

## Iran Blasts U.S. on Nagasaki Bombing Anniversary

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iran said on Sunday the country, which is behind nuclear bombings of two cities in Japan, killing thousands of people, now claims to be advocating the eradication of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). “Maybe happen is never once,” Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi tweeted, quoting a line from American writer and poet William Faulkner. “However, atomic bombardment took place more than once. The bombardments of Hiroshima and Nagasaki still cascade in memories of the people of Japan and the world. The interesting point is that the culprit in both cases is a government, which instead of being accountable, claims to be a pioneer in eliminating weapons of mass destruction,” he said.

# Kayhan International

## Earthquake Jolts Western Iran

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- An earthquake of magnitude 5.1 struck the province of Kermanshah in western Iran on Sunday.

The quake jolted the Gilan-e Gharb county in the province, with governor Kourosh Mahmoudian saying no casualties had been reported yet. He said teams have been dispatched to the affected areas and the crisis management committee is on full alert. The situation in Gilan-e Gharb is normal and people are carrying on with their daily life, he added.

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Monday, August 10, 2020, Mordad 20, 1399, Zil-Hijjah 20, 1441, Price 40,000 Rials

### Viewpoint

## The US – World’s No. 1 Terrorist State

## Fresh Anti-Racism Protests Hit Portland for 70th Day



## Three Iranian Stars Among World Soccer 500



## Pentagon Report: U.S. Allies in Syria Recruiting Child Soldiers



## Glory to the Divine Gateway

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

“O Husham, the Commander of the Faithful (Amir al-Mominin Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb – AS) used to say: “No one should sit in the forefront of a session except those who can answer when they are questioned, speak when others cannot, and own the most successful opinion. He who does not enjoy these three characteristics and allows himself to sit in the forefront of a session is surely an idiot.”

“Amir al-Mominin (AS) also used to say to his companions: I command you to fear God in secret and in public, be fair in both states of contentment and rage, earn provisions in richness and poverty, regard them who ruptured their relations with you, pardon them who oppressed you, and treat kindly the one who ignored you. All your faculties should be learning lessons, all your silence should be pondering over things, all your wordings should be mention of God, and all your nature should be generosity, for no stingy will be in Paradise and no generous will be in Hell.”

We are still basking in the blessings of the Glorious and Greatest Eid of Islam by expressing gratitude to God Almighty for His perfection of our faith, completion of His favours, and decreeing of Islam as the religion of all mankind. Indeed the 18<sup>th</sup> of Zi'l-Hijjah that recently went by and which we celebrate for several days, is an immortal occasion, since it was on this day in the year 10 AH, in the wilderness of Khom near Juhfa, beside a pond (Ghadeer), the Seal of Messengers, Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), following the express commandment of the Lord Most High, proclaimed his dear cousin and son-in-law, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS), as Heir and Master of all and everything after him. This is firm proof of the fact that leadership in Islam is divinely-decreed. In other words, without designation from the Almighty Creator none can be regarded as a rightful Imam.

This means that except for the 12 Infallible Imams of the Prophet’s Ahl al-Bayt, of whom the Last One is in occultation and will reappear in the end times as Qa’em al-Mahdi (AS) to end corruption and tyranny on Earth by establishing the global government of peace, prosperity and justice, all those who have styled themselves as caliphs throughout history (till the recently killed Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi of our own days) have been imposters, cheats, and fraudsters, who have misled Muslims and caused sedition amongst the Ummah.

Glory to God Who has not left the seekers of truth stumbling in the dark and has provided Beacons of Divine Light for our guidance as is evident by the passages mentioned at the beginning of this column from the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali (AS), by none other than his sixth in lineal descent worthy heir, Imam Musa al-Kazem (AS) – the Prophet’s 7<sup>th</sup> Infallible Successor – famous by his epithet of “Bab al-Hawa’ej” or the Gateway to Allah for fulfillment of the deserving needs of the believers.

