#### **DOMESTIC NEWS**



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#### In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

## **Sweden's Sacrilege Against** Sanctity of Holy Qur'an

#### By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

Book burning is not a civilized act and is indicative of not just ignorance but the criminal nature of an already retarded mind that is terrified of the light of reason and rationality.

What if the book burned was a religious text and that too of a universal creed having withstood the test of time continues its enlightening task around the globe to remove the darkness of disbelief, vices, superstition, and hatred from minds and souls?

Without the least doubt, this is nothing but blasphemy, and in the case of the desecration of the Holy Qur'an whose challenge of the past millennium-and-a-half to bring even semblance of a sentence matching its flawless eloquence and timeless wisdom, it shows the sheer frustration of the satanic elements.

It seems diabolism has seized control of the minds and souls of the once Christian West, especially Europe, where the regimes and the rogues who support them are indulging in Islamophobia and campaign of hatemongering against Muslims.

Following the failure of the riots triggered in some parts of Iran by the US, France, Britain, Germany, and some Nordic states that saw arson, the killing of innocent people, public bearing of heads by a few morally-loose women, and attacks on mosques, Sweden has given free rein to terrorists to burn copies of the Holy Qur'an.

A rascal who goes by the name of Rasmus Paludan received permission from the Stockholm regime to burn the Holy Qur'an under police protection in front of the Turkish embassy, in a deliberate act of provoking Muslim sentiments.

As Iran's Foreign Ministry Spokesman, Nasser Kan'ani, denounced in his press statement: "The repetition of the desecration of the Holy Book of over one and a half billion Muslims is a clear example of hatemongering and the spread of violence against all Muslims [around the world]. Such actions have nothing to do with freedom of expression and opinion."

# **President Raisi Sees** 'Very Bright Future' for Iran



President Raisi addresses a parliament session on Sunday to outline his new budget bill.

TEHRAN - Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi on Sunday said during a parliament debate on his administration's budget bill for next calendar year that he sees a "very bright future" for the country.

Addressing an open session of the parliament, Raisi said the budget law presented for the year 1402, starting March 21, will avoid borrowing from Iran's central bank and would seek to meet its revenue targets.

Raisi set the tackling of galloping inflation and currency devaluation as priorities for the 2023-2024 budget presented to parliament.

"Transparency, improving peo-

ple's livelihoods... controlling inflation and costs and supporting the stock market" are the budget priorities for the year starting on March 21, Raisi said.

"Know that the prices of (foreign) currencies and gold, as well as the prices of many expensive things in the country will decrease," the president promised. Iran's economy has been subject to increasing pressure with fresh

sanctions imposed by Western countries. "The enemy is trying to impose difficult conditions and despair on

the people" but "the government and parliament must give people hope," Raisi said.

He assured that the government has "a short and long-term strategy" to support activity in the sectors of housing, health, food and transport.

Parliament on Sunday approved the budget which relied on projected exports of 1.4 million barrels of crude per day at an average price of \$85 per barrel, IRNA news agency reported.

The Iranian president also hailed efforts by his administration to reach an economic growth figure of nearly 4% in the current calendar year.

He said the government has been successful in efforts to increase

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### Ministry: West's Hybrid War on Iran Doomed to Fail

TEHRAN - Iran on Sunday lambasted double standards in covering the news of violence in the West, stressing that the cognitive and hybrid warfare against Iran is doomed to failure. "Demonstrations, protests, clashes and violence in Paris, London and Tel Aviv! But their media speak of protests in Iran, which faded over a month ago despite all Western attempts to ignite the protests, fuel them and keep them up," Nasser

Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said tweeted.

"The West's ongoing cognitive and hybrid warfare against Iran is the continuation of their military, economic, political and psychological campaign, and it is doomed to failure just like the past," he added.

In remarks in November 2022, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei pointed to the evident role of the en-

#### emies in the riots that took place in the country for a few weeks.

"The events that took place these past few weeks were not merely street riots. They were detailed plots. The enemy initiated hybrid warfare. The enemy, namely the United States, the Zionist regime, some insidious and malicious European powers, and some groups, came to the scene with all of their capabilities.'

The Holy Qur'an Verilv he who comes to his Lord as a sinner (at Judgment) for him is Hell: therein shall he neither die nor live. The Holy Qur'an 20:75 

Kayhan

PRAYER TIMINGS	
Noon (Zohr)	12:16
Evening(Maghreb)	17:42
Dawn(Fajr)" Tomorrow"	07:11
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	05:43

## Iran Condemns **Burning of Holy** Qur'an in Sweden

TEHRAN -- The Iranian for eign ministry has strongly condemned desecration of the Holy Qur'an in Sweden, saying the move is a clear example of hatemongering and violence against Muslims.

