

# Condolences on the Martyrdom of Imam Muhammad at-Taqi (AS)

## Police Kill Barcelona Attack Suspect: Report

BARCELONA (AFP) -- Spanish police Monday killed a man who could be Younes Abouyaaqoub, the alleged fugitive driver of a van that mowed down crowds in Barcelona, a source close to the probe said.

"They have shot dead a suspect who could be the perpetrator of the attack," the source, who declined to be named, told AFP. Police in Catalonia confirmed that a man wearing what appeared to be a suicide belt had been killed in Subirats, some 60 kilometers away from Barcelona, but did not identify him.



## U.S. Efforts to Influence Iran Report 'Futile'

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- U.S. attempts to influence the UN nuclear agency's reports about Iran will get nowhere, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi said here Monday. The U.S., he said, is making "futile" efforts to hinder the implementation of a nuclear deal between Iran and six other countries through contacts with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). "If they are making efforts to cause problems for the JCPOA, I think that is a futile and pointless effort, since the Agency will at the end of the day follow its responsibilities with precision."

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Peace unto the Spring of Wisdom, the Lantern of Light

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

*"O Allah send blessings upon Muhammad and his Household, and send blessings upon Muhammad ibn Ali, the Pure, the Pious, the Devout, the Loyal, the Respectful, the Immaculate, "Peace upon you; O Abu Ja'far Muhammad son of Ali; the Pious, the Devout, the Guide, and the Loyal (to Almighty Allah)"*

Today, apparently the last day of the month of Zi'l-Qa'dah is a day of grief for Muslims, especially for the followers of the Ahl al-Bayt or Immaculate Household of the Almighty's Last and Greatest Messenger to all mankind. It is the day on which in the year 220 AH (835 AD), the 9<sup>th</sup> Infallible Heir of the Seal of Messengers was forced to leave world as a martyr through a fatal dose of poisoning, administered yet again by an usurper caliph.

As is clear from the wordings of the above-mentioned phrases of the *Ziyarah* or standard form of salutation to him, he was the namesake of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), and like the "Mercy unto the whole creation", he was a picture of piety, patience, and devotion to God Almighty, to the extent that he acquired the epithets of "*at-Taqi*" (the Pure) and "*al-Jawad*" (the Generous). Imam Muhammad at-Taqi al-Jawad (AS), who lived in an age when the Islamic realm was at its peak, both politically and intellectually -- straddling vast areas of the three continents of Asia, Africa and Europe -- was not just generous in spending on the needy from whatever he possessed materially, but his generosity included the dispensing of knowledge and bezels of wisdom to all those who came into contact with him.

Volumes would be required to pen the virtues of the 9<sup>th</sup> Imam, whose praises the celestial angels sing. He was a mere boy of 8 years, when the Divine Trust of Imamate, which on Almighty Allah's express orders Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) had entrusted to his dear cousin and son-in-law Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS) on the memorable 18<sup>th</sup> of Zi'l-Hijjah at the historic gathering of over a hundred thousand Hajj pilgrims at Ghadir-Khom in 10 AH, came to rest on his tender shoulders following the martyrdom of his father Imam Ali ibn Musa ar-Reza (AS) in distant Khorasan due to a fatal dose of poison given by Mamoon the self-styled caliph of the usurper Abbasid regime.

It was now clear that Mamoon, having failed to tarnish the image of Imamate, would remain a mortal enemy of the Ahl al-Bayt, but would never resort to open enmity in view of the popularity of the Prophet's Progeny amongst the Ummah.

He therefore, having tested the God-given knowledge of the son of his victim by pitting the boy-Imam against the Mu'tazalite ideologue, Yahya ibn Aktham, who stuttered for words before the wisdom of the young opponent, connived to marry his daughter to the Prophet's Rightful Heir, not out of devotion to him but in order to keep under surveillance what he thought were political aspirations of Imam Muhammad Taqi (AS) to take over the caliphate.

He was wrong, since the 9<sup>th</sup> Imam whose spiritual powers were far greater than the wealth and political might of any king or caliph, did not need to rise and establish the rule of the Ahl al-Bayt on earth, which God Almighty had deferred for the end times through the Promised Imam Mahdi al-Qa'em (AS).

Here, it would be interesting to present a lively discourse on the advent of Imam Mahdi (AS) and the global government of peace, prosperity and justice, between Imam Muhammad Taqi (AS) and his distant cousin, Abdul-Azim al-Hassani (AS) -- whose shrine in Rayy near Tehran is a site of pilgrimage. Abdul-Azeem al-Hassani narrates: "Once, I went to my master Muhammad bin Ali bin Musa (al-Jawad) intending to ask him about Mahdi al-Qa'em; whether he was al-Mahdi himself or another one. Before I uttered a word, he said: '*O Abul Qassim, al-Qa'em of us is al-Mahdi who must be awaited in his occultation and must be obeyed in his appearance. He is the third of my progeny. By Allah Who has sent Muhammad with Prophethood and singled us out with Imamate, if there will be only one day left for the world, Allah will prolong that day until al-Qa'em will appear to fill the earth with fairness and justice as it has been filled with injustice and oppression. Allah will prepare the affairs for him as He had prepared the affairs to Moses where he went to bring a fire and came back to be the prophet of his nation. The best deed of our Shi'a is the awaiting for deliverance.*'"

Abdul-Azeem al-Hassani said: "I wish you were the Qa'em of Ahl al-Bayt who will fill the earth with justice and fairness as it has been filled with injustice and oppression!"

