## FARS NEWS AGENCY 87/11/27 (15 February 2009)

Iran's Prosecutor General in a letter to Minister of Intelligence [and Security]: The activities of the misguided Baha'i sect are unlawful and banned.

Fars News: The Prosecutor General said: "Administrative activities of the misguided Baha'i sect and any substitute administration are unlawful and banned at all levels."

According to Fars news agency, Ayatollah Ghorban-Ali Dorri Najafabadi, in a letter addressed to the Minister of Intelligence [and Security], referred to article 20 of the Constitution pertaining to the rights of all citizens of the country, and also article 23 with respect to individuals' freedom of belief, and stated: "Adherence to a principle or belief is free [to anyone], but to openly express and proclaim it in order to cause deviation in the thoughts of others, to manipulate, pretend, teach, and otherwise attempt to deceive and confuse people will not be permissible."

The Prosecutor General further asserted, "Fundamentally, individuals and official entities recognized under the Constitution and the law have freedom of action in the matters described. However, if any activity, whether by individuals, groups, or institutions, should pose a threat to the national security and territorial integrity of the country, it is obvious that the government will use its powers in order to safeguard the public and national interest and will confront the offenders accordingly."

He then referred to the record and background of the political-intelligence network and administration of the misguided Baha'i sect, including the presence of its headquarters in the occupied territories of Palestine, saying: "Evidence, documents and other materials indicate that the said administration is in direct contact with foreign enemies of the nation, has a long-standing and strong relationship with the Zionist regime, and within Iran has been involved in gathering intelligence, infiltration, and the damaging of the foundations of the public's beliefs."

In conclusion, while making reference to the instructions of the Prosecutor General and the head of the judiciary in 1362 [1983] banning all administrative activities of the said group, he stated: "The administration of the misguided Bahá'í sect at all levels is unlawful and banned, and their ties to Israel and their opposition to Islam and the Islamic regime are clear. The danger they pose to national security is documented and proven and therefore it is necessary that any substitute administration that acts as a replacement for the original be confronted through the law."

The leaders of the illegal administration of the Baha'i sect were arrested by the Ministry of Intelligence [and Security] and their case is currently being reviewed by the judicial system. At the direction of the honourable Prosecutor General, the administrative element [of the Bahá'í community] will be confronted decisively until its complete destruction.