

Editorial Dept. Tel.: 33911561, 33110251-9

Ext.: 2334, 2336, 2337

Advertising Dept.: 33110251-9 Ext. 2336

Subscription Ext.: 2322

Facsimile: 33114228 & 33111120

Website: www.kayhan.ir/en

E-mail: kayhanintl@yahoo.com

P.O. Box: 11365/9631

Address: Martyr Shah Cheraghi Street, Ferdowsi Avenue,
Tehran – Islamic Republic of Iran

In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

Is the Change of Guard in Washington Beneficial to Iran?

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The change of guard in the US, with the exit of a Republican (symbolized by the 'elephant' – the party's emblem) and the entry of a Democrat (symbolized by the 'donkey'), made many in Iran recall the famous Persian poet Mowlana Jalal od-Din Balkhi Rumi's verse:

A rough translation into English (not poetical), it reads "We are not concerned of the cow's entry or the donkey's exit."

Mowlana wasn't referring to the politics of the United States of America, which was to be born in a distant land five centuries after his departure from the mortal world, where the donkey and the elephant play musical chairs, or else this farsighted poet would have used the word 'elephant' instead of the 'cow'.

Anyway, it doesn't make any difference to Iran or the Iranians, who ought not to attach much importance to Donald Trump's humiliating exit from the White House and the coming to power in a dubious way of Joe Biden.

Trump was a rampaging elephant with all its negative aspects, but without any of the useful characteristics associated with the animal.

As a result the Zionists devilishly exploited him to indulge in all forms of terrorism, especially against the Islamic Republic, including sanctions and the targeted killing of two of the most prominent figures involved in the country's defence and development – General Qassem Soleimani and Dr. Mohsin Fakhriadeh.

We are not sure whether Biden thinks of himself as a hardworking 'donkey', or according to Mowlana's couplet turns out to be a docile cow.

In both cases, however, he has to be on guard, if the 78-year old, who for eight years as deputy to Barak Obama in this same White House, had supported every hostile move against the Islamic Republic and the Iranian people.

To think that Biden will have the courage to conduct US policies without bowing to the crafty Zionists, who would allow him to reverse his predecessor's puncture policies, is mere conjecture.

We all remember how, as an opposition figure, Biden merely used the word "recklessness" for Trump's dastardly assassination of General Soleimani at Baghdad International Airport, mainly out of fear for Iran's retaliation and not any sympathy for the martyr, as he endorsed the crime in his next phrase to the press by adding: "A dangerous opponent of the US has been removed."

Could we expect justice from such a person, particularly our avowed goal of punishing Trump and his accomplices for their unpardonable act of terrorism?

It would be naïve if we harbour such a belief, or for that matter the expectation that Biden is a fair and independent person who with one stroke of his pen would strike off Trump's economic terrorism against Iran and agree to rejoin the JCPOA unconditionally.

The Zionists will never allow him to do so. They seem to be in control of the new team in Washington, as is evident from the statements coming out of the mouths of those considered as Biden's choice for Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, and Minister of War (Pentagon Chief), Lloyd Austin.

Both have used hostile words against Iran, its right to process uranium for peaceful purpose, its inalienable right to defend its sovereignty through state-of-the art military means, and its positive influence in the region, by openly backing the forces of destabilization in West Asia, such as the illegal Zionist entity, the rootless Arab regimes, and the CENCTCOM terrorists stationed in the region.

Of course, this does not mean that Iran should not call for sanity on the part of the US, but with complete consciousness, so as not to be duped again by biting the bait of talks that would lead to nothing but giving of more concessions in exchange for the US to drop part of its blackmail for release of Iran's own frozen assets in other countries.

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, has on several occasions wisely warned of the enemy's diabolical game and shifting of goal posts.

This means, Iran should focus more seriously on its right of development, its means of defence, and its stabilization efforts in the neighbourhood by fully supporting the popular governments and movements fighting terrorism and foreign intrusion.

The Zionists are indeed a satanic breed, and irrespective of whether Biden is a hardworking donkey or a docile cow, they will skillfully exploit his proverbial kick or horns, or for that matter his braying or bellowing for their devilish goals, as they had done with the madly trumpeting elephant for the past four years.

New White House Press Secretary: U.S. to 'Lengthen Nuclear Constraints' on Iran



White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki takes questions from journalists at the White House, after the inauguration of Joe Biden as the 46th U.S. president, January 20, 2021.

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- The United States seeks to lengthen and strengthen the nuclear constraints on Iran through diplomacy and the issue will be part of President Joe Biden's early talks with foreign counterparts and allies, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said.

Biden has said that if Tehran resumed strict compliance with the 2015 nuclear agreement - under which Iran restrained its nuclear program in return for relief from economic sanctions - Washington would too.

"The president has made clear that he believes that through follow-on diplomacy, the United States seeks to lengthen and strengthen nuclear constraints on Iran and address other issues of concern. Iran must

resume compliance with significant nuclear constraints under the deal in order for that to proceed," Psaki said in a briefing.

"We would expect that some of his earlier conversations with foreign counterparts and foreign leaders will be with partners and allies and you would certainly anticipate that this would be part of the discussions," Psaki added.

Former President Donald Trump abandoned the Iran nuclear deal in 2018 and Iran in return has gradually scaled back its compliance, building up its stockpile of low enriched uranium, enriching uranium to higher levels of purity and installing centrifuges in response to the other sides' breaches and failures to support Tehran.

On Tuesday, Biden's nominee for

secretary of state Antony Blinken said Washington did not face a quick decision on whether to rejoin the nuclear deal and the Democratic president would need to see what Iran actually did to resume complying with the pact.

