

Speaker: China Seeks Expansion of Iran Ties

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) in China Li Zhanshu said Monday Beijing seeks steady expansion of compressive and strategic relations with Tehran.

Iran and China, he said, always pursue strategic and lasting ties regardless of regional and international developments. He made the remarks in a message to Iran's new Parliament speaker Muhammad Baqer Qalibaf who

Kayhan

International

MP: 230 People Killed in 2019 Riots

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- A total of 230 people, including members of security and Basij forces, were killed in the 2019 riots, which followed an Iranian government's decision to increase fuel prices, says a senior lawmaker. Mojtaba Zon-noor, a current parliamentarian and former head of the Iranian legislature's committee on national security and foreign policy, was quoted by Tasnim news agency as telling reporters on Monday. "Regretfully, we had 230 fatalities in those incidents, including six security officers who were martyred."

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Viewpoint

Is the USA in Its Death Throes?

Iran's Top-Notch Title Competes in Hiroshima Festival



Iran Volleyball to Resume Domestic Competitions



Turkish-Backed Militants Burn Homes in Syria



In Memory of a Magnetic Man

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbazz

The 14th of the Iranian month of Khordad, falling on Wednesday June 3 this year, is a doleful day in a doleful day. It is the day when the Islamic Republic of Iran was orphaned with the departure from the mortal world, of its Founder. It is the day when 31 years ago millions of mournful Iranians gave a fitting farewell to the person who rescued them from domestic hegemony and foreign hegemony.

The person, whose arrest in 1963 had triggered the Khordad 15th Uprising (Thursday June 4 this year), left for his heavenly abode on the eve of the 26th anniversary of this event that changed Iran's destiny. He, however, did not leave Iran, Iranians, and the world's oppressed in the dark. He bequeathed to them a rich and lasting legacy, and an able successor, who continue to be the hope and support of all aspirants to truth, social justice and independence. This was the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA), whose mausoleum though empty this year of the usual multitudinous gatherings because of the Coronavirus pandemic, continues to rule the hearts of not just the Iranian nation, but of conscientious masses throughout the world.

A magnetic personality, he needs no introduction. Born in 1902 in the town of Khomein to the local religious leader, Seyyed Mustafa Musavi al-Hindi, he was named Ruhollah in honour of Prophet Jesus (peace upon him), whom Muslims hail as the Spirit of God. He lost his father early in life, but like all great men, strove with faith in God and self-confidence to acquire knowledge, piety, patience, prudence, and skills in management that continue to contribute to his lasting charisma, although he is no longer in our midst physically. His uprising against tyranny; exile to Turkey and thence to Iraq; and return home in triumph in February 1979 as Leader of the Islamic Revolution are all vivid in our memory.

His determination defeated an armed-to-the-teeth regime although he did not carry any weapon with him. When circumstances made him assume charge of Iran, he was already an accomplished scholar, a leading jurisprudence, and Gnostic of the highest order, who with reliance upon God during the ten years he was at the helm of affairs until his departure from the mortal world in June 1989, completely transformed Iran into a strong, dignified and truly independent country, capable of resisting the plots and pressures of Global Arrogance. This makes us recall a famous hadith mentioned in "Bihar al-Anwaar" the Hadith Encyclopedia, from Imam Musa al-Kazem (AS):

"A man from Qom will rise and invite people towards truth. Around him will gather people like slabs of iron (of iron-resolve), who will stand firm against strong winds and storms, and will never get tired of war. They know not fear and have trust in Allah. The outcome is for the pious."

A study of this statement expressed over a millennium and two centuries ago by an Infallible Imam, shows that no such event had occurred in Qom throughout all these centuries until the year 1963, when Imam Khomeini raised his voice against the Godless Pahlavi regime that was installed by the British and backed to the hilt by the Americans in order to keep the Muslim nation of Iran in thrall.

True to the words of this hadith, if the despots and the hegemonic powers quaked at the uprising of this man of God, the seekers of truth responded to his call and rallied to his side with iron resolve to establish the model Islamic government of the modern era, and to heroically defend it for 8 years during the war the US had imposed upon Iran through Saddam of the Ba'ith minority regime of Baghdad.

He was not a cult leader, nor did he aspire to become one and neither do those who keep alive his memory are trying to make a demigod out of him. In fact, as should be clear, this humble scholar of the School of the Ahl al-Bayt of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) put into practice the heritage of Islamic learning and strove to enlighten mankind with higher humanitarian ideals which are conspicuously absent in bodies and souls burdened with animal instincts and traits.

This was where the iconoclast came into open conflict with the materialistic West, especially the 'Great Satan' (the US) and its blinkered vision of life and culture. This was where godless capitalism flourished against Islamic resurgence.

The 19th century had seen the indefatigable Seyyed Jamal od-Din Asadabadi hounded across countries and continents by the British and their surrogates for his efforts to resuscitate Muslim societies with the spirit of pan-Islamism, but here was Imam Khomeini and his followers of iron-resolve frustrating every sinister plot to tarnish the image of Islam that devilish minds could conceive.