Imam Jawad (AS) replied: "*O Abul-Qassim, every one of us is Qa'em (executor) of the orders of Allah the Almighty and a guide to the religion of Allah, but the Qa'em by whom Allah will purify the earth from the people of unbelief and who will fill the earth with justice and fairness is he whose birth will be unknown to people and who will disappear and it will be impermissible for people to call him by his name. His name and surname are like those of the Messenger of Allah (SAWA). The earth will be submitted to him and every difficulty will be easy to him. His companions, who will be three hundred and thirteen men as the number of the men of (the Battle of) Badr, will join him from the farthest parts of the world as Allah says ("wherever you are, Allah will bring you all together; surely Allah has power over all things"). When this number of loyal men will join him, Allah will make him appear.*"

The plot this day of the murderous self-styled caliph, Mu'tasem, in poisoning to death Imam Jawad (AS) in the vain hope of giving legitimacy and permanency to the usurper Abbasid dynasty, came to naught.

There is no trace of today of the tombstones of the caliphs, let alone their palaces of pleasures, while the devotees of the Prophet's Ahl al-Bayt, whether Shi'a or Sunni, while awaiting the advent of Imam Mahdi (AS) salute the shrine in Kazemain near Baghdad, with phrases of praise to the 9<sup>th</sup> Imam, such as: "*Peace unto you the Spring of Wisdom, the Lantern of light*"

## Ayatollah Khamenei to Cultural Authorities: Strengthen Revolutionary Spirit



Ayatollah Khamenei addresses a group of officials and cultural activists from Yazd and Hamadan provinces in Tehran, Aug. 21, 2017.

### Kayhan Int'l Political Desk

TEHRAN -- **Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei here on Monday stressed the need to strengthen the revolutionary spirit of the younger generation.**

Addressing a group of officials and cultural activists from Yazd and Hamadan provinces, the Leader described Mohsen Hojaji, a member of the Iranian advisory support team in Syria who was beheaded by Daesh terrorists recently, "a brilliant example of the revolutionary growth."

## Second Collision in the Pacific in Two Months: U.S. Sailors Missing After Warship, Tanker Collide

SINGAPORE (AP) -- The USS John S. McCain has docked at Singapore's naval base with "significant damage" to its hull after an early morning collision with an oil tanker as vessels from several nations searched Monday for 10 missing U.S. sailors.

The collision east of Singapore between the guided-missile destroyer and the 183-meter Alnic MC was the second involving a ship from the Navy's 7th fleet in the Pacific in two months.

Vessels and aircraft from the U.S., Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia are searching for the missing sailors. Four sailors were evacuated by a Singaporean navy helicopter to a hospital in the city-state for treatment of non-life threatening injuries, the Navy said. A fifth injured sailor did not require further medical attention.

The McCain had been heading to Singapore on a routine port

"Dear Martyr Hojaji shone like a star in a world where there are so many seductive audio and video spaces; and God set him as an example before the eyes of the world."

Ayatollah Khamenei said cultural authorities are required to strengthen and support the revolutionary spirit in different environments.

The Leader touched on the many grounds that have been created in the world today to mislead the younger generation. "Against these harmful propaganda and misleading voices, there are huge capacities for the guidance and growth of the

youth," he said.

Ayatollah Khamenei also touched on the "enormous requests" which are made by the youth today to go the front lines to the fight against

## General Baqeri: Any Geographical Change in Region Dangerous

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- **Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Muhammad Baqeri here on Monday warned that any change in the political geography of the region would create tensions across the Middle East.**

The leadership in the Iraqi's Kurdistan has set Sept. 25 as the date for a referendum on independence for Arbil as well as the oil-rich Kirkuk, Sinjar, Makhmour and Khanaqin, triggering fears of a fresh conflict in the region.

"Any geographical change in the region, given the differences between the Kurds and the central Iraqi government about Kirkuk and other areas, can start tensions and conflicts inside Iraq and this issue will never be confined to Iraq's geographical expanse," Baqeri told reporters.

Baqeri has just returned from a visit to Turkey last week, where the two sides expressed their strong opposition to any secessionist move in the region.

The two countries, he said, held "useful and complete" discussions about regional security, particularly in Syria and Iraq, and the role of Iran and Turkey in establishing peace and security in the two Arab countries.

Baqeri said Tehran and Ankara

the enemy.

"Today, many highly motivated youth with incredible faith seek to pass over their life, family and comfort, and fight the enemy with a love of Jihad and defense of values. We should appreciate this new and valuable growth," the Leader said.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the most important duty of the officials and cultural authorities is to strengthen the revolutionary and Jihadist spirit.

"You must make every effort to train religious and revolutionary youth, and to know that morality is created and becomes everlasting along with the strengthening of the revolutionary and religious spirit and Jihadist movement and desire for Jihad in the cause of God."

The Leader also said, "Officials should strengthen the huge flow of the revolutionary forces that fortunately exist among the youth, and not act in such a way as to weaken the revolutionary current and strengthen the opposite current in cultural, academic and religious propagation environments instead."

had a common stance that the political geography of regional countries, including Iraq, must never change and that any talks on differences that exist about Kurdistan's independence and the role of the central government in Baghdad must be held based on the Iraqi constitution.

The Iraqi government has rejected the planned referendum as "unilateral" and unconstitutional. Turkey, Iran and Syria, which together with Iraq have sizable Kurdish communities, also oppose an independent Kurdistan.

In Ankara, Baqeri met President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, his Turkish counterpart, General Hulusi Akar, and Defense Minister Nurettin Canikli.

It was the first visit by an Iranian chief of staff of the armed forces to Turkey after the victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979.

On Monday, President Erdogan said a joint operation with Iran against PKK terrorists and their affiliates was "always on the agenda."

Turkey has battled the outlawed Kurdish group for decades, while the Iranian security forces have also fought its affiliate PJAK. Both groups have rear bases in neighboring Iraq.

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