

TEHRAN -- Iranian Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian said here Wednesday the recent deal with the United States regarding the unblocking of Iran's illegally frozen funds serves as a test for Washington. Amir-Abdollahian said in a post on the X social media that the deal for releasing \$6 billion worth of Iran's funds illegally blocked in South Korea under the pretext of U.S. sanctions was part of the "dignified diplomacy" instructed by Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Khamenei. "Release & transfer of our funds from South Korea are parts of our dignified diplomacy as instructed by the Leader," Amir-Abdollahian said. "This deal is another test for U.S. On the right track of diplomacy, we keep up efforts to remove sanctions & for the return of all sides to int'l commitments to Iran," he added.

TEHRAN -- The Islamic Republic is doing its utmost to secure the release of several Iranian nationals who are currently imprisoned in the United States on false charges of evading American sanctions, Iran's top rights official said Wednesday.

"The primary objective behind the prisoner exchange deal between Iran and the United States is to secure the release of our nationals who are currently imprisoned," Kazem Gharibabadi said.

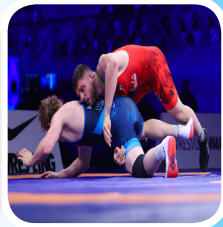
Iranians Bid Farewell to Martyrs of Terrorist Attack



North Korea: U.S. Soldier Wants Refuge From Mistreatment, Racism



Iranian Wrestlers Win Two Gold Medals at UWW U-20 Championships



Dozens Injured as Zionist Troops Raid Nablus, Blow Up Building



Yazid & Omayyads Exposed as "Shajarat al-Maloona"

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

We are on the eve of the first day the month of Safar. It is the day that refreshes our memories of the immortal saga of Imam Husain (AS) with the forced entry of the noble captives of the heartrending tragedy of Karbala in the court of the tyrant Yazid in Damascus.

It is the day that proved true the famous phrase of the Holy Qur'an "Shajarat al-Maloona" or the "Accursed Tree" for the Omayyad clan which had usurped the caliphate and whose distortion of the teachings of Islam God had revealed decades earlier to Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) in a vision.

"When We said to you, 'Indeed your Lord comprehends all mankind,' We did not appoint the vision that We showed you except as a test for the people and the tree cursed in the Qur'an. We deter them, but it only increases them in great rebellion." (17:60)

The prime pagans of Arabia, such as Abu Sufyan and his son Mu'awiya had only paid lip service to Islam on the surrender of Mecca to the Prophet in 8 AH.

They were heathens deep down in their hearts and hypocrites in the true sense of the word as was borne out by their plots against Muslims after the departure of the Prophet from the world, and their acts of enmity against the Blessed Family the Ahl al-Bayt, especially Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS) and his Infallible Sons, Imam Hasan (AS) and Imam Husain (AS).

Mu'awiya had rebelled against Imam Ali (AS) and imposed the deadly War of Siffin that led to the death of tens of thousands of Muslims including some of the prominent companions of the Prophet, such as Ammar Yasser and Owais Qarani.

After the martyrdom of Imam Ali (AS), he terrorized Muslims and bribed tribal chiefs to betray Imam Hasan Mujtaba (AS) in order to seize rule of the Islamic state upon which he installed his openly infidel son Yazid as ruler, in violation of the clauses of the treaty with the Prophet's elder grandson, whom he martyred through a fatal dose of poisoning.

Now in 61 AH, the libertine Yazid, after ordering the massacre of the Prophet's younger grandson Imam Husain (AS) at Karbala, forced the ladies and children of the noble Ahl al-Bayt to be brought in chains and fetters to his capital.

Thus, on the first of Safar, 20 days after the epic of Ashura (Muharram 10), the noble captives along with the severed heads of the martyrs mounted on lances, were paraded through the streets of Damascus and brought to his presence.

The only grownup man amongst the noble captives was the 23-year old Imam Zain al-Abedin (AS) -- the son and successor of Imam Husain (AS) -- who despite his sick health was clasped in chains and fetters, along with his wife, his 4-year old son, Imam Baqer (AS), his sisters, including 4-year old Ruqayyia (SA) and his aunt, Hazrat Zainab (SA), the indomitable daughter of the Prophet.

