

Condolences on the Martyrdom Ann. of the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali (AS)

Israeli Media: 90% of Tourists Canceled Reservations

TEL AVIV (Dispatches) -- After rockets were launched from Lebanon and Syria towards Zionist targets, 90% of tourists who planned to visit the area cancelled their reservations, Israeli media reported.

Israeli Hebrew daily Maariv reported that business owners expected many tourists to spend their holidays in the north of the occupied territories, but the rockets pushed them to change their plans. "In our business, when we lose one week, we lose a whole season," a businessman in the area told Maariv. Meanwhile, Wallah news website reported that the irrigation systems in the Upper Galilee had stopped due to a cyberattack.

Kayhan International

Official: 8,321 Cyberattacks Thwarted Last Year

TEHRAN -- The CEO of Iran's Telecommunication Infrastructure Company (TIC) says the country foiled more than 8,000 cyberattacks in the previous Iranian year, which ended on March 20.

As many as 8,321 important cyberattacks against the country's infrastructure network were repelled in the year 1401, Amir Muhammadzadeh-Lajevardi said. In January, he said TIC experts had foiled a wave of cyberattacks targeting the Central Bank of Iran and domestic messaging applications Rubika and Bale.

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Viewpoint

The Lessons Muslim Ruler Ought to Learn From Imam Ali (AS)


Presidents Tebboune, Raisi Call for United Muslim Front



Iran Greco-Roman Wrestlers Crowned Asian Champions



Zionist Troops Kill Palestinian; Settlers Storm Al-Aqsa, March to Illegal Outpost



Triumph in Martyrdom

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

"O Ali, I weep for that which will befall you in this month (of Ramadhan)... when you will be praying to your Lord, and the most wicked person of all times, like the one who chopped off the feet of the camel of (the tribe of) Thamoud (the proof of Prophet Saleh's mission) will strike you on your head and your beard will be dyed in blood."

This is what Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) said in his famous sermon on the eve of the blessed month of fasting whose benefits he expounded in a public gathering. He continued, as his companions listened - some in amazement and some in disbelief: "O Ali! Whoever kills you (in fact) killed me; whoever annoys you has annoyed me; and whoever slanders you has slandered me, because you are to me like my soul. Your spirit is my spirit, and your nature is my nature. Surely, Allah the Praised and the Glorious created me then you; chose me then you; and selected me for Prophethood and selected you for Imamate. Whoever denies your Imamate has (in fact) denied my Prophethood.

"O Ali! You are my legatee and father of my (grand)children, the husband of my daughter, and my Caliph (Vicegerent) over my Ummah both in my lifetime and after my death. Your bidding is my bidding, and your forbidding is my forbidding. By the Power that granted me Prophethood and made me the most excellent of creation, you are the Hujjat-Allah (Argumentation of Allah) over His creatures, His Trustee over mysteries and His Caliph over His creatures."

What the Prophet had foretold did occur. A Kharijite (renegade from Islam), named Abdur-Rahman ibn Muljam, struck the One and Only Commander of the Faithful with a poisoned sword on the head while in the state of the ritual prayer in the grand mosque of Kufa on the dawn of the 19th of Ramadhan in the year 40 AH. "Fuzto wa Rabbil-Ka'ba" or "By the Lord of the Ka'ba I have triumphed" said the Prophet's dearest cousin and ward on fulfillment of the tidings given to him by the Seal of Messengers over three decades earlier.

In the early hours before the break of dawn on the 21st of the fasting month, after giving the necessary instructions to his sons and companions, the Imam of the Pious, the Symbol of Justice, the Paragon of Valour, the Gateway of the City of Knowledge, the Model of Magnanimity, the Epitome of Eloquence, and the "Quran-an-Nateq" (Speaking Qur'an), achieved martyrdom - thus ending the only instance in history of the government of social justice.

Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS) needs no introduction. Personally brought up since childhood by his elder cousin who was thirty years his senior, he was present on Mount Noor outside Cave Hera when Archangel Gabriel descended with the First Rays of Divine Revelation.

