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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

## Will the Supreme Court of India See Justice Done to the Babri Mosque?

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

Today is the anniversary of a sad day in contemporary history when 26 years ago the civilized world was shocked at the desecration and destruction of one of the symbolic houses of the One and Only Creator of the universe by frenzied mobs misled into belief by Godless elements that the historic Babri Mosque in the north Indian city of Ayodhya in Faizabad District of Uttar Pradesh State was allegedly built on a temple dedicated to the Hindu deity Ram.

The destruction of the large three-domed mosque, which was an architectural wonder, led to riots throughout India resulting in the death of over two thousand Muslims.

No true Hindu, believing in 'ahimsa' and the lessons of peaceful coexistence learned from the legend of Ram, will ever endorse violence against Muslims or demolition of any mosque, and these are the principles by which the majority of Indians abide but have sadly been relegated to the sidelines by anarchist elements fanning flames of hatred nationwide.

December 6 is thus marked as "Black Day" by India's estimated 250-million strong Muslim population whose demand for rebuilding of the Babri Mosque has unfortunately been given communal colour by politicians playing the temple card and pressuring the Supreme Court to allow construction of a temple at the site.

It is rather unfortunate that in this age of scientific progress and unravelling of realities, including those pertaining to religious belief, there are people in our world who instead of proper cognition of the fundamental concept of monotheism on the basis of a rational reading of history and evaluation of historical facts, cling to myths mainly because of the propaganda dished out by pseudo spiritualists and politicians with an eye on the unsuspecting people's pockets and, of course, on votes to legitimize their dubious rule over them.

If in 1992 the central government of India had prevented mobs from desecrating the sanctity of the magnificent structure built on a vacant plot of land in 1528 by Mir Baqi Tashqandi, a general of Mohammad Zaheer od-Din Babar – Founder of the mighty Moghal Empire of the northern subcontinent and eastern Afghanistan – the late 19th century mischief of the British colonialists in speculating ruins of a temple underneath the mosque, would never have become the major divisive and destabilization issue that the Babri Masjid is today.

It is a matter of deep regret that the Mosque-Temple controversy has become the centerpiece of agenda of communal parties currently contesting elections in several states, thereby dividing the nation along communal lines rather than strengthening the "unity in diversity" for which democratic India stands unique with its respect for all religions, schools of thought, cultures, languages and ethnicities.

The interesting point is that despite organized efforts to doctor archaeological evidence, no trace of any temple material has been found by excavation teams below the ruins of the Babri Mosque.

It is also worth noting that neither any ancient Sanskrit text nor any medieval work including 'Ram Charit Manas' composed by the famous Hindu poet, Tulsidas, in 1575, within 50 years of the construction of Babri Mosque, have mentioned the demolition of a temple to make way for a mosque.

Moreover, from what we learn from the ancient scholar Valmiki's lore 'Ramayana', Ram was a civilized person and thus an obedient servant of the One and Only God, which means his soul is definitely grieved today at the mockery of his values by his self-styled followers.

So the onus is on the government of India, or more properly its Apex Court to take bold decisions to rectify the wrong of 1992 by closing once and for all this vexing issue, and allowing reconstruction of the Babri Mosque on its original site.

# U.S. Has to Renew Iran Waivers for Iraq: CNBC



Mobs broke into official building and torched some of them following electricity shortages in Basra on September 6, 2018.

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – Iraq won't be left hanging amid Washington's sanctions on Iran, which supplies almost half of its electricity, U.S. business news channel reported, citing experts familiar with American policy.

The President Donald Trump administration in November

granted Iraq a 45-day waiver to continue its energy purchases and is now expected to continue allowing transactions with Iran under yet-to-be-decided conditions, it said.

"I think that the U.S. is going to try to find a workaround for Iraq," Richard Nephew, who served

as the State Department's lead sanctions expert for negotiations with Iran from 2013 to 2014, told CNBC. "The U.S. government knows that Iraq is a key country in the competition starting between the United States and Iran."

A determination will be made to extend Iraq's waiver, a state department official told CNBC, though a decision has yet to be reached.

Iran is Iraq's third-largest trading partner, with an estimated \$12 billion in cross-border trade per year, and the two countries share

on the unfounded U.S. accusations against Iran's missile program," he Zarif said.

He touched on Iran's defensive capabilities and said as the Islamic Republic has always underlined that they are totally defensive.

