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In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

Lessons of the Liberation of Khorramshahr as Iran Marches Forward

By: S. Nawabzadeh

It is an undeniable fact that ever since the victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979, Iran has been the target of the most intricate plots and the most unjust sanctions, which means the latest threats of the quixotic Donald Trump and his team of thugs, including Pompeo's tantrums of "very painful-ever sanctions in history" if the Islamic Republic does not surrender to the Great Satan, are not new for a nation that has achieved spectacular success in almost all fields over the past four decades as it continues to march undeterred towards the pinnacles of progress.

Today, the 36th anniversary of the memorable victory of Iran's combatants that liberated the port city of Khorramshahr from the well-greased war machine of Saddam's western and eastern backed regime, serves as a warning to all would-be aggressors of the fate reserved for them if they make any wrong move.

To be fair and frank, Iran from its experience of history, doesn't have any trust in the words, promises, commitments, treaties and pacts of those with a record of hostility against it, and was fully prepared for Washington's shameless breach of the JCPOA (Joint Comprehensive Plan Of Action), which did not come as a shock.

Hence it has made all the necessary preparations for any eventuality, fully aware that the UN and its agencies, which were very unfair from the very outset, even during the critical period of Saddam's 8-year US-imposed war, cannot be counted upon for any impartial stance, because of American pressures upon them.

As Muslims, we rely upon the Lord Most High and follow His commandments, without being overawed by the supposed might of our enemies, and without yielding any ground to them. "Prepare against them whatever you can of [military] power and war-horses, aving thereby the enemy of Allah, and your enemy, and others besides them, whom you do not know, but Allah knows them. And whatever you spend in the way of Allah will be repaid to you in full, and you will not be wronged." (Holy Qur'an 8:60)

This does not mean we have no faith in diplomacy. On the contrary, the Islamic Republic of Iran is famous for its diplomatic skills, its political acumen, its patient negotiations, and its prudent parleys, all of which are proofs of its goodwill, and at the same time its determination to promote Islamic values, protect national sovereignty, preserve territorial integrity, proceed with upgrading of its legitimate defence and other technological requirements, and prevent any adventurism in the region by any outside power, any client regime, or any terrorist group, detrimental to the peace, progress and prosperity of the Iranian people and their neighbours.

We, however, fully abide by the Holy Qur'an when it says: "And if they incline toward peace, then you [too] incline toward it, and put your trust in Allah. Indeed He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing. (8:61)

Yet, we all remember the UN's unwarranted call for ceasefire when heads of several Muslim states collectively came to Tehran to exert pressure for ending the war and showing 'Islamic' sympathy to Saddam, who had invaded the Islamic Republic in the sacred month of Zilhijja and was refusing to withdraw even an inch from occupied Iranian territory.

God bless the Father of the Islamic Revolution when he expressed those famous words: "An imposed peace is worse than an imposed war". Imam Khomeini's phrase ought to be written in letters of gold. It dampened the plots of the compromisers, whether at home or abroad. It brought to the fore the Basiji spirit of the nation to salvage the prestige of Iran. It was inspiration for the Iranians against giving ground to the enemy that was supported militarily by both the Capitalist West and the Communist East, while its bankrollers were Saudi Arabia and the other oil-rich Persian Gulf Arab regimes, who today have turned into milch cows for the US and the Zionists by destabilizing Yemen and Syria. If not for the firm resolve of that Sage who delivered Iranians from domestic despotism and foreign hegemony, any inclination towards ceasefire in those crucial days would have fragmented Iran and re-imposed US tentacles, with Khuzestan and border areas lost forever, while the so-called peace talks with Saddam bearing no fruits – similar to the chronic questions of Kashmir and Palestine.

In view of these facts, the 36th anniversary of the victorious Bayt al-Moqaddas Operations, freshens our memory regarding so many unforgettable facts including the words of the present Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, who in those days as President of the country used to visit the frontlines, clad in military fatigues. He has noted in his diary: "The liberation of Khorramshahr in 1361 (1982) was a great victory. It was an impressive achievement, significant in all aspects from its political and social, to military repercussions. People from all over Iran contributed to its liberation. Such instances demonstrate the impressive national and international dimensions of this victory. Imam Khomeini (RA) was a great mentor. As soon as this major event took place and as soon as the first signs (of vanity) were noticed in the spirits of the people, he detected the problem and provided a remedy in the early hours of the victory, by reminding us, "Khorramshahr was liberated by God." He wanted to prevent our soldiers and commanders from self-conceit. He sought to avert our political figures from being boastful. Imam Khomeini focused on the ayahs of the Holy Qur'an: "You did not slay them; rather it was Allah who slew them; and you did not throw (spears) when you threw, rather it was Allah who threw, that He might test the faithful with a good test from Himself. Indeed Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing." To sum up, whether or not JCPOA holds, the Islamic Republic of Iran continues the path it has chosen in the interests of its people and for the sake of regional peace and Islamic unity, confident of its capabilities and with full trust in God, Who has bestowed an enlightened and farsighted leader in Ayatollah Khamenei to ably guide the nation – much to the chagrin of the satanic powers who cannot do a damn thing.

Zarif: Steep Demands a Sign of U.S. Bankruptcy



Iran's Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif speaks to reporters after a cabinet session in Tehran, May 23, 2018.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif said on Wednesday that Washington's steep demands from the Islamic Republic and its threat of "the strongest sanctions in history" are a sign of U.S. bankruptcy.

