

In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

The Triumph of Faith Over Fears

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The world's largest annual pilgrimage yet again proves that faith, spiritual values, and devotion to Divine injunctions, as usual is neither restricted by fears of terrorism nor by political ploys to dampen the enthusiasm.

In other words, to the horror of mischief-makers, the US and the Zionists and also the few secular elements trying in vain to turn Iraq into a client state of western powers, the Islamic faith of the Iraqi people and their devotion to the path of the Prophet and his Infallible Ahl al-Bayt (Blessed Household) far outweigh the risks posed by Covid-19 or any other pandemic.

It is indeed a magnificent spectacle to see the pilgrims, including over four million Iranians and thousands from other countries marching on foot towards Karbala from the different directions of Iraq, especially from the holy city of Najaf where reposes in eternal peace, the Prophet's Divinely-designated Vicegerent, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb – the Immaculate Father of Imam Husain (AS).

As usual, the pilgrims were treated with the same hospitality of the past years by the local villagers and townspeople, who provided them with free food, fruits, beverages, medical services, and even accommodation, through strict observation of the precautions suggested by physicians.

The large presence of ulema, religious authorities, and seminary students, in their traditional robes, also indicated the fact that faith triumphs over fears as the pilgrims paid tribute to the martyrs of Palestine as well as the martyrs of the cowardly Israeli aggression on Lebanon and Palestine. They emphasized that the genocide in Gaza will terribly boomerang on both the Zionist entity and the US, ultimately throwing these two evil powers into the dustbin of history, as was the fate of the tyrant Yazid and the perpetrators of the heartrending tragedy of Karbala.

We pray to God Almighty to deliver not just Muslims but all mankind from the evil of the satanic elements in human form.

Hopefully, next year's Arba'een in Karbala will be on a grander scale, whether the enemies of humanity, such as the US, and the Zionists like it or not, as is evident by the silence of the western media and its vain efforts to belittle this greatest gathering on Planet Earth every year.

Top General Warns Israel, U.S.: New Attack to Get Iran's Harsher Response



This picture shows Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi (R) and the visiting Chief of the South African National Defense Force, General Rudzani Maphwanya, meeting in Tehran on August 12, 2025.

TEHRAN – Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi on Tuesday cautioned the Zionist regime and the U.S. that any new act of aggression would be met with a stronger and more decisive response from the Iranian Armed Forces.

The U.S. and the Israeli regime are notorious for reneging on promises Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi said in a meeting with Chief of the South African National Defense Force General Rudzani Maphwanya, held in Tehran on Tuesday.

As a result, the Iranian Armed Forces are prepared to give a harsher response to any fresh Israeli or U.S. act of aggression, the top general added, referring to Iran's crushing counterattacks on the Zionist regime during the 12-day imposed war in June.

Major General Mousavi further described the Islamic Revolution

Guards Corps as the greatest anti-terrorism force in the world, saying the IRGC is ready to share its precious experiences with South Africa.

He also admired South Africa for bringing a case before the International Court of Justice against the Israeli genocidal crimes in Gaza, saying the complaint concurred with Iran's views and policies on advocating justice.

For his part, the South African commander praised Iran for supporting the South African people's struggle against apartheid.

General Maphwanya said the mutual supports have created historical bonds between the two nations.

While the Zionist regime waged a war of aggression against Iran on June 13 and struck Iran's military, nuclear and residential areas for 12 days, the U.S. stepped in and conducted military attacks on three

nuclear sites in Iran's Natanz, Fordow and Isfahan on June 22.

The Iranian military forces conducted powerful counterattacks immediately after the aggression. The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Aerospace Force carried out 22 waves of retaliatory missile strikes against the Zionist regime as part of Operation True Promise III that inflicted heavy losses on cities across the occupied territories.

Also, in response to the U.S. attacks, Iranian armed forces launched a wave of missiles at al-Udeid air base in Qatar, the largest American military base in West Asia. A ceasefire that came into force on June 24 brought the fighting to a halt.

General Maphwanya also met and held talks with Commander of the Iranian Army Major General Amir Hatami.

