

UNITED NATIONS (Dispatches) -- Iran's UN ambassador has called on the world community to confront the threats the United States poses to global order by backtracking on its international obligations, launching trade wars and slapping sanctions on other nations. In an address to a meeting of the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly's Sixth Committee (Legal Committee), Gholam-Ali Khoshroo said the world had to act "immediately and decisively" in the face of such U.S. threats. "Each and every member of the UN has a duty to stand up to U.S. wrongful acts and contempt for the rule of law in international relations," he said.

ABUJA (Reuters) -- The death toll from floods across much of central and southern Nigeria has reached 199, the national disaster agency said Wednesday, almost doubling the number of people killed from three weeks earlier.

The almost annual floods, exacerbated by poor infrastructure and lack of planning to protect against inundation, are the worst since 2012, when at least 363 people died.

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Viewpoint

Is Nimrata the Nincompoop Fading Into Oblivion?

Forty Years of Iranian Cinema to Be Reviewed



Swimmer Izadyar Wins Fifth Gold at 2018 Asian Para Games



Mass Grave of 1,500 Daesh Victims Discovered in Syria



Hazrat Zainab (SA) Unmasks Yazid's in His True Heathen Colours

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

The 1st of the month of Safar refreshes memories of the immortal saga of the noble captives of the heartrending tragedy of Karbala, who despite being in fetters made Islam and all humanitarian values triumph in the court of the tyrant Yazid, thus bequeathing to posterity faith in Divine Promise of the eventual victory of truth over falsehood, irrespective of the intensity of the plots and crimes of the oppressors.

Till this day, the seekers of truth are proud to follow the path of Prophet Muhammad's (SAWA) granddaughter Hazrat Zainab (SA) and her indomitable nephew Imam Zain al-Abidin (AS) – son and successor of Imam Husain (AS) the Martyr of Karbala – in defeating the criminal powers.

Today, 20 days after the epic of Ashura (Muharram 10), the children and womenfolk of the Prophet's Blessed Household were brought to Damascus, along with the severed heads of the martyrs of Karbala.

With their bold sermons, even in captivity, aunt and nephew ripped off the mask of hypocrisy from the face of the ungodly Omayyad regime, and exposed Yazid in his true heathen colours. When the noble captives entered his presence, they were shocked see Yazid sitting on a throne while in front of him lay the head of (my father) Imam Husain (AS) in a golden tray. He had a cane in his hand and was showing disrespect to the severed head."

The tyrant was elated at the martyrdom of Imam Husain (AS). He openly wished that if only his infidel ancestors who in trying to attack the Prophet had been slain in the Battles of Badr and Ohod were alive this day to witness how he had humiliated the Prophet's Household. He went on to recite the following couplet as further proof of his lack of faith in Islam: The Hashemites played the game of kingdom; neither any message descended [from heaven] nor revelation.

At this blasphemy, Hazrat Zainab (SA) could no longer bear the sight of the accursed Yazid disrespecting the severed head of Imam Husain (AS) by striking the lips with a cane. As her grief-stricken younger sister Omm Kulsoum flung herself on the severed head of her brother, Hazrat Zainab (SA) started one of her most eloquent sermons that had a profound effect on the gathering. She said:

"All praise belongs to God, the Sustainer and Preserver of the Universe and may His blessings be showered on my grandfather Prophet Mohammad. The holy Qur'an says (in ayah 10 of Surah Roum): "Then evil was the end of those who wrought evil, for they belied the signs of God and mocked at them."

"O Yazid! You think that you have made our life miserable and existence unbearable and you have made us prisoners, and because we have been presented in your court you feel elated. You think that we have been disrespected and dishonoured by God and that you have been honoured and elevated to this position by Him. This apparent success of yours is the result of your worldly might and this makes you puffed with pride at our disaster. You feel that you have conquered the whole world and feel that you are well set in power and control. Only time will teach you a bitter lesson. (Ayah 177 of) Surah Aal-e Imran points out to people like you who are destined to go to hell, when God says: "Let not those who disbelieve, think that Our giving them respite is good for themselves. We only give them respite so that they may increase in sins and for them is a disgraceful chastisement."

