## Kayha International

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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

## **Unity Government Best Option** For Palestinians

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

Palestinian factions Fatah and Hamas have officially agreed on a deal for unity government. They overcame last-minute squabbles to form the new government of national unity, backed by all Palestinians in the besieged city of Gaza and the West Bank.

It is interesting to note that the latest deal has happened on the eve of a memorable day in the history of the region and the Muslim World.

For the information of our readers October 2 is the 827th anniversary of the liberation of Bayt al-Moqaddas by a united Muslim army of Kurds, Turks, Arabs and Iranians led by Salah od-Din Ayyoubi who ended the 88-year long illegal existence of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem set up in Palestine by the Crusader invaders from Europe.

This is a good omen. Insha Allah (God Willing), the day is not far the present usurpation of Bayt al-Moqaddas and Palestine by the illegal Zionist migrants from Europe will eventually end.

Hopefully, the announcement of the transitional government would repesent a significant step toward ending a seven-year feud between the political factions of Hamas and Fatah that only benefitted the usurper state of Israel.

The comprehensive deal would turn over the civil administration of Gaza immediately to officials of a unity government. The agreement, negotiated in Cairo, is designed to ease the illegal blockade of Gaza by the Zionist regime and Egypt, and open the way to reconstruction of the war-ravaged coastal entity, reportedly to cost \$7.8 billion following this summer's 50-day Israeli war on Gaza.

The historic agreement would allow the Palestinian Authority to take control over the border crossings of the Gaza Strip, including the crucial Rafah Crossing into Egypt. Palestinian Authority security forces would also control the Philadelphia Corridor, a key strip adjoining the border with Egypt. The ultimate goal is for the officials from the rival factions to try to overcome their differences and strengthen their hand for talks with Israel slated for next month.

The agreement was crucial to present a unified strategy during talks with the Zionists due in October. Those talks, under Egyptian mediation, are aimed at reaching a durable ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinians after the Gaza war.

In any case, the announcement of a consensus government is both cause for celebration and skepticism. It is a significant achievement in its own right, but also because it sets this latest agreement apart from previous, stillborn attempts at reconciliation between the two dominant factions.

The first hurdle in the national unity deal has been overcome, but monumental challenges lie ahead. Implementation will only get harder from here on, hence the cause for skepticism amid the celebration. The years of mutual distrust mean that the deal could still easily collapse, as has happened before. Furthermore, there are major questions for which the formation of a unity government does not provide answers:

How will the Gaza Strip and the West Bank become a single territorial entity again, as they were supposed to be under the Oslo accords? Even with the best of Palestinian intentions, the Zionist entity holds the cards in this regard, and it has already shown its hand. It barred three of the new government's Gaza-based ministers from travelling to the West Bank to attend the swearing-in ceremony.

This highlights the stark irony of a national unity government that is physically and geographically divided. This bodes ill for its effective functioning, since almost a third of its ministers are based in Gaza, and Israel retains full control over who can travel from one Palestinian ter-

Given these restrictions, it is difficult to see how Hamas will be able to incorporate Fatah-led Palestinian Authority forces in Gaza, and how this will be reciprocated in the West Bank, as is stipulated by the unity deal. Indeed, all the odds are stacked against the unity government, yet it remains the best option for both Fatah and Hamas to move forward. Given the expected failure of negotiations with Israel and the dire situation in Gaza, each movement must respond to the mounting expectations on the

The new unity government that would make headway toward Palestinian elections, which have not taken place since 2006, is the only way to restore the public's faith in the new leadership. If they want this latest unity to survive and yield results, then both Fatah and Hamas must display much greater moderation in their public dealings with each other than they have done so far.

Despite Israeli hurdles and pressures, the Palestinian factions finally managed to forge unity. Now the political class in Gaza and the West Bank must join forces to pave the way for new elections and prove to their people and the international community that they also have what it takes to establish an independent State of Palestine at the earliest, with Bayt al-Moqaddas as their rightful capital.

# Iran Helping Lebanon to Fight Terrorism



Iran has no red lines in providing military aid to Lebanon to help it in the fight against terror and consolidate stability and security in the country.

TEHRAN (IRNA) - A senior Iranian diplomat says the Islamic Republic's military aid to the Lebanese army as it battles Takfiri terrorist groups is aimed at bolstering fight against terrorism and based on international law.

"Any aid offered by the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Lebanese army will be within the framework of the fight against terrorism and international law," Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Affairs Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said on Wednesday.

He added that Lebanon's armed forces must be strengthened so they can counter

Amir-Abdollahian further slammed the US for its "acts of adventurism that only intensify extremism," adding, "The US should not prevent regional governments and armies from becoming stronger so that an effective and real fight against terrorism would take place."

The remarks come as US State Depart-

ment spokeswoman, Jen Psaki, said in a press briefing in Washington on Tuesday that "Iranian arms transfers to Lebanon could be in violation of Iran's obligation under existing UN Security Council resolutions."

