

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) -- An Iraqi court has ordered the arrest of outgoing U.S. President Donald Trump as part of its investigation into the assassination of top Iranian anti-terror commander General Qassem Soleimani and his Iraqi trenchmate Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis in a U.S. drone strike near Baghdad International Airport on January 3 last year.

The arrest warrant, issued by Baghdad's Rusafa investigation court, applies to Trump under Article 406 of the Iraqi penal code, which provides for the death penalty in all cases of premeditated murder.

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TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) said Friday imports of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines have been cancelled after Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei banned the purchase of coronavirus vaccines produced by the United States and Britain. "The import of 150,000 doses of the coronavirus vaccine developed by Pfizer from the United States to the country by the Iranian Red Crescent Society is cancelled," IRCS spokesman Muhammad Hassan Qosian Moqaddam told IRNA.

"We are ready to cooperate, if necessary, in case [Iran's] Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education puts in a request [for importing vaccines] from Eastern countries."

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Viewpoint

The Ugly Face of US Democracy Fully Exposed

IRGC Unveils Underground Missile Base in Persian Gulf



Hamed Lak Chosen Best Goalkeeper of 2020 ACL Team



Any Action Against Al-Aqsa Will Ignite Regional War: Senior Scholar



Ayatollah Khamenei:

God Brought on U.S. What It Wanted for Iran

Kayhan Int'l Political Desk

TEHRAN – Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei on Friday said the United States is in chaos, citing its election fiasco, police killing of black Americans and growing poverty.

"The election fiasco, the human rights under which a black person falls victim every few days, the exposure of the nature of America's alleged values that have become a matter of ridicule even by America's friends, a paralyzed economy and tens of millions of unemployed, hungry and homeless people reflect the chaotic situation of America," the Leader said.

"This is not strange, of course. What is strange is that some people still wish for America and regard it their qibla," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

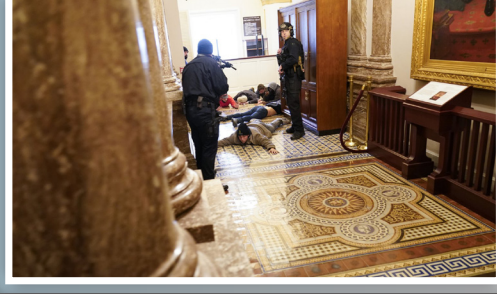
"Some people think that if we reconcile with the United States, the country will be a paradise. These people should look at the Iran before the revolution and see how U.S. support prevented the country from progressing and led to the spread of economic and scientific poverty, and promotion of of corruption and cultural hedonism. At the same time, the situation of the regimes that sacrifice themselves for America today is clear to everyone," the Leader added.

Ayatollah Khamenei touched on U.S. pressures on the Islamic Republic for the past 42 years, saying Washington's main goal is to return to its "hellish domination" of Iran in the years before the Islamic Revolution in 1979.

"The difference between the United States and some Europeans is that the Americans, because of their previous dominance over Iran and the region, seek to repeat the situation, and everyone must be vigilant against this sinister goal."

U.S. Capitol of Demockracy Raided

Insurrection or Internal Collapse?



WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- A mob invading the U.S. Capitol. Police officers with guns drawn inside the House of Representatives. Lawmakers hiding from intruders seeking to overturn a national election.

"Where are they?" a Trump supporter demanded in a crowd roaming the halls of the Capitol, bearing Trump flags and pound-

ing on doors.

They — lawmakers, staff members and more — were hiding under tables, hunkered in lockdowns, saying prayers and seeing the fruits of the country's divisions up close and violent.

Guns were drawn. A woman was shot and killed by police, and three others died in apparent medical emergencies. A

Trump flag hung on the Capitol. The graceful Rotunda reeked of tear gas. Glass shattered.

On Wednesday, hallowed spaces of American "democracy", one after another, yielded to the occupation of Congress.

The pro-Trump mob took over the presiding officer's chair in the Senate, the offices of the House speaker and the Senate

dais, where one yelled, "Trump won that election."

They mocked its leaders, posing for photos in the office of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, one with his feet propped on a desk in her office, another sitting in the same seat Vice President Mike Pence had occupied only moments before during the

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The Leader said as long as the Americans have not dominated the region, "they seek their interests in pro-

voking instability in Iran, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and other regional states".

"They pursue this goal at one

time through such exploits as the 2009 sedition in Iran and at another through the formation of Daesh,"

Ayatollah Khamenei said, referring to riots that gripped the Islamic Republic after presidential elections.

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Insurrection Reveals Race Double Standard in U.S.

NEW YORK (AP) — Black Lives Matter protests, 2020: Overwhelming force from law enforcement in dozens of cities. Chemical dispersants. Rubber bullets and hand-to-hand combat with largely peaceful crowds and some unruly vandals and looters. More than 14,000 arrests.

The U.S. Capitol, Jan. 6, 2021: Barely more than a few dozen arrests. Several weapons seized, improvised explosive devices found. Members of a wilding mob escorted from the premises, some not even in handcuffs.

The key difference? The first set of protesters were overwhelmingly Black Americans and their allies. The second group was overwhelm-

ingly white Americans who support outgoing President Donald Trump's baseless claims of election fraud.

The violent breaching of the halls of power on Capitol Hill by the insurrectionist mob on Wednesday, which left one woman dead of a police gunshot wound, represents one of the plainest displays of a racial double standard in both modern and recent history.

"When Black people protest for our lives, we are all too often met by National Guard troops or police equipped with assault rifles, shields, tear gas and battle helmets," the Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation said in a statement.

"When white people attempt a coup, they are met by an underwhelming number of law enforcement personnel who act powerless to intervene, going so far as to pose for selfies with terrorists," it said.

Broad and bipartisan condemnation of the insurrectionist mob came swiftly as they had a nearly unhindered, hours-long run of the Capitol building complex, the Senate chamber and the House speaker's office. The ordeal drew expressions of bewilderment and disbelief from some observers who believed such a display was impossible in a democracy as revered as America's.

However, the response to the mayhem is consistent with a long

pattern of society's coddling of racists and downplaying the violent white supremacist ideology that routinely places the grievances of white people above those of their Black, often disenfranchised and downtrodden countrymen and women.

Since the founding of the democracy in the blood and secession of the American Revolution, white people's destructive and obstructionist conduct has been couched in patriotism. It's been a fundamental part of a national myth about whose dissent and pursuit of redress for grievance is justified, and whose is not.

Newly sworn-in St. Louis Rep. Cori Bush, who was among the

protesters to face down police and National Guardsmen in 2014 after police killed Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, told The Associated Press that the race of the Capitol rioters played a big part in their ability to breach the congressional fortress.

Had the mob been Black, "we would have been laid out," Bush said.

"The thing is, these are the same people who called us terrorists," Bush continued. "Confederate flags, 'don't tread on me,' 'blue lives matter' flags, the Trump flags — all of it symbolizes the same thing. It symbolizes racism and white supremacy."

The show of force by law enforce-

ment at the Capitol bore little resemblance to the lines of National Guardsmen and other police forces that assembled last year to protect luxury brand retailers against looting, government buildings against breaching and highways against marching by demonstrators across the country.

Rashad Robinson, president of Color of Change, the nation's largest digital racial justice advocacy group, told the AP that he sees it as "a clear example of how racism works in this country and the clear ways there are different sets of rules and different sets of outcomes based on what race you are."

Although Wednesday's events (Continued on Page 7)