

Kayhan International

Kayhan Group of Newspapers

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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

The Zionist War on Palestinian Children

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The release of 14-year-old Malak al Khatib, one of the youngest Palestinian detainees and one of only a handful of girls, from an Israeli prison on February 13, has provoked widespread criticism amongst human rights groups.

Details of what happened to the Palestinian minor were made public only after a gag order on the case was lifted on appeal after a global campaign for her release - but only after being incarcerated for two months on alleged security offenses.

Khatib is not the first young Palestinian detainee and certainly she won't be the last. The Zionist regime systematically detains and imprisons Palestinian youths to preserve the occupation and the status quo. Almost all children are in prison charged with stone-throwing and their confessions are coerced under duress during interrogation.

According to volunteer organization Military Court Watch, over 150 Palestinian children are currently being held in Israeli prisons under similar circumstances and in contravention of the Geneva Convention - with no ability for family and legal representatives to visit them.

Also according to Defence for Children International Palestine (DCIP), last December, 10 Palestinian children aged between 10 and 15 were incarcerated. Children as young as 8 have also been arrested. According to DCIP, the occupying regime forces arrest about 1,000 children every year.

Although the large numbers of Palestinian children arrested is of concern to human rights organizations, they have done nothing to stop the systematic practice, let alone stop their harsh treatment during incarceration that includes intimidation, threats and physical violence.

It is true that the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) has released numerous reports on Palestinian children in Israeli military detention, but that's all really. They are reports on Palestinian children in Israeli military detention and not enough reason for the UN Human Rights Council to act on it.

Regrettably, Palestinian children are still being killed or threatened with death, physical violence, solitary confinement and sexual assault against themselves and their family members. In many cases, the "law" applying to these traumatized minors is stricter and even more severe than the one applied to the illegal settlers and activists. It's stark reminder that there is no justice and equality after all.

The UN Human Rights Council, under international law, is obliged to condemn this illegal practice and do something about it. There will of course be those who do not accept that there is a double standard, or seek to justify it on the basis of self-defense. Incarceration of minors as young as 8, however, cannot be justified.

It is precisely this failure to condemn that allows the criminal regime of Israel to continue to legitimize its atrocities and act with such impunity. Without global condemnation and UN action, the Zionist regime's policy of systematic incarceration of Palestinian minors will never change.

Iranian Commander: Hezbollah Will Win Any Battle Against Zionists

TEHRAN (Fars) -- Hezbollah has proved its mettle in defending Lebanon, a senior Iranian commander said on Saturday, adding the resistance movement will win any possible future battle against Zionist aggressors.

Addressing a gathering to commemorate martyrs of Hezbollah, deputy commander of the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Brigadier General Esmayeel Qa'ani said Hezbollah has taught a lesson of struggle to all freedom-seekers across the world.

He said while the U.S., Europe and Arab countries failed to show timely reaction to outrageous crimes of the Zionist regime, Hezbollah immediately responded to the aggression.

Last month, IRGC chief commander Major General Muhammad Ali Jafari warned that Tel Aviv should expect a strong response from the Lebanese resistance movement in retaliation for the Zionist regime's recent air attack on the Golan Heights that killed a number of Hezbollah members and Iranian military advisor.

NAM Science Ministers in Tehran for First Meeting



Delegates from Non-Aligned Movement countries attend a NAM summit in Tehran in Aug. 2012.

TEHRAN (Fars) -- Tehran will host a meeting of the ministers of science, research and technology of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) on

Sunday.

"Tehran will host the first meeting of the NAM science ministers on February 22-24," senior advisor

to Iranian Science, Research and Technology Minister Aidin Molazadeh said on Saturday.

Iranian Science, Research and Technology Minister Muhammad Farhadi is also due to hold bilateral meetings with his counterparts from the NAM member-states on the sidelines of the main meeting tomorrow.

Over 60 science ministers are due to take part in meeting on Monday and Tuesday.

Molazadeh expressed the hope that the upcoming NAM meeting

Official: Iran Boosting Range of Drones

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- A senior official said on Saturday Iran is working to increase the flight range of its domestically-made drones.

Iran's Aviation Industry Organization is manufacturing unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) with a longer flight range than previous models, said the organization's deputy director Karim Bani Tarafi in an interview with IRNA.

The new drones will also be able to fly at higher speed and altitudes and capture more accurate images, he added.

All UAVs currently used by Iran's armed forces have been completely designed and manufactured by local experts, he noted.

Bani Tarafi said different types of equipment, including radars, could be installed on the new drones.

In recent years, Iran has made major breakthroughs in its defense sector and attained self-sufficiency in producing important military equipment and systems, including a variety of domestically-manufactured drones.

The Islamic Republic unveiled its

first domestically-developed long-range combat drone, Karrar (Striker), in August 2010. The country has, ever since, manufactured a whole range of other high-tech surveillance and combat UAVs.