On September 30, Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) Ali Shamkhani said in Beirut that Tehran is to provide military equipment to the Lebanese army for the fight

Holy Our'an

They have taken their doctors of law and their monks for lords besides Allah, and (also) the Messiah son of Marium and they were enjoined that they should serve one God only, there is no god but He; far from His glory be what they set up (with Him).

The Holy Qur'an (9.31) 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

#### PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)

18:09 Evening(Maghreb)

Dawn(Fajr)" Tomorrow" 04:34

Sunrise "Tomorrow" 05:57

The Iranian official said Iran's assistance will be delivered to Beirut during an upcoming visit by Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehgan to Lebanon.

He said the Islamic Republic has no red lines for providing military aid to Lebanon to help it in the fight against terror and consolidate stability and security in the country.

Over the past months, Lebanon has been suffering from terrorist attacks by al-Qaeda-linked militants as well as random rocket attacks, which are viewed as a spillover of the conflict in Syria.

Syria has been gripped by deadly violence since 2011 with ISIL Takfiri terrorists currently controlling parts of it mostly in the east and north.

## Iranian Nation Condemns British PM Remarks



Supreme Leader's top Adviser for International Affairs Ali Akbar Velayati

TEHRAN (FNA)- Supreme Leader's top Adviser for International Affairs Ali Akbar Velayati has blasted British Prime Minister David Cameron for his remarks against Iran, saying Iranian nation deplores his "cheap" comments.

"Our people remember the long re-

cord of the Britain's undesirable and unfriendly behavior," Velayati told reporters after meeting a delegation of Irish parliament in Tehran.

Stressing that not only the Iranian nation but also the world Muslims are dissatisfied with London's behavior

## **Zionists Control Info Flow** to US Leaders

TEHRAN (FNA) - Chief of Staff of Iran's Armed Forces has pointed to influence of Zionists in the White House and US institutions, stating that the flow of information to American political leaders is being controlled by pro-Israel

"Due to the influence and dominance of Zionists over the US power structure, the information channels of US officials are under the sway of what has been created by Zionists," Major General Hassan Firouzabadi savs.

The top commander further noted that genuine news that could help US authorities realize the facts are either being censored or distorted in the United States

Firouzabadi added that as long as US officials do not want to free themselves from the yoke of Zionists and purge US intelligence services from their presence, the rights of people will continue to be trampled.

(Continued on Page 7),

## **Gas Condensate Exports Up 85%**

TEHRAN (ISNA) - Iran's exports of natural gas condensates have increased tremendously year on year. Iran exported USD 6.514 billion worth of natural gas condensates in the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (started March 21, 2014), registering an 85-percent

Some USD 1.8 billion of liquefied propane, USD 817 million of methanol and USD 730 million liquefied butane were exported during the six-month period.

gas condensate exports (Continued on Page 7) he said, "The British are the main party sponsoring and responsible for the Palestinian issue (the occupation of Palestinian lands by Israel).

Velayati said all Iranians stand united in condemning these "cheap remarks".

In relevant remarks earlier this week, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani also lashed out at Cameron for making "incorrect and unacceptable" remarks

"The comments made by the prime minister (Cameron) in his address (at the UN General Assembly meeting against Iran) was incorrect and unacceptable and the foreign ministry gave a response to these remarks," Rouhani told reporters after returning home from a bi-nation tour which took him to New York for a UNGA meeting and later to the Russian port city of (Continued on Page 7)

### Regime Change

QODS: US warplanes, backed by NATO, Saudi, Qatari, Bahraini, Jordanian and UAE aircraft are bombing Syria's oil refineries and civilian infrastructure with little care for civilian life on the ground. Washington claims the strikes aim to destroy the black market oil trade and cut this important source of income for the terrorist group of ISIL. Yet the real agenda appears to be the "Big Switch" to their original mission: Regime change in Damascus.

#### US Airstrikes

AFTAB: US airstrikes are designed to back moderate terrorists (they are now ISIL soul mates) and cripple Syria's military forces in less than 24 hours. The no-fly zone would include a ban on the movement of Syrian military forces, designed to neutralize Syria's ability to carry out air strikes, ultimately paving the way for an all-out attack on Damascus.

#### **Moderate Terrorists**

SHARQ: Obama once dismissed the notion of relying on "moderate" rebels as a "fantasy" that was "never in the cards" as a workable strategy But it is a fantasy that the neocons have long found useful, portraying the war in Syria as a black-and-white conflict. When the extremism of the rebel movement became undeniable the neocons shifted their narrative to argue that this radicalization should be blamed on Obama for not having done more to arm the terrorists and achieve "regime change" in Syria earlier.

### Doomed Policy

HAMSHAHRI: Washington's strategy is doomed to fail because fundamentalism, radicalization and terrorism are inherently sociological problems that can be easily exacerbated but never resolved by military means. In fact, the most effective action the international community can take in response to ISIL is to stop feeding the beast. This would mean cutting aid to nonstate actors in Syria and the broader region.