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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

Islamic Republic of Iran Resolutely Treads the Prophet's Path

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

We in Iran and all over the world, wherever Muslims are present, are celebrating the blessed birth anniversary of the Messenger of Mercy, Prophet Muhammad (SAWA).

Conferences, seminars, eulogy assemblies, and family gatherings are being held all over the globe, with preachers and poets shedding light on different aspects of the dynamic personality of the Last and Greatest Emissary of God to all mankind with the universal message of Islam, whom the Holy Qur'an describes as the Excellent Exemplar for the faithful.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, thanks to the foresight of the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA), marks these blessed days as Islamic Unity Week to bridge the two days of the month of Rabi al-Awwal regarded as the Prophet's birthday – 12th for Sunni Muslims on the basis of narrations of the Sahaba or those who became the Prophet's companions on his proclamation of the message of Islam at the age of 40 and after, while 17th for Shi'a Muslims who consider family accounts of the Ahl al-Bayt to be more reliable.

This was indeed a vital step in cementing national solidarity in Iran where Sunni Muslims enjoy all Islamic rights and as per the national constitution are fairly represented in the Majlis or parliament through elections. This is in sharp contrast to minority regimes like the Aal-e Khalifa and Aal-e Saud where the much larger populations of Shi'a Muslims have no birthrights.

At any rate, Iran, as usual, is currently holding the 36th International Islamic Unity Confab on this blessed occasion with guests, including prominent Sunni Muslim figures and religious scholars from parts of Iran and different countries in attendance, with the aim of narrowing the trivial differences amongst the various schools of jurisprudence.

An important point to note is that Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) who was the most perfect person in every aspect and whose Sunnah and Seerah (practice and behaviour) is the basis, along with God Almighty's Revealed Words, the Holy Qur'an, for the shari'ah or code of Islamic law for the administration of Muslim societies, set the practical precedent of establishing the first ever Islamic state.

Although throughout the millennium and four centuries since his passing away the Ummah has cherished the goal of emulating his model of government, none have ever succeeded except for the four-and-a-half year rule of social justice of the Prophet's cousin, son-in-law, and Divinely-designated Vicegerent, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS).

The fragmented Muslim World and the dynasties that rose and fell throughout history in the various geographical regions paid only lip service to the Prophet's legacy and never bothered to either emulate his rule or foster Islamic unity, which in today's patchwork of nation-states influenced by the highly flawed western concept of democracy, have been completely relegated to the background.

In such a pathetic state of domination of Muslims and their resources by the secular and Godless West, Imam Khomeini generated a grassroots movement to deliver the Iranian people from darkness of a wayward society immersed in vices, by banning all anti-Islamic practices and establishing a truly Islamic state, which the late Egyptian scholar Hassanein Haykal had called the "Third instance in Islamic history after the ideal states of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) in Medina and Imam Ali (AS) in Kufa."

Of course, the Islamic Republic of Iran never claims that it can ever equal the Infallibles in building the ideal government, but by constitutionalizing the principle of Velayat-e Faqih (Governance of the Supreme Jurist) it strives to pave the way and groom the faithful for the eventual reappearance of the Prophet's 12th and Last Legitimate Successor and his establishment of the global government of peace, prosperity, and justice.

This is essential through building of Islamic solidarity, since Rabi al-Awwal 17 also happens to be the birthday (136 years after the Prophet's birth) of his 6th Infallible Heir, Imam Ja'far as-Sadeq (AS), who was the teacher of Abu Hanifa the principal jurist of the Sunni school, and the indirect teacher of the other three.

The spectacular progress of the Islamic Republic of Iran in almost all spheres of modernity, along with cultural, spiritual, and political fields that have had a profound influence on the faithful worldwide as well nations and movements in the neighbourhood, has become a nightmare to the US and other satanic powers.

Therefore, in a clumsy bid to tarnish the image of Iran and distract attention from the wide popularity amongst the Iranian people of the Islamic system of government, these devils in human form instigate a few thugs, terrorists, tricksters, traitors, and thoughtlessly characterless women to indulge in riots and sins in public, as had recently happened in some parts of Tehran and a few other cities.

It is obvious they cannot do anything, since Iran by treading the Prophet's path and confronting the evil powers, has proven its devotion to the Mahdi (AS).

China, Iran, Russia to Hold Joint Naval Drill



Iranian seamen salute the Russian Navy Neustrashimy-class frigate Yaroslav Mudry on Dec. 27, 2019 during Iran-Russia-China joint naval drills.

TEHRAN -- A high-ranking military commander said Wednesday the Iranian navy plans to hold a joint naval exercise with China, Russia and a number of other countries in the northern tip of the Indian Ocean in the near future.

Navy chief Rear Admiral Shahram Irani said the forthcoming naval drill is meant to boost up the combat capabilities of Iranian forces, and falls within the framework of maritime diplomacy so as to ensure sustainable security.

Iran has invited a number of member states of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) – a forum aimed at increasing maritime cooperation among the littoral states of the Indian Ocean region, to take part in the joint exercise.

