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In the Name of the Most High
Viewpoint

Hypocrisy Towards Sacrilege of Muslim Cemeteries

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

It seems there is no respect for the peace of the dead in Palestine, the Muslim land which continues to groan under the jackboots of Zionist occupiers.

Heart-wrenching news from the occupied Islamic city of Bayt al-Moqaddas speak of the fresh bout of desecration by the spurious entity called Israel, which sent bulldozers to demolish several Muslim graves in addition to a wall at a cemetery, in total disrespect for human and religious values.

According to reports the destroyed cemetery contains the graves of some 400 Palestinian martyred during the June 1967 war. The Zionist entity plans to build a park at the site of the demolished graves.

It is rather unfortunate that except for words of denunciation no concrete steps are expected from the Muslim World to either stop the current phase of demolition of graves in occupied Palestine or deter the Zionists from similar measures in the future.

Palestinian Authority spokesman, Tariq ar-Rishmawi, described the demolition of what he called "sacred graves of Palestinian martyrs" as a "terrible crime against the Palestinian nation as well as all humanitarian principles and religious laws."

We are all sympathy for the Palestinian Muslims. We strongly condemn the Judaization of the occupied Islamic city of Bayt al-Moqaddas. We in the Islamic Republic of Iran have always called for effective steps, not just lip service, for materialization of the rights of the people of Palestine, as well as of all other oppressed nations.

But our hearts ache and our eyes shed torrents of tears at the lackadaisical attitude of the OIC and most Muslims worldwide, who are ready to denounce the desecration of graves and holy sites in Palestine and all over the world, while being mute to the sacrilege of Islamic sanctities in Saudi Arabia.

A glaring example is the pathetic site of the Sacred Jannat al-Baqee Cemetery in holy Medina, as any conscious pilgrim to the Land of Revelation, will testify.

The blessed resting places of the elite of Islam, including the Prophet's aunts, wives, companions, and especially Four of his Twelve Infallible Heirs, lie in ruins, ever since they were blasphemously destroyed by the Wahhabis in 1925, but the regime in Riyadh not just continues to thwart initiatives by Iran to rebuild the holy shrines and restore Baqee to its former glory, but prevents pilgrims from proper expression of sentiments for the Prophet's Household.

Where is the conscience of the Muslims World? Is this how we express our gratitude to Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) for having enlightened us with the message of Islam? Didn't he say that his blessed progeny the Ahl al-Bayt, along with the holy Qur'an, are the twin poles of guidance, and any disrespect for them is a definite sign of going astray from the right path?

Saudi Arabia, which the British created in 1932 as a reward for their salaried servant, Abdul-Aziz, the desert brigand from Najd, after he had unleashed bloodbath in the holy cities of Mecca and Medina, relentlessly bombs both the living and the dead in Yemen, while the cannibalistic Takfiri terrorists it has created in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, etc., commit the most profane crimes against Muslims, whether those alive or in their graves, yet OIC and the Muslim World keeps quiet.

As long as this dual and discriminatory approach continues, the Ummah will be unable to reclaim its rightful position in the world.

FM Asif Visits Tehran:

Pakistan, Iran Discuss Boosting Relations



Pakistani Foreign Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, center, meets Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, right, in Tehran on Sept. 11, 2017.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iranian Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif and his Pakistani counterpart Khawaja Muhammad Asif here on Monday held talks on a range of issues, including ways to boost relations.

The two sides also exchanged views on regional issues, including the U.S. government's new strategy in Afghanistan.

Last month, U.S. President Donald Trump presented a new strategy in Afghanistan, which envisages keeping troops in the war-racked country as long as Washington liked.

Trump also accused Islamabad of "continuing to harbor criminals and terrorists" in Afghanistan, angering Islamabad.

Pakistani diplomats have said

Asif's trip to Iran and other countries sends a strong message to the U.S. that Pakistan enjoys broad regional support.

The Pakistani foreign minister is on a four-nation tour which had already taken him to China. He left Iran for Turkey and plans to visit Russia next.

Asif arrived in Tehran for a one-day visit for talks with Zarif as well as Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and Vice President for Economic Affairs Mohammad Nahavandian.

Iran's Tasnim news agency said bilateral relations and the new U.S. strategy in Afghanistan were the focus of the negotiations.

In their meeting, Rouhani lambasted foreign interference in regional issues, reiterating that peace and

security of the region must only be ensured by its nations.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that only regional countries, particularly Iran and Pakistan, must endeavor and cooperate to establish regional security, stability and peace," he said.

Rouhani said regional issues, including the crisis in Afghanistan, should be settled through regional approaches and not by foreigners and extra-regional powers.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to cooperate with regional countries, including Pakistan, in the fight against terrorism and development of peace, stability and security in the region," Rouhani pointed out.