Blinken told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee "we are a long way from there" that Biden's ultimate goal is a deal that would also limit Iran's missile capability and support for resistance movement in the region, something Iran has rejected.

Tehran has repeatedly called on Washington to lift sanctions first and respect its own obligations under the agreement, besides compensating for damage done to the country because of its hostile policies.

(Continued on Page 7)

Zarif: U.S. Blocking Iran's Payment of Dues to UN

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's foreign minister said on Friday the government has allocated funds for the payment of its dues to the UN, but Washington is preventing Tehran from paying its contributions.

Muhammad Javad Zarif said Iran's unpaid membership contributions are the only reason the UN General Assembly has stripped the country of its right to vote.

"We should have paid \$16 million to settle our debts to the UN and secure our right to vote. The government allocated the fund, and urged that the country's frozen assets in South Korea be used [to pay

the debts], but the U.S. blocked the payment to the UN account," Zarif told the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA).

Earlier on Sunday, the spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry said the country has regularly paid its UN membership contributions despite unilateral sanctions imposed by the United States on Tehran, which have made financial transactions difficult for the Islamic Republic.

"During recent years, despite restrictions caused by unilateral U.S. sanctions, the Islamic Republic of Iran has always used few remaining financial channels to pay its

UN membership dues," Saeed Khatibzadeh said.

During the current year, he added, Iran has been in talks with the United Nations treasury, urging the world body to introduce a safe transaction channel after the U.S. blocked the previous channels used by the Islamic Republic to transfer money.

"Our country's latest proposal [to the UN] in this regard was to settle arrears using the country's frozen assets in South Korea," Khatibzadeh said, noting that Iran's Central Bank has authorized the option and

(Continued on Page 7)

Cuba, Iran to Jointly Mass-Produce COVID Vaccine

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran and Cuba plan to create a capacity for mass production of a vaccine to contain the coronavirus pandemic amid crippling sanctions imposed on the two countries, an official said Friday.

Kianoush Jahanpour, spokesman of the Iran Food and Drug Administration (IFDA), said in a post on Twitter that Iran has nine active candidates of the vaccine while Cuba has four and there is one joint project between the two countries.

"Both countries have been under U.S. sanctions for decades and the sanctions have been increased in recent months," he said.

Iran and Cuba signed an agreement earlier this month to

cooperate in the coronavirus vaccine project with the use of a technology that will be transferred to Iran by the Cuban government.

The vaccine, known as Subrana 2, is now undergoing the human phase trials by the Cuban Finlay Institute and the Pasteur Institute of Iran.

Subrana 2, which is the most advanced one among Cuba's four other coronavirus vaccines, has so far shown no side effects, as the initial stages of its testing have been completed successfully.

In another tweet on Friday, Jahanpour said Cuba plans to launch the Phase-III clinical trials for 150,000 candidates of COVID-19 vaccine while 50,000 candidates would attend

this phase in Iran at the same time.

The Iranian health official emphasized that the vaccine's clinical trials will be conducted in Cuba on children and the young people.

Iran has already launched human trials of its first domestic coronavirus vaccine.

The vaccine, known as COVIRan Barekat, is being produced under the health protocols and guidelines announced by the Iranian Ministry of Health and Medical Education.

The sanctions have hampered Iran's access to medical equipment and pharmaceuticals, complicating the process of importing vaccines from overseas.

(Continued on Page 7)

The Holy Qur'an

What! will you not fight a people who broke their oaths and aimed at the expulsion of the Apostle, and they attacked you first; do you fear them? But Allah is most deserving that you should fear Him, if you are believers.

The Holy Qur'an (9:13)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	12:16
Evening (Maghreb)	17:42
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:43
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	07:10

Zeinab Soleimani: Trump to Live 'in Fear of Foes'

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- The daughter of top Iranian anti-terror commander General Qassem Soleimani says former U.S. President Donald Trump ordered the assassination of her father to portray himself as "a hero," but he left office "defeated, isolated and broken."

Zeinab Soleimani made the remarks in a post on her Twitter account after Trump departed the White House at the end of his tumultuous four-year term and Joe Biden took office as the 46th president of the United States.

She said the assassination of General Soleimani will continue to haunt Trump, who will live "in fear of foes."

"Mr. Trump, you murdered my father, the General who led the victorious war against ISIS/Al-Qaeda, with the perverse hope that you will be seen as some sort of hero," she said, referring to her father's influential role in the battle of Iraqi and Syrian nations against the world's most notorious takfiri terror groups, Daesh and Al-Qaeda.

"But instead you are defeated, isolated & broken - viewed not as a hero, but one who lives in fear of foes," she added.

General Soleimani, the commander of the Quds Force of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), was assassinated along with his Iraqi trenchmate Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the deputy head of the Popular Mobilization Units, in a U.S. drone strike ordered by Trump near Baghdad International Airport on January 3, 2020.

Last July, Agnes Callamard, UN special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, in a report to the UN Human Rights Council underlined the "unlawful" nature of the targeted killing because the U.S. had failed to provide evidence of an ongoing or imminent attack against its interests, as claimed by the Trump administration, to justify the fatal drone strike.

Iran has issued a red notice request to Interpol for the apprehension of Trump and 47 others in connection with the cowardly assassination operation.

Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif retweeted Zeinab's post and said in a tweet that Trump and members of his administration such as former U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo "are relegated to the dustbin of history in disgrace."

"But the memories of Gen Soleimani & the 1000s murdered, maimed & starved of food & meds by Trump's state—& economic—terrorism & crimes against humanity, will shine on" he added.

"Perhaps new folks in DC have learned," he said.