

Condolences on the Passing Away of Omm al-Momineen Hazrat Khadija (SA)

Syria Gears Up to Liberate Daraa

DARAA, Syria (Dispatches) -- Syrian aircraft Friday dropped leaflets on the southern province of Daraa, urging the terrorists who control most of it to lay down their weapons or face an offensive.

Several different leaflets were reportedly scattered across the province, which has borders with Occupied Palestine and Jordan and is expected to be among the next targets in the resurgent army's recapture of occupied territories. "This is the inevitable fate of anyone who insists on carrying arms," reads one leaflet.

Kayhan

International

Putin: Sanctions Can Lead to 'Global Crisis'

SAINT PETERSBURG, Russia (AFP) -- Russian President Vladimir Putin Friday warned that a combination of sanctions, trade barriers and a lack of trust among countries and businesses could lead to an unprecedented global crisis.

"A spiral of sanctions and barriers is just beginning and is affecting a growing number of countries and companies," Putin told an economic forum in Saint Petersburg, adding that this "could lead to a systemic crisis the likes of which the world has not seen before."

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Viewpoint

Villain of the Piece Postpones Prospects of Peace in East Asia

Europeans Not Trustworthy:

Leader Outlines Iran's Conditions for Staying in JCPOA



FIFA Reveals Iran's Slogan at 2018 World Cup



Syrian Air Defense Intercepts Missile Attack on Airport



Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) Widowed

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

"Did He not find you needy, and enrich you?" (Holy Qur'an 93:8) God's words here to Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) are certainly not a reminder of some favour – similar to Ayah 6 of this same Surah which is a reference to how the loving uncle, Abu Taleb, on Divine Commandment, sheltered and brought up the orphaned nephew as his own son.

In the same context, Ayah 8 is a clear reference to the change of fortune in the life of the poor 25-year old future Prophet, as a result of his marriage with the Richest Lady of Arabia, Khadija bint Khwaylid, with whom – thanks to his uncle Abu Taleb – he had started work as manager of her trade caravans.

Known as **"at-Tahera"** or the Spotlessly Pure One, Khadija was a staunch monotheist adhering to the creed of her ancestor Prophet Abraham (AS) in those days when Arabia was steeped in idolatry and vices.

No wonder she had spurned all suitors as unworthy of her unsullied hand. This does not mean that it was a sudden weakness of heart which made her propose marriage to the parentless son of Abdullah and Amena.

What attracted her to him was his honesty in trade transactions, his integrity in returning to her the profits, his sincerity with all members of the caravan, his truthful reporting of whatever that had transpired during the trips, his trustworthy nature that could not be tempted by goods and money placed in his custody, and above all his firm faith in the One and Only God.

Khadija was thus the primordial Muslimah. It means that her acceptance of the mission of her husband fifteen years after marriage, following Archangel Gabriel's formal entrustment of the universal message of Islam to Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), was but a formality and open declaration of her own original status as the First Muslim Lady – when the entire families of the wives that the widowed Prophet would marry decades later out of social necessity, were outright polytheists.

In view of these undeniable facts about the pride of place in Islam and in paradise, of the Mother of all True Believers (**Omm al-Momineen**) Hazrat Khadijat-al-Kubra (SA), no real Muslim could be misled by lies about the alleged merits of a couple of these spouses, who actually did not had any, as is evident by Surah Tahrim, in which, after mentioning the treacheries of some of the wives of Prophet Noah and Prophet Lot, God Almighty reprimands a duo among the spouses of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) for their machinations against him.

Anyone in doubt about belief in the indivisible unity of Allah, the God of Abraham, by Khadija, by her family, by her cousin Waraqah ibn Nawfal, and by Abu Taleb, are advised to ponder on the sermon delivered by the uncle while solemnizing the nuptials of his nephew, as recorded by the famous Sunni scholar, Ibn Hisham in **"Sirat-an-Nabawiyya"**:

"All praise is due to Allah Who has made us the progeny of Abraham, the seed of Ishmael, the descendants of Ma'ad, the substance of Mudar, and Who made us the custodians of His House and the servants of its sacred precincts... He also gave us authority over the people. This nephew of mine Muhammad (SAWA) cannot be compared with any other man...he has sought Khadija daughter of Khuwaylid for marriage..."

