

**Gharibabadi: Talks With E3 to Continue 'in Near Future'**

GENEVA (Dispatches) -- Iran, Britain, France and Germany have agreed to continue diplomatic dialogue "in the near future", a senior Iranian diplomat said following "candid" talks Friday focused on Tehran's nuclear program.

"We are firmly committed to pursue the interests of our people, and our preference is the path of dialogue and engagement," Kazem Gharibabadi, Iran's deputy foreign minister for legal and international affairs, said on X.

# Kayhan International

**Leader: Zionist Regime Destined to Departure From West Asia**

TEHRAN -- Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said the Zionist regime is doomed to perish, asserting that the regional resistance movements' ongoing anti-Israeli operations cannot be quelled.

"Al-Aqsa Storm cannot be quenched, and the usurping Zionist regime is destined for departure," Ayatollah Khamenei's official Persian-language account on X wrote in a post, citing remarks by the Leader. The post incorporated an illustration of an Israeli tank buried half in the ground with a white flag protruding from its cannon.

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**Iran's Warning to West on Nuclear Doctrine Review**



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## Hezbollah's Friends Celebrate Israel's 'Humiliating' Defeat

TEHRAN -- The chief commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) on Thursday congratulated Lebanon and its Hezbollah resistance movement for successfully imposing a ceasefire on Israel, hailing it as a "strategic and humiliating defeat" for the occupying regime.

Major General Hussein Salami made the remarks in a message sent to Hezbollah Secretary General Sheikh Naim Qassem, a day after a truce deal took effect between Israel and Hezbollah following more than 14 months of fighting.

"The ceasefire on the Lebanese front is a strategic and humiliating defeat for the Zionist regime, which did not even come close to achieving any of its evil goals and ambitions in the war against Hezbollah," he said.

The truce, he added, "could even mark the beginning of a ceasefire to end the war on Gaza."

Salami said Israel's acceptance of the ceasefire, as it was under the barrage of Hezbollah missiles targeting the regime's bases and strategic sites, had lessons for Tel Aviv and its supporters.

The usurping entity is on the decline and the crimes that it is committing in Gaza and Lebanon will strengthen the resistance, he emphasized.

The IRGC chief commander further said Hezbollah clinched the victory by truly dissuading Israel from achieving its evil objectives in the northern front of the occupied territories and imposing a ceasefire on the fake regime.

"Undoubtedly, this great victory, which was secured thanks to the pure blood of martyrs, the patience and resilience of the Lebanese people, and the unwavering courage and sacrifices of the youth and Hezbollah, is considered a major development in the history of the Islamic Ummah's struggle against Zionists in West Asia."

The leader of Yemen's Ansarullah resistance movement also hailed Hezbollah's victory, stating that God had granted yet another historic triumph over the Zionist regime.

"Lebanon's victory at this critical and sensitive stage in confronting the Israeli enemy was a gift from God, and came following an unprecedented level of [Israeli] aggression against the nation and Hezbollah," Abdul-Malik al-Houthi said Thursday.

"The bloody military campaign against Lebanon and Hezbollah was heavily supported by the US. Washington shares the Tel Aviv regime's disappointment, and is definitely complicit in the Zionist entity's aggression and crimes," he added.

He said Israeli officials had spoken of delivering painful and severe blows on Hezbollah, and even complete defeat of the Lebanese resistance group.

However, Hezbollah's large-scale missile and drone attacks on Israeli positions, reaching as far as Tel Aviv within the occupied territories, well exhibited its military capabilities and prowess, Houthi said.

The Ansarullah leader emphasized that the victory of Hezbollah in standing up to the Zionist aggression once again showed that Israel could be defeated.

"The Lebanese victory was the fruit of patience, practical efforts, and preparation, leading to divine support," he said, stressing that Hezbollah's steadfastness stems from its readiness on both spiritual and material levels, enabling resilience and triumph.

The Ansarullah leader said the U.S. seeks to play down Hezbollah's victory using diverse strategies to contain its political impact.

Houthi stated that the responsibility of the Muslim world to support Palestinians in the Gaza Strip has become even greater following Lebanon's victory.

The Ansarullah chief also said a concerted effort across the Axis of Resistance is essential to aid the Palestinian people.

The Zionist military on Thursday conducted fresh attacks on Lebanon in violation of the ceasefire agreement, the Lebanese army said in a statement posted on X.

"These breaches included aerial violations and attacks on Lebanese territory using various weapons," it said.

The Israeli military confirmed its Thursday aerial assault on southern

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## Iran, Russia Reiterate Support for Syria Amid Onslaught on Aleppo Resurgence of Takfiri Terrorism After Zionist Defeat



Takfiri terrorists get off a truck outside a village on the western outskirts of the Syrian city of Aleppo on Nov. 28, 2024.

