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In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

Palestinian Children Continue to Reel Under Israeli Oppression

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

Children are the future hope of every society, and in accordance with human nature, are shown utmost love, affection, and protection, not just by their parents and family elders, but also by the administration of the land where they live, with the laws emphasizing their proper grooming and education.

Alas, the children of Palestine are deprived of this humanitarian privilege, because their homeland is under occupation of the savage east European Zionists, who subject the sons of the soil, including minors, to all sorts of atrocities.

In view of these brutalities, the UN had designated April 5 as Palestine Children's Day in order to focus on their plight and to make sure that their rights are observed, even by the occupiers.

The Israelis, however, are beasts. More properly they are wolves in human clothing who have no sympathy for the Palestinian children, who continue to be treated in the most inhuman manner, on the slightest pretext.

It is but nature of children, of every society or country, to assist their elders and to protest the oppression to which their parents and kinsmen are subjected, including destruction of homes and hearths, and denial of all basic rights.

The children of Palestine, whenever they join their elders in voicing protest against their tormentors are singled out for the most brutal treatment that includes arrest, imprisonment, torture, and even death.

It is rather unfortunate of the UN and international agencies to turn a blind eye to the persecution of the Palestinian children by the illegal Zionist entity.

On Monday, while marking Palestine Children's Day, the Palestine Prisoners' Club revealed that there are 140 Palestinian children in Israel jails.

According to the Defence for Children International-Palestine, every year between 500 and 700 Palestinian children are prosecuted by Israel in military courts.

Until the end of March 2021, human rights groups have counted 230 Palestinian children detained by the Zionists, mostly in the occupied Islamic city of Bayt al-Moqaddas, where Israel is carrying out intensive efforts to try to change the Arab-Islamic identity of the sacred al-Aqsa Mosque and the adjoining Palestinian quarters.

It is now a common occurrence for the illegal Jewish migrants from around the world to harass young Palestinian children, beat them, kidnap them, and hand them over to the Zionist armed forces in violation of international law.

The irony is that the oil-rich Persian Gulf regimes, which have made a beeline for open diplomatic and other cordial ties with the occupiers of Islam's former qibla (direction of prayer), are the least concerned about the situation of the oppressed Palestinian people, including the plight of the Palestinian children.

The alarming situation warrants coordinated efforts by all conscientious people and human rights organizations around the world, especially of Muslim countries, to rally to the cause of the Palestinian children, as an Islamic duty, since the notorious child-killer regime of Benjamin Netanyahu is devoid of any human tendencies and is protected by the US, which itself is a major violator of the rights of children, as is evident by the inhuman treatment of the children of migrants from Latin American countries.

Iran, Tajikistan Set for Expansion of Defense Cooperation: Hatami



Iranian Minister of Defense Brigadier General Amir Hatami (4th R) and his Tajik counterpart Colonel General Sherali Mirzo (5th L) meet in Tehran on April 6, 2021.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iranian Minister of Defense Brigadier General Amir Hatami has hailed deep-rooted, cordial relations with his Tajik counterpart, Colonel General Sherali Mirzo, on Tuesday, saying the two countries are moving towards the further expansion of cooperation in the defense and military sectors on the basis of mutual respect and confidence.

In the meeting in Tehran, Hatami said Iran's foreign policy has always attached great significance to ties with Tajikistan.

"The role of Tajikistan in Central Asia has increased the status and significance of relations," he added.

He emphasized that the commonalities between the two nations can create great capacities to improve relations, saying enemies have been at work at various junctures to hamper the further expansion of ties, which would be beneficial to both countries.

Hatami further said that Iran has

managed to make great achievements in various fields despite facing cruel sanctions and heavy pressure in recent years, adding, "Fortunately, in October 2020, the arms embargo against the Islamic Republic of Iran ended in accordance with a Security Council resolution, and we have no problem now with exporting defense items and equipment."

The embargo was lifted in line with the five-year timetable set out in the 2015 nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

The Iranian defense chief also expressed concern over the presence of Daesh terrorists and other extremist groups in certain regional states, saying, "We have always voiced our opposition to the presence of trans-regional forces in different wars and conflicts. It makes no difference whether this presence is in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan or elsewhere."

He reiterated Iran's stance on the

need to resolve issues in the region through collective cooperation among the regional countries.

Iran has paid a high price to restore peace and stability to the region, he said, describing the assassination of General Qassem Soleimani, the hero of the fight against terrorism and extremism, as the most important and an irreparable damage that the country suffered on that path.

The Tajik defense minister, for his part, said his country is determined to improve political, military and defense cooperation with Iran.

He added that cooperation between the two countries plays a very important role in establishing peace, stability and security in the region.

Mirzo emphasized that conflicts and insecurity in the region redouble the necessity for mutual cooperation in the fight against terrorism, smuggling of commodities and drugs and in the development of regional security.

AEOI Spokesman:

Mechanical Tests on IR-9 Centrifuges Begin

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Spokesman of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Behrouz Kamalvandi said on Tuesday that the country has started mechanical tests on its indigenized advanced IR-9 centrifuge machines.