In November 2014, Iran put into operation a final domestically-manufactured version of the sophisticated U.S. RQ-170 stealth aircraft, which was downed with minimal damage by the Iranian Armed Forces' electronic warfare unit in December, 2011 while flying over the Iranian city of Kashmar, some 225 kilometers (140 miles) from the Afghan border.

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC)'s Aerospace Force in August 2014 intercepted and shot down an Israeli stealth spy drone that intended to reach the nuclear facility in Natanz. The UAV was targeted by a surface-to-air missile before it reached the area.

The Islamic Republic has repeatedly assured other countries that its military might poses no threat to other countries since its defense doctrine is based entirely on deterrence.

U.S. Case to Seize Iran Assets Lost

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- The alleged victims of the 1983 bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut lost a legal bid to seize \$1.6 billion of Iranian assets from a Luxembourg account managed by Deutsche Boerse AG unit Clearstream Banking SA.

U.S. District Judge Katherine Forrest in New York dismissed a lawsuit seeking to seize the money because it belongs to Iran's central bank, Deutsche Boerse said in a statement. The case was brought by servicemen injured and the families of those who died in the attack, according to court records. The truck bombing killed 241 Americans.

"We acknowledge the court's decision and consider it to be consistent with well-established U.S. and international financial-infrastructure regulations and obligations," Deutsche Boerse said in the statement.

Forrest ruled that the bombing victims had released their claims against Clearstream and against another defendant, Banca UBAE SpA, in earlier settlements. She said the court lacks jurisdiction over funds held by the Iranian central bank outside the U.S. She also ruled that there's nothing left in a Clearstream account held at JPMorgan Chase Bank NA.

The plaintiffs previously won a judgment against Iran and have sought to identify state funds to seize, according to court records. They discovered that Clearstream, Deutsche Boerse's securities depository, held frozen assets belonging to Iran's central bank.

Deutsche Boerse also operates the Eurex futures market and the Frankfurt Stock Exchange.

Clearstream agreed to pay \$152 million to the Office of Foreign Assets

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The Holy Qur'an
If you repent, it will be better for you, and if you turn back, then know that you will not weaken Allah; and announce painful punishment to those who disbelieve.

The Holy Qur'an (9.3)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	12:17
Evening (Maghreb)	18:10
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:19
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:43

would pave the way for greater scientific cooperation of the NAM science ministers in the future.

Iran currently holds the rotating presidency of the NAM.

NAM is an international organization of states considering themselves not formally aligned with or against any major power bloc. NAM is the largest grouping of countries outside of the United Nations.

NAM member states represent nearly two-thirds of the United Nations' members and comprise 55% of the world population, particularly countries considered to be developing or part of the Third World.

Iran received NAM rotating presidency at the opening ceremony of the NAM summit in Tehran on August 26, 2012 from Egypt for a period of three years.

Press Digest

War on Libya

RESALAT: The same coalition of regime-changers, which destroyed Iraq and Syria, are now busy fighting over the carcass of Tripoli. Just like in Iraq, they have since been stealing the nation's oil wealth or handling cheap oil sales under the guise of humanitarian intervention. Hardly by accident, these usual imperial suspects should never be allowed to escape justice after they are rid of political office. They played key roles in the Libya debacle and must be held to account in the International Criminal Court in The Hague. Millions of innocent civilians are still dying and suffering in Libya and the UN Security Council is doing nothing about it.

Zionist Nukes

VATAN EMROOZ: According to the Pentagon, Israel began developing codes to make hydrogen bombs in 1987 – with a helping hand from the United States. The secrecy surrounding Israel's nuclear weapons is now an open secret. It takes an effort to preserve the fiction that this is a secret any longer. This obstacle of America's own making has long prevented negotiations over Israel's weapons of mass destruction. While the world endlessly discusses Iran's civilian nuclear program, hardly anyone in the US or the UN Security Council ever mentions the Zionist regime's nukes.

ISIL Gift

SIASAT ROOZ: The beheading of 21 Egyptians by ISIL in Libya was a gift to the military regime in Cairo. It helps the regime to stabilize its domestic position, conquer the opposition, and strengthen its international position. General Al-Sisi will soon turn himself into a war hero among his own people and the people of the region. His forces are busy pounding ISIL targets within Libya while at the same time serving the Zionist regime and its illicit interests. For instance, under the pretext of fighting ISIL, Cairo can easily shut down the Rafah border - the only way out for the besieged city of Gaza. It is now much easier for Cairo to mistreat the Palestinians, improve relations with Israel, weaken regional armies fighting terrorism, pave way for greater presence of Israel in regional conflicts, and create further insecurity within Libya.

Jihadist Highway

KAYHAN: Turkish lawmakers say the government of Erdogan has recruited, trained and dispatched some 50,000 foreign terrorists to fight in Syria and topple the government in Damascus. Most of these foreign goons come from Europe and the greater Middle East. After being defeated in Kobani, they have retreated into Turkey where they are waiting for their next order. The Turkish government is using refugee funds to house and treat those injured in the conflict. The policy is being implemented under a new security deal with Washington. Both regimes have agreed to recruit and train a new "moderate" group of terrorists for a three-year operation in Syria.