Born in Abwa between the holy cities of Mecca and Medina in the years 128 AH (745 AD) on either the 7<sup>th</sup> of Safar, or according to another report on the 20<sup>th</sup> of Zi'l-Hijjah, he was named Musa in honour of Prophet Moses, by his illustrious father, Imam Ja’far as-Sadeq (AS) – the Reviver of the Prophet’s genuine practice and behaviour (Sunnah wa Sirah).

He was twenty years old when God entrusted him with the Divine Trust of imamate on the martyrdom of his father through poison by Mansour Dawaniqi the second self-styled caliph of the Abbasid usurper regime.

A point to note is that like Prophet Joseph he had several older brothers, who were all alive except for the eldest Ismail who predeceased his father. This means Imamate like Prophethood is neither hereditary nor mandatory, and solely depends on Divine Will.

Of course, the preceding Imam knows his successor, and in view of political conditions might not publicly proclaim him, in order to confound the enemies and frustrate their plots.

This was the reason, the tyrant Mansour could neither determine nor kill the successor of his victim.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Imam, whose period of imamate spanned thirty-five years and saw the reign of four Pharaonic caliphs – Mansur, Mahdi al-Abbasi, Hadi al-Abbasi and the lecherous tyrant Haroun Rasheed – acquired the epithet of “al-Kazem” which means “Restrainer of anger or emotions”, since he patiently endured hardships upon the Muslims and upon himself, including intermittent bouts of imprisonment.

Nonetheless he ably piloted the ship of Islam through the stormy waters of Abbasid misrule, enlightening all those who came in contact with him with the genuine teaching of Islam.

He held debates with the scholars of other religions, like the Christians and the Jews, convincing many of them of the truthfulness of Islam.

At the same time, his political acumen prevented many a catastrophe in those crucial days when frequent uprisings were staged against the Abbasids by several descendants of the Prophet, such as establishment of the Idrisid state in what is now Morocco by his distant cousin, Idris, the survivor of the bloodbath of Fakhkh near Mecca, where the Abbasids massacred many of the offspring of Imam Hasan al-Mujtaba (AS). The Imam also remained silent about the uprising of another distant cousin Yahya ibn Abdullah in Tabaristan on the Caspian Sea coast of Iran.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Imam’s prudence prevailed and was instrumental in preserving the life and dignity of the majority of the followers of the Ahl al-Bayt, to whom he bequeathed bezels of knowledge that have since continued to serve the cause of Islam till this day.

Although Imam Musa al-Kazem (AS) was martyred through poisoning in the prison of Baghdad by the tyrant Haroun in 183 AH and was succeeded by his Divinely-designated Heir, Imam Ali ar-Reza (AS), the 7<sup>th</sup> Imam continues to rule the hearts and minds of the seekers of truth from his majestic mausoleum in Kazemain, Iraq, while there are no traces of the graves of the imposter caliphs, let alone their palaces.

### What Is Lebanon In For?

# Coup After Cataclysm?



Protesters take part in a demonstration in Beirut on August 8, 2020.

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – Pro-Western groups called on Sunday for a sustained “uprising” to topple Lebanese leaders after this week’s devastating explosion in Beirut, and the country’s top Christian Maronite cleric said the cabinet should resign.

Patriarch Bechara Boutros al-Rai said the cabinet should resign as it cannot “change the way it governs”.

“The resignation of an MP or a minister is not enough ... the whole government should resign as it is unable to help the country recover,” he said in his Sunday sermon.

Information Minister Manal Abdel Samad said she was resigning on Sunday, citing the explosion and the failure of the government to carry out the kind of reforms that are being pushed by French President Emmanuel Macron.

Lebanese Prime Minister Hassan Diab said Saturday evening he will request early parliamentary elections in a bid to defuse a worsening political and economic crisis.

“In reality, there is no way out of this structural crisis without early parliamentary elections, in order to produce a new political class and a new parliament,” Diab said in a televised speech.

Still, thousands of people took

to the streets to demand an end to corruption, bad governance and mismanagement, but some elements among the crowd forced their ways into government buildings and ransacked them.

