

Editorial Dept. Tel.: 33911561, 33110251-9

Ext.: 2334, 2336, 2337

Advertising Dept.: 33110251-9 Ext. 2336

Subscription Ext.: 2322

Facsimile: 33114228 & 33111120

Website: www.kayhan.ir/en

E-mail: kayhanintl@yahoo.com

P.O. Box: 11365/9631

Address: Martyr Shah Cheraghi Street, Ferdowsi Avenue,  
Tehran – Islamic Republic of Iran

### In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

## It's the End of ISIL as We Know It

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

*With Iraqi and Syrian armies and allies forces on track for the final assaults against ISIL in the last remaining bastions and with reports that the remnants of the terrorist group are on the run, it is pretty much evident that ISIL's days in the Levant are numbered.*

*What's significant though is that the ground offensives against ISIL have the blessing of the involvement of both Sunni and Shia volunteer forces, backed by Iranian military advisors and Iraqis and Syrians from all backgrounds. Meaning, the military campaigns and the ensuing victories are not factional, and hence they will not be short-termed after ISIL.*

*The prevailing judgment is that the ongoing battles are between good and evil, between truth and lies. It's no coincidence that ISIL has seen its caliphate losing so many cities and towns in recent months. The terror group has also lost the strategic territories near the Syrian-Iraqi border, and historic Palmyra in central Syria to major offensives.*

*The forces on the ground are now expanding their offensive in northern Syria, drawing closer to the terror capital of Raqqa, while in Iraq, they have launched a campaign to liberate a series of villages on the road leading to Erbil. They have already begun operations beyond the liberated Mosul, Iraq's second largest city, in preparation for a major offensive to kill or drive the remaining terrorists out of the border.*

*As it happens, the situation is grim for the terror group on multiple fronts. It is facing difficulties and losing territory. The current trends appear to be inexorably moving toward its ultimate defeat. ISIL has lost over 80% of the territory it once held in Iraq and some 70% of areas it controlled in Syria. These slow but steady battlefield losses are prompting ISIL to strike back against civilians with terrorist bombings.*

*If anything, ISIL now suffers from a crisis of confidence. It has shown that it is prepared to stop at nothing in creating human victims. The allied forces recognize that. They also know that they are fighting for the very soul of their religion, as ISIL does not speak for Islam and brings bad tidings.*

*Likewise, the forces realize that if ISIL is going to be defeated, they themselves must do it - not just with bullets and bombs, but with a version of their faith that rejects sectarian violence. After all, the vast majority of the world's 1.6 billion Muslims rejects the violent ideology of the kind ISIL preaches and support the ongoing military campaigns against the terror group.*

## Iran to Send Warships to West Atlantic

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Navy commander Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari said on Sunday Iran plans to dispatch a fleet of warships to the west of the Atlantic Ocean in the near future.

Sayyari referred to Western media's attempts to portray the Iranian Navy as weak, saying the naval forces of the Islamic Republic have proved them wrong.

"No foreign military official could even imagine that the Iranian naval forces might reach the Atlantic Ocean," he said.

"No one saw it likely that Iranian forces could sail around Africa or go to the Suez Canal, but they proved to be capable of doing that," the commander added.

"On CNN, the Americans drew a line from Bandar Abbas to the Atlantic and said Iran by no means was capable of entering the ocean and passing through it, but we reached the Atlantic, and we will go to the west of the ocean in the near future," Rear Admiral Sayyari went on to say.

Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Muhammad Ali Jafari said on Sunday one of the main objectives the enemies of Iran are pursuing is to erode the country's military capabilities and cripple its armed forces.

The defense power of the Iranian armed forces is a main target of

(Continued on Page 7)

### New Pick for Defense Minister:

# Missile Program Will Continue Full Throttle



Brigadier General Amir Hatami addresses a military event in Tehran in this file photo.

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- Brigadier General Amir Hatami, who has been nominated as defense minister in President Hassan Rouhani's new cabinet, has vowed to continue boosting Iran's missile program.

Briefing a group of lawmakers on his future plans here on Saturday, Hatami said that the current situation is special as the enemies have imposed sanctions on Iran's military field in a bid to weaken it.

"The enemy is stationed in the region, bringing weapons to the region and trying to damage the country's defensive might, but we have set objectives in our plan to counter the move," he added.

The Iranian general also hailed achievements made in both missile and defense industry sectors and stressed that this trend should continue.

He further noted that all the Islamic

Republic's capabilities should be used to provide permanent deterrence as well as defensive power and help people live in absolute peace and security.

"The president has issued a strict written order for reinforcing the country's defensive might while Leader of the Islamic Revolution (Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei) also has clear plans in that regard," he said.

"Given these circumstances, we do not look to anybody's permission for reinforcing the country's defensive power," he pointed out.

### 'Not Enough Space for Missiles'

Also on Saturday, Brigadier General Hussein Salami, the second-in-command of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), said in

a live TV program that "the rate of our missile production is so high that we are faced with the problem of space" for storing them.

