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In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

Time for Palestinian Leaders to Recognize Real Friends

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The current round of public protests in the Persian Gulf island state of Bahrain against the repressive Aal-e Khalifa minority regime's treason towards Islam's former qibla and backstabbing of the Palestinian people by formally setting up diplomatic relations with the illegal Zionist entity, are indeed signs of positive developments in the region that augur well for the future.

Bahrain's largest political party 'al-Wefaq' has written a letter to the UN of the firm opposition of over 95 percent of the Bahraini people to any sort of ties with usurper Israel, saying that this figure can be ascertained if the World Body were to oversee a free and fair referendum in the island state.

Of course, the rootless and unrepresentative pirate regime in Manama, which for long, especially since the grand peaceful rallies of the Bahrain people in 2011, has stifled the voices of democracy, will never agree to the holding of such a public poll in support of Palestinian people or protection of the sanctity of the al-Aqsa Mosque for obvious reasons.

This would be self-acknowledgement of the lack of legitimacy of the Aal-e Khalifas, indicating that it is time to end its occupation of Bahrain and move on to exile in Britain or the US where the plundering clan has stashed away billions of dollars of the people's looted wealth.

Nonetheless, the people of Bahrain have a date with destiny and sooner than later they will achieve independence despite the unwanted presence of the US Fifth Fleet and now the influx of the Israelis – mostly torturers to further torment the oppressed people or so-called traders to steal whatever riches the Aal-e Khalifa have not looted.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has made it clear to the treasonous regimes in Abu Dhabi and Manama – as well as in Riyadh – that it will never allow the Zionists to consolidate their illegal presence in the Persian Gulf.

As for the people of Palestine, especially the political parties in Gaza, Bayt al-Moqaddas, and the West Bank, or in exile in any part of the world, such open support expressed to their cause by the oppressed people of Bahrain, should make them differentiate between friends and foes.

Unfortunately, the so-called leaders of the Palestinian people have erred at crucial moments regarding this vital issue, only to prolong the plight of Palestine that will not be remedied by regrets.

For instance, besides their being fooled by the Americans and the Zionists, the Palestinian leaders have a track record of placing trust in the wrong persons in the Arab world.

They had backed the Ba'th minority dictator Saddam against the Iraqi people, whose uprising against tyranny they never supported. They turned their backs upon benefactor Bashar al-Assad when terrorists of all hue and colour had ganged up together to try to overthrow the legitimate government of Syria with the support of the US, West European powers, Arab reactionary regimes, Turkey, and Israel.

They did not express any support for the popular Ansarallah Movement of Yemen despite it being one of the staunchest opponents of Zionism. Likewise, they had failed to show any sympathies for the people of Bahrain whom the Aal-e Khalifa and the Aal-e Sauds so brutally crushed over the past decade.

Yet, despite such gross miscalculations by the Palestinian leadership, Iraq's popular Hashd ash-Sha'bi, the Syrian president, Yemen's Ansarallah, and now the ulema and people of Bahrain, have never hesitated in coming to the rescue of the people of Palestine.

It is high time, not just Hamas, but also the PLO, should openly thank the people of Bahrain and publicly support their struggle against the repressive Aal-e Khalifa regime, which is nothing but a tool of usurper Israel, and as a prelude to the liberation of Palestine should be first overthrown.

China on Iran Threat: It Is U.S. That Peddles Arms



Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and Chinese President Xi Jinping review troops during a welcoming ceremony in Tehran on Jan. 23, 2016.

BEIJING (Dispatches) -- China on Monday accused the United States of "peddling arms" and "interfering" in other countries' affairs after Washington threatened sanctions against any nation taking advantage of the end of a UN ban to sell weapons to Iran.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo warned against anyone supplying arms to the Islamic Republic after Tehran said a long-standing UN embargo against such deals had expired.

China's Foreign Ministry on Monday said Pompeo's remarks were "utterly unjustifiable."

"It is the U.S. that peddles arms and ammunition everywhere, uses military trade to serve geopolitical interests, and even openly interferes in the internal affairs of other

countries," ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told reporters.

Asked if China would now sell arms to Iran, Zhao did not directly address the issue but said Beijing would "handle military trade in accordance with its military export policy and its international obligations".

The embargo on the sale of conventional arms to Iran was due to begin expiring progressively from October 18 under terms of the UN resolution that confirmed the 2015 nuclear deal between Tehran and world powers.

Tehran, which can now purchase weapons from Russia, China and elsewhere, has hailed the expiration as a diplomatic victory over the United States, which had tried to maintain an indefinite freeze on

arms sales.

President Donald Trump withdrew the United States from the nuclear deal in 2018 and has unilaterally begun reimposing sanctions on Iran.

China, Iran's primary trading partner, has long accused the United States of exacerbating tensions over Iran's weapons program by pulling out of the deal.

Iran's foreign minister travelled to Beijing this month for talks spanning trade and defense.

China's Ambassador to Iran Chang Hua on Monday praised the Islamic Republic as a strategic partner, stressing the need for closer cooperation in various fields and in countering U.S. unilateralism.

