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Subject: On university admission requirements
The official: Central Committee for Student Selection

The occasion: [Excerpts from] Published response to criticism by two Majles

deputies regarding the criteria for student selection

Date: 3 January 1987

Source: Kayhan, 3 January 1987

- Mr. Mohammad Mehdi Rahbari-Amlashi, the MP for Rudsar, and Mr. Qassem Me'mari, the MP for Ahar, had each made comments about the criteria for student selection in the pre-agenda session of the Majles. Their comments were published by *Kayhan*, on 11 and 18 November [1986]. The Central Committee for Student Selection has issued the following response [to the two MP's comments]:
- "... In general, establishing the requirements for accepting students in previous years and this year has been the prerogative of the distinguished High Council for Cultural Revolution, which, in accordance with the good wishes of his Excellency Imam [Khomeini], are binding. . . . The requirements for acceptance, which are dependent on the High Council, are as follows:
- Belief in Islam or [one of] the other divine religions [Islam regards Christianity and Judaism as divine religions; i.e. revealed by God to a prophet].

Note 1: The proof of the applicant's belief is the

person's own declaration and no one has the right to arbitrarily question or investigate those beliefs.

Note 2: When, upon entering college, a student claims to be a Muslim or a believer of another divine religion, his claim will be accepted unless the contrary is proven and established by a competent and official court, in which case, the right to education (or, if he is already accepted, his right to continue his education), will be taken away.

2. Clean record that indicates no opposition to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Note: Should a candidate have a record of opposing the regime, a retraction [or change of views] must be ascertained.

- 3. Ascertaining the absence of moral turpitude.
- 4. Clean record indicating that applicant was not a member of SAVAK; is not a Freemason; [and is not] a member of one of its affiliates.



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"First, with regards to the principle of student selection and the philosophy behind it, it must be pointed out that given the current state of [our] universities, which according to the gracious Imam [Khomeini] may take another twenty years before they reach a point of excellence, it is clear that not everyone, with whatever level of education, may be allowed to enter an institution of higher learning. It is necessary to establish a minimum [standard for]

education. On the other hand, given that the capacity of our universities is less than one-tenth of the number of applicants, it is only natural that under such conditions [a system] of prioritization [for acceptance] be established so that at least those who are enemies of or opposed to the regime do not take the places of those whose qualifications are compatible with the Revolution..."