"Washington has in fact put its foreign policy up to auction, meaning that any lobby that offers more money will be able to steer the U.S. foreign policy towards its own demands," he told reporters after a cabinet session here.

Two weeks on from President Donald Trump's decision to pull out of the nuclear pact with Iran, his secretary of state Mike Pompeo called on Iran to drop its nuclear program and leave Syria in a series of demands which were derided as "silly" in the West.

"Mr. Pompeo and the other officials of the incumbent U.S. admin-

istration are imprisoned not only by their wrong whims and delusions, but also by the past and even worse by corrupt lobbies," Zarif said.

He said Pompeo's false comments were a rehash of Washington's failed policies of the past which were expressed more brazenly this time.

Russian Foreign Ministry's spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said the U.S. administration's demands were "clearly unacceptable."

"We are concerned about the fact that the anti-Iranian campaign is on the rise in Washington. It seems that the United States has made a final decision to use the tactics of ultimatums and threats in respect to Iran," she said in Moscow.

"It contradicts the spirit of the JCPOA and does not fall within the normal inter-state relations,"

Zakharova said, using the official name for the 2015 nuclear deal.

"Not only did the U.S. administration withdraw from the agreement in violation of international norms, but it is putting forward demands that are a priori unacceptable for Tehran," she told reporters.

In his keynote speech on Monday, Pompeo put out 12 demands for Tehran to fulfill following Washington's unilateral withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Dmitry Feoktistov, deputy director of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Department on New Challenges and Threats, said on Tuesday U.S. attempts to declare Iran as the main global threat were futile.

"The majority of the international community will not comply with that," he said.

Ministry Condemns U.S. Sanctions on CBI Governor

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's foreign ministry has condemned U.S. sanctions against the country's central bank governor, saying it reserves the right to use all legal and political means to counter the move.

The move by U.S. Treasury last week to put Governor Valiollah Seif and several directors of the Central Bank of Iran on the sanctions list is a sign of Washington's blatant violation of international laws on the immunity of governments and central banks, the ministry said in a statement.

"Central banks play a role in shaping and implementing monetary policies and bringing monetary stability inside countries and in the international system. So imposing sanctions on central bank officials is against customary and treaty obligations

of governments to maintain the international monetary policy," it said.

The move, it said, indicates that the U.S. pays no heed to its international obligations.

Iran's Foreign Ministry strongly condemns the unconventional and illegal move by the U.S. and "announces that the Iranian government and Central Bank reserve the right to adopt all legal and political solutions to counter the U.S. Treasury's move," the statement added.

Last Tuesday, the U.S. imposed sanctions against Seif and an Iraqi bank, accusing them of moving millions of dollars for the Islamic Republic Guards Corps which is a legitimate organization under the Iranian law.

The Holy Qur'an

They preferred to be with those who remained behind, and a seal is set on their hearts so they do not understand. But the Apostle and those who believe with him strive hard with their property and their persons; and these it is who shall have the good things and these it is who shall be successful.

The Holy Qur'an (9:88)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:01
Evening (Maghreb)	20:30
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	04:12
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	05:53

Parliament Halts Debate on Bill Deemed Security Risk

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's parliament has postponed discussing the government bill for joining the UN's International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, after alarms were raised about its threat to the national security.

Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry prepared the bill in order to purportedly pave the way for more cooperation of Iran with the international community, Tasnim news agency reported.

Some MPs denounced the bill, saying it would diminish Iran's independence and sovereignty and put the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) at the mercy of foreign organizations.

"Based on this convention, the IRGC is a terrorist organization and we have to submit military commanders like Qasem Soleimani and Mohsen Rezaee as terrorists to the West," said MP Abdul Reza Misri.

"This bill will bring us to face worse conditions than what the 2015 nuclear deal brought for the country," said MP Hussein Ali Dligani.

The Iranian government prepared the bill based on the demands of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to meet "international standards" on fighting money laundry and financing terrorism.

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Ramadhan Day-to-Day Supplications

8th day

اللَّهُمَّ ارْزُقْنِي فِيهِ رَحِمَةَ الْإِيْيَامِ، وَأَطْعَامَ الطِّعَامِ، وَإِشَاءَ السَّلَامِ، وَصِحَّةَ الْكِرَامِ، يَطْوُلُكَ يَا مَلِجًا الْأَمَلِينَ.

"O Allah, make me kind towards orphans and to feed the hungry and say greeting. And grant me the company of the righteous and to shun the evil-doers through Your benevolence. O Hope of the hopeful."

Toxic Mushrooms Take Lives of 15 People

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- At least 15 people have reportedly died in Iran after eating toxic mushrooms.

Emergency services in up to 10 provinces, mostly in the west of the country, reported that more than 1,000 people had become ill after mushroom poisoning and scores had been taken to hospital.

Medics have named Amanita virosa as the toxin which has been causing illness.

Mushroom poisoning on such a large scale is rare in Iran. Most of those affected were from the province of Kermanshah, on

the border with Iraq, where at least seven people were reported dead and 336 admitted to hospital. The neighboring provinces of Lorestan and Kurdistan also reported high numbers of cases.

Authorities are scrambling to warn citizens against buying mushrooms sold in loose packaging, and from picking wild mushrooms, even if they resemble edible species. Eating poisonous mushrooms can result in a range of symptoms from a bad headache to gastrointestinal problems and death.

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