

AMIA Bombing Timeline

March 17, 1992 – An explosion demolishes the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, killing twenty-two people and injuring 242 others. The Islamic Jihad Organization, a group tied to Hezbollah, claims responsibility for the attack.

July 18, 1994 – A car bomb explodes at the Asociación Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA) building in Buenos Aires, killing eighty-five people and injuring more than 300 others.

August 3, 2001 – The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights appoints its President, Dean Claudio Grossman, as its Observer at the AMIA bombing trial.

September 2, 2004 – After a three-year trial, a three-judge panel acquits twenty-two men on charges of assisting in the attack on the AMIA building. The original investigation fails to convict anyone for the AMIA bombing.

February 22, 2005 – Dean Claudio Grossman, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights' Observer at the AMIA bombing trial, issues a report sharply critical of Argentina's investigation, which ultimately leads to an admission by the Argentine Government of its failures in the case.

August 3, 2005 – The federal judge in charge of the AMIA bombing case, Juan José Galeano, after attempting to protect himself through a resignation, is removed from his post following a trial by the Magistrates Council for serious irregularities in the AMIA bombing investigation. Galeano allegedly made a \$400,000 payment to Carlos Telledin for Telledin to falsely accuse a group of police officers of being involved in the bombing.

November 2005 – Argentine prosecutors allege that the suicide bomber who drove the car bomb into the AMIA building was Ibrahim Hussein Berro, a 21-year-old Lebanese terrorist from Hezbollah.

October 25, 2006 – Chief prosecutor Alberto Nisman formally charges the Iranian government over the AMIA bombing and Argentine prosecutors call for the arrest of former Iranian president Hashemi Rafsanjani along with seven others. On March 2007, Interpol issues international arrest warrants for: 1) Hashemi Rafsanjani, then President of Iran; 2) Ali Akbar Velayati, then Foreign Minister; 3) Ali Fallahijan, then Chief of Intelligence; 4) Mohsen Rezai, then Commander of the Revolutionary Guard; 5) Imad Moughnieh, Chief of the External Security Service of Hezbollah; 6) Ahmad Vahidi, then Commander of the "Al Quds"; 7) Mohsen Rabbani, then Imam at the al-Tawhid mosque; and 8) Ahmad Ashagri, a former diplomatic representative in Argentina.

January 27, 2013 – Argentina and Iran sign a Memorandum of Understanding to create a truth commission designed to re-investigate the AMIA bombing. Critics claim the Memorandum implicitly called for the withdrawal of the Interpol arrest warrants. Furthermore, they maintain that the signing of the Memorandum blatantly goes against Argentina's human rights record of holding wrongdoers of serious crimes responsible for their acts. Ultimately, the Memorandum is held unconstitutional by Argentine courts and Iran fails to ratify the agreement, so it never enters into force.

January 18, 2015 – Alberto Nisman is found dead from a gunshot to the head, hours before he is scheduled to appear in front of a Committee of the Argentine Congress. He was due to testify on Iran's responsibility for the bombings and on President Fernandez de Kirchner and her Foreign Minister's cover up of Iran's involvement in the AMIA bombing.

August 6, 2015 – Thirteen defendants, including Argentina's former president, Carlos Menem, go on trial for bribery and hindering the investigation into the AMIA bombing. A verdict is expected during the first part of 2019.

December 2017 – Argentine Federal Judge Claudio Bonadio indicts former Argentine President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner for treason and obstruction of justice due to her alleged cover up of Iran's involvement in the AMIA bombing. In his ruling, the judge calls on Argentina's Senate to remove Kirchner's immunity from arrest as a member of the Senate..

Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of Argentina and the Government of Islamic Republic of Iran on the Issues Related to the Terrorist Attack Against AMIA Headquarter in Buenos Aires on July 18, 1994

1. Establishment of the Commission

A truth commission of international lawyers will be appointed to analyze all the documentation presented by the judicial authorities of Argentina and the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Commission will be formed by five (5) commissioners, two (2) members designated by each country selected according to their international recognized legal character. They cannot be a national of either country. Both countries will jointly agree upon an international lawyer of high moral and legal character, who will act as the president of the commission.

2. Rules of Procedure

After consultation with the parties, the commission will establish its rules of procedures to be approved by both parties.

3. Exchange of Information

Once the commission is established the authorities of Iran and Argentina will deliver to each other and the commission, evidence, and information that are being held about the AMIA case. The commissioners will conduct a thorough review of the evidences related to each accused person; the commission may consult with the parties to complete its information.

4. Commission Report

The Commission having analyzed the information received from both parties and conducting deliberations with the parties and individuals, will express views and issue a report with recommendations on how to proceed with the case within the framework of laws and regulations of both parties. Both parties will take into account these recommendations in their future actions.

5. Hearing

The Commission, the Argentine and Iranian judicial authorities will meet in Tehran to proceed to questioning of whom Interpol has issued a red notice.

The Commission will have authority to pose questions to the representatives of either side, each side has the right to give explanations or submit new documents during the meetings.

6. Entry into Force

This agreement will be submitted to the relevant organs of each country, being congress, parliament, or other bodies, for its ratification or approval in accordance with their laws.

This agreement will enter into force after exchange of the last verbal note informing that the internal requirements for its approval or ratification have been exhausted.

7. Interpol

This Agreement, upon its signature, will be jointly sent by both ministers to the Secretary General of Interpol as a fulfillment of Interpol requirements regarding this case.

8. Basic Rights

Nothing in this agreement shall jeopardize the rights of individuals granted to them by law.

9. Dispute Settlement

Any dispute on the implementation or interpretation of this agreement will be settled through consultations by both parties.

Signed this day of 27 January 2013 in the city of Addis Abbaba, Ethiopia, in duplicated three copies of Farsi, Spanish, and English. In case of any dispute on implementation the English text shall prevail.

For the Islamic Republic of Iran
Ali Akbar Salehi, Minister of Foreign Affairs

For the Republic of Argentina
Hector Timerman, Minister of Foreign Affairs