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Editorial Dept. Tel.: 33911561, 33110251-9
Ext.: 2334, 2336, 2337
Advertising Dept.: 33110251-9 Ext. 2336
Subscription Ext.: 2322
Facsimile: 33114228 & 33111120
Website: www.kayhan.ir/en
E-mail: kayhanintl@yahoo.com
P.O. Box: 11365/9631
Address: Martyr Shah Cheraghi Street, Ferdowsi Avenue, Tehran – Islamic Republic of Iran

In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

Need for Palestinians to Upgrade Defences

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The latest act of Israeli terrorism against Gaza on the pretext of rockets fired from the besieged enclave on some southern parts of Usurped Palestine, warrants serious efforts by both the Palestinian people and the Resistance Front to check the ever increasing Zionist atrocities against the sons of the soil.

Protests and angry statements are of no use, as the experience of the past 70-odd years since the illegitimate birth of Israel, has shown.

The UN cannot and will not do anything to stop Israeli crimes against the people of Palestine, whether the frequent air raids on Gaza or the organized demolition of Palestinian homes, businesses, and farmlands in the West Bank, as well as the barring of worshippers from holding prayers in the sacred al-Aqsa Mosque.

The super-rich Arab regimes after decades of lip-service to the Palestinian cause have now betrayed them and have openly aligned themselves with Israel, without the least consideration for the plight of fellow Muslims.

Since the start of fasting month of Ramadhan, the occupied Islamic city of Bayt al-Moqaddas, especially the area around the Dome of the Rock, has been the scene of skirmishes between the unarmed Palestinian people and the armed-to-the-teeth Zionist forces resorting to every kind of brutality to prevent the annual religious gatherings in the city centre.

And the Zionist criminals have intensified their aerial attack on Gaza to disturb the peace and sanctity of the month of Ramadhan.

So, to whom do the Palestinians turn for help and who will alleviate their sufferings?

Of course, to God Almighty! It is He, Who will assist the Palestinians, provided they help themselves.

"Indeed, Allah does not change a people's lot, unless they change what is in their souls..." (Holy Qur'an 13:11).

It means the Palestinians, whether the combatant organizations like Hamas and Islamic Jihad or whether the seemingly helpless and defenceless masses in the West Bank and other parts of Occupied Palestine, should stop expecting anything positive from the Arab regimes and the international bodies.

They should do a real searching and openly express solidarity with the fellow oppressed in the Arab world, like the people of Yemen, who are indeed their true supporters.

It is rather unfortunate that in spite of the avowed support of the Ansarallah Movement for the cause of Palestine and the need to step up the fight against the Zionists, the Palestinian people and organizations have failed to reciprocate.

It is time, Hamas, Islamic Jihad and the other combatant groups took a leaf out of the book of Ansarallah – as they had successively done in the past by accepting the assistance of Lebanon's legendary anti-terrorism movement, the Hezbollah – to upgrade their missile and defensive power.

The Islamic Resistance Front, whether in Yemen or whether in the Levant, is all too willing to come to the help of their Palestinian brethren.

In the modern age of satellites and the Internet there are no barriers to prevent the people of Palestine from acquiring the latest technological means of defence that will indeed rattle the bones of the Zionists.

Once the Palestinian people have the sophisticated missiles and drones to rain down on Haifa, Tel Aviv, and other nerve centres of Israel, not only would the Zionists have second thoughts on continuing their state terrorism, they will see the promised end of the illegitimate regime.

At Least Five Injured in Quake in Southwest Iran



This photo shows the aftermath of a magnitude 5.9 earthquake in Bandar Genaveh, April 18, 2021.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- A magnitude 5.9 earthquake shook southwestern Iran along the Persian Gulf on Sunday, followed by over a dozen aftershocks.

At least five people were injured, IRNA news agency reported. National TV shared mobile phone pictures of cracked and collapsed walls in the area of the port city of Bandar Genaveh, the tremor's epicenter. People rushed into the streets of the city as the quakes struck, IRNA said.

Video shot by a bystander at an industrial site near Bandar Genaveh appeared to show landslides in nearby foothills. Three aftershocks of magnitude 4 followed the initial quake, the re-

port said, as well as other weaker ones.

Hospitals in nearby cities and provinces were put on alert with rescue teams and 50 ambulances sent to the area, a regional official said. Electricity and landline telephone and internet in the regional city of Gonaveh were cut off, Tasnim news agency reported.

Iran's First Vice-President Es'haq Jahangiri, in a phone call with the Bushehr provincial governor, called for the immediate care of quake victims, the ISNA news agency reported.

A magnitude 5 earthquake can cause considerable damage. Such shallow earthquakes as Sunday's also can result in broader damage.

The quake was some 100 kilometers (60 miles) from Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant. ISNA quoted an official at the nuclear power plant saying the quake caused no damage and there were no disruptions in the plant's operations. The facility was constructed to withstand earthquakes up to magnitude 8.

Iran is on major seismic faults and experiences one earthquake a day on average. In 2003, a magnitude 6.6 earthquake flattened the historic city of Bam, killing 26,000 people.

A magnitude 7 earthquake that struck western Iran in 2017 killed more than 600 people and injured more than 9,000.