On Almighty God's formal entrustment of the universal mission of Islam to the 40-year old son of his deceased uncle, he was the first one to proclaim "ash-hado anna Muhammadan Rasoul-Allah" (I testify Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah) - the testimony of faith which all Muslims devoutly recite till this day.

He devoted his entire life to the defence of the Prophet and the genuine message of Islam, risking brushes with death. In his own words: "By Allah! The son of Abu Taleb is more familiar with death than an infant with the breast of its mother."

At times death appeared imminent when there was no other Muslim except the Prophet's loyal wife, Hazrat Khadija (SA), and the barely teenaged lad used to protect the Prophet from the showers of stones and rocks hurled by the children of the pagan Arabs at the instigation of their ill-begotten sires.

Then there was the closest brush with death when he volunteered to sleep on his cousin's bed on the night of Hijra so as to allow the latter to migrate undetected to Medina, while the assassins with swords drawn were waiting for dawn to storm the Abode of Divine Revelation and kill the Prophet.

No wonder, God Almighty revealed the following Ayah of the holy Qur'an in praise of Imam Ali (AS):

"And among the people is he who sells his soul seeking the pleasure of Allah, and Allah is most kind to [His] servants."

In Medina, there were constant close encounters with death for almost a whole decade, when the Arabs - at times in alliance the Israelites - imposed armed battles on the Prophet. While the neo-Muslims fled or lagged behind, it was Imam Ali (AS), who risked his life to save the Messenger of Mercy and the message of Islam.

At times he was wounded, like the duel with the giant Amr ibn Abdudud in the crucial battle of Khandaq (Trench), where blood oozed from his head from the sword blow of his opponent, whom he eventually dispatched to the bowels of hell in a brave and manly manner after the murderous infidel Arab had spurned all offers of peace.

The closest encounter with death for him was that tragic day in Medina, only a few days after the passing away of the Prophet, when a group of ruffians stormed his house, hurled the burning door on his wife, the Prophet's Immaculate Daughter, Hazrat Fatema (SA) - who suffered broken ribs and miscarriage - and dragged him for forced oath of allegiance to the person who had usurped the caliphate.

That day, the conspirator-in-chief of the scandalous event of Saqifa Bani Sa'da was cowardly swinging a drawn sword and threatening to chop off the head of the Prophet's Divinely-designated Vicegerent who had his hands tied, despite the shrieks of the Prophet's daughter.

After a quarter of a century of deprival of his right to rule, Imam Ali (AS) had to reluctantly take up the reins of temporal power on the insistence and begging of the leaderless masses, but no sooner did he take charge of the caliphate, the Pledge-Breakers, the Seditious, and the Renegades imposed wars upon him, in which he emerged victorious.

Finally, when he had made decisive plan to defeat the charlatan Mu'awiya ibn Abu Sufyan once and for all by assembling a strong force to march upon Syria, the person who was born in God's Symbolic House the Holy Ka'ba, met his cherished goal of union with the Lord Most High in Kufa's Mosque (also a House of God), when the dastardly renegade struck him the fatal blow.

Imam Ali (AS) thus triumphed, and along with him all true believers in view of the Prophet's famous hadith: "Ali is with righteousness and righteousness is with Ali."

Spying on Allies: Intel Leak Leaves U.S. Reeling



The Pentagon is seen from the air in Washington, March 3, 2022, more than a week after the Ukraine war began.

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -- The U.S. national security community is grappling with fallout from the release of dozens of secret documents, including the impact on sensitive information-sharing within the government and ties with other countries, two U.S. officials said.

Reuters has reviewed more than 50 of these documents, labeled "Secret" and "Top Secret", that first appeared on social media websites in early March and purportedly reveal details of Ukrainian military vulnerabilities and information about allies including

Israel, South Korea and Turkey. The material did not draw much notice until a New York Times article on Friday.

U.S. officials have said some giving battlefield casualty estimates from Ukraine appeared to have been altered to understate Russian losses.

The leak was sufficiently alarming within the Pentagon that it referred the matter to the Department of Justice, which has opened a criminal investigation into the disclosure of the documents.

