

October 14, 2011, UNA-San Fernando Valley Human Rights Program
at the Village Mediterranean Grill, Valley Village.

The program began when our chapter's co-president Virginia Hatfield welcomed the participants and gave an update of the chapter's agenda to the attendees. Then Soraya Fallah, chapter's VP of programming, introduced the speaker Dr. Alireza Azizi, who has been an activist in the field of human rights for the past thirty years. He eloquently linked the United Nations International Declaration of Human Rights (IDHR) and its covenants in raising healthcare as a standard for measure in the nation-states of our world today.

A presentation was also made by the organization of supporters of Mourning Mother (Mothers of Laleh Park.) They showcased abuses in Iran today, and urged action on the part of the United Nations Investigator, an IDHR Optional Protocol on Civil and Political Rights.

Also, Soraya Fallah, the VP Programming for the chapter, gave a short update on the Nobel Peace Prize. On April 2011 UNAUSA-SFV issued a press release in support of M.Sedigh Kaboudvand, Kurdish/Iranian Journalist and prisoner in Iran, who has been nominated for the 2011 Noble Peace Prize. She indicated that three women activists won the prize. We are deeply happy about it and we hope to see the release of all prisoners.

At the end there were Questions and Answers, which created a dynamic atmosphere in the place. The president awarded a certificate to the speaker Dr. Azizi and organizers were thanked for their efforts.

To understand more about what is happening in Iran, especially to the Kurdish minority, you are welcome to click the following link to go to Soraya Fallah's website:
<http://akurdishwomanhaven.blogspot.com/2011/10/short-report-on-united-nations.html>

To read Dr.Azizi's speech and biography please click the following link:
<http://www.vokradio.com/content/view/1472/23/>

For the report in Farsi:
http://miadgahezane.kord.blogspot.com/2011/10/blog-post_4234.html