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In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

Time for Iran to Shatter the Glass Houses

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

“Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones”, says an old English proverb, as a warning to arrogantly ignorant idiots whose provocations bring swift self-destruction.

Iran now is fully entitled to wreak vengeance on the fools who committed the unpardonable act of terrorism at its nuclear power plant on Sunday no sooner had the Islamic Republic marked the 15th anniversary of the National Nuclear Technology Day with an exhibition of 133 new innovations in this vital field.

All fingers point towards the archenemies of Iran and the Iranian people, including those trying to dupe the Islamic Republic again by dangling the bait of ‘indirect’ talks to rejoin the JCPOA.

Luckily, the cyber attack did not result in extensive damage or cause human casualties, though it destroyed some outdated centrifuges that are being replaced by advanced versions with ten times more speed and capability.

Anyway, the latest act of terrorism warrants swift retaliation and should make our negotiators think twice before continuing the useless talks with the Europeans in the vain hope that the US will end its economic terrorism.

In the words of Iran’s Foreign Ministry Spokesman: “The appalling incident that took place in Natanz was the work of the Zionist regime, given what it was repeatedly saying before and what is still being heard from various sources these days.”

Saeed Khatibzadeh added “What happened in Natanz was (an act of) nuclear terrorism on the Islamic Republic of Iran’s soil. Iran reserves the right for response under the Article 51 of the UN Charter.”

Brave words indeed, but these should be followed by concrete action against the culprits who should be taught the lesson that their iron domes are nothing but mere cobwebs.

It is naïve to think that Israel carried out its latest cyber sabotage against Iran without the instructions of the US, or at least prior consultations with its godfather for a green signal.

The Americans have every reason to test Iran’s patience and resolve, especially since the much avowed vengeance for the innocent blood of Martyr Qasim Soleimani continues to be delayed.

Another point to note is the possibility of Israeli moles in Iran amongst the inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), who have been allowed access to even sensitive sections of our nuclear facilities.

All these factors warrant concrete measures from Iran, not just at the nuclear facilities but in its response to the increasing acts of terrorism by its enemies in the region against Iranian interests.

Iranian, Iraqi Security Chiefs Discuss U.S.-Daesh Ties



Secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council Ali Shamkhani (3rd-L) and Iraqi National Security Council (INSC) Advisor Qasim al-Araji (2nd-R) meet in Tehran on April 12, 2021.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council Ali Shamkhani on Monday denounced the U.S. as the root cause of insecurity in the region, saying the withdrawal of American forces from Iraq would strengthen stability in the Arab country.

Shamkhani told his Iraqi counterpart Qasim Muhammad Jalal al-Araji here that the U.S. is also the sponsor of organized terrorism in the region.

The official stressed the need for the implementation of Iraq’s parliamentary bill on the expulsion of U.S. forces from the Arab country.

He said one of the main priorities in security cooperation between

Iran and Iraq is to prosecute and punish those who ordered and perpetrated the assassination of top commanders General Qassem Soleimani and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis in Baghdad in January 2020.

The government of Iraq is expected to take more serious action against the terrorist crime, considering that it was hosting the senior Iranian general, he said.

Shamkhani further expressed concern over the resurgence of Daesh elements in Iraq, saying there is reliable evidence showing that the U.S. is supporting takfiri terrorists and deploying them to various regions across Iraq with the purpose of fomenting insecurity

in order to extend its presence in the region.

For his part, the Iraqi adviser hailed Iran’s strategic role in ensuring regional stability and security and fighting terrorism, calling for closer cooperation with Tehran in various fields.

Araji confirmed that the U.S. is in contact with Daesh in Iraq, saying classifying terrorists into good and bad and employing double standards in the war on terrorism would only strengthen the criminal role of terrorist currents.

The Iraqi national security adviser has visited Iran at the invitation of Shamkhani for talks on bilateral, regional and international issues.

FM Lavrov in Tehran to Extend Cooperation Deal

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Tehran and Moscow are going to sign a comprehensive cooperation agreement during Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov’s forthcoming visit to Tehran, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said on Monday.

Lavrov was to arrive in Tehran Monday night, the spokesman told a virtual weekly news conference here, adding the agreement on comprehensive cooperation between Iran and Russia will be signed during the visit.

The spokesman said the Iran-Russia cooperation plan that has been in effect for the past 10 years and would expire soon will be extended during Lavrov’s visit to Tehran.

The top Russian diplomat will hold talks with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif

on Tuesday, he noted.

Asked about the Caspian Sea legal regime, Khatibzadeh said the convention is being ratified by Iranian organizations.

“We believe that we should focus on the finalization of negotiations and a draft on defining the lines of origin in the Caspian Sea to facilitate the ratification of the convention,” he added.

In comments in July 2020, Zarif said Tehran would extend a 20-year cooperation agreement with Moscow.