TEHRAN/DAMACUS -- Iran on Friday reiterated its strong support for ally Syria, where takfiri terrorists are waging a major onslaught in the northwest of the country.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi "stressed Iran's continued support for the government, nation and army of Syria in their fight against terrorism," during a phone call with his Syrian counterpart Bassam al-Sabbagh, according to a statement.

Army reinforcements arrived in Aleppo on Friday as fierce battles and clashes west of Aleppo, a Syrian government security official told AFP. The Syria army later said it repelled the onslaught.

"Our forces continue to repel the major offensive launched by armed terrorist groups," the army said in a statement, adding that it was "able to retake control of certain positions".

Official news agency SANA said the Syrian army launched intensified missile attacks on terrorist positions that stretch from villages in western Aleppo to Mount Zawiya south of Idlib.

Oleg Ignasyuk, the deputy head of the Russian Center for Reconciliation of the Opposing Parties in Syria, said that at least 400 terrorists affiliated to Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, had been killed. He stressed that the Syrian army "is fighting fiercely, amid the support of the Russian air force."

Russian and Syrian warplanes bombed militant-held areas in northwest Syria near the border

with Turkey to push back the terrorists.

The takfiri terrorists and their Turkish-backed allies shelled the second Syrian city Aleppo, killing at least four civilians.

The onslaught began at a sensitive time for Syria and the region, with a fragile ceasefire between Hezbollah and the occupying regime of Israel taking effect earlier this week in neighboring Lebanon.

This week, the takfiri terrorists and factions backed by Turkey, which neighbors Syria and supported the sedition against Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, launched a major surprise onslaught against government forces.

They shelled a university student residence on Friday in government-held Aleppo, northern Syria's main city, killing four civilians according to state media.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said "more than 14,000 people -- nearly half are children -- have been displaced" by the violence.

Aleppo resident Sarmad, 51, told AFP he could hear "the sounds of missiles and artillery shelling around the clock".

"We're scared that war will break out and we'll be displaced from our homes again," he said.

Nasser Hamdo, 36, who works in a pastry shop, said he had been glued to the news since hostilities began.

Since 2011, the war on Syria has killed more than 500,000 people, displaced millions and morphed into a complex war.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov on Friday described the situation in Aleppo as "an infringement on the sovereignty of Syria." He expressed support for "the government of Syria to quickly restore order in this district and restore the constitutional order."

The takfiri Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), led by Al-Qaeda's former Syria branch, controls swathes of the Idlib region as well as small parts of neighboring Aleppo, Hama and Latakia provinces.

The Idlib area where the takfiri terrorists are based has been subject to a Turkey and Russia-brokered truce since 2020.

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## Thousands Strike in Italy to Protest Sinking Purchasing Power

ROME (AFP) -- Thousands of Italians took part in a general strike Friday to protest low wages and purchasing power, although its impact on transport was limited.

The strike, called by two union confederations, was set to last eight hours in all sectors except transport, where far-right Transport Minister Matteo Salvini ordered it halved to four hours.

The country's main union -- the left-wing CGIL -- and the centrist UIL called the strike in protest at the draft 2025 budget tabled by the hard-right government of Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, calling it "totally unsuitable to resolve the country's problems".

They want to see "an increase

in purchasing power for employees and retired people, as well as funding for health, education, public services and industrial policies", the CGIL said in a statement.

Italy, like France, has been singled out by the European Union for its huge deficit.

It is under intense pressure to balance the books and slash its huge public debt, which is currently hovering at around three trillion euros (\$3.2 trillion).

Meloni's government has committed to reducing the public deficit to 2.8 percent of gross domestic product from 2026 -- below the ceiling of 3.0 percent of GDP set by the European Union.

The tough target will require cuts in tax rebates and budget cuts for many ministries and public services.

Italy's second-largest union, the centre-right CSIL, did not taking part in the strike.

CSIL boss Luigi Sbarra on Thursday called it a "sterile, demagogic, populist protest" at a time when the draft budget has not yet been finalised.

The eight-hour stoppage affected numerous private and public sectors, including education, industry, healthcare, post office services and courts.

The limited strike for public bus, metro and tram services lasted just four hours, from 9:00 am (0800 GMT) to 1:00 pm.

The shorter time was ordered by minister Salvini -- also Meloni's deputy prime minister -- under a law that limits strike time to maintain minimum service.

The national airline ITA cancelled 109 flights Friday, including 18 international ones, while Ryanair cancelled "a small number of flights".

Besides Rome, thousands of people demonstrated in Milan, Naples, Bologna and Palermo.

"The government has betrayed everything it told its voters," in particular that "it would have improved the conditions of workers," the CGIL's Daniele Canti told AFP-TV at the demonstration in the capital.

Train transport was not affected as rail workers downed tools at the weekend and Italian law prevents them striking again for at least 12 days.