The man who foresaw the doom of communism and whose dynamic decree hangs like the Sword of Damocles on the head of apostasy, has also spoken of his views on economy, politics, arts, industry, culture, science and religion, all of which function as an integrated whole in human life.

Perhaps, Iran may not yet have reached the ideal stage of a truly Islamic state as desired by him, but the change he wrought has been positively profound, with the society cleansed of all the vestiges of acts and practices that are considered as open violation of the principles of Shari'ah.

Imam Khomeini took dynamic steps to uplift the status of women and restored to Iranian woman their dignity which the Pahlavi regime had brutally trampled upon by exposing their delicate feminine features to the plots and brazen attacks of depraved western culture.

He focused on solidarity by building the bridge of Islamic Unity Week to span the 12th and 17th of the month of Rabi al-Awwal – the two days regarded by the two main sects of Islam respectively as the birthday of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA).

He declared the last Friday of the fasting month of Ramadhan as World Qods Day in order to garner support for Islam's first Qiblah, that is, Bayt al-Moqaddas which is under Zionist occupation. He issued the historic verdict against apostasy, when the India-born British apostate Salman Rushdie, with the backing of the West and the Zionists dared to deride the sacred tenets of Islam.

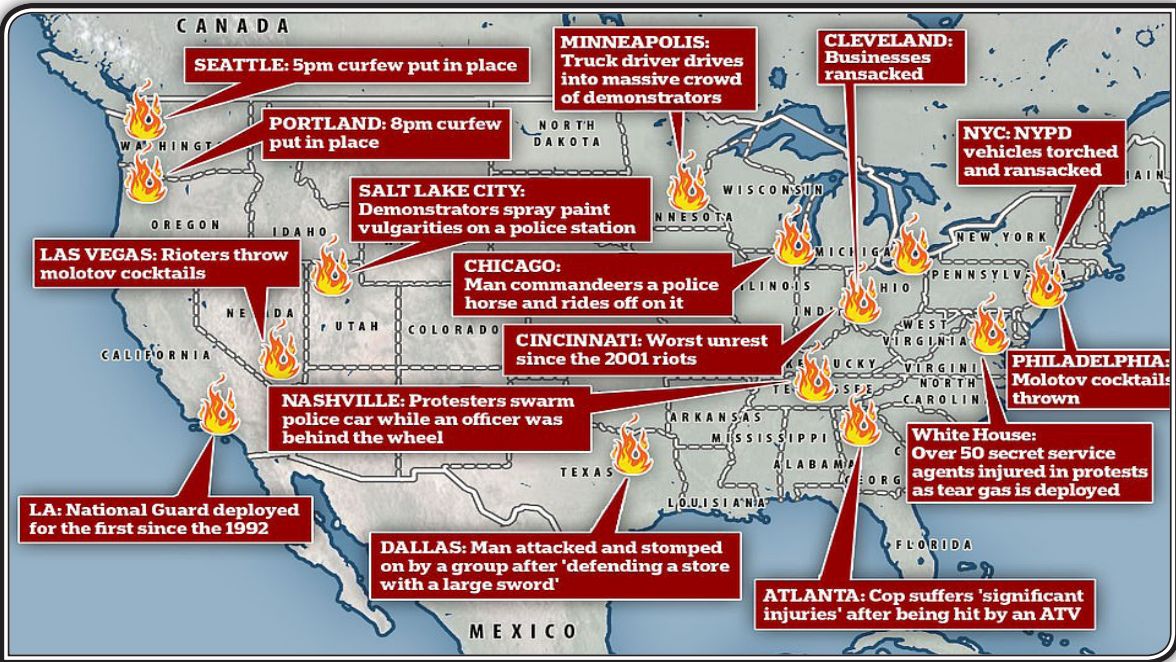
Perhaps, one of the most brilliant measures of Imam Khomeini was the concept of "Wilayat-e Faqih" or Governance of the Supreme Jurisprudent in the physical absence of the Imam of the Age, the Prophet's 12 and Last Successor, Imam Mahdi (may God hasten his reappearance for establishment of the global government of peace, prosperity, and justice). What Muslim philosophers such as Abu Nasr Farabi had envisioned in their writings on the concept of the 'Perfect State' and the 'Ideal Ruler' for human societies, and what God-fearing ulema and the pious believers had yearned for in every age, Imam Khomeini proceeded to give perfection to these rudiments of the rule of the righteous, as the concept of Wilayat-e Faqih.

It was his conviction that authority in state matters was not the prerogative of the infirm in faith, the unprincipled, the immoral and the unjust, and on the basis of the hadith that *"the fuqahā' are the heirs of Prophets"*.

Today, Seyyed Ruhollah Khomeini is no more with us, but his thoughts and ideas are alive, especially the blueprint of Islamic government which has all the characteristics of a catalyst for aspiring Muslim countries. It is this magnetism that gains new adherents every day around the globe and sends shivers down the spine of those masquerading as defenders of democracy and human rights.

Trump Rushed to Bunker at White House

Protests Rage From Coast to Coast Across U.S.



