

Path of Progress to the Pleiades is Adherence to Qur'anic Guidelines

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

There is a famous statement attributed to Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) that once pointing to his prominent Iranian companion Salman Farsi, while foretelling events of the future, he said, if knowledge were to be found in the Pleiades his people (the Iranian Muslims) will acquire it.

It is obvious that Iranians have not yet reached that cherished goal, but the victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979 did transform the country from a western client state dependent on the mercy of the US, into a fully confident independent nation which over the past four decades has achieved astounding progress in almost all fields that were beyond imagination during the days of the British-installed Pahlavi regime.

The development of the Islamic Republic which has mastered the nuclear fuel cycle and nanotechnology, made breakthroughs in medical sciences and stem cells, achieved self-sufficiency in defence and other heavy industries, shattered the myth of invincibility of the US and the so-called big powers, helped regional countries defeat organized terrorism, promoted spiritual and religious values at home and abroad, inspired nations and freedom movements to rise up to reassert their denied rights, and is successfully exploring both outer-space and cyberspace, would have been more spectacular, had we heeded more attentively the guidelines of our divinely-inspired leadership.

A few days ago, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution pointed out in his televised speech on the occasion of the blessed month of Ramadhan: "The holy Qur'an is our Excellent Guide and among its various directives for a virtuous life, including the courage to stand steadfastly against the oppressors, it teaches us to be fearless of the enemies."

Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei cited the practical precedent set by the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA), and by referring to the capture of the US den of espionage in Tehran in 1979 by revolutionary students, said: "He taught all of us not to be afraid of the big powers."

The Leader, however, regretted: "We have seen certain cases where administrations in our country were afraid of the US and that fear created grave problems... although God says in the holy Qur'an (3:175): "So fear them not, and fear Me."

His message to the nation for paving the path of progress towards the Pleiades, is thus clear, and yesterday in his videoconference with prominent manufacturing companies of the country on the occasion of Labour Week, he emphasized on his designation of the current calendar year as "Year of Production Leap", by insisting on the Economy of Resistance in order to defeat the cowardly and criminal plots of the US, especially in the current state of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Leader said the Iranian economy is exposed to many natural and man-made viruses, but this does not mean there is any cause for despair for a nation which has successfully launched a crucial satellite into orbit.

In order to encourage officials and the public, he said: "Our economy might be afflicted by some natural microbes and viruses. Of course, there are man-made viruses as well. These are viruses such as sanctions and the current oil price. These are things that harm the economy; however, if we have a good, appropriate, and constantly developing production in the country, we can resist and overcome such viruses. Should we want to liken the economy to the human body, the defence system that provides the economy with security would be production, which means the element that can neutralize viruses and microbes targeting the economy and keep it healthy, is production."

In pointing to the recent achievement of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in launching the Nour Satellite into space, His Eminence stated: "Unfortunately, some people in the country constantly say that it's impossible and that we can't; however, we are perfectly capable. The reason for this is that when we are capable of launching a satellite into space with a speed of 7,500 m/s, can successfully put the satellite in orbit, and can make great progress in the area of defense industries, we are equally capable of achieving a surge in production."

He added, "The wisdom and thought that can build such a satellite and set the goal of launching another satellite with an orbit of 36,000 kilometers, definitely has the spirit, innovation and creativity to build automobiles with a 5 L/100 km fuel consumption rate and to develop other areas of production."

The most important point, however, stressed by the Leader of the Islamic Revolution in his latest nationwide address for revolutionizing the economy and evolving Iran into the predicted state on the path of progress towards the Pleiades is "genuine cooperation between employees and their employers, which requires respect for the natural rights of the workforce – in other words, fair wages and regular, on time payments."

This requires soul-searching for officials and entrepreneurs, whether they are really respecting the rights of the workforce and the professionals including the journalists and investigative analysts, whose selfless efforts are quite often ignored in a country that ought to be adhering to the letter and spirit of the holy Qur'an.

Top U.S. Military Officer Worried by Iran Satellite Launch



In this April 22, 2020 photo, an Iranian rocket carrying a satellite is launched in Semnan province.

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- The United States' top military officer has said that Iran's recent military satellite launch, the first for the country, is a concerning feat.

"Different missiles can do different things, one can carry a satellite and one can carry some sort of device that can explode. So, the bottom line is yes, it is a security concern anytime Iran is testing any type of long-range missile," said Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army Gen. Mark Milley.

The missile technology, the second and third-order missile technology and the lessons learned from that were a concern, he added.

Iran said last month that it successfully launched the nation's first military satellite. The satellite, dubbed Noor, was sent into orbit using a long-range rocket, according to an April 22 statement by the

Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC).

Miley's remarks came after the Pentagon resorted to its old tactics, trying to play down and denigrate Iran's major achievement.

President Donald Trump, in a rather rushed statement, said the U.S. was tracking the launch and claimed "we know more about them than the Iranians themselves."

In the past, U.S. officials have similarly tried to belittle Iran's military scores, including after safely landing an American Lockheed Martin RQ-170 Sentinel drone in December 2011 and shooting down RQ-4A Global Hawk surveillance drone in June 2019 – both among the most advanced aircraft in U.S. inventory.

