



Kayhan International



Eight More Hopefuls Register to Run for Iran President

TEHRAN -- Eight more presidential hopefuls registered to run for the Iranian president on the third day of a five-day registration period ahead of a snap vote at the end of June.

Former MP Ahmad Rasoulinejad, former minister and current MP Masoud Pezeshkian and Vahid Haghani, an aide to the Leader of Islamic Revolution as well as Tehran Mayor Alireza Zakani were among the candidates officially registering for the election.

VOL NO: LV 12267 TEHRAN / Est.1959

Sunday, June 2, 2024, Khordad 13, 1403, Zil-Qa'dah 24, 1445, Price 500,000 Rials

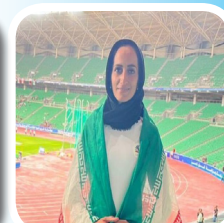
Viewpoint

Leader's Epistle to the US Student Movement Strengthens Axis of Resistance

Iran Says Reserves Right to Respond to EU Sanctions



Parisa Arab Wins Gold at 5th West Asian Athletics Championships



Anti-Israel Protests Continue Across World



The Lasting Legacy of the Father of the Islamic Revolution

By: Kayhan Int'l Cultural Desk

We are commemorating the 35th passing away anniversary of that peerless person who completely changed the destiny of Iran from a US client state reeling under the repression of a rootless British imposed regime, to the paramount power of the region governed by the dynamic Islamic Republic system with profoundly positive influence on the peoples, countries, and freedom movements in the neighbourhood and far beyond on all the continents that make up Planet Earth.

So thoroughly did he reshape regional and international equations that the exploitative West led by the US (history's most evil regime which he aptly named 'Great Satan') continues to shudder at his prediction of the eventual collapse of the decayed, deformed, and depraved liberal democratic system.

Washington's worries of the fast approaching culmination of its hegemony are evident at not just the materialization of the Father of the Islamic Revolution's prophecy of the end of Godless communism, the disintegration of the Soviet Union, and freedom of the various lands (Muslim and non-Muslim, including Russia which today is an important member of the Free World), but at the throes of death of the cancerous tumour called Israel, in the complicity of whose crimes against humanity, the US regime has also been exposed as genocidal.

This was Seyyed Ruhollah Musavi al-Khomeini (RA) whom the grateful Iranian nation addressed as 'Imam' or Supreme Leader (not to be confused with the 12 Infallible Divinely-designated Imams of Prophet Muhammad's (SAWA) Blessed Household).

He transformed Iran into the crisis-resistant Islamic Republic, as we and the whole world know today. This has been proven at every turn over the past 45 years to the horror of the perennial plotter, sanctions-imposer, assets-freezer, facts-distorter, riot-stirrer, and target-killer - the US or the devil incarnate.

Prime examples of Uncle Sam's devilry that failed to derail Imam Khomeini's lasting legacy include Saddam's 8-year war, the sudden exit of two presidents during its height (Abol-Hassan Bani Sadr the impeached turncoat, and Mohammad Ali Rajai the Martyr), MKO terrorism that claimed 17,000 victims ranging from ordinary citizens to the highest ranking officials (e.g. Judiciary Chief Ayatollah Mohammad Hosseini Beheshti and a Prime Minister Hojjat al-Islam Mohammad Javad Bahonar), and creation of the macabrely murderous Takfiris (Daesh).

Thanks to the foresight of that Sage of the Age, and after him of his astute successor, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, the Islamic Republic has come out with flying colours through every plot, conspiracy, crisis, and onward incident.

The latest proof of the soundness and durability of the Islamic system of governance of Iran, is its rock-hard intact and smooth functioning, without the least change in internal affairs and external policies, including commitment to the struggle against tyranny of the Axis of Resistance, and the campaign to wipe out the cobweb called Israeli, following the recent death in helicopter crash of President Ayatollah Seyyed Ibrahim Raisi.

It will not be out of context to recall that during the crucial 1980s the keen eyesight of Imam Khomeini had detected the latent talent of the young judiciary official with record of active service as combatant at the battlefronts of the imposed war, named Ibrahim Sadaat ar-Raisi, for grooming as a prosecutor to protect Iranian citizens exposed to the terrorism of the murderous US-backed MKO hypocrites, who are nothing more than traitors and apostates.

In other words, the dynamism of the Islamic Republic system as the perfect model of governance for progress of human societies, with its superb definition of spiritual values, religious rationality, civic liberties, minority rights, women's dignity under the freedom of the hijab, humanitarian principles, development of modern science and technology, resolve to achieve self-reliance in all fields, and support for the oppressed, is indebted to Imam Khomeini.

Perhaps, one of the most brilliant measures of the person to whose ideals we renew allegiance these days was the concept of "Wilayat-e Faqih" or Governance of the Supreme Jurisprudent in the physical absence of the Imam of the Age, the Prophet's 12 and Last Successor, Imam Mahdi (may God hasten his reappearance for establishment of the global government of peace, prosperity, and justice).

It was his conviction that authority in state matters was not the prerogative of the infirm in faith, the unprincipled, the agnostics, the immoral, and the unjust, since on the basis of the hadith that "the fuqahà (jurisprudents) are the heirs of Prophets".

Today, Imam Khomeini is no more with us, but his thoughts and ideas are alive, especially the blueprint of Islamic government which has all the characteristics of a catalyst for aspiring Muslim countries. It is this magnetism that gains new adherents every day around the globe and sends shivers down the spine of the devils masquerading as advocates of democracy and human rights, but indulging in the worst crimes against humanity.