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Armenia Reassures Iran of Commitment to Mutual Interests, Good-Neighborly Ties

TEHRAN - Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan says Yerevan prioritizes maintaining friendly and good-neighborly relations with Tehran based on mutual interests.

Speaking in a phone conversation with Abbas Araghchi, Mirzoyan briefed his Iranian counterpart on recent developments, including the peace agreement with Azerbaijan, deals to reopen regional transport routes, plans to improve connectivity, and next steps for implementing the agreements.

Mirzoyan underscored that Armenia is Iran's friendly and neigh-

boring country, and places great value on bilateral relations.

Araghchi, for his part, welcomed the establishment of peace between Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan.

He addressed Iran's considerations regarding transport routes and the unblocking of transit networks, saying, "These routes must not lead to geopolitical changes in the region or disrupt Iran's access to other transportation corridors."

Araghchi reiterated that any decision or measure must fully respect national sovereignty and territorial

integrity of states.

Referring to some sensitivities related to the issue, the top Iranian diplomat pointed out that observing the considerations related to the stability and security of the region and surrounding countries is a must for any plan or agreement in this field.

Mirzoyan acknowledged the principled position of Iran in respecting Armenia's national sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as its attention to geopolitical sensitivities and regional peace and stability.

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Top Cleric Urges Islamic Scholars, World Bodies to Halt Israeli Occupation of Gaza

QOM – The head of Iran's seminaries has called on Islamic scholars and international organizations to take urgent action to halt the full occupation of Gaza by the Israeli regime.

In a statement, Ayatollah Alireza A'rafi condemned the move as illegal and void, urging all governments, nations, intellectuals, legal bodies and global organizations to denounce it.

He called for the use of all legal, political, economic and legitimate deterrent measures to stop the aggression, open all chan-

nels for the immediate delivery of humanitarian, food, and medical aid to the people of Gaza and prosecute Israeli rulers as war criminals in international courts.

A'rafi said the world is facing "one of the most heinous and brazen crimes of contemporary history," saying that the occupying regime, backed by arrogant powers, is seeking to eradicate the Palestinian nation and erase its identity from its historical homeland.

He described the Israeli onslaught on Gaza as an act of or-

ganized genocide and a blatant violation of legal, humanitarian, and religious norms.

On Friday, Israel's war cabinet approved a plot to capture Gaza City and tighten its grip on the besieged Gaza Strip, a move that sparked immediate global condemnation.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had also said that the regime sought to "take control" of the entire Gaza Strip, which has been under constant Israeli bombardment since October 2023.

The
Holy
Qur'an



Take alms out of their property, you would cleanse them thereby, and pray for them; surely your prayer is a relief to them; and Allah is Hearing, Knowing.

The Holy Qur'an (9.102)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	12:09
Evening (Maghreb)	19:15
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:22
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	03:49

President Pezeshkian Raps Inaction on Israeli Crimes

TEHRAN – President of Iran Masoud Pezeshkian lashed out at the self-proclaimed advocates of human rights and peace for remaining silent on the Zionist regime's criminal acts that claimed the lives of Iranian scientists during the 12-day imposed war in June.

The president on Tuesday attended a ceremony at the memorial for the scientists of Faculty of Nuclear Engineering of Shahid Beheshti University who were martyred in the Israeli war of aggression in June.

In comments at the event, Pezeshkian criticized the self-proclaimed champions of democracy, human rights, and peace, declaring their claims to be mere facades, his official website reported.

He emphasized that those honored at the memorial dedicated their lives to serving the Iranian people and protecting the nation from unjust aggression, ultimately becoming victims of the Israeli regime's actions.

"These individuals had no sins other than their knowledge and their determination to equip their country with advanced technologies," he added.

The president commemorated the memory of the country's martyrs in science and technology, expressing hope that the youth would carry on their legacy with strength and strive for the nation's independence and freedom.

He further condemned the aggressive actions of the Israeli regime, which he said are supported fully by the United States and European countries.

Pezeshkian described the Israeli actions in Gaza as shameful, noting, "The Israelis are aggressors who enjoy full support from the United States. They have the platform, money, force, and power, and today, in addition to widespread killings, they block access to water, medicine, bread, and food, leaving people trapped in hunger. This behavior is disgraceful."