Two U.S. defense officials,

speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter, said the Pentagon was examining procedures governing how widely some of the most sensitive U.S. secrets are shared.

Some of the documents, one of the officials said, would most likely have been available to thousands of people with U.S. and allied government security clearances despite being highly sensitive, as the information directly affected those countries.

The Pentagon on Sunday said in

a statement that an interagency effort was assessing the impact the photographed documents could have on U.S. national security as well as that of close American allies, a standard procedure known as "damage assessment" for leaks of classified information.

The first official said the number of people who had access to the documents underscores that sensitive information was perhaps being shared too widely with personnel who might not require the level of detail some of the documents contained.

"The Pentagon has needed to curtail the unbridled access to some of the most sensitive intel when they've (got) no justifiable reason to have it," the first official said.

The first defense official said Pentagon investigators were trying to determine who would have an incentive to leak this kind of information.

Since the leak first came to light in March, the investigators have been pursuing theories ranging from someone simply sharing the documents to show off the work they were doing to a mole inside the U.S. intelligence community or military, the first official added.

Some national security experts and U.S. officials say they currently suspect that the leaker could be American, given the

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Five Killed, Several Injured in Kentucky Shooting

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) -- A shooting Monday at a bank in downtown Louisville killed at least five people and wounded at least eight others, police said. The suspected lone shooter was also dead.

The shooting, the 15th mass killing in the country this year, comes just two weeks after a former student killed three children and three adults at a Christian elementary school in Nashville, about 160 mile (260 kilometers) to the south.

Police arrived as gunshots were still being fired inside the Old National Bank and exchanged fire with the shooter, Louisville Metro Police Department Deputy Chief Paul Humphrey said at a news conference. It wasn't clear whether the shooter was killed himself or was shot by officers.

"We believe this is a lone gunman involved in this that did have a connection to the bank. We're trying to establish what that connection was to the business, but it appears he was a previous employee," Humphrey said.

Humphrey said that at least eight people were being treated at hospitals for wounds, including two police officers, one of whom was in critical condition.

An emotional Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear said he lost friends in the shooting in a building on East Main Street not far from the Louisville Slugger Field and Waterfront Park.

"This is awful," he said. "I have a very close friend who didn't make it today. And I have another close friend who didn't, either. And one who's at the hospital that I hope is going to make it through."

It was the second time that Beshear was personally touched by a mass tragedy since becoming governor.

In late 2021, one of the towns devastated by tornadoes that tore through Kentucky was Dawson Springs, the hometown of Beshear's father, former two-term Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear. Andy Beshear frequently visited

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Iran's Army Chief: Zionist Regime Too Small to Pose a Threat

TEHRAN -- The chief commander of the Iranian Army said Monday the Israeli military, which heavily relies on sophisticated Western-built munitions, is no match for Iran's armed forces, dismissing hostile remarks by the Zionist military chief of staff that the occupying regime was "ready" to attack Iran even without U.S. support.

Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi said such comments are merely meant to boost the morale of the Zionist soldiers and fix the internal problems of the regime.

"Anyone already familiar with the military capabilities of both sides knows well that the updated size and scale of the Zionist regime's military would maximally correspond only to one of the plentiful operations that Iran's armed forces undertook during the 1980-1988 Iraqi-imposed war on the Islamic Republic," Mousavi said.

"The Zionist regime, which is sinking and the signs of its col-

lapse are now becoming more evident than before, is too small to be viewed as a threat to the Islamic Republic of Iran. The actions of its leaders, which are far from rationality and prudence, will only accelerate the downfall of the regime," the top general added.

On Wednesday, Zionist chief of staff Herzi Halevi said, "We are ready to act against Iran. The Israeli army has the ability to strike both in distant countries and near home."

He said the Zionist military would enhance its capabilities for a pre-emptive strike on Iran in the next few years, and such a strike would be "overwhelming" despite the geographical distance.

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Holiday Notice

We offer condolences on the martyrdom anniversary of Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali (AS). Our next issue will be published on Saturday, April 15, 2023.