Last month, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi travelled to Tehran where he signed a 25-year partnership deal between China and Iran. The deal outlines plans for economic, political and security cooperation between the two countries, which are celebrating 50 years of diplomatic ties.

Since news of the agreement

surfaced in 2016, the prospect of a closer alliance between two U.S. rivals has inspired alarm in the United States. In March, President Joe Biden told a reporter he had been “concerned for over a year” about the partnership.

On Sunday, the New York Times rebuked Washington’s overuse of financial sanctions could backfire badly as it cited U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew’s warning in 2016 that the practice could backfire badly.

“We’re starting to see glimpses of what can happen if sanctions remain for too long. China’s recent announcement of a plan to invest \$400 billion in Iran’s oil, gas and transportation infrastructure in exchange for oil is a sign that China and Russia won’t abide by such onerous restrictions forever,” the paper wrote.

South Korean PM Gets Dressing Down Over Frozen Assets

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Top Iranian officials told visiting South Korean Prime Minister Chung Sye-Kyun here Monday that Seoul must take practical and immediate measures to release Tehran’s frozen assets.

Parliament speaker Muhammad Baqer Qalibaf said South Korea has failed to meet the expectations of the Iranian nation, and even the traders who maintained good business ties with Seoul.

“Unfortunately, South Korea has lost its position in Iran’s foreign trade and the two countries’ economic and political relations, which once stood at the highest level, have declined,” Qalibaf

said. The speaker strongly criticized South Korean banks’ refusal to let Iran access its own assets.

Several billions of dollars of Iranian revenues mostly from oil and gas exports are held abroad because of U.S. sanctions.

About \$2.7 billion belonging to Iran’s Bank Mellat is held by the Bank of Korea, while more than \$7 billion worth of Iranian oil money is stuck at the Industrial Bank of Korea and Woori Bank, according to Yonhap news agency. South Korea’s refusal to free them has turned into a diplomatic spat.

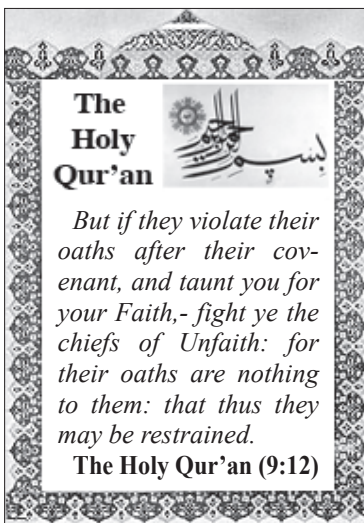
Qalibaf said he hoped Chung’s visit to Iran would usher in a new

era of enhanced bilateral cooperation in political, economic and cultural sectors on the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The South Korean prime minister lauded good historical relations between Tehran and Seoul, regretting that mutual ties have strained since 2018, but pledged to make efforts to improve them.

He said a number of South Korean political and economic officials are accompanying him in the visit with the aim of finding ways to boost mutual relations.

Chung said his country would make its utmost efforts to solve the existing problems on the way of Iran’s repatriation of its



PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:05
Evening (Maghreb)	19:54
Dawn (Fajr) “Tomorrow”	05:07
Sunrise “Tomorrow”	06:34

Sheikh Qassem: Iran’s Victory Belongs to Resistance Axis

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – Hezbollah’s deputy secretary general says a potential U.S. return to the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world countries would constitute a “great victory” for the Islamic Republic.

In the event that such a prospect materializes, “it means that Iran has achieved a great victory,” Sheikh Naim Qassem told Lebanon’s Al-Manar television network.

“And any victory for Iran is a victory for the whole (resistance) axis,” he added.

The agreement, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action came by in July that year in Vienna. It lifted nuclear-related sanctions against Iran, which, in turn, effected some voluntary changes in its peaceful nuclear energy program.

The U.S., however, left the JCPOA in 2018 and reimposed the sanctions that the deal had relieved.

Last week, the deal’s remaining signatories launched fresh talks in the Austrian capital to examine the potential of fresh sanction relief.

The Islamic Republic says it refuse any talks with the U.S. as long as it kept the bans in place.

The parties to the talks have agreed to pick up where they have left next Wednesday.

Qassem said it would take around two months for the nuclear deal to be restored. “The Americans consider it better than the absence of any agreement at all.”

assets, given the special position of Iran in South Korea’s foreign relations.

Iran’s First Vice President Es’haq Jahangiri said Sunday South Korea must take action to unfreeze Iran’s foreign exchange assets as soon as possible, noting that the freeze has badly tarnished the image of South Korean banks among the Iranians.

“Unfortunately during the past three years, South Korea has obeyed the illegal U.S. sanctions which lack any international legitimacy, as a result of which relations with Iran have tanked,” Jahangiri said.

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