Friends; colleagues; honored members of the legitimate international community…and Zionist oppressors: we, the delegation from the glorious Islamic Republic of Iran, praise Allah that this conference can take place to discuss the policies, misunderstandings, and injustices of the international community regarding our nuclear program. We hope to strengthen our relations with most of you, as well as prove to you beyond any doubt that our nuclear program is peaceful and legitimate. This, we hope, will lead to the lifting of the cruel and unjust sanctions that have been imposed on us, and to greater sharing of knowledge and resources between states.

You fear that we desire nuclear weapons, and are endeavoring to obtain the technology and materials to permit this. You fear that after gaining a nuclear bomb, we would use it for offensive, aggressive purposes. We are here today to tell you that you don’t need to have these fears. We have said before that our program is for peaceful purposes only, and we will say it again, for it is the truth. We want nuclear energy to provide a stable electricity source for our people; we also want it because it provides important medicine for our people. We have no interest in developing weapons. Such things are against Islam – they are senseless weapons that threaten the existence and prosperity of humanity. We wouldn’t need such weapons even if they were permitted by our holy laws, for we have sufficient military capability to defend ourselves without resorting to the blasphemous scourge of a nuclear bomb. If you remain uneasy even after our profuse and genuine assurances, you should consider that if we were to go against our religion, our word, and our national interests, and pursue the creation of a bomb, these activities would almost certainly be detected. The IAEA was able to uncover, for example, our site at Qom. Rather than wait for watchdogs and snoops to come poking around, suspicious of us, we are willing to show you that you don’t have to violate our sovereign right to secrecy in this way. We invite all heads of legitimate states at this conference, and of other nations, to come tour our sites in person. We have nothing to hide. It is our sovereign right to have our peaceful program, and we are willing to discuss the terms of what it would take to assuage the international community of our good intentions. We wish to note at this time that the discovery of the Qom site should not be a cause for alarm. We did not mean to conceal anything in violation of international agreements. Rather, the lack of notification was due to a small, but important, technical oversight, which has been corrected. All nations in possession of complex government bureaucracies should understand that at times, important things are overlooked or lost in the fray, and we appreciate your understanding on this matter.

In truth, however, it pains me and my fellow Iranian delegates that we have to come to this conference to acquit ourselves of a crime we didn’t commit, a crime for which there is no evidence other than the suspicions and politically based fears of the Great Satan and the Zionist Entity. Where is the outrage over the United States’ violations of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty? They have been looking into more weapons instead of trying to decrease their stocks for years, and yet there is no international outcry, just as there is no outcry over their imperialist actions in Afghanistan and Iraq that threaten our security and give us cause to be afraid; if they decide that we are next, how could we stop them? We would defend ourselves to the fullest possible extent, as is our right, but it would be a costly, bloody, undesirable conflict. It is a tragedy that the United States presents a legitimate threat to any nation. We wish to warn all delegates here that US military threats are tantamount to playing with fire. No good can come from supporting them when they show so little regard for the sovereignty of other nations.

In addition to the offenses of the Great Satan, a group of oppressive Zionists that is not even a state is allowed to have nuclear weapons. How can there be justice in this? You say that there is suspicion of an Iranian nuclear weapons program; the Zionist Entity has for many years been suspected, with more proof against them than will ever exist against us, of having multiple, functional nuclear weapons, and yet there are no calls for inspection, no international outrage, no hints of persecution! The Zionist Entity must give up their nuclear weapons immediately. It is an outage that they are permitted to have them, and since we believe it is inevitable that the Zionist regime will one day disappear from the face of the earth, there is no reason for them to keep these inflammatory, dangerous weapons. They will claim that we are an aggressive, hostile nation bent on their destruction. But why would a mighty nation wish to dirty its hands by touching so vile and unjust a system as the Zionist oppressors have constructed in the land they illegally occupy? Instead, we are the ones who should be afraid. *They* are the ones with the nuclear weapons. *They* are the ones who have shown no qualms about taking land that does not belong to them. *They* are the ones with the support of the hegemonic Western powers.

I see that many delegates in this room are wearing one of *these*. The Western powers disguise the purpose of these devices by calling them “neckties”. This is a falsehood. They are rightfully called the noose from which the West would hang the freedom of smaller nations, choking the life from them and using their corpses as puppets to pursue their own interests. This is the yoke of Western oppression. Join me now in removing them, freeing yourselves and declaring that it is your national interests that you should consider, your people you must care for, your ideology that you must espouse. We intend to be an example to other nations who fear the repercussions of standing up to Western hegemony. We will fight allegations of aggression, when we are the ones aggressed against. We will fight Western interference in our political and economic dealings with other nations. And we will fight the unwarranted Western sanctions that have been so unjustly placed on our nation. They target our right to peacefully develop nuclear energy, and they hamper unrelated economic and political concerns. They violate our sovereignty and seek to make us weak and unstable. No further sanctions will be tolerated. We are here to cooperate, not to be punished further based on empty accusations. We are not afraid to withdraw from the NPT if it proves itself so effective as to allow for the Great Satan to run rampant and control international affairs based on its whims.

We encourage you, delegates, to open your eyes and your minds to the wondrous, productive, peaceful program we are trying to implement in our country. It is our hope that not only will the Middle East maintain a nuclear weapons free zone, but also that weapons technology will wither from the minds of humanity, and that peaceful nuclear technology can be spread. We would help in sharing this peaceful knowledge – what other kind of knowledge could we possibly want to give? – and we intend to let a thousand flowers of shared knowledge and peaceful cooperation bloom.