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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

Revolution Rallies & Iran's Influence Abroad Frustrates the US

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The eagerness with which the huge multi-million strong rallies held throughout Iran on February 12, to mark the entry of the Islamic Revolution into its 40th triumphant year, were followed abroad by scores of millions of admirers of the Islamic Republic, including politicians, scholars, religious leaders and the general public, in addition to their coverage by the electronic and print media of the world, once again proved the dynamism of the unique system of Wilayat-e Faqih, which the Iranian and other devoted Muslim masses love from the depth of their hearts and which is intensely loathed by the US, the Zionists, the Wahhabis, and the thugs, the traitors and the terrorists on their payroll.

As was fully evident in Tehran and in towns and cities all over Iran, the jubilant marchers who exceeded by at least 20 percent last year's participants, said with one voice that what made them pour into the streets in the wintry weather in such large numbers, was their resolve to safeguard the independence of the country in the face of the propaganda tirade of their enemies, in response to the call of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, for reaffirming allegiance to the ideals of the Founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeini (RA).

Interestingly, Qatar's al-Jazeera TV gave live coverage to parts of these spectacular rallies, while TV channels in other Arab states, like al-Mayadeen, Lebanon's al-Manar, and the various networks in Iraq, as well as Russia's RT, provided extensive coverage. Even CNN showed glimpses of these million-man marches, although interspersed with distortion of facts, as it grudgingly admitted the popularity of the unique system of popular religious rule in Iran.

In India's Kargil, thousands of the Shi'a Muslims took to the streets with the portraits of Imam Khomeini and Ayatollah Khamenei, to express their solidarity with the people of Iran.

Similar scenes were witnessed in Lebanon, while in Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, India, and other places, public seminars were held by enthusiasts of the Islamic Revolution, unfazed by the distortion of facts by the West's Zionist-controlled media.

This is further proof of the fact that as Iran's power and prestige, coupled with the influence and appeal of the Islamic system grows amongst the Muslim masses abroad, the US and its clients seem to be at the end of their wits.

It seems even the quixotic Donald Trump has some sense, although little, as he preferred to keep silent rather than look like a fool after having tweeted trash after trash last month in support of a few vandals and anti-social elements who indulged in isolated acts of violence and treason by infiltrating the peaceful protests of a few dozen people in some cities, voicing their just grievances.

The Don Quixote and his team of Sancho Panzas were outdoing each other in issuing statements of sheer stupidity of US support for a non-existent current to change the system of government in Iran.

The dotards in Washington in tandem with the superrich regime in Riyadh, by pumping millions of dollars into the coffers of hypocrites who run TV channels and write newspaper columns to dole out rubbish against Iran, had hoped that the Iranian masses hoodwinked by the propaganda blared by the media horns of the West, would instead organize mass protests against the Islamic system of government, rather than turn out for the Bahman 22 rallies.

To their surprise, however, the Iranian nation once again gave their enemies a teeth-smashing blow by expressing support for the dynamic system of government, which despite the hardships as a result of the criminal sanctions of the US, has protected the country, ensured peace and security of the country, safeguarded spiritual and cultural values, and every day breaks new ground in science and technology.

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution, in appreciation of the people's devotion to national and religious values, thanked the nation by issuing a memorable message later in the day on February 11, part of which reads:

"Beloved and proud Iranian nation! Today, your resolve and insight gave rise to a great and stunning event. The greatness of your rallies today, which, according to meticulous estimators, was marked by a higher turnout and was more vigorous than those of the previous years, was a firm and crushing response to foreigners, enemies and the disloyal. By relying upon its defective and flawed assumption of Iran and Iranians, the enemy had mobilized all its capability and propaganda efforts to turn this year's February 11 [rallies] into dull and maybe self-defeating ones. You showed off to them, in practice, the living and dynamic nature of the Revolution, and through your chants and warm participation shouted out loud your commitment to the ideals of the late Imam [Khomeini]. The grandeur of the Iranian nation drives the enemies back, and its resolute determination wrecks their calculations. The officials of the country must appreciate this unique phenomenon and serve the dear nation and defend the goals of the Revolution with full perseverance, revolutionary spirit and diligence."

FM Zarif to Attend Kuwait Conference:

Iran Seeks Key Role in Iraq Reconstruction



Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi has said his country needs up to \$100 billion for infrastructure.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi said on Monday Iran will continue to play its constructive and supportive role in Iraq's reconstruction and economic development.

In a statement, Qasemi underlined the significance of Iraq as a friend and neighbor, and said Iranian Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif will take part in the International Conference for Reconstruction of Iraq which is underway in Kuwait.

"Iran welcomes the Kuwait Conference. We maintain that participation of the international community in the reconstruction of Iraq is a necessary move in the right direction. We call for the unconditional and honest participation of the international community in the reconstruction of Iraq," he added.

The spokesman underlined that Iran has had no hesitation in supporting the nation and government of Iraq as it has always stood by them in fight against terrorism and will continue to do so in the future, Iran Front Page reported.