What a pathetic sight it was! Even in such a sorrowful state, the household of the Prophet carried themselves in dignity. They were pictures of patience, despite the gruesome sight of the heads of martyrs mounted on lances, and the noble ladies and children tied in a rope. This was their unique jihad. It was a jihad to make Islam triumph in the court of the cowardly enemy.

When the noble captives entered the palace they were shocked to see Yazid sitting on a gilded throne with a goblet of wine in his hand, while in front of him was the head of Imam Husain (AS) in a tray. He had a cane in his other hand and was showing disrespect to the severed head.

The tyrant was elated at what he considered the humiliation of the Household of the Prophet and openly wished that his infidel ancestors who in trying to attack the Prophet had been slain in the Battles of Badr and Ohod were alive this day to witness his apparent victory over Muslims.

He went on to recite a couplet as further proof of his lack of faith in Islam, by saying: "The Hashemites played the game of kingdom; neither any message descended [from heaven] nor revelation."

At this blasphemy, Hazrat Zainab (SA) delivered one of her most eloquent sermons that had a profound effect on the gathering in Damascus, which included the ambassador of Byzantine or the Eastern Roman Empire, and was unaware of the identity of the martyrs and the captives:

"All praise belongs to God, the Sustainer and Preserver of the Universe and His blessings be showered on my grandfather Prophet Muhammad (SAWA). The holy Qur'an says (Ayah 10 of Surah Ruum): "Then evil was the end of those who wrought evil, for they belied the signs of God and mocked at them."

"O Yazid! You think that you have made our life miserable and you have made us prisoners, and because we have been presented in your court you feel elated. You think that we have been disrespected and dishonoured by God and that you have been honoured and elevated to this position by Him. This apparent success of yours makes you puff with pride at our disaster. You feel that you have conquered the world and feel that you are well set in power and control. Only time will teach you a bitter lesson. (Ayah 177 of) Surah Aal-e Imran points out to people like you who are destined to go to hell, when God says: "Let not those who disbelieve, think that Our giving them respite is good for themselves. We only give them respite so that they may increase in sins and for them is a disgraceful chastisement."

"O Yazid! Your misdeeds have clearly proved your rebellion towards God and the message the Prophet brought to this world, and this has proved beyond doubt that you refuse to honour the Prophetic Message sent by God. This behaviour of yours does not come as a surprise, for your ancestors chewed the liver of the Prophet's uncle Hamza ibn Abdul-Muttalib. Hind, the wife of Abu Sufyan, mutilated his body, had his liver taken out, sucked it and quenched her thirst for vengeance at the Battle of Ohud. You belong to this clan, which always opposed the Prophet and gathered armies from various clans to oppose him. The offspring of such rabble and monsters are the enemies of God and His Prophet."

At this, the whole court realized the grave sin Yazid had committed. When it

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Yedioth Ahronoth: Root of Evil is 'Occupation' Experts Warn of 'Real Disintegration' of Israel



Hundreds of thousands have taken to streets across the occupied territories for weeks to protest PM Benjamin Netanyahu's extremist plans.

TEL AVIV (Dispatches) -- A number of Israeli experts have warned of a "real disintegration of Israeli society" and a state of chaos prevailing in the occupied territories due to the performance of the regime headed by prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

A senior Middle East and Arab World commentator at Israel Hayom newspaper, Oded Granot, warned:

"When the religious partner in the regime publicly declares that he will not bear the

burden, not even in national service, and at the same time also supports unilateral and far-reaching legislative processes that disintegrate Israeli society -- cohesion crumbles, the principle of peaceful coexistence dissolves."

He stressed that Israel is marching towards chaos.

In turn, the Hebrew Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper confirmed in its editorial written by Amnon Levi, that the root causes of the crisis in Israel's society is the "so-

cial-sectarian gap," while the root of the evil prevailing in Israel is the "occupation".

"The long occupation of other people has spoiled us and caused a crisis, and there is no doubt that the occupation caused great damage," he said.

"This time [the driver of the current crisis in Israel] is much more ancient and deeper. What drives the simple crowd of reform supporters [led by the right-wing regime] is hatred, anger, envy and

the intense desire for revenge from those who had harmed, insulted, and excluded their families and never took responsibility for that," he added.

