24 hours, especially @SohrabAhmari. 3/ [twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/sta...](https://twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/status/947114629888700417)



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Worse, the @nytimes has a business deal with the regime, a travel package sending Western tourists to Iran. Yes, this is a media scandal. bit.ly/20dA3t7 4/ [twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/sta...](https://twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/status/947114629888700417)



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Networks @CNN & @MSNBC have spent many resources, & wasted their prestige, on a #Resist business model, Russiagate, the last year, which means they're not capable of covering news. Maybe the protests will convince them to get back in the news business 5/ [twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/sta...](https://twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/status/947114629888700417)



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Re expertise, many Iran "specialists" were cultivated while Obama WH was selling the nuke deal. Either they don't know how to describe what's happening now or are against it. 6/ [twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/sta...](https://twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/status...)



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If this continues to look bad for the regime, watch for some well known Iran experts—that is, regime apologists like Hooman Majd—to switch sides. Harder seeing how Obama officials, like Kerry or 44 himself, never mind the Rhodes echo chamber, talk about this 7/ [twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/sta...](https://twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/status...)



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The current media landscape was shaped by an Obama WH that made the nuclear deal 2d term priority. The purpose was to stabilize a regime that is a global source of instability, and as is now clear, a curse on the Iranian people. Hope our press takes this lesson to heart. 8/ [twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/sta...](https://twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/status...)



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The good news is that there are lots of people with real Iran expertise, as well as language skills, providing very good coverage and insight, like @sohrabAhmari @AmirToumaj @potkazar @SGhasseminejad, among several others. 9/9 END IT [twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/sta...](https://twitter.com/LeeSmithDC/status...)