

Outrage as ISIL Sells Izadi Women Into Slave Markets

BAGHDAD (Press TV) – Human rights activists and organizations have called on the international community, the Iraqi government, and the semi-autonomous Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) to take immediate measures to bring back thousands of Izadi women abducted by ISIL terrorists, Press TV reports.

They also demanded maximum penalty for states that support the Takfiris in waging violence in crisis-hit Iraq and Syria.

“The KRG, Baghdad, and the international community all have the responsibility of bringing back

our girls and of punishing the countries backing ISIL in Iraq and Syria,” said female human rights activist Nyaz Abdullah, adding, “Girls as young as three years of age have been abducted, killed, raped, enslaved, and imprisoned.” “International silence over this cannot be tolerated,” she noted.

According to the United Nations, as many as 200,000 civilians, mostly from the Izadi Kurd community, have fled their homes after the capture of the northern Iraqi town of Sinjar by the ISIL terrorists.

Scores of Izadi women have been

kidnapped and many others killed since then.

Human rights activist Nazer Jamil Abdulaziz, who spoke to survivors in Sinjar, said the displaced are “completely traumatized,” and were suffering from “different psychological problems.”

ISIL has now “established slave markets in the Nineveh Province,” and was transferring some of the women to Syria for slavery, said Mohammed Gomashini from the Independent Human Rights Committee.

Iraq has been fighting the ISIL terrorists since they took control

of Mosul on June 10. The takeover was followed by the fall of the city of Tikrit, located 140 kilometers (87 miles) northwest of the capital, Baghdad. The control of Tikrit was later retaken by the Iraqi army.

The ISIL terrorists have been committing heinous crimes in the captured areas, including the mass execution of civilians and Iraqi security forces.

Soldiers of the Iraqi army have been engaged in heavy fighting with the terrorists on different fronts and have so far been able to push back terrorists in several areas.

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shipping and oil companies, banks and airlines, Rouhani said on Saturday. Zarif and EU Foreign Policy Chief Catherine Ashton meet today to agree a framework for renewed nuclear talks. This sets the stage for a wider P5+1 (the United States, China, Russia, France, United Kingdom, and Germany) session with Iran later in the month with the goal of forging a final nuclear deal by November 24.

Despite the fact that Iran and the P5+1 appear still to be committed to securing a robust, comprehensive agreement, there remains significant opposition, including from conservatives in Washington, and key U.S. allies in the Middle East and beyond, including the occupying regime of Israel and Canada. To date, these parties have remained relatively quiescent, but it is likely that they will become more vocal as November’s deadline nears.

For President Barack Obama, a deal would be a much needed foreign policy victory in the Middle East after several recent setbacks. In the past few weeks, the U.S. administration has been on the backfoot following the territorial gains of ISIL in Iraq, and the collapse of the latest round of Arab-Israeli “peace” negotiations and subsequent conflict in Gaza.

Taken overall, while negotiations remain in the balance, a nuclear deal remains attainable. The implications of an agreement would be potentially enormous for Iran and the wider Middle East, while also enabling Obama’s ambition of enhancing global nuclear security and consolidating his foreign policy legacy.

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their children’s sandwiches for school?” he complained on Israeli army radio.

Amid estimates by some economic observers that the war may have cost Israel a decline of 0.5% in its growth in GDP, Netanyahu defended the stringent across-the-board cuts before a cabinet meeting.

The proposed emergency budget reductions, amounting to about \$561m, will help fund a sharp hike in the budget of Israel’s armed forces and Shin Bet amid estimates that the latest round of fighting in Gaza cost the Zionist regime \$50 million for each day of the war.

The occupying regime’s budget for this year – even before the war and the latest proposed cuts – had already heralded a bout of belt-tightening that had seen a fierce fight over spending cuts, later reversed, to the Israeli military forces.

The Israeli budget cuts come amid evidence that the occupying regime’s economy – which had already been slowing to a sluggish 1.7% growth in the second quarter of this year, including the key hi-tech sector – had been hard hit by the weeks of conflict, not least tourism.

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said ISIL had used cluster bombs on July 12 and August 14.

They were deployed in fighting around the town of Ayn al-Arab in Aleppo province, near the border with Turkey, in clashes between the militant group and local Kurdish fighters.

The group said it was believed to be the first time ISIL had used cluster bombs, and it was unclear how it had acquired them.

Cluster munitions contain dozens or hundreds of small bomblets and can be fired in rockets or dropped from the air.

They spread explosives over large areas and are indiscriminate in nature, often continuing to maim and kill long after the initial attack when previously unexploded bomblets detonate.

“Any use of cluster munitions deserves condemnation, but the best response is for all nations to join the treaty banning them and work collectively to rid the world of these weapons,” said HRW arms division director Steve Goose.

More than 191,000 people have been killed in Syria since the conflict there began in March 2011, according to the United Nations.

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In 2013, Managing-Director of the National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC), Hamid Reza Araqi, had hinted that such a pipeline would take at least 2.5 years to complete. The pipeline, which has yet to have had feasibility studies completed, will cost an estimated \$1 billion. The move is indicative of Iranian attempts to reconstruct its oil and natural gas economy and is said to be worth \$65 billion over the next 25 years.

Oman has stated that approximately 50% of the gas will be transferred to other markets. Japan, South Korea and India have been cited as potential clients.

Oman, which has warmer relations with Iran than do other Arabian Peninsula countries, began importing Qatari gas in 2007, but its demand has risen rapidly since then, threatening its LNG exports and pushing Muscat back to the negotiating table with Tehran.