The military commander ruled out the possibility of a new war in the region as well as calls in the U.S. for inspection of Iran's military sites.

"The Americans lack the power to launch a new war," Salami said, adding "access to our military facilities is one of the dreams that the Americans will take to the grave."

He also touched on recent confrontations between Iranian naval boats and U.S. military vessels in the Persian Gulf, saying American claims of "harassment" by Iran's patrols are a "psychological ruse."

"We defend our territorial integrity with all our power and our intelligence systems observe the presence

The Holy Qur'an



And there are some of them who molest the Prophet and say: He is one who believes every thing that he hears; say: A hearer of good for you (who) believes in Allah and believes the faithful and a mercy for those of you who believe; and those who molest the Apostle of Allah, they shall have a painful punishment.

The Holy Qur'an (9.61)

### PRAYER TIMINGS

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| Noon (Zohr)            | 13:09 |
| Evening (Maghreb)      | 19:55 |
| Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow" | 04:50 |
| Sunrise "Tomorrow"     | 06:22 |

of any foreign vessel anywhere. If Americans think that we are to stop these activities, they are completely mistaken and it is better for them not to belittle themselves," he said.

"If something happens in the Persian Gulf, the security of the world's energy will be affected in a big way. However, they (the Americans) are partly aware of our military capability, while they know nothing about its invisible part," Salami said.

"A war in the Persian Gulf would be a fluid one that would move far beyond the imagination of the Americans and engage all the areas bearing their interests; it would be drawn toward the Zionist regime and its destruction," he added.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Salami described the Daesh terrorist group a joint product of the U.S., Britain, the occupying regime of Israel and their regional allies.

(Continued on Page 7)

## President Rouhani: World Nations Stand With Iran on JCPOA

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- President Hassan Rouhani said here on Sunday the 2015 nuclear agreement benefits the entire region and the world, warning that any attempt to damage the deal will backfire.

Speaking at the last meeting of his cabinet, Rouhani rejected claims by U.S. President Donald Trump and opponents of the Islamic Republic who have described the accord, officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), as the "worst deal ever" and accused Iran of having deceived others.

"What is important about the JCPOA is the issue of understanding and a win-win situation," he said.

"Certainly, the JCPOA serves and will serve the interests of the country, region and the entire world and anyone who wants to damage the JCPOA will hurt himself and his country," he added.

The president also warned that if the U.S. stands against the deal, the whole world will stand up to the U.S., contrary to four years ago when Iran was alone.

"Today, if anyone wants to take a measure against Iran regarding the JCPOA, all countries will be with us and against the one who wants to weaken the JCPOA," Rouhani

pointed out.

The president described peace in economy, economic progress and working towards social justice as an honor for the 11th administration and said: "The 12th Administration will continue working towards the policy of freedom, security peace and progress."

"I am very happy that our ministers, even those who are going to be replaced, are working with the same spirit and enthusiasm that they had the first day they started working."

When the 11th Administration started office, Iran had a high inflation rate, he said. "If the same trend had continued, we would have had to sell 200,000 barrels of oil today and sanctions would have been pressuring people more than ever."

"Today, we have a peaceful environment in our universities," the President said. He also referred to the latest presidential election and said: "I don't think in any country people are allowed to take to the streets and speak their ideas this loud and clear."

"Today, we are witnessing more morality, ethics and moderation in the society, said Rouhani, adding: "Progress is only possible through moderation."

## Press Digest

### Eternal Confrontation

**KAYHAN:** The crisis in the Korean Peninsula will not go away overnight. The standoff between the U.S. and North Korea could only end if one party steps down from its hostile position. This is of course out of question. Washington cannot stand the idea of a nuclear-armed North Korea. Pyongyang likewise sees its existence linked to its nuclear bombs. Trump's hands are tied to launch a preemptive strike on North Korea.

### Zionist Worries

**JAVAN:** Israel is worried the crisis in the Korean Peninsula might shift the center of crises from the Middle East to South East. They are not happy with this. The tension there will distract Washington's attention from the Middle East. The Trump administration sees Iran's policy in the region as a threat to U.S. interests. If the Korean crisis worsens, Washington will have little time to pay any attention to the situation in the Middle East.

### End of JCPOA

**RESALAT:** Trump is not happy with the nuclear deal and talks against it. This increases the possibility that the U.S. might try and exit from the deal. This could happen unilaterally and without consultation with other members of the P5+1. This will kill off the international agreement. This is while Trump has already acknowledged Iran's full compliance with the JCPOA.

### Trial and Error

**VATAN EMROOZ:** Iran's economy is not a place for trial and error. No one knows how long the U.S. dollar will control the world market. The U.S. uses its dollar to sanction those that are not in good terms with its hegemonic policies and plans. It is time for the Iranian government to let go of the illusion that by getting the sanctions lifted it can fix the economy. The only way ahead is to depend on national capacities and not on outside powers. Lack of a comprehensive program on the part of the government is no longer acceptable.