In an interview with Tasnim news agency, Chang Hua said China and

Ministry: Iran's Return to Arms Market Alarms U.S.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Tehran on Monday hit back at a U.S. threat of sanctions on anyone looking to make deals with Iran after the arms embargo on its military expired, saying Washington's threats show the futility of U.S. action and rhetoric on sanctions.

After a long-standing conventional arms embargo on Iran ended on Sunday despite Washington's opposition, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo warned of consequences for any individuals or entities that conduct arms deals with Iran.

"Pompeo's remarks are the most important sign that not even he believes unilateral U.S. sanctions have been successful, and no UN sanctions have been reinstated," spokesman of Iran's Foreign Min-

istry Saeed Khatibzadeh said.

"Iran continues to believe it can operate within the framework of international agreements. What they fear is Iran's return to the massive market of technology and arms exports," Khatibzadeh said, adding that Iran produces 90 percent of its defense needs locally and will mostly look to export arms rather than import them.

In an interview with state television on Sunday night, Defense Minister Amir Hatami said Iran will only sell weapons to countries that it is sure "won't misuse them" and will employ them strictly for defense purposes.

"Unlike the Americans, we wouldn't do just about everything for money," he said, pointing out

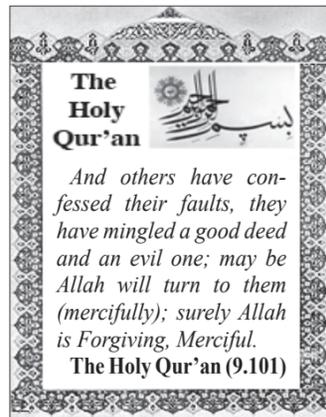
that the U.S. sells billions of dollars of arms to Arab nations in the Middle East that fuel wars.

Iran's foreign ministry said "unconventional arms, weapons of mass destruction and a buying spree of conventional arms have no place" in the country's defense doctrine.

The U.S. tried to stop the lifting of the arms embargo on Iran twice at the UN Security Council.

In August, it introduced a resolution to indefinitely extend the embargo while in September it claimed it unilaterally reinstated UN sanctions on Iran, including the arms embargo.

On both occasions, the Security Council rejected the moves, saying they have no legal basis.



The Holy Qur'an

And others have confessed their faults, they have mingled a good deed and an evil one; may be Allah will turn to them (mercifully); surely Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.
The Holy Qur'an (9.101)

PRAYER TIMINGS

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Noon (Zohr) | 11:49 |
| Evening (Maghreb) | 17:40 |
| Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow" | 04:52 |
| Sunrise "Tomorrow" | 06:16 |

Iran are "comprehensive strategic partners", expressing his country's willingness to promote cooperation and links with Iran in all arenas, including the fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

China believes that positive interaction among all countries could safeguard multilateralism and counter unilateralism and hegemony, he said.

Collective cooperation, Hua said, would also protect international justice and equality for the fulfillment of common interests of the developing nations.

The ambassador pointed to growing political, economic and cultural interaction between China and Iran on the basis of mutual respect and interests, saying the two states have joined hands in the efforts to tackle the coronavirus pandemic.

The Chinese ambassador said Washington has disregarded the UN Charter and violated international law by imposing economic and financial sanctions or resorting to unilateral and punitive measures against other nations.

Such American policies amount to

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President Rouhani Tells Abdullah:

Iran Ready to Build Oil, Gas Pipeline to Afghanistan

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- President Hassan Rouhani on Monday announced Iran's readiness to supply neighboring Afghanistan with natural gas and oil products.

In a meeting with head of Afghanistan's High Council for National Reconciliation Abdullah Abdullah here, Rouhani said Iran is ready to build gas and oil pipelines to Afghanistan.

Rouhani reiterated Iran's support for peace, stability and security in Afghanistan, saying what is important is that the people of Afghanistan gain real peace to maintain their achievements after years of war and clashes.

"The solution to this problem is political talks and intra-Afghan negotiations," he said.

Rouhani said U.S. meddling and the presence of American troops in Afghanistan runs counter to the will of the Afghan people. Washington, he said, is trying to take advantage of Afghanistan's peace talks for its presidential election.

For his part, Abdullah praised Iran as a good neighbor and friend of Afghanistan, and hailed the Islamic Republic's efforts to establish sustainable peace and security in his country.

Abdullah, the former chief executive officer of the Afghan unity

government, is in Iran on a three-day visit for talks on the Afghan peace process, the intra-Afghan dialogue in Qatar, and the need for regional support for Afghanistan's peace efforts.

On Sunday, he met Iran's Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf who said the United States has been playing a destructive role in Afghanistan.

"The Americans only seek to promote their own plans and do not care about progress and security of the Islamic countries," Qalibaf said, restating the Islamic Republic's support for the Afghan government and constitution.

Afghanistan, he said, has been suffering from insecurity and instability from the former Soviet Union's invasion of the country in 1979 up to the current presence of U.S. forces.

"As long as regional countries and people of these countries and their different ethnic groups have not achieved unity, coordination and empathy, foreign forces, topped by the U.S., will only pursue their own ominous goals," Qalibaf said.

Iran's parliament speaker said the Islamic Republic has always tried to reinforce unity among Muslim

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