"O you the son of freed slaves! Is this your justice that the ladies of your household remain veiled and we, the Prophet's family should be paraded thus? You have insulted our dignity, our faces have been unveiled, your villainous soldiers have exposed us to public view, and all along the journey people have looked at us. We do not have our male companions any more to come to our rescue. O Yazid! Your misdeeds have clearly proved your rebellion towards God and the message the Holy Prophet brought to this world, and this has proved beyond doubt that you refuse to honour the Prophetic Message sent by God. This behaviour of yours does not come as a surprise, for your ancestors chewed the liver of the Prophet's uncle Hamza ibn Abdul-Muttalib. Hind, the wife of Abu Sufyan, mutilated his body, had his liver taken out, sucked it and quenched her thirst for vengeance at the Battle of Ohud. You belong to this clan, which always opposed the Prophet and collected armies from various clans to oppose him. The descendants of such rabble and monsters are the enemies of God and His Prophet, and are expected to be merciless and deadly since violence is part of their nature."

"Remember! Your disgusting deeds are the results of your inherent animosity and malicious nature, which are the cause of so much vice in your character. This revenge is due to this nature and you have borne revenge in your heart ever since the Battle of Badr in which your elders were killed because of their opposition and attack on the Prophet. He who looks upon us with animosity, malice and revenge is clearly an enemy of the Holy Ahl al-Bayt. He who takes pleasure in taunting us proves his infidelity towards the Messenger of God, and besides you take pride in saying that you have killed the grandson of the Prophet and imprisoned the members of his family. You do not consider this as a sin of extraordinary magnitude. On the contrary you say that had your forefathers seen this performance of yours, they would have been filled with pride and would have said, 'O Yazid, you have avenged us!'"

"O Yazid! You are happily disrespecting the head of Aba 'Abdullah al-Husain (AS) by caning his lips. Do you not know that these are the lips the Prophet has kissed on several occasions? On my soul, you have deepened our wounds by shedding the blood of the Chief of the Youths of Paradise, the son of Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS). O Yazid! If you have a heart to take into account your nefarious deeds, you would surely wished that your arms be paralysed and severed from the elbow and you would have exclaimed: Would that my parents had never given birth to me. You would have realized that God is displeased with you and the Prophet has become your enemy. O God! Restore us our rights; avenge those who have oppressed us and make Your wrath descend on those who have broken their pledge, killed our kith and kin and our relations and supporters, and have disgraced us. O Yazid, you have done what you wished to do, but remember that you are doomed to perish and you will be cut to pieces. Then (on the Day of Judgement) you will be taken in to the presence of the Prophet and you will be burned with the sins you have committed by shedding the blood of his progeny and dishonouring the sanctity of his family. You will be taken in the presence of the Prophet to a place where his family members will be gathered and you will undergo a horrible punishment and then there will be no escape for you and your accomplices. O Yazid! Do not be inflated with pride after slaying the Prophet's progeny. Do you know what the Qur'an says about such people who have been martyred (ayah 169 of surah Aal-e Imran)? Think not of those slain in God's way as deed. Nay, they live, finding their sustenance in the Presence of their Lord."

Riyadh Prevents Turkish Police From Continuing Probe:

Images of Saudi 'Assassination Squad' Released



This image taken from Turkey's Daily Sabah shows 15 Saudi operatives suspected of killing Kamal Khashoggi upon his arrival at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul.

ISTANBUL (Dispatches) – Saudi authorities refused on Wednesday to allow Turkish police to continue investigating the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul from which Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi disappeared last week, according to Turkish sources close to the investigation.

Turkish officials have accused the Saudis of killing Khashoggi inside the building. On Tuesday, Saudi

officials gave three Turkish police investigators access to all parts of the consulate, excluding the nearby consul's residence, according to the sources.

They conducted a preliminary investigation and stayed with Saudi consulate staff for about an hour and then left.

But on Wednesday morning, after Turkish pro-government media

outlets reported the names, photos and details of 15 Saudis which they said were leaked by Turkish authorities, the Saudis changed their minds, according to the sources.

Turkish sources have also told Middle East Eye that three of the 15 Saudis who entered the country on the day Khashoggi vanished are from an elite unit called the "rough sword" which protects Crown

Prince Muhammad bin Salman.