About 10,000 people gathered at Martyrs’ Square, which was transformed into a battle zone in the evening between police and protesters who tried to break down a barrier along a road leading to parliament. Some demonstrators stormed government ministries and the Association of Lebanese Banks.

One policeman was killed and the Red Cross said more than 170

people were injured. Supporters of the pro-Western March 14 alliance which is led by Saudi-backed former prime minister Sa’ad al-Hariri are reportedly digging in for a long fight.

A group reportedly led by retired army officers stormed the foreign ministry Saturday and declared it the “headquarters of the revolution”.

“We are taking over the foreign ministry as a seat of the revolution,” Sami Rammah, a retired officer, announced by loudspeaker from the ministry’s front steps.

“We call on all the anguished Lebanese people to take to the streets to demand the prosecution of all the corrupt,” appealing to the international community to boycott the government.

Ironically, the Beirut port where the cataclysmic blast took place among 2,750 tonnes of ammonium nitrate was reportedly administrated by people close to the March 14 alliance.

The unrest in Beirut and an apparent push to topple the government smacks of a “forward escape” tactic embraced by the Western- and Saudi-backed political camp to make the best of the situation and implement the agenda which it has been following for quite a while with little success, observers say.

The current economic crisis in Lebanon is the result of sanctions imposed by the U.S. and its allies, which have caused the Lebanese pound to lose more than 80 percent of its value.

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### Leading U.S. Magazine Foreign Policy:

## Iran-China Deal ‘Bad News for West’

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council Ali Shamkhani said on Sunday the Islamic Republic is determined to boost strategic cooperation with Eastern countries and wean its economy off oil revenues.

“The West’s policy toward our country has been based on preventing Iran’s strategic cooperation with the East and continued dependence of the national economy on oil,” Shamkhani tweeted.

“Since a long time ago, Iran has decided to take these two steps,” he said, adding Iran “will overcome the existing challenges through active resistance and national solidarity”.

Recent reports suggest that China and Iran are entering a 25-year strategic partnership in trade, politics, culture, and security.

Cooperation between China

and Middle Eastern countries is neither new nor recent. Yet what distinguishes this development from others is that both China and Iran have confrontational relationships with the United States, and there is a security component to the agreement, leading U.S. magazine Foreign Policy wrote on Sunday.

“The military aspect of the agreement concerns the United States, just as last year’s unprecedented Iran-China-Russia joint naval exercise in the Indian Ocean and Gulf of Oman spooked Washington,” it said.

China’s growing influence in East Asia and Africa has challenged U.S. interests, and the Middle East is the next battlefield on which Beijing can challenge U.S. hegemony, the paper said.

“This is particularly important

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## Nagasaki Marks U.S. A-Bombing Amid Arms Race

NAGASAKI (AP) -- The Japanese city of Nagasaki on Sunday marked its 75th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing, with the mayor and dwindling survivors urging world leaders including their own to do more for a nuclear weapons ban.

At 11:02 a.m. local time, the moment the B-29 bomber Bockscar dropped a 4.5-ton (10,000-pound) plutonium bomb dubbed “Fat Man,” Nagasaki survivors and other participants stood in a minute of silence to honor more than 70,000 dead.

The Aug. 9, 1945, bombing came three days after the United States dropped its first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, the world’s first ever nuclear attack that killed 140,000.

At the event at Nagasaki Peace Park, scaled down because of the coronavirus pandemic, Mayor Tomihisa Taue read a peace declaration in which he raised concern that nuclear states had in recent

years retreated from disarmament efforts.

Instead, they are upgrading and miniaturizing nuclear weapons for easier use, he said. Taue singled out the U.S. and Russia for increasing risks by scrapping the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty.

“As a result, the threat of nuclear weapons being used is increasingly becoming real,” Taue said. Noting that the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty entered into force 50 years ago, Taue urged the U.S. and Russia to show a “workable way” toward their nuclear disarmament at the NPT review process next year.

He said that “the true horror of nuclear weapons has not yet been adequately conveyed to the world at large” despite struggle and efforts by hibakusha, or atomic bombing survivors, to make Nagasaki the last place of the tragedy.

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