Some 20 to 30 countries will actively participate in the joint drill, Irani stated, adding that the war games have been designed in accordance with an instruction book compiled by the Iranian navy.

Iran, he added, is currently holding a joint naval rescue and relief exercise with a number of friendly states and allies.

Meanwhile, Iranian and Omani naval forces launched a joint military exercise in the Sea of Oman and the northern parts of the Indian Ocean.

The military exercise, backed by helicopters from both countries and Iranian drones, was held in the presence of the heads of the joint military friendship commissions of the two countries and their members.

Alborz frigate and Tonb replenishment oiler of the Iranian Navy, together with the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) navy's Shahid Nazeri warship and Shahid Yahyaei watercraft participated in the exercise.

The main goals of the naval drill have been declared as developing bilateral military relations and interactions, design and implementation of various training programs at sea, exchanging experiences, and improving the efficiency of the two countries' naval staff.

Furthermore, various scenarios were designed and implemented by the two sides' vessels and naval aircraft, which marked a major leap forward in Wednesday's drill compared to the previous ones.

IRGC Arrests Individual Working for Mossad in Kerman

TEHRAN -- Intelligence forces of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) have arrested an individual working for Israeli spy services in the southeastern province of Kerman.

Head of the Justice Department in Kerman Hojjatoleslam Ebrahim Hamidi said the detainee had been involved in espionage activities for the Zionist regime and "intended to carry out anti-security measures and acts of sabotage" in the province.

The plot was, however, thwarted thanks to the vigilance of the IRGC's Intelligence Organization, he added.

The judicial official said the man — whose identity was not disclosed — was operating in Iran

under the guise of a businessman. He had traveled to different countries with the goal of transferring information and receiving training from Israeli operatives for sabotage operations, he added.

The last destination prior to his detention had been Erbil, the capital of Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region, Hamidi said.

The individual was reported to be using social media platforms and encrypted software to communicate with the Israeli regime's spy and military agencies.

The detainee, the report said, intended to leave the country to meet with an Israeli agent in one of the regional countries and receive a new mission, but he was arrested before leaving the country.

Back in July, Iran's Intelligence Ministry arrested a network of Mossad spy agents at the western borders, confiscating a large cache of weapons and ammunition that they were planning to use to provoke riots and terror inside the country.

Also in April, it arrested three agents working for the Israeli spy agency in the country's southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan.

Iranian security forces also in March dismantled two foreign-backed terrorist teams, which were plotting to assassinate several foreign nationals working on infrastructure projects in the country's Sistan and Baluchestan Province.

FM Calls for Peaceful Resolution of Caucasus Tensions

TEHRAN -- Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian has underlined the Islamic Republic's principled position of attaching respect to countries' national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In a meeting with Georg Papuyan, the visiting head of the Iran-Armenia Parliamentary Friendship Group, Amir-Abdollahian demanded peaceful resolution of border differences between

Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Last month, simmering tensions between the estranged neighbors caused a fresh flare-up over the region, leaving more than 200 soldiers dead. This was the most recent flare-up in tensions between the two Caucasus countries since thousands were killed in a 44-day war over the territory that ended in November 2020. Amir-Abdollahian appraised

the quality of Iran and Armenia's relations as "good and progressive," underlining the Islamic Republic's intention towards further expansion of the ties.

For his part, the Armenian official likewise evaluated the status of the bilateral ties as favorable, expressing gratitude towards the Islamic Republic over its positions concerning regional developments.

 The
 Holy
 Qur'an

He it is Who makes you travel by land and sea; until when you are in the ships, and they sail on with them in a pleasant breeze, and they rejoice, a violent wind overtakes them and the billows surge in on them from all sides, and they become certain that they are encompassed about, they pray to Allah, being sincere to Him in obedience.

The Holy Qur'an (10.22)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	11:51
Evening (Maghreb)	17:50
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	06:09
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	04:46

Iran Warns EU of Reciprocal Measures

TEHRAN -- Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian has warned that Iran will take reciprocal action if the European Union imposes any restrictive measures against the Islamic Republic over the recent riots in the country.

In a tweet, Amir-Abdollahian said he relayed the warning during a phone conversation with his French counterpart Catherine Colonna.

The top Iranian diplomat said that both sides agreed that "mutual respect and benefit override relations," and that "violence and terror should be confronted."

"I objected to Europe's interference in our internal affairs," he said, stressing that Iran will reciprocate if EU restrictive measures applied."

Protests erupted over the death of the 22-year-old Iranian woman, who fainted at a police station and was pronounced dead at a Tehran hospital on September 16, first in her native province of Kordestan and later in several cities, including the capital Tehran.

Immediately after Amini's death, Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi ordered a thorough investigation into the case and an official report published on Friday said her death had been caused by an illness rather than alleged blows to the head or other vital body organs.

What started as peaceful protests took a violent turn after unruly protesters fatally attacked policemen and indulged in vandalism against public property in several cities.

On Thursday, the European Parliament adopted a resolution with regard to recent riots in Iran, calling on the EU officials to impose sanctions against Iranian officials who have been involved in an alleged crackdown on protests.

Iran's Foreign Ministry condemned the resolution as

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