"They are delaying the search permit," one of the sources told Middle East Eye.

Saudi diplomats in the kingdom's embassy in Ankara phoned Turkish diplomats to let them know the investigation had been stopped because the 15 men were publicly accused without any evidence, including Khashoggi's body.

Sources close to the investigation confirmed the names of the 15 suspects to MEE. The Saudis accused Turkey of giving the kingdom a bad reputation, the sources said.

Speaking to MEE after the investigation was halted, a Turkish source with direct information about the investigation said that the police are confident that the forensics they already have in their possession - including samples from the sewers in the consulate - will find evidence of crime.

Overnight, Turkish media outlets also reported that the 15 Saudis who entered the country around the time of Khashoggi's appointment stayed at two hotels – the Wyndham Grand and the Movenpick – near the consulate.

CCTV footage of the purported suspects within the hotels and also at Ataturk airport were also released on Wednesday.

According to the Turkish sources

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Iran Summons German Envoy Over Diplomat's Extradition

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran on Wednesday summoned the German ambassador to protest Berlin's extradition of an Iranian diplomat to Brussels over his alleged link to a planned July attack against the terrorist Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO) in France.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi said the director general for Europe affairs at the ministry met Michael Klor-Berchtold to convey the Islamic Republic's strong opposition to the arrest, detention and extradition of the Iranian diplomat and said the move was part of a manu-

factured plot by those opposing Iran-Europe relations and was planned by the MKO itself.

It was stressed during the meeting that "this ploy is in line (with efforts) to damage Iran-Europe ties," and was a show to compensate for the failures of the terrorist group as well as those

of the Israeli regime, Qasemi said.

He added that the treatment of the Iranian diplomat was in contravention of the accepted rules of diplomatic law, and said Tehran demanded the immediate repatriation of the diplomat.

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Fallout From U.S. Anti-Iran Sanctions: Traders Expect 'Extreme Volatility' for Oil Prices

LONDON (Dispatches) -- The world's biggest trading houses said on Wednesday they saw oil prices not falling below \$65 per barrel and possibly breaking above \$100 next year amid the specter of new U.S. sanctions on Iran.

The range of views illustrates deep uncertainty among top industry players over the outlook, given the reimposition of sanctions on Iran and forecasts of slowing economies and energy demand in 2019, potentially leading to choppy trading.

Oil has rallied this year on expectations the sanctions, coming into force on Nov. 4, will strain supplies by lowering shipments from Iran, OPEC's third-largest

oil producer. Brent crude last week reached \$86.74, the highest since 2014.

Jeremy Weir, chief executive of Trafigura, said at the Oil & Money conference in London that he would not be surprised to see oil trade at more than \$100 per barrel next year.

Among others with a relatively bullish view was Alex Beard, chief executive for oil and gas at Glencore, who forecast at the same event a mid-term oil price of \$85-90.

A release of U.S. strategic oil stocks to ease the loss of Iranian supplies looked remote and would have limited impact anyway, he added.

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Erdogan Agrees to Release More Water to Iraq

ERBIL, Iraq (Dispatches) - President Tayyip Erdogan has agreed to increase releases of water from a dam in southeastern Turkey to neighboring Iraq, which is struggling with a water crisis, the speaker of the Iraqi parliament said on Wednesday.

Turkey is holding back water on the Tigris river to fill a reservoir behind its Ilisu dam, a step that has alarmed Iraq and caused shortages particularly in the southern province of Basra.

Speaker Muhammad al-Halbousi, who met Erdogan in Turkey on Tuesday, said the president had agreed to an Iraqi request for more supplies. This was "in order to guarantee water reaches all of Iraq's provinces, especially Bas-

ra", Halbousi said in a statement.

Turkey temporarily stopped filling the reservoir in June but agreed with Iraq to resume doing so in July. Around 70 percent of Iraq's water supplies flow from neighboring countries, especially in the Tigris and Euphrates which run through Turkey.

Iraq's water shortages have led it to take measures such as bans on rice planting, and driven farmers to leave their land. Basra province has seen months of street protests over the lack of clean drinking water.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu is due in Baghdad on Thursday.

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi

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