Speaker Hails 'Decisive' 60% Enrichment Response to Plot

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Parliament speaker Muhammad Baqer Qalibaf said Sunday Iran's recent decision to start enriching uranium to 60 percent purity was a "decisive response" to a plot to undermine Tehran's position in Vienna talks.

The decision followed an act of sabotage at the facility, which is among the sites being monitored by the IAEA under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

The 60-percent uranium enrichment, which was made possible in a short time, shows that the interval between decision-making and action in the country's nuclear industry has reached the minimum, Qalibaf said.

"The important enrichment achievement proved to our enemies that Iran's nuclear industry has be-

come indigenous and that any uncalculated action and pressure on Iran's national determination for scientific progress is ineffective."

The 60-percent enrichment, Qalibaf said, was "a decisive response to the enemy's scheme meant to weaken the country's upper hand in the negotiation process".

Representatives of the remaining signatories to the JCPOA have been meeting in Vienna to try to remove the unilateral U.S. sanctions on the Islamic Republic and discuss other steps needed to bring Washington into line.

Qalibaf said the higher enrichment indicated that acts of sabotage do not pose a threat to Iran's nuclear activities, but practically provide "a unique opportunity" for progress.

"I also emphasize that a response to the terrorist attack in Natanz is an indispensable necessity and that it will be delivered in due time," he said.

The former head of military intelligence for the Israeli army said Saturday Iran's first ever launch of 60-percent uranium enrichment after the sabotage incident shows the country was prepared for the attack.

The "terrorist" attack disrupted the flow of power at the Natanz nuclear facility, prompting Iran's enemies to speculate that the incident would set back Iran's enrichment program for at least nine months. However, Tehran's immediate launch of the 60-percent enrichment debunked those claims.

That shows "Iran has been waiting for this attack for 20 years," Amos Yadlin told CNBC television.

The International Atomic Energy Agency on Saturday confirmed (Continued on Page 7)

Iranian Official: Ukraine Tried to Politicize Plane Crash

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- An informed official close to Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) said Sunday Ukraine has tried to politicize the January 2020 accidental downing of its passenger plane near Tehran in an attempt to mount pressure on Russia amid tensions between the two neighbors.

The official, whose name was not released, told Nour News that Ukrainian officials had offered that Iran announce a technical glitch in its Russian-made Tor-M1 anti-aircraft defense system as the cause of the tragedy.

The Islamic Republic, however, rejected the proposal due to its non-compliance with

the reality of the incident, after which Ukraine pursued the path of politicizing the issue, he added.

He also highlighted Iran's firm resolve to create transparency in all aspects of the plane crash, emphasizing that any attempt seeking to politically exploit the incident is inhuman and contrary to legal and technical procedures.

On January 8, 2020, the Ukraine International Airlines flight PS752, en route to Kiev and carrying mostly Iranians, crashed minutes after takeoff near the Iranian capital, killing all the 176 on board.

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The Holy Qur'an
O ye who believe! take not for protectors your fathers and your brothers if they love infidelity above Faith: if any of you do so, they do wrong.
The Holy Qur'an (9:23)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:04
Evening (Maghreb)	19:59
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	04:58
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:27

Iran, Serbia Sign Agreement to Expand Relations

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's President Hassan Rouhani said Sunday the removal of all U.S. sanctions would open a new atmosphere for cooperation between the Islamic Republic and world countries.

Rouhani censured Washington's illegal sanctions and economic war against the Iranian people in a meeting here with visiting Serbian Foreign Minister Nikola Selakovic.

"Given the shift in circumstances at the international level and the apparent willingness of the new U.S. administration to return to the JCPOA, with the complete removal of the sanctions, a new atmosphere will emerge for Iran's cooperation and economic interactions with the world," he said, calling on friendly countries to try to seize this opportunity.

Rouhani also said Iran valued peace, stability and security in the Balkans and the peaceful co-existence of all ethnic and racial groups, adding Iran has always supported Serbia's national unity.

Rouhani also talked about the coronavirus pandemic, saying Tehran is ready to expand scientific cooperation with Belgrade in the fight against the disease.

Serbia's minister said his country has always supported and will continue to support the JCPOA and Iran's peaceful nuclear program. Serbia, he added, remains determined to maintain friendly relations with Iran.

On Saturday, Iran and Serbia signed a memorandum of understanding to improve bilateral cooperation and hold consultation on regional and international issues.

The MoU was signed by Iranian Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif and his Serbian counterpart.

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Ramadhan Day-to-Day Supplications

6th day

اللَّهُمَّ لاَ يَجِدُنِي فِيهِ لِعَرَضٍ مَعْصِيَتِكَ، وَلاَ يَضُرُّ بَنِي سَيِّطِ
يَمِينِكَ، وَرَجَحَ حُنِي فِيهِ مِنْ مَوْجِبَاتِ سِحِّطِكَ،
بِمَنِّكَ وَآيَادِكَ يَا مَنْتَهَى رَغْبَةِ الرَّاغِبِينَ

"O Allah, do not leave me alone to be overcome by sins, Grant me refuge from Your wrath and anger. I appeal to Your kindness and bounty; O the last refuge for those who crave for help."