Waraqah ibn Nawfal then stood and said: **"All praise is due to Allah Who has made us just as you have mentioned and preferred us over those whom you have indicated, for we, indeed, are the masters of Arabs and their leaders, and you all are worthy of this (bond of marriage). The tribe (Quraysh) does not deny any of your merits, nor does anyone else dispute your lofty status and prestige. And we, furthermore, wish to be joined to your rope; so, bear witness to my words, O people of Quraysh! I have given Khadija daughter of Khuwaylid in marriage to Muhammad ibn Abdullah."**

For the next twenty-five years the two were an excellent "made-for-each-other-pair", and with the advent of Islam, the richest lady of Arabia spent all her wealth to feed, clothe, and shelter the persecuted neo Muslim community of Mecca – out of whose ranks were to emerge ingrates, who would seize the inheritance of her daughter, Fatema az-Zahra (SA) and usurp the political right of leadership of her foster son and son-in-law, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS).

Alas, today the 10th of Ramadhan is that day when Khadija left the world in poverty in the state of the socio-economic siege imposed by the Arab infidels (later to be Sahaba and subsequently the Salaf of today's Salafis terrorizing innocent Muslims). It is the day on which the Noblest Lady of all times, Hazrat Fatema (SA) became orphan.

Life would never be the same for the Prophet even after marrying nine wives in the last ten years of his life Medina – out of social necessity and to break the customs of Jahiliyya. This is evident by the famous hadith mentioned in the book **"Sahih Bukhari"** of our Sunni brethren when Ayesha reproached him for always cherishing the memory of the Late Khadija (SA), and calling herself a better one. The Prophet felt annoyed and said:

"By God, the Almighty did not grant me a better wife than her. She believed in me when the people used to mock at me and she acknowledged me when the people denied me. She shared her wealth and property with me, and she bore me children which I was not destined to have through other women."

Moreover, it was Khadija's offspring that rose to the defence of Islam and gave their life in every age and era, with Karbala being the supreme example of sincere sacrifice.

Diplomats Meet in Vienna After U.S. Withdrawal

Iran to Leave JCPOA Without Guarantees



Helga Schmid of the European Union, left, Yukiya Amano of International Atomic Energy Agency, center, and Abbas Araqchi, Iran's deputy foreign minister, meet in Vienna on May 25, 2018.

VIENNA (Dispatches) -- **Iran will pull out of the nuclear deal unless it receives concrete guarantees that the economic incentives of the pact will be protected by the other parties, following the U.S. decision to unilaterally withdraw and Washington's threat of sanctions against companies who trade with Iran, a senior Iranian official said Friday.**

Iran called an urgent meeting Friday in Vienna of the so-called Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action Joint Commission, or JCPOA - the first time the group of Iran, Britain, France, Germany, China and Russia has convened since President Donald Trump took the U.S. out of the deal earlier this month.

Top nuclear negotiator Abbas Araqchi said Iran will decide soon whether to stay in the 2015 nuclear deal as he urged the Europeans to guarantee Tehran's interests under the accord after the U.S. withdrawal.

"We are yet to decide whether we will stay in the JCPOA or leave it and this depends on how the other members can compensate one member's exit," the Fars news agency quoted Araqchi as saying.

"The Europeans must specifically tell us how they can guarantee Iran's interests in the deal in the absence of the U.S. and its re-imposition of sanctions," he added.

Since Trump's May 8 decision to

quit the JCPOA, other signatories of the deal have had a tough task on their hands to preserve it.

Araqchi said, "The U.S. is no longer viewed by us and other signatories as a member of the JCPOA and we will see in our Joint Commission meetings how the JCPOA can survive without America."