A growing number of Israel's tech startups are incorporating in the United States, attracted by deep pocketed U.S. funds and pro-business policies, and with an extra push from a planned judicial overhaul that has rattled investors, Reuters reported Wednesday.

That marks a reversal, as the occupying regime of Israel had managed in the past decade to persuade more of its startups to set up their legal identity domestically.

Though the overhaul does not directly affect the tech sector, Ian Amit, a former military officer, frets about its impact and is taking his startup across the Atlantic.

"It's just a very high level of uncertainty," said Amit, who is registering his artificial intelligence-based cloud security firm Gomboc in Delaware.

"It mainly really revolves around corruption and uncertainty of what system is there to protect me as a business, from a tax perspective, from a legal perspective or an intellectual property perspective," he said.

The economic risk for the Zionist regime is that its plans, which

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Ukraine Irate After NATO Suggests Land-for-Membership Deal

KYIV (Guardian) -- Ukraine could give up territory to Russia in exchange for NATO membership and an end to the war, a senior NATO official has suggested, prompting an angry reaction from Kyiv.

Stian Jenssen, the chief of staff to the NATO secretary general, Jens Stoltenberg, said at an event in Norway that while any peace deal would have to be acceptable to Ukraine, alliance members were discussing how the 18-month war might be brought to an end.

"I think that a solution could be for Ukraine to give up territory, and get NATO membership in return," Jenssen told his audience, noting that discussions about Ukraine's postwar status were continuing in diplomatic circles.

Ukraine, however, has consistently called for a restoration of its internationally recognized pre-2014 borders and is engaged in a counteroffensive in an attempt to recapture large parts of its territory seized by Russia.

Jenssen was careful to stress that he was simply airing an idea and

that "it must be up to Ukraine to decide when and on what terms they want to negotiate", reflecting NATO's position that no peace settlement with Ukraine should be agreed without Ukraine.

But this was not enough for Kyiv, unhappy that Jenssen, an important figure and close ally of Stoltenberg, was even discussing the proposition in public.

Kyiv said any land-for-NATO deal would reward Russian aggression. Mykhailo Podolyak, a senior adviser to Ukraine's president, Volodymyr Zelenskiy, said: "Trading territory for a NATO umbrella? It is ridiculous."

"That means deliberately choosing the defeat of democracy, encouraging a global criminal, preserving the Russian regime, destroying international law and passing the war on to other generations."

Podolyak said that unless Russia suffered a heavy loss in the war, it would continue to pose a long-term problem for the west. "If Putin does not suffer a crushing defeat, the political regime in Russia

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'Like Hell in Movies': Hawaii Reels From Deadliest U.S. Blaze in Over Century

LAHAINA, Hawaii (AP) -- Survivors of deadly wildfires on Maui contended with intermittent power and unreliable cell service as they sought help rebuilding their lives. Teams of people, meanwhile, labored to find the dead and identify them.

With the death toll already at 106, a mobile morgue unit with additional coroners arrived in Hawaii on Tuesday to help with the grim task of sorting through remains. The governor warned that a new storm could complicate the search and recovery.

A week after a wildfire all but incinerated the historic town of Lahaina, communication on the island was still difficult. Some people walked periodically to a seawall, where phone connections were strongest, to make calls. Flying low off the coast, a single-prop airplane used a loudspeaker to blare information about where to get water and supplies.

Thousands of people are staying in shelters, in hotel rooms and Airbnb units, or with friends.

Around 2,000 homes and businesses still don't have electricity, Maui County wrote Tuesday night, after the power company restored supply to over 10,000 customers. The fire also contaminated water supplies in many areas.

On Tuesday, the county released the names of two victims: Lahaina residents Robert Dyckman, 74, and Buddy Jantoc, 79. They are the first of five who have been identified so far.

Crews with dogs are rushing to secure remains, Gov. Josh Green said, ahead of possible storms forecast for the weekend.

"I want the rain, ironically, but that's why we're racing right now to do all the recovery that we can, because winds or heavy rain in that disaster setting ... will make it even harder to get the final determination of who we lost," he said.

Crews using cadaver dogs have scoured approximately 30% of the burn area, according to officials. The wildfires are already

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