

IRAN



Treaty Series No. 109 (1973)

Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and the Imperial Iranian Government

concerning the Abolition of Visas

London, 9 August 1973

[The Agreement entered into force on 1 October 1973]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
October 1973*

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**EXCHANGE OF NOTES
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE
IMPERIAL IRANIAN GOVERNMENT CONCERNING THE
ABOLITION OF VISAS**

No. 1

*The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to the
Iranian Ambassador*

*Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London, S.W.1*

GVV2/324/1

9 August 1973

Your Excellency,

1. I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, with a view to facilitating travel between their respective territories, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is prepared to conclude with the Imperial Iranian Government an Agreement in the following terms:

- (a) Iranian nationals holding valid Iranian passports shall be free to travel from any place whatever to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man or to Gibraltar without a visa, and to leave these territories without being required to obtain an exit visa.
- (b) British subjects holding valid passports bearing on the cover the inscription "British Passport" at the top and, at the bottom, the inscription "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland" or "Jersey" or "Guernsey and its Dependencies" or "Isle of Man" or the inscription "Colony of Gibraltar" and inside, the description of the holder's national status as "British subject" or "British subject, citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies" or "British subject, citizen of the United Kingdom, Islands and Colonies" shall be free to travel from any place whatever to Iran without a visa, and shall be free to leave Iran without being required to obtain an exit visa.
- (c) Iranian nationals who, having been lawfully admitted to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man or to Gibraltar, wish to leave for travel abroad shall not be required before leaving to obtain a re-entry visa for return to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man or, as the case may be, to Gibraltar from such travel.

- (d) British subjects in possession of passports as defined in sub-paragraph (b) above who, having been lawfully admitted to Iran, wish to leave for travel abroad shall not be required before leaving to obtain a re-entry visa for return to Iran from such travel.
- (e) Either Government may suspend the foregoing provisions in whole or in part temporarily for reasons of public policy. Any such suspension shall be notified immediately to the other Government through the diplomatic channel.
- (f) The competent authorities of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man and the competent authorities of Gibraltar on the one hand and the competent authorities of Iran on the other hand, reserve the right to refuse any person leave to enter or stay in their territory in any case where that person is considered undesirable or otherwise ineligible under the general policy of the respective Governments relating to the entry or stay of persons who are not entitled to enter or stay in such territory without such leave.
- (g) The waiver of the visa requirement provided for in this Agreement shall not exempt Iranian nationals travelling to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man or to Gibraltar or British subjects travelling to Iran, from the necessity of complying with the respective laws and regulations of those territories concerning entry or residence (temporary or permanent) and the employment or occupation of foreigners. Iranian nationals travelling to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man or to Gibraltar and British subjects travelling to Iran who are unable to satisfy the immigration authorities that they comply with such laws and regulations are liable to be refused leave to enter or to land.
- (h) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (f) above the competent authorities of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man or, as the case may be, the competent authorities of Gibraltar shall admit to their territory at any time British subjects who have travelled to Iran under the terms of this Agreement.
- (i) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (f) above the competent authorities of Iran shall admit to Iran at any time Iranian nationals who have travelled to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man or, as the case may be, to Gibraltar under the terms of this Agreement.
- (j) Iranian nationals travelling to territories for the government of which or the international relations of which the Government of the United Kingdom are responsible other than those referred to in sub-paragraph (a) above or British subjects not in possession of passports as defined in sub-paragraph (b) above shall not come within the scope of this Agreement.

2. If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Imperial Iranian Government, I have the honour to suggest that the present Note and Your Excellency's reply to that effect shall constitute an Agreement between the two Governments in this matter, which shall enter into force on 1 October 1973 and shall thereafter be subject to termination by either Government giving thirty days' notice in writing to the other.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest consideration,
Your Excellency's obedient Servant
(for the Secretary of State)
F. C. HENSBY

No. 2

*The Iranian Ambassador to the Secretary of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs*

*Imperial Iranian Embassy
9th August, 1973*

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Note reference No. GVV 2/324/1 of to-day's date which reads as follows:

[As in No. 1]

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Imperial Iranian Government who therefore agree that Your Excellency's Note and the present reply shall constitute an Agreement between the two Governments in this matter, which shall enter into force on 1 October 1973 and shall thereafter be subject to termination by either Government giving 30 days' notice in writing to the other.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

A. K. AFSHAR