"As in the past, Iran will keep playing its supporting and constructive role in the reconstruction and economic development of Iraq in the post-Daesh era as it has always played the same role in other political and security fields," Qasemi noted.

The spokesman also noted that the International Conference for Reconstruction of Iraq is mainly aimed at gathering financial support from different international sources for the reconstruction of the Arab country, particularly its war-torn areas, paving the way for offering lasting solutions to the internal conflicts, modernization of Iraq's local and national capacities, improving Iraq's social structure, creating balance between reconstruction projects and national reconciliation efforts and attracting foreign investments.

The three-day conference that kicked off on Monday brings together a number of economically powerful countries, as well as regional and international organizations, and is aimed at raising funds for the reconstruction of Iraq after many years of war and conflict.

President Rouhani in India Thursday for 3-Day Visit

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's President Hassan Rouhani will visit India this week for three days, ISNA news agency reported on Monday.

Rouhani is due to leave for India on Thursday to discuss "the latest regional and global developments", it said. He was invited by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last year.

India and Iran have collaborated on key projects, most notably the Chabahar port in southeastern Iran that was inaugurated in December.

The port has been touted as a way for India to establish trade routes, but the project has seen multiple delays.

India has been a key purchaser of Iranian oil and gas, and maintained trade ties even as sanctions were imposed on Iran over its nuclear program between 2012 and 2016.

However, there have been tensions in the relationship, with the Indian media reporting frustrations over delays in awarding a contract to develop a major gas field known as Farzad B in the Persian Gulf.

That led India to announce it was reducing its oil imports from Iran in protest in March 2017, leading

Tehran to say it was restricting credit lines to India.

The two countries have nonetheless sought to move beyond the spat, and have continued to seek partnerships, with India signing a preliminary agreement last month to help expand Iran's rail network, including expanding rail links to Chabahar.

Non-oil trade between the countries reached \$4.74 billion in the 12 months that followed March 2016, up 4.17% compared to the same period in the previous year.

Iran is India's third oil supplier. The country imported 12.5 million tonnes of crude from the Islamic Republic in the period running from April 2017 to October 2018.

India, Iran and Afghanistan have signed an agreement to give Indian goods, heading toward Central Asia and Afghanistan, preferential treatment and tariff reductions at in Chabahar.

Chabahar provides India with an easier land-sea route to Afghanistan. The Indian government has committed \$500 million to developing the port.

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Japan to Help Fight Pollution in Tehran

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Based on a contract signed on Monday, Japan is to run a joint project with Iran to decrease air pollution in this Iranian capital.

An official contract was signed between Iran and Japan on the procurement of the equipment required to measure and analyze air pollutants in Tehran.

The four-year agreement was clinched in Tehran in a ceremony attended by Deputy Mayor of Tehran Pourseyed Aghaei and

Japan's ambassador to Iran.

"The contract was inked to decrease air pollution in Tehran," said the Iranian official.

He said the contractors are the Tehran Air Quality Control Company affiliated with the Tehran Municipality, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

This comes as cooperation between Iran and JICA goes back to 1996 when Iran's first plan to

fight air pollution was underway. It led to an improvement in the quality of gasoline, so much so that lead and CO have not existed in Tehran's air any longer.

The state organization is also cooperating with Iran in a project to revive Lake Urmia in northwestern Iran. Under its international obligations, the organization is now going to work with Tehran on reducing air pollution in the metropolis. The project will be carried out in four years' time.

The Holy Qur'an



This is a sufficient exposition for the people and that they may be warned thereby, and that they may know that He is One God and that those possessed of understanding may mind.

The Holy Qur'an (14.52)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	12:19
Evening (Maghreb)	18:02
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:29
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:54

Russia, Iran Discuss Ditching Dollar in Trade

MOSCOW (Dispatches) -- Moscow and Tehran are continuing talks on using national currencies in trade, according to Russia's Ambassador to Iran Levon Dzhagaryan.

He told TASS that "central banks" working groups have met several times. "As far as we can understand, negotiations are underway," Dzhagaryan said.

"We hope that in 2018 we shall achieve progress and will be able to use widely the favorable conditions we may have if we manage to approach final decisions," he added.

Last year, during the visit of Iranian President Hassan Rouhani to Moscow, the two sides agreed to continue cooperation aimed at stabilizing the global energy market and ensuring sustainable economic development.

They said they would be working on favorable conditions for using national currencies in settlements. Moscow and Tehran have also discussed developing inter-bank cooperation between the two countries and ensuring an increase in trade and investments.

Putin and Rouhani also focused on the potential creation of a free-trade zone between Iran and the Eurasian Economic Union, which consists of Russia, Belarus, Armenia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan.

Rouhani told journalists that such a trade zone could significantly improve the trade situation and "create new conditions" in regional trade.

In November, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said that the best way to beat U.S. sanctions against Iran and Russia was joint efforts to dump the American currency in bilateral trade.

He told President Putin in Tehran that by using methods such as eliminating the U.S. dollar and replacing it with national currencies in transactions between two or more parties, the sides could "isolate the Americans."