After days of deliberations and evaluations, Israeli and Western experts concluded that Iran's satellite

launch was in fact a great feat.

"It is indeed an important accomplishment for the Iranian space program in general and its military in particular," an Israeli security source, who asked not to be named, told Haaretz. "The most significant result is its symbolism, the fact that the launch didn't fail."

According to Dr. Uzi Rubin, a research fellow at the Jerusalem Al-Quds Institute for Security and Strategy, the timing of the launch sends a powerful message: "The very act of launching a military satellite in the midst of the coronavirus crisis is a statement of self-confidence and perseverance" by Iran.

By joining the exclusive list of about a dozen countries to have carried out orbital launches, Iran has demonstrated that it is quickly closing its technological gaps, Haaretz said.

Ministry Warns of 'Rising Trend' in Virus Outbreak

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran warned of a "rising trend" in its coronavirus outbreak on Wednesday as it said 1,680 new infections took its overall caseload beyond the 100,000 mark.

The Islamic Republic has strived diligently to contain the COVID-19 outbreak since announcing its first cases in mid-February.

Concerns were raised last month about the threat of a "second wave" of the virus in a report by parliament that criticized the government's slow response.

"We are witnessing a rising trend in the past three or four days, which is significant," Health Ministry spokesman Kianoush Jahanpour told a televised news conference on Wednesday.

The rise was "based on our behavior, especially in the past two weeks, considering that a part of society has apparently had a change of attitude," he added.

The newly reported infections brought the country's

overall number of confirmed cases to 101,650.

On Saturday, Iran's official tally of daily infections hit its lowest level since March 10, but cases have picked up again since then.

Jahanpour said the spike in cases could be due to an increase in movement across cities and unnecessary travel.

Iran has allowed a phased return to work to revitalize its economy since April 11 and reopened mosques in parts of the country deemed to be at low risk.

Jahanpour also reported 78 new COVID-19 fatalities in the past 24 hours for the country whose virus death toll has also been creeping up since Sunday.

This brought to 6,418 the total number of fatalities officially recorded in Iran since February 19, when it announced its first two deaths in Qom.

Out of those hospitalized, 81,587 had recovered and were discharged while 2,735 were in critical condition.

IRGC Kills Terrorists, Loses Three Members

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Foreign-backed terrorists on Tuesday martyred three members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) in a shootout in a Kurdish area, Iranian news agencies said on Wednesday.

Tasnim news agency identified one of the martyrs as Col. Shakiba Salimi and two others, Jafar Nezampour and Muhammad Shokri, whose ranks were not given.

It said the three IRGC members also killed "several counter-revolutionaries" in the fighting near the Kurdish town of

Divandarreh.

A statement by the IRGC's Hamzeh Seyyed al-Shohada Base in northwest Iran hailed Col. Salimi for dedicating his life to promoting security in Kordestan and recently making great sacrifices in fighting the new coronavirus in the country.

The area has seen occasional fighting between Iranian forces and PJAK terrorists as well as militants linked to Daesh. In July, PJAK terrorists martyred three members of the IRGC in the country's northwest.

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The Holy Qur'an

There is no blame on those who are infirm, or ill, or who find no resources to spend (on the cause), if they are sincere to Allah and His Messenger: no ground (of complaint) can there be against such as do right: and Allah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

The Holy Qur'an (9:91)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:01
Evening (Maghreb)	20:16
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	04:30
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:06

U.S. Claims of Afghan Abuse 'a Bitter Joke': Iran

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran says U.S. claims that Iranian guards were involved in the tragic deaths of a number of Afghan migrants near the border are "a bitter joke".

Iran's Foreign Ministry denounced the United States as a "war criminal" and "state sponsor of terror", after U.S. Acting Assistant Secretary for South Asia Alice Wells accused Tehran of "cruel treatment and abuse of Afghan migrants".

The official pounced on accusations that Iranian border guards had captured a group of Afghan immigrants who had crossed into the neighboring country in search of work and later pushed them into the Harirud river.

"Iran has strong ties with Afghanistan & leads the way to help Afghan leaders for inclusive Govt. What happened to Afghan nationals in Herat is tragic & unrelated to Iran, but US regime's allegation against Iran is a 'bitter joke'. The regime is a war criminal in Afghanistan & state sponsor of terrorism across the world," the Iranian Foreign Ministry said in a tweet.

On Sunday, Iran's Foreign (Continued on Page 7)

Ramadhan Day-to-Day Applications

13th day

اللَّهُمَّ طَهِّرْ فِيهِ مِنَ الدَّنَسِ وَالْإِقْدَارَ، وَصَبِّرْ فِيهِ عَلَى كَيْبَاتِ الْإِقْدَارِ، وَوَفِّقْ فِيهِ لِلتَّقَى وَصِحْبَةِ الْأَبْرَارِ، يَعْونُكَ يَا قَوِّةَ عَيْنِ الْمَسَاكِينِ.

"O Allah, cleanse me of all impurities and foul practices, give me the strength to bear all the events ordained by You. Guide me towards piety and the company of the good-doers through Your sustenance. O the Comforter of the eyes of the destitutes.