Those making "provocative remarks about Iran's defensive capabilities are the same countries, which have flooded our region with weapons, endangering regional security."

"Such states are not in a position to urge us to put aside our defensive programs."

Zarif also touched on the return of U.S. warships to the Persian Gulf, saying Iran has always stressed that the presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf undermines its security and that Iran will strongly protect its territorial waters.

(Continued on Page 7)

FM Zarif:

## U.S. Officials Admit Iran Can Continue Missile Tests

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iranian Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif said here Wednesday U.S. officials have confessed that neither the Iran nuclear deal nor the UN Security Council Resolution 2231 ban Iran from testing its missiles.

"As former U.S. undersecretary of state Wendy Sherman and U.S. special envoy for Iran Brian Hook recently said, the Islamic Republic's missiles are categorized as conventional weapons because of their precision-guided capabilities," Zarif told reporters after a cabinet session.

Recent U.S. officials' claims against Iran's missile capabilities are aimed at justifying Washington's violation of the Iran nuclear deal and the UN Security Council Resolution 2231 which endorses the agreement.

"As we saw, the UN Security Council declined to hold a meeting

## Parliament Passes Tweaked FATF Draft Law

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iran's parliament approved a tweaked draft law against funding terrorism on Wednesday which Foreign Ministry officials claim will bring Tehran closer to global standards and help remove it from investment blacklists as it faces renewed U.S. sanctions.

The official news agency IRNA said lawmakers had included amendments requested by the Guardian Council, which must vet all legislation passed through parliament before it becomes actual law.

Supporters claim the legislation, once passed, will allow Iran to join

an international convention against the funding of terrorism and comply with measures against money laundering set by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

Critics in parliament have opposed parts of the legislation, saying it could hamper Iranian financial support for allies such as Lebanon's Hezbollah, which the U.S. has classified as a terrorist group.

The Guardian Council had asked lawmakers to include clauses including a guarantee that the law would not clash with the constitution.

(Continued on Page 7)

Hawkish U.S. Secretary of State:

## Trump Shaping New Order to Curb Iran, Russia, China

BRUSSELS (Dispatches) – U.S. President Donald Trump's top diplomat has promised a new world order in which Washington will strengthen or jettison agreements as it sees fit to stop "bad actors" such as Russia, China and Iran from gaining.

In a twist on Trump's "America First" policy, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Trump was reshaping the post-World War Two system on the basis of "sovereign states", not multilateral institutions.

"In the finest traditions of our great democracy, we are rallying the noble nations to build a new liberal order that prevents war and achieves greater prosperity," Pompeo told diplomats and officials in a foreign policy speech.

"We are acting to preserve, protect, and advance an open, just, transparent and free world of sovereign states," Pompeo said, adding that China's ability to benefit from the current U.S.-led system of trade and other agreements was an example of "the poisoned fruit of American retreat."

Speaking in Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said Pompeo's statements "did not accord with the spirit" of the meeting just days earlier between Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping at the G20 summit in Argentina.

"I don't know for what purpose someone would applaud then and now say something like this," Geng said, referring to media reports that applause broke out after Xi and

Trump agreed to a trade war ceasefire at their meeting in Argentina.

Geng said that while the United States "flies the flag of America First, and wields the baton of protectionism and unilateralism", China was an important contributor to multilateralism, the international rules-based order and global economic development.

Pompeo, a former Army officer who is regarded as a Trump loyalist with hawkish world views, said Trump was also pushing both the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to stop funding countries such as China, saying they already had access to financial markets to raise capital.

Pompeo's address rejected concerns

among many traditional U.S. allies that Trump is undermining the West by withdrawing from climate, free-trade and arms control accords.

Pompeo said such criticism was "plain wrong." He claimed Trump was reforming the liberal order, not destroying it. He cited Britain's decision to quit the European Union as a sign supranational organizations were not working.

He also took aim at "bureaucrats" responsible for upholding multilateralism "as an end in itself" and cast doubt on the EU's commitment to its citizens.

That drew a rare rebuke from the European Commission, the bloc's executive.

(Continued on Page 7)

The Holy Qur'an

And they shall all come forth before Allah, then the weak shall say to those who were proud: Surely we were your followers, can you therefore avert from us any part of the chastisement of Allah?

The Holy Qur'an (14.21)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	11:52
Evening (Maghreb)	17:58
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	04:41
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:05