"The repetition of the desecration of the holy book of one and a half billion Muslims is a clear example of hatemongering and the spread of violence against all Muslims. Such actions have nothing to do with freedom of expression and opinion," ministry Spokesman Nasser Kanaani said.

He said extremist elements are unfortunately given free rein in some European countries, under the false pretext of the freedom of expression, in order to promote hatred against Islamic sanctities and values.

Kanaani said the world public opinion expects the Swedish government to prevent the recurrence of such moves against Islam and punish all those who hurt the feelings of Muslims.

According to reports, rightwing Swedish-Danish leader Rasmus Paludan received permission from his country's government to burn the Holy Qur'an in front of the Turkish embassy in Stockholm. He was protected by the police while committing the act.

Back in April, Paludan tried to burn a copy of the Qur'an in a heavily-populated Muslim area. Paludan, accompanied by po lice, went to an open public space in the southern Swedish city of Linkoping and reportedly placed the Muslim holy book down and tried to set it on fire while ignoring protests from onlookers.

# Forbes: Iran Likely to Get Russian Weapons Soon

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- Iran expects to receive the first of the 24 Su-35 Flanker-E fighter jets it ordered from Russia as soon as Mar. 21, the Persian New Year. Tehran also claims it has ordered helicopters and missile systems, Forbes magazine reported.

fense systems, and other missile systems, and expects to receive them soon

In his remarks that were nothing but sheer hypocrisy, though Sweden's Foreign Minister Tobias Billström deplored hatred towards Muslims, he shamelessly defended desecration of Islamic sanctities by harping on what he called "certain freedoms" in his country. This is the same Swedish regime which has unlawfully imprisoned former Iranian judiciary official, Hamid Noori, on false charges brought about by certain fugitives from justice to whom Stockholm has granted asylum in support of their acts of terrorism and murder in Iran.

Iran, Turkey, and Arab countries have condemned the latest desecration of the Holy Qur'an by Sweden, but this is not enough. Action should be required in the political, economic, and cultural spheres to make the Stockholm and other western regimes that indulge in Islamophobia as a pastime.

Hatred and sacrilege will definitely not harm the letter and spirit of the Heavenly Scripture in which the Almighty Creator has promised to make truth triumph over all deviated beliefs.

"They desire to put out the light of Allah with their mouths, but Allah shall perfect His light though the faithless should be averse." (61:8)

Shahriar Heidari, a member of the Iranian Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Commission, told Iranian state media that Iran has ordered other Russian military equipment, including helicopters, air de-

While the specific equipment Iran expects in addition to Su-35s remains unclear, the seemingly imminent delivery of those two dozen air superiority fighters, originally built for Egypt, has dominated discussions and headlines, the U.S. publication said.

"There is a lot of hype around the supply of Su-35s to Iran because of the war in Ukraine, the 'Egyptian background' and the

Russian analyst and non-resident scholar of the Middle East Institute's Syria program, told the magazine.

balance of power in the region,"

Anton Mardasov, an independent

He pointed out that China also ordered 24 Su-35s back in 2015. As Mardasov outlined, it did allow the Chinese "to compare their aviation capabilities with those of Russia, primarily in terms of engine and avionics development, and to make further decisions in (Continued on Page 7)

Sweden's foreign minister Tobias Billström condemned hatred towards Muslims, but claimed that there were certain freedoms in his country.

"Islamophobic provocations are appalling," he tweeted. "Sweden has a far-reaching freedom of expression, but it does not imply that the Swedish government, or myself, support the opinions expressed."

Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Hissein Brahim Taha also condemned in the strongest terms the vile act of burning the Holy Qur'an by far-right activists in Stockholm.

"The OIC Secretary-General warns that this provocative action (Continued on Page 7)

# Kayhan Urges Suspension of Ties With Europe

TEHRAN – Kayhan on Sunday urged the government lamic Republic in its entirety and does not want to stop to suspend ties with the European countries that support blacklisting the slamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), as the main organ of the Iranian military.

In an editorial, the Persian-language daily said the European Parliament committed a "strategic mistake" and a "foolish act" by voting on Wednesday in favor of a call for the European governments to blacklist the IRGC.

Logic requires that the Islamic Republic moves to require the adversaries to respect its domestic regulations, it said

The daily said the European Parliament's move proved that the continent does not recognize the Isintervening in the country's internal affairs. Hence, "it is impossible to engage in other interactions with them", it added.

The designation of the IRGC means the designation of the entire Islamic Republic, Kayhan said.

The paper advised a halt in political and economic interactions with the countries supporting the IRGC's blacklisting and a closure of the two sides' diplomatic missions.

Kayhan said there is no doubt that the Europeans will soon suffer "humanitarian and financial losses" as a result of their move that will make the European Parliament "express regret thousands of times."