Netanyahu Rejects Biden's Presentation of Truce Plan

Next Israeli Genocide Target: Beit Hanun



Palestinians inspect the damage after Zionist forces withdrew from Jabalia refugee camp, following an invasion, in the northern Gaza Strip, May 31, 2024.

RAFAH (Dispatches) - Zionist forces on Saturday pounded Rafah in southern Gaza with tanks and artillery just after U.S. President Joe Biden said the Israeli regime was offering a new roadmap towards a full ceasefire.

Extremist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu insisted after Biden's announcement that Israel would still pursue the war until it reached all its aims.

"Israel's conditions for ending the war have not changed," he said, citing the "destruction" of Hamas's military and governing

capabilities, the release of all Zionist captives and "ensuring that Gaza no longer poses a threat to Israel".

A permanent ceasefire without those conditions being met was "a non-starter", he said.

Netanyahu's defiant tone came even as the U.S. president outlined what he called Israel's three-stage offer for a possible end to the invasion.

The roadmap, Biden said, would begin with a six-week phase that would see Israeli forces withdraw from all populated areas of Gaza.

It would also see the release of a number of captives, including women, the elderly, the wounded, in exchange for the release of hundreds of Palestinians held in Israeli prisons, he added.

The Zionist regime and the Palestinians would then negotiate during those six weeks for a lasting ceasefire -- but the truce would continue while the talks remained underway, Biden said.

Reports said U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken had called his counterparts from Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Turkey on Fri-

day to press the deal. UN chief Antonio Guterres "strongly hopes" the latest development "will lead to an agreement by the parties for lasting peace", his spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

Germany, the EU and Saudi Arabia also welcomed the plan, while Hamas said it "views positively" the plan laid out by Biden.

But Netanyahu dismissed Biden's presentation of what was on the table, insisting that the transition from one stage to the next in the plan was "conditional" and crafted to allow Israel to maintain its war aims.

"The prime minister authorized the negotiating team to present an outline for achieving (the return of captives), while insisting that the war will not end until all of its goals are achieved," Netanyahu's office said.

Early last month, the occupying regime sent tanks and troops into Rafah, ignoring concerns over the safety of displaced Palestinian civilians sheltering in the city on the Egyptian border.

On Saturday, residents reported tank fire in the Tal al-Sultan neighborhood in west Rafah, while witnesses in the east and center of Rafah described intense artillery shelling.

"From the early hours of the night until this morning, the aerial and artillery bombardment has not

(Continued on Page 7)

Hezbollah Downs Hermes 900, Pounds Israeli Base

BEIRUT (Dispatches) - Lebanon's Hezbollah group said it shot down an Israeli drone over southern Lebanon and fired rockets at a Zionist military base on Saturday, hours after Israeli drone strikes martyred at least one person and wounded several others.

Hezbollah said in a statement that its fighters struck the Hermes 900 Kochav drone, saying such aircraft have been targeting resistance fighters and civilian homes. The exchange of fire along the Lebanon border has been intensifying over the past weeks with Israel's military push on Gaza's southern city of Rafah.

The Israeli military said a surface-to-air missile was fired toward a drone operating in Lebanese airspace, adding that it was hit and fell in Lebanese territory. "The incident is under review," the military said.

The Hermes 900 Kochav is a medium altitude and long endurance drone that can carry four anti-tank guided missiles.

It marks the fourth Israeli drone

to have been shot down by Hezbollah over southern Lebanon. In all, two Hermes 450 drones and two Hermes 900 models have been downed in recent months.

Hezbollah said Saturday its fighters also attacked an Israeli army base in the border town of Kiryat Shmona with Burkan rockets "scoring direct hits, igniting a fire and destroying part of it." Burkan rockets can carry a warhead that weighs between 300 kilograms (661 pounds) and 500 kilograms (1,100 pounds).

The Zionist military confirmed a rocket hit a military base in Kiryat Shmona without giving details.

Israeli media reported the rocket attack on Kiryat Shmona and released images showing significant damage to infrastructure.

The Lebanese resistance movement also said it had attacked the Zionist regime's Al-Baghdadi outpost with missiles.

Earlier Saturday, an Israeli drone strike on a motorcycle near the southern Lebanese village of Khirbet

(Continued on Page 7)

Pro-Palestine Protests Hit UK Cities for 33rd Week

LONDON -- Pro-Palestine demonstrations in the UK continued into their 33rd successive week on Saturday as protesters gathered in cities and towns across the country to condemn Israel's invasion of Gaza and declare solidarity with the oppressed Palestinians.

Police arrested numerous pro-Palestine activists after they attempted a sit-in protest in central London.

Activists from Youth Demand staged a demonstration at the central Jubilee Gardens, near the landmark London Eye, to protest Israeli invasion of Rafah and demand an end to arms shipments to Israel.

Carrying Palestinian flags and signs, the group chanted pro-Palestine slogans in solidarity with the Gazan people.

Hundreds of people in the UK have been marching for thirty-three consecutive weeks from Glasgow in northern Scotland to London in south-

eastern England in a show of solidarity with the Palestinians.

Participants in various cities have been waving Palestinian flags and calling for an end to the war in the region and the liberation of the occupied territories.

The protesters are demanding the implementation of the International Court of Justice and Criminal Court orders to immediately stop the war in Gaza and detain Zionist leaders.

They are also calling for an end to the sale of weapons to the Zionist regime and the expulsion of the Israeli ambassador from the British soil.

Supporters of Palestine have emphasized that the British people's stance is separate from their

(Continued on Page 7)

Holiday Notice

Monday and Tuesday mark the sad anniversary of the passing away of Imam Khomeini, the great founder of the Islamic Republic. Our next issue will be printed on Wednesday, June 5. Editor