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### In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

## Will Nigeria's Chief Justice Succeed in Securing Sheikh Zakzaky's Release?

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

It is now almost two months since Leader of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria (IMN), Sheikh Ibrahim Zakzaky, abruptly returned from a hospital in New Delhi, India, citing the prison-like condition of the ward and suspicions that doctors had foul play on their minds on the orders of the U.S., but there are no news where he has been interned this time by the regime of President Muhammad Buhari, which continues to disobey the Federal Court's order on the immediate release of the venerable Sheikh, whose unlawful detention is nearing four years.

Nigeria's rapidly growing population of ten millions Shi'a Muslims, despite persecution by the pro-Zionist and pro-Wahhabi Buhari, are however, determined that justice should prevail in the country and their leader freed from prison.

Their hopes were raised recently by the statement of the new Chief Justice of Nigeria, Ibrahim Tanko Mohammed, who said that henceforward the rule of the law should be observed by all, including the government.

Citizens, whether Muslim, Christian or Animist, are interpreting this statement as a wakeup call for the government which has continued its flagrant disobedience of the Supreme Court's orders.

They say that any act that tramples the citizens' fundamental rights and is defiance of the Court's verdict, is a mockery of the Nigerian constitution, including the case of the detainees whose release has been ordered, such as IMN Leader Sheikh Zakzaky, former presidential candidate Omoyele Sowore of the 'Revolution Now' protest, and ex National Security Adviser, Sambo Dasuki.

It is interesting to note that in his recent statement Chief Justice Ibrahim Tanko Mohammed said: "The rule of law must be observed in all our dealings and we must impress it on the government at all levels to actively toe the path. The right of every citizen against any form of oppression and impunity must be jealously guarded and protected with the legal tools at our disposal. All binding court orders must be obeyed. Nobody, irrespective of his or her position, will be allowed to toy with court judgements. As we all know, flagrant disobedience of court orders or non-compliance with judicial orders is a direct invitation to anarchy in the society."

He added: "Such acts are completely antithetical to the rule of law in a democratic environment, and will not be tolerated under my watch as Chief Justice of Nigeria."

Brave words indeed by the Chief Justice of Nigeria. He must put into practice the constitutional laws of the country which President Buhari is openly violating by disobeying the Court orders and saying the rule of law must be subjected to the supremacy of his regime's security interest.

It should be noted that Sheikh Ibrahim Zakzaky, along with his wife, and several followers, continues to be in prison, despite his worsening health conditions, ever since the illegal detention by the army in Zaria on 15th December 2015.

Unable to bring any criminal charges against him, the regime later accused him of incitement to murder, but no trial has ever taken place. Moreover, these charges have been dismissed by the Supreme Court which in 2016 ordered the immediate release of Sheikh Zakzaky, his wife and followers.

Justice Gabriel Kolawole of a Federal High Court in Abuja on 2nd December, 2016, delivered a judgement directing the Sheikh's release, but the order was never obeyed while the couple's bail application remained pending before the court, until fresh charges of murder were levelled against them.

In related news, several senior Nigerian lawyers have also demanded that the government ensure strict observance of the rule of law. The lawyers condemned the Buhari administration's penchant for disobeying court orders, describing it as nothing but an invitation to anarchy.

They have referred to the independence of the Judiciary from the Executive Branch, saying: "When we are talking about the independence of the judiciary, it means the judiciary should assert itself. When court orders are made, they must be obeyed and if they are not obeyed, it portends dangerous precedence."

In view of these developments in Nigeria, can we expect President Buhari to obey the laws and release the detainees, including Sheikh Zakzaky, instead of clashing with the Chief Justice?

The coming days will provide the answer, whether or not Ibrahim Tanko Mohammed has the resolve and power to force Buhari to obey the laws and release the detainees.

Meanwhile, with the approach of Arba'een, or the traditional 40th day ceremony following the anniversary of the heartrending tragedy of Ashura and the martyrdom of Imam Husain (AS), the Shi'a Muslims of Nigeria remain undaunted, and are determined to observe their religious rite in public for paying tribute to the grandson of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), no matter the pro-Zionist and pro-Wahhabi regime of Buhari resorts to more bloodshed of the innocents.

## Rouhani: Enemies Have Realized Futility of 'Maximum Pressure'



Iranian President Hassan Rouhani meets with high-ranking intelligence ministry officials in Tehran, Oct. 8, 2019.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iran's President Hassan Rouhani on Tuesday said that the country's enemies have realized, although not admitting it, that their "maximum pressure" campaign against the Iranian nation has been futile and should be set aside.

In a meeting with his Intelligence Minister Mahmoud Alavi and senior officials of the ministry, Rouhani outlined his administration's strategies and plans in dealing with a range of issues facing the country, particularly the U.S.'s withdrawal from a 2015 multinational deal on the Iranian nuclear program as well as the ensuing economic war waged by enemies against Iran and their attempts to spark tensions within Iran.

"They may not admit it, but the enemies of the Islamic establishment and Iranian people have accepted the fact that the strategy of 'maximum pressure' has failed and they should abandon this approach towards the Iranian nation," he said.

The U.S. under President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew from the nuclear deal in May 2018 in defiance of global objections and unleashed a

"maximum pressure" campaign against Iran, under which it has imposed the "toughest ever" sanctions targeting the Iranian economy in order to force Tehran into submitting to its excessive demands.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Rouhani said the Iranian nation has successfully passed the "tough test of confronting the 'maximum pressure' policy of ill-wishers," praising great efforts made by the country's officials and Armed Forces to make that happen.

The country should continue on the same path until the enemies are completely frustrated, Rouhani said.