He said Iran and the Europeans had already discussed the sanctions and their effects on different sectors, including energy, automotive industry, transportation, aviation, banking and insurance.

Another Iranian official said Iran expects European powers to give it a package of economic measures by the end of the month to com-

pensate Washington's withdrawal.

"The subject of the discussion is to consider and address the implications of the U.S. withdrawal, and this will be very important for Iran to come to its own decision," said the senior Iranian official who briefed a small group of reporters on condition of anonymity. "We have not decided yet to stay in the deal."

The Iranian official said that for his country to stay in the deal, the relief granted would have to be guaranteed by the other parties involved and that Tehran needs specifics on how that will happen by the end of May. Tehran will make its final decision in a "few weeks."

The official said that in theory the deal can survive without the U.S., but acknowledged "in practice I'm not sure."

He acknowledged the timeline was tight, but said that European nations had "wasted" the past few months trying to convince Trump not to pull out of the nuclear deal over his contention it was not tough enough on Iran. Among other things, Trump said the deal needed to address Iran's ballistic missile program and involvement in regional conflicts while the others had argued those issues could be negotiated separately.

New U.S. sanctions are being phased in, but already many non-U.S. companies have said that they will also likely have to curtail operations in Iran for fear of losing access to the much more important American market.

Iran is looking for guarantees it

(Continued on Page 7)

After Pyongyang Destroys Nuclear Test Site Trump Cancels Summit With North Korean Leader

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- **U.S. President Donald Trump Thursday called off a historic summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un scheduled for next month, even after North Korea followed through on a pledge to blow up tunnels at its nuclear test site.**

Trump announced his abrupt withdrawal from what would have been a first-ever meeting between a serving U.S. president and a North Korean leader in Singapore on June 12 in a letter to Kim.

A White House official said a North Korean official's condemnation of U.S. Vice President Mike Pence as a "political dummy" was "the last straw" that led to cancelling the summit.

"Sadly, based on the tremendous anger and open hostility displayed in your most recent

statement, I feel it would be inappropriate, at this time, to have this long-planned meeting," Trump wrote to Kim. "Please let this letter serve to represent that the Singapore summit, for the good of both parties, but to the detriment of the world, will not take place."

Trump called it "a missed opportunity" and said he still hoped to meet Kim someday. However, the chances for a quick rescheduling appear remote and cancellation of the summit will renew fears of a return to conflict on the Korean peninsula.

Tensions escalated into fears of war last year after North Korea said it had tested an H-bomb and developed a missile capable of hitting the United States.

The rhetoric reached war-like heights under Trump as he

(Continued on Page 7)

New U.S. Sanctions Target Aircraft Used by Rouhani

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- **The United States has imposed new sanctions against an airline company, which routinely transports Iranian President Hassan Rouhani.**

In a statement on Thursday, the U.S. Department of the Treasury said Dena Airways is being designated for sanctions based on a 2001 presidential order designed "to impede terrorist funding."

Dena Airways handles flights for the government of Iran. In November 2017, a previously U.S.-sanctioned airline, Meraj Air, transferred its "VIP flight operations" to Dena Airways, the U.S. statement said.

According to public records provided by the website AirFleets, Dena Airways operates only one aircraft, a 19-year-old Airbus A340-300.

The new sanctions could prevent

the use of the Dena Airways aircraft for official travel "as ground handling companies worldwide may refuse to refuel/service the aircraft," Esfandiyar Batmangheli-dj, founder of Bourse Bazaar website, wrote on social media.

He referred to the Dena Airways aircraft as Iran's own version of Air Force One, which transports the U.S. president.

There was no immediate reaction from the Iranian government on the latest sanctions.

Two Iranians linked to Dena Airways and a Turkish businesswoman named Gulnihal Yegane, are also being sanctioned, as are three aviation-related companies linked to Yegane. Those individuals are now being designated as "global terrorists", according to U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin.

(Continued on Page 7)