WASHINGTON (AP) — After six straight days of unrest, America headed into a new work week Monday with neighborhoods in shambles, urban streets on lockdown and political leaders struggling to control the coast-to-coast outpouring of rage over police killings of black people.

Despite curfews in big cities across the U.S. and the deployment of thousands of National Guard soldiers over the past week, demonstrations descended into violence again on Sunday.

Protesters hurled rocks and Molotov cocktails at police in Philadelphia, set a fire near the White House and were hit with tear gas and pepper spray in Austin, Texas, and other cities. Seven Boston police officers

were hospitalized.

More Protesters Killed

Police officers and National Guard soldiers enforcing a curfew in Louisville, Kentucky, killed a man early Monday. Police claimed they returned fire after someone in a large group shot at them first. In Indianapolis, two people were reported dead in bursts of downtown violence over the weekend, adding to deaths recorded in Detroit and Minneapolis.

The demonstrations were sparked by the death of George Floyd, a handcuffed black man who pleaded for air as a white Minneapolis police officer pressed his knee against Floyd's

neck for several minutes.

Racial tensions were also running high after two white men were arrested in May in the February shooting death of black jogger Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia, and after Louisville, Kentucky, police shot Breonna Taylor to death in her home in March.

The upheaval has unfolded amid the gloom and economic ruin caused by the coronavirus, which has killed over 100,000 Americans and sent unemployment soaring to levels not seen since the Depression. The outbreak has hit minorities especially hard, not just in infections and deaths but in job losses and economic stress.

The scale of the coast-to-coast

protests has rivaled the historic demonstrations of the civil rights and Vietnam War eras. At least 4,400 people have been arrested, according to a count compiled by The Associated Press.

"They keep killing our people. I'm so sick and tired of it," said Mahira Louis, 15, who was at a Boston protest with her mother Sunday, leading chants of "George Floyd, say his name!"

At the White House, the scene of three days of demonstrations, police fired tear gas and stun grenades Sunday into a crowd of more than 1,000 chanting protesters across the street in Lafayette Park.

The crowd ran, piling up road signs and plastic barriers to light a raging fire in a street nearby. Some pulled an American flag from a building and threw it into the flames. A building in the park with bathrooms and a maintenance office was burned down.

The district's entire National Guard — roughly 1,700 soldiers — was called in to help control the protests, according to Pentagon officials.

Trump Rushed to Bunker

As the unrest grew, President Donald Trump retweeted conservative commentator Buck Sexton, who called for "overwhelming force" against demonstrators.

Critics accuse Trump, who is seeking

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Iran to Americans: World Has Heard Your Outcry

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's Foreign Ministry Monday called on Washington to "stop violence" against its own people after protests across the U.S. over the death of a black American man.

"To the American people: the world has heard your outcry over the state of oppression. The world is standing with you," ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi said at a news conference.

"And to the American officials and police: stop violence against your people and let them breathe," he told reporters in English.

"We deeply regret to see the American people, who peacefully seek respect and no more violence, being suppressed indiscriminately and met with utmost violence," he said.

"The American regime is perusing violence and bullying at home and abroad."

On Sunday, Mousavi said the United States has developed an

overly strong habit of lecturing other countries despite its own well-documented abuse record.

"You're so used to lecturing others," he tweeted, responding to a member of the Atlantic Council, a Washington-based international affairs think tank.

Barbara Slavin had taken on Iranian Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif for critiquing those within the United States and elsewhere, who "don't think black lives matter."

"Fix your own country first. We'll fix ours," Slavin told the Iranian top diplomat.

Mousavi told Slavin that is exactly what Zarif is asking U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to do.

Washington's deep-seated habit of just telling others what to do and not tolerating criticism has made it feel "awkward to be reminded that YOU 'should not be so arrogant as to tell Iran,'" he said.

Fuel Shipments to Venezuela to Continue: Ministry

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran will continue fuel shipments to Venezuela if Caracas requests more supplies, the Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Monday, despite Washington's criticism of the trade between the two nations, which are both under U.S. sanctions.

"If the Venezuelan government demands a new cargo, based on the grounds prepared, we will send it to this country or other countries," Abbas Mousavi said.

"What has happened by dispatching oil tankers to Venezuela was a legitimate trade in the view of the Islamic Republic, and Tehran and Caracas were entitled to it," Mousavi said.

"What the U.S. is doing is an illegal sanctions and other governments don't have to obey it," he added.

Government spokesman Ali Rabiei echoed foreign ministry's po-

sition by stressing that Iran would "decisively trade commodities anywhere possible in the future too".

Defying U.S. threats, Iran has sent a flotilla of five tankers of fuel to the South American oil-producing nation, which is suffering from a gasoline shortage.

According to Reuters, Washington has secretly warned governments, seaports, shippers and insurers that they could face measures if they aid the tankers.

However, the Washington Post said "Trump's sanctions are failing".

By showing that they were able to trade to mutual benefit, Iran and Venezuela "not only successfully circumvented U.S. sanctions, they also scored public relations points in the process", the paper said.

The Post touched on the Trump

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