"The Iranian nation has shown that it is vigilant and well aware of the root causes of pressures and difficulties," he said.

In return, the authorities could thank the nation by working to safeguard Iran, its Islamic establishment and the country's national interests and by offering efficient services to people, he added.

Commenting on the country's economic issues, the president said, "Despite the unprecedented difficulties and hostilities towards the Iranian nation, there has been a rise in major economic

indexes in recent months," Rouhani said.

Meanwhile, Iranian First Vice-President Eshaq Jahangiri, addressing a ceremony in Tehran, said that the U.S. and its allies' plots to bring the country's economy into a collapse have all failed, adding that the conditions are improving.

"The reports and data released by the country's official organizations show that despite the U.S. harsh sanctions and, as they say, the economic war that they have waged against the Iranian nation, the country's economic conditions are moving towards improvement," Jahangiri said.

He added that the Americans imagined that Iran's economy will collapse under sanctions and pressures and people will resort to violent acts against the government "but fortunately, we could live through the hard times thanks to the people's resistance and the managers' follow ups".

Jahangiri said data shows that Iran's economy is moving towards positive growth with good capability to create jobs.

## 'U.S. Unilateralism Imperils Global Trade System'

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iran's deputy ambassador to the United Nations Es'haq Al-e Habib has lashed out at Washington for its unilateralist policies, saying the international trading system is being jeopardized by such harsh and unilateral behavior.

"The United States' unilateral, aggressive, illegal and illegitimate actions have unprecedentedly increased in the face of international silence and threatens the foundations of multilateralism," the Iranian envoy said in a Monday speech at the UN General Assembly.

"One cannot ignore the fact that commitment for multilateral cooperation as the basis of the fulfillment of obligations and implementation of international agreements is facing unprecedented and growing pressure," he added.

He noted a report by the UN secretary general about the extent to which development objectives have been achieved shows a little progress in that regard and suggests the most vulnerable countries still experience the most pressure.

He said one of the reasons behind the current unpleasant trend is that developed countries have not made good on their commitments in domains related to financing, the transfer of technology and creating potential in developing nations.

Funding development is facing an unprecedented chal-

lenge and the numerous blows dealt to unilateralism have caused problems for development and its financing.

"Policies based on sanctions have made the multilateral financial and trade system very inefficient, and now it falls upon the international community to guarantee that the funding of development will not be hijacked by certain countries by adopting unilateral aggressive actions," he added.

"International trade remains the main driving force behind growth, welfare and development, and every independent country is entitled to be able to part of the multilateral international trade system, a system which needs to be global and act in a transparent, predictable and open manner based on law and regulations without being influenced by political considerations," he added.

"The responsibility of the international community becomes more obvious when illegal unilateralism as well as unfair and illegitimate economic and political sanctions is jeopardizing the life of a nation and targeting it with economic terrorism," he added.

"It is an innate responsibility of the international community to adopt a resolute decision and take firm steps based on political commitments to take action to fully eliminate such illegal moves and create a proper atmosphere at all levels for the fair and balanced development of all countries," he said.

## Details of Gen. Soleimani Assassination Attempt Disclosed

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Prosecutor of Kerman Province's General and Revolutionary Courts Dadkhoda Salari said on Tuesday that the terrorist team which plotted to assassinate Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Quds Force Commander Major General Qassem

Soleimani in Southeastern Iran was disbanded within hours after months of monitoring and control.

"Given the full intelligence superiority of the IRGC intelligence organization and with judicial orders, all the key members of the terrorist team were

arrested in less than 10 hours in several different points on Tasou'a and Ashoura days (September 9 and 10)."

He added that the IRGC intelligence organization was monitoring the activities of the terrorist group in and outside the country 6 months before their

The Holy Qur'an

And there are some of them who molest the Prophet and say: He is one who believes every thing that he hears; say: A hearer of good for you (who) believes in Allah and believes the faithful and a mercy for those of you who believe; and (as for) those who molest the Apostle of Allah, they shall have a painful punishment.

The Holy Qur'an (9:61)

### PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	11:52
Evening (Maghreb)	17:56
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	04:42
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:05

## Envoy Slams UK Defense Ministry's Delay in Paying Debt

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iranian Ambassador to London Hamid Baeidinejad has decried the delay a subsidiary company of the UK Defense Ministry in paying its debt to Iran for a series of defense deals signed between the two countries before the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

"The legal counsel of the UK Defense Ministry subsidiary company resorts to all possible procedural tactics and lawyerism to delay the payment of Iran's debt," Baeidinejad said on his Twitter account.

"Pursuant to such efforts, the court decided TODAY to convene its next substantive session after 6 months, in March 2020," he added in his tweet.

Back in July, a top court in Britain dismissed a complaint lodged by Iran seeking at least £20 million in interest for a debt related to the defense deals.

Judge Stephen Phillips from the High Court in London ruled that the UK does not have to pay the sum that Iran believes has accrued on £387 million owed to Tehran over the failed delivery of more than 1,500 Chieftain tanks and armored vehicles based on contracts signed as of 1971.

The ruling dealt a fresh blow to efforts meant to reduce tensions between Iran and Britain as the two countries are locked in several disputes, including two recent ship seizure incidents and a high-profile legal case related to the imprisonment of dual nationals.

Britain has repeatedly refrained from paying the debt it acknowledges it owes to Iran, citing illegal sanctions imposed by the United States on Tehran.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson once briefed the journalists in February 2018 after a trip to Tehran as foreign minister that the money will be paid back.

arrest, noting that their recruitment and training as well as supply of their weapons, ammunition and communication systems were all carried out outside the country and even the equipment had been sent to them from abroad. Yet, the official declined to name any specific country.