"One of the progresses made in the field of enrichment is starting the mechanical tests on IR-9 centrifuge machines which are able to produce 50,000 SWUs (Separative Working Units of enriched uranium)," Kamalvandi told Iranian students news agency today.

He added that the IR-9 is one of the most important advanced centrifuge machines in Iran which has been manufactured based on new standard methods.

Iran to Unveil 133 Nuclear Achievements

Kamalvandi also said that the

AEOI will unveil more than 133 achievements in the nuclear industry area on the National Day of Nuclear Technology.

Some 133 new achievements in various areas of the nuclear industry, including quantum, enrichment, heavy water, and laser have been successfully achieved by the AEOI scientists' efforts over the past year, the spokesman said.

These achievements will be unveiled, inaugurated, and launched in the form of exhibitions and 11 cases in video-conference and 8 of them in person by President Hassan Rouhani on the occasion of National Nuclear Technology Day.

Iran's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to Vienna-based International Organizations Kazzem Qaribabadi announced in February that the country's nuclear

experts have installed new centrifuges at Natanz and Fordow sites in Central Iran.

"Thanks to our diligent nuclear scientists, two cascades of 348 IR2m centrifuges with almost 4 times the capacity of IR1 are now running with UF6 successfully in Natanz. Installation of 2 cascades of IR6 centrifuges has also started in Fordow," Qaribabadi wrote on his twitter page.

He added that more new centrifuges are due to be installed at the two nuclear facilities "soon".

"The IAEA is yet able to verify and is informed of the progress as planned," Qaribabadi said.

Also, Kamalvandi announced late in January that the country plans to install 1,000 new IR2M centrifuge machines at Natanz nuclear site in 3 months.

Pakistan, Iran Hold Joint Naval Drill

TEHRAN (Tasnim) - The naval forces of Iran and Pakistan staged a joint military exercise in Iran's southern waters on Tuesday.

A flotilla of the Pakistani Navy, which berthed at Iran's southern port city of Bandar Abbas for the joint war game in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman, has been deployed to the exercise zone, an Iranian

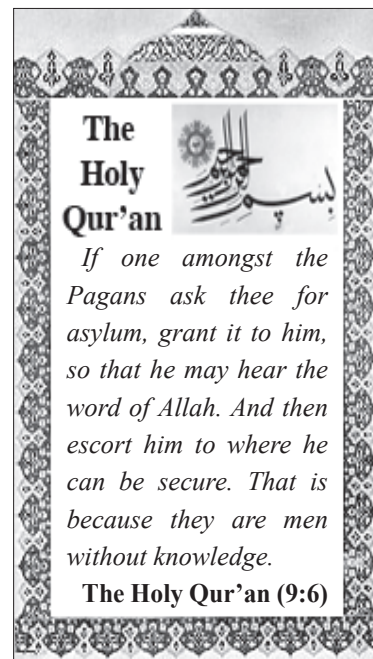
commander said Tuesday.

The spokesperson for the joint drill, Captain Reza Shaybani, said the exercise is aimed at boosting the combat capabilities and exchanging the military experiences and knowledge between the naval units of the two Muslim countries.

The drill also expresses the naval power of Iran and Paki-

stan, seeks to promote interaction for ensuring sustainable peace and security in the region, and includes joint operations such as aerial and naval transportation and passage exercise (PASSEX) tactics, he added.

The spokesman also noted that the Iranian units have taken part in the exercise with Alborz



PRAYER TIMINGS	
Noon (Zohr)	13:06
Evening (Maghreb)	19:49
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:16
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:42

1st Iran-Made Corona Vaccine Ready Within 40 Days

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Deputy Health Minister Iraj Harirchi on Tuesday announced that among nine COVID-19 vaccines, which are under development in Iran, the first home-made corona vaccine will be available within 40 days.

In a meeting with Malaysian Deputy Foreign Minister Dato' Kamarudin Jaffar, Harirchi said that Iranian researchers have been successful in developing nine vaccines and four of them will be distributed within next months, adding that the Iranian people will be provided with the first domestically produced vaccine in next 40 days and that the second vaccine with the production capacity of eight to 10 million doses per month will be available within around 70 days.

The third and fourth vaccines will be distributed within 120 days, the Iranian official said, noting that Iran could cooperate with Malaysia in producing these corona vaccines.

Pointing to the impact of sanctions imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran since the victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979, he stipulated that 98.3 percent of medicines used in Iran are being produced inside the country.

The health official has expressed the Islamic Republic's readiness to expand relations and cooperation with the Muslim country of Malaysia in different political, cultural, economic, trade and health sectors.

destroyer, a missile-launching corvette, and a helicopter, while the Pakistani flotilla includes combat and logistical vessels.

Iranian and Pakistani naval forces have in recent years promoted cooperation and staged several joint drills in the Indian Ocean and the Sea of Oman.