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June 23, 2009

The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, DC 20006

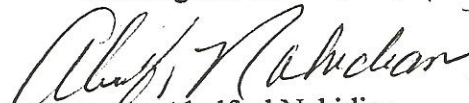
Dear President Obama:

AsSalamu Alaikum. As the Imam of Manassas Mosque and on behalf of our congregation, Board of Trustees and Executive Board, with respect and our best regards, we wish to advise you as our President, a man of knowledge and logic, that Muslims follow the Quran for guidance in their Islamic affairs. In Chapter 5, Verse 51 Allah is ordering us "...Do not take Jews and Christians as your authority..." or one who advises regarding religion affairs. The word of Aulia ( اولياء ) which is plural of wali ( ولي ) does not mean friend. Rather Asdeqa ( اصديقاء ) means friend which is the order to be friends of all nations. In Chapter 2, Verse 257, the Quran says; "Allah is the authority (wali) or the one who advises Muslims. The same idea is expressed in Chapter 3; Verse 68 that Allah is the authority of Muslims.

Also please bear in mind that Islam is a religion that in its acts of worship is politics while in its politics is an act of worship which are undivided.

Therefore, we are kindly asking you to not interfere with the affairs regarding Islamic issues based on our Holy Quran such as the election in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

With regards and respect,

  
Imam Abolfazl Nahidian

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 16, 2009

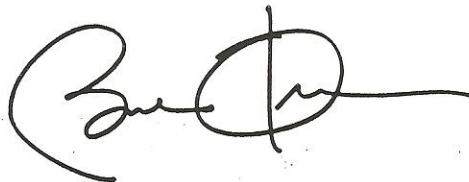
Dear Friend:

Thank you for taking the time to share your views on Iran. I appreciate your input and thoughts on this issue.

I am committed to making my Administration the most open and transparent in history, and part of delivering on that promise is hearing from people like you. I take seriously your opinions and respect your point of view on this important foreign policy matter. Please know that your concerns will be on my mind in the days ahead.

Thank you again for writing. I encourage you to visit [WhiteHouse.gov](http://WhiteHouse.gov) to learn more about my Administration or to contact me in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be Barack Obama's signature, consisting of a large 'B' followed by a stylized 'O' and a horizontal line extending to the right.