The president also stressed the importance of cooperation of all coun-

Iran: Saudi Accusations a Worn-Out Tactic

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran on Monday hit back at Saudi Arabia for accusing Tehran of sponsoring terrorism, saying Iranophobia had turned to a worn-out tactic and was being used as a tool for political goals by certain countries in the region.

In comments on Friday, Saudi Arabia's minister of state for the Persian Gulf region Thamer al-Sabhan accused Iran and Hezbollah of being at the root of terrorism and extremism in the world and calling for global action against them.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi denounced the accusations as "part of a failed and threadbare plot that the U.S. and some regional countries are still pursuing to foment Iranophobia."

"Iran's presence and influence in the region is inherent and natural," he told reporters during his weekly news briefing.

Qasemi was also asked about new evidence in a lawsuit, which holds Saudi Arabia responsible for the September 11, 2001 attacks.

Without naming Saudi Arabia, he said the 9/11 issue is clear and "a certain country" is accused of involvement in the attacks. He said he hoped justice would be served and that no such attacks would ever occur again.

The lawsuit alleges that the Saudi embassy in Washington paid for two Saudi nationals, living undercover in the U.S. as students, to fly from the city of Phoenix to Washington "in a dry run for the 9/11 attacks" two years before their occurrence, the New York Post reported on Saturday.

The U.S. used the attacks as a pretext to invade Afghanistan and Iraq, plunging the two countries into chaos and violence which continues to this day.

Qasemi said there is no military solution to the conflict in Afghanistan and the continuation of foreign military presence in the country will further complicate the situation.

The spokesman said countries interested in seeing calm in Afghanistan have to reduce their meddling there and allow the Afghan people to determine their own fate through dialogue.

FM Zarif:

Countries Don't See U.S. as Reliable Negotiating Partner

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif says the belligerent U.S. rhetoric about a multilateral accord with Iran has dented other countries' faith in negotiations with Washington.

In an interview with Iran's Borna News, Zarif referred to "very dangerous" tensions between the U.S. and North Korea, suggesting that Pyongyang was not interested in talks with Washington because it did not trust the U.S.

Zarif said a solution has to

be reached peacefully, and threats and pressure have to be avoided.

He said the U.S. suffers from a credibility problem and negotiating with it is not viewed as a favorable option.

"Some of the rhetoric that the U.S. has adopted about the JCPOA since Mr. Trump took office has cast doubt on U.S.'s reputation as a credible negotiating partner," Zarif said, referring to the Iran nuclear accord by its official abbreviation.

"Other countries also feel that this administration is not trustworthy. The United States' own allies in Europe even say that."

In the interview, Zarif said while Iran tries to maintain the agreement as it is, Tehran has also the option to withdraw.

Another option, he said, is to "create conditions where America's withdrawal or lack of commitment to the JCPOA would lead to the U.S. isolation."

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The Holy Qur'an

On the day when it shall be heated in the fire of hell, then their foreheads and their sides and their backs shall be branded with it; this is what you hoarded up for yourselves, therefore taste what you hoarded.

The Holy Qur'an (9.35)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:01
Evening (Maghreb)	19:34
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:19
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:45

tries in fighting terrorism and boosting security along common borders. "Promoting security along the borders and turning them into economic and trade frontiers as well as establishing border markets in these areas will be beneficial to the two nations and be in line with stability and security of the region," Rouhani said.

The Pakistani foreign minister, for his part, said regional problems had no military solution, adding that only countries in the region, particularly Iran, could solve these problems.

No move by extra-regional powers can be effective, the top Pakistani diplomat said, adding that his country believed in the battle against terrorism to restore peace, security and stability across the region.

He also called for joint efforts to boost security in border areas and expand all-out relations between the two countries.

Asif was to head to Iran's holy city of Mashhad later Monday to visit the shrine of Imam Reza (Peace Be Upon Him), the eighth Imam of Shia Muslims, and meet local officials, the news agency reported.

UAE Closes Down Iranian School in Sharjah

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- UAE officials have closed down an Iranian school in the emirate's third city of Sharjah, refusing to extend its permit over what they have called illegal construction within the facility.

Ali Hussein, the Iranian Education Ministry's deputy for international affairs, said the facility had been leased and had not undertaken any construction activities, ISNA reported.

"Our political relations with the Emirates are not good and, therefore, pressure is being exerted on us to close down Iranian schools," he said.

Iranian schools have been operating in the UAE for more than 20 years but in recent years, they have been facing a number of problems due to certain "political complications," especially those in Sharjah and Abu Dhabi.

Hussein said Iran's Education Ministry was trying to resolve the issue in cooperation with the Foreign Ministry and to have the school's permit reinstated.

The school had 1,500 students, including 500 Afghans, who have now been transferred to Dubai-based schools, the official pointed out.

Speaking to Mehr News Agency, Hussein said schools in Dubai demand much higher tuition fees

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