Iran sits on the world’s largest gas reserves, according to the latest statistics compiled by BP, but it has been prevented from exporting much of it because of western trade sanctions.

Zanganeh, a veteran of Iranian politics who was first appointed to the cabinet in 1980 following the Iranian revolution, was appointed minister for oil in August 2013 and tasked with the challenge of reconstructing Iran’s oil and gas sectors.

Oil exports have slumped in recent years, almost halving in 2013 from 2 million barrels per day to just 1.1 million barrels per day. This is mainly due to the tightening of U.S. sanctions and an EU embargo in light of the country’s nuclear program.

Under present regulations, only six countries are allowed to buy crude oil from Iran, though regulations aren’t so tight when it comes to natural gas. However, Oman’s deal with Iran doesn’t appear to be an isolated case in the Persian Gulf. In June this year, Kuwait also publicly stated an interest in buying more natural gas from Iran.

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which should have been implemented by August 25 for more cooperation.

Given the complexity of the issues, Iran and the agency had already predicted it might not be possible to finish their reviews of the remaining topics by August 25, said Najafi, adding that the two sides have agreed to resume their talks “in the near future”. During a visit to Tehran on August 17, IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano hailed Iran’s resolve to settle issues pertaining to its nuclear energy program through cooperation with the nuclear agency.

“I was very glad to hear from the highest levels a firm commitment to the implementation of the Framework for Cooperation, and to resolve all present and past issues through dialogue and cooperation with the IAEA,” Amano said.

Following the visit, Amano also confirmed that Iran had started implementing the measures ahead of the deadline for Tehran to provide the agency with new information on its nuclear activities

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Tel Aviv and meddling in the region’s affairs.

“Any new adventurism by Israel in the region will definitely take this fake regime closer to the end of its...life and will strengthen the resolve of Palestinian resistance groups to respond to Tel Aviv’s warmongering,” Dehqan added.

The Zionist military unleashed aerial attacks on Gaza in early July and later expanded its military campaign with a ground invasion into the Palestinian strip. Over 2,130 Palestinians, including around 570 children, lost their lives and some 11,000 were injured in the raids.

PM Benjamin Netanyahu has come under sharp criticism by many Israeli officials, including members of his own coalition, after reaching a truce deal with the Palestinian resistance groups on August 26.

Many in Occupied Palestine believe that the regime has failed to establish a clear victory in the offensive, which took a heavy economic toll on Tel Aviv and killed nearly 70 Zionist soldiers.

Houthi Leader Slams Yemeni Gov’t

SANAA (Dispatches) – A leader of Shia Houthi fighters in Yemen has criticized the Yemeni government for seeking to keep the status quo in the country that has plunged people into poverty.

On Sunday, Sheikh Sayyid Abdul-Malik al-Houthi said the Yemeni people have the right to stand up for their legitimate demands.

He further noted that Yemenis from all walks of life are against the government’s “unjust policies and will not keep silent”.

He slammed the situation in Yemen, saying that the failed government will fall.

Houthis have been holding demonstrations since August 20 when they strengthened their positions in the Yemeni capital Sana’a in an effort to press the government to resign.

The Shia movement and its supporters are demanding the resignation of the government and the reversal of recent increases in fuel prices. In response, the government has only offered a cabinet reshuffle and minor reforms.

Yemeni President Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi had earlier called



A leader of Shia Houthi fighters in Yemen has criticized the Yemeni government.

for a dialogue in an attempt to ease the tensions and invited the Houthi representatives to join a “unity government.”

Houthis accuse the government of corruption and marginalizing the Shia community.

Yemen’s Shia Houthi movement draws its name from the tribe of its founding leader Hussein Badreddin al-Houthi.

The Houthi movement played a key role in the popular revolution that forced former dictator Ali

Abdullah Saleh to step down.

Saleh, who ruled Yemen for 33 years, stepped down in February 2012 under a US-backed power transfer deal in return for immunity, after a year of mass street demonstrations demanding his ouster.

Palestinians Criticize Zionist Land Grab Plan



Palestinians have denounced a Zionist plan to grab hundreds of hectares of Palestinian land.

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Palestinians have denounced a Zionist plan to grab hundreds of hectares of Palestinian land in the occupied West Bank and East al-Quds, calling for international action against Tel Aviv.

Zionist military sources said on Sunday that about 400 hectares of

land at the settlement of Gevaot in the southern city of Bethlehem are “declared as Israeli land.”

The chief Palestinian negotiator, Saeb Erakat, condemned the Israeli plan, saying that the Tel Aviv regime is “committing various crimes against the Palestinian people and their occupied land.”

“The international community should hold Israel accountable as soon as possible for its crimes and raids against our people in Gaza and the ongoing Israeli settlement activity in the West Bank and East [al-Quds] Jerusalem,” he added.

Zionist media reports also said that the plan is part of Tel Aviv re-

gime’s settlement expansion projects.

Israeli settlement’s council has welcomed the new plan. The council members have expressed hope that it will pave the way for the expansion of the Gevaot settlement and for making a new city.

The international community regards all Israeli settlements built on occupied Palestinian land as illegal.

Tel Aviv’s expansionist policies have long been considered as an obstacle in the so-called peace talks between the occupying regime and Palestine.

Over the past decades, the Zionist regime has tried to change the demographic makeup of al-Quds by constructing illegal settlements, destroying historical sites, and expelling the local Palestinian population.

More than half a million Israelis live in over 120 illegal settlements built since the regime’s occupation of the Palestinian territories 47 years ago.

The regime occupied and then annexed the West Bank and East al-Quds in the Six-Day War of 1967, but the move has never been recognized by the international community.