

TEHRAN – Parliament Speaker Muhammad Bagher Ghalibaf said Iran's national security lies in preserving the "Iranian arrangements" governing the Strait of Hormuz, declaring that the United States is seeking to compensate for its failures by increasing pressure on Tehran but will not be allowed to impose its will on the Islamic Republic.

In a statement issued on Wednesday outlining his assessment of the ongoing war and recent developments, Ghalibaf said Iran has achieved "great victories" in a complex war against "the world's greatest material power," adding that the country's political and military (Continued on Page 7)

Kayhan International



TEL AVIV (Dispatches) -- An engineer for Rafael Arms Industries, Israel's weapons manufacturer behind some of the regime's most advanced missile and air defense systems, has died from injuries suffered during an Iranian missile strike back in April.

Israeli authorities announced that Michael Katz died from wounds he sustained after an Iranian ballistic missile struck Haifa on April 5 during the U.S.-Israeli aggression against Iran. As part of Operation True Promise 4, Iran struck Haifa with waves of missiles and drones, causing extensive damage and destroying targets, including in Haifa, in the process.

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Viewpoint

Iran's Liberating Message for Brotherly Arab People

Sermons that Immortalized & Universalized Islam

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

Condolences to you on the anniversary of a sad occasion. Today, the first of the month of Safar, is that fateful day on which survivors of the heartrending tragedy of Karbala were brought in chains and fetters to the court of the tyrant Yazid in Damascus in 61 AH.

There was only one grown-up male among these noble prisoners of the progeny of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA). He was the 23-year old sick and weak Imam Zain al-Abidin (AS), the son and he successor of Imam Husain (AS). Along with the electrifying sermons of his brave aunt Hazrat Zainab (SA), his own bold speeches, delivered in the presence of the captors, turned the tables and made the message of his martyred father echo in the headquarters of the perpetrators of the massacre of Karbala.

"O people, we have been granted six things (by God) and favoured with seven. He granted us knowledge, clemency, leniency, fluency, courage, and love for us in the hearts of the believers. The factors in our favour are the "Mustafa" – Prophet Muhammad (SAWA). The "Siddiq" (Most Truthful One) – Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS). The "Tayyar" (Ja'far ibn Abi Taleb granted wings by God to fly in the heaven); the Lion of Allah and of the Prophet (Hamza ibn Abdul-Muttaleb). The Seyyedat-an-Nisa al-Alamin (Noblest of Ladies of all times Hazrat Fatema Zahra (SA). The Two Leaders of the Youths of Paradise – Imam Hasan (AS) and Imam Husain (AS)."

The passage is part of a brilliantly eloquent sermon delivered by Imam Zain al-Abidin (AS) to introduce himself and the noble captives of the Prophet's household to the unsuspecting people of Syria. The people had assembled at the court of the tyrant Yazid, who reluctantly gave permission to the son of his victim to go on the pulpit and address the gathering, while the severed head of Imam Husain (AS) lay in a tray in front of the wine-drinking self-styled caliph of the usurper Omayyad regime.

These are the among the tragic events of the 1st of Safar on which after a long wait at the Bab at-Tuma of Damascus, so the streets could be decorated and fitted with mirrors, the Ahl al-Bayt were paraded in ropes and fetters to the court of the tyrant through the marketplace with the heads of martyrs mounted on lances.

Yazid, with a wine goblet in one hand and in the other hand a cane which he blasphemously poked at the head of the Prophet's grandson, rejoiced at the seemingly miserable condition of the Ahl al-Bayt. He thought he had finally succeeded in fulfilling the wishes of his father Mu'waiyya and his grandfather Abu Sufyan in wiping out Islam. With a crucifix given to him by his adulterous mother Maysoon, dangling from his neck, he said in an exulted tone: "The Hashemites had played the game of kingdom; neither any message descended [from heaven] nor revelation).

He uttered more anti-Islamic phrases by wishing if only his infidel ancestors slain while trying to attack the Prophet of Islam in the Battles of Badr and Ohod, were alive to witness how he had humiliated the Household of Mohammad the son of Abdullah of the Hashemite clan, they would have commended him!

Yazid, through such blasphemous words, openly admitted he was not a Muslim. He thus exposed as un-Islamic the faulty system of caliphate that had started at Saqifa Bani Sa'da in Medina fifty years earlier in 11 AH, by depriving Imam Ali (AS) of his right of political leadership of the Ummah – as was proclaimed by the Prophet at the historic gathering of Ghadir-Khom.

The sermon of Imam Zain al-Abidin (AS) stunned the filthy tyrant, and as the people of Syria shocked at the unpardonable crime he had committed, started weeping, he ordered the "muezzin" (caller to prayer) to recite the "Azaan", although it was not yet time for the ritual prayer, nor was the place ritually clean to hold the prayer.

When the "muezzin" said: "Allahu Akbar", Imam Zain al-Abidin (AS) said: "The Almighty cannot be measured and cannot be perceived by senses; there is nothing greater than Allah." When the "muezzin" recited: "Ashhadu an la ilaha illa Allah," (I testify there is no god except Allah), the Imam said: "My hair, my skin, my flesh, my blood, my brain, and my bones bear witness that there is no god but Allah."

When the "muezzin" chanted: "Ashhadu anna Muhammadan Rasool-Allah," (I testify that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah), the Imam turned to Yazid and asked him: "O Yazid, is Muhammad your grandfather or mine? If you say that he is yours, then you are a liar, and if you say that he is mine, then why did you kill his grandson and family?"

Suddenly, there was tumult in the tyrant's court on hearing what the Prophet's great-grandson had said. The sermon of the Prophet's granddaughter, Hazrat Zainab (SA) had already shaken the tyrant's court to its very foundations.

Passages from her memorable sermon that meant proclamation of victory for the mission of Imam Husain (AS) in the camp of the despicable enemy, read:

"O' you the son of freed slaves (yabna at-tulqa)! Is this your justice that the ladies of your household remain veiled and we, the Prophet's family should be paraded thus? You have insulted our dignity... "O Yazid! Your misdeeds have clearly proved your rebellion towards God and the message the Holy 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 Ohad. You belong to this clan, which always opposed the Prophet and collected armies from various clans to oppose him. The offspring of such monsters are the enemies of God and His Prophet, and are expected to be merciless and deadly since violence is part of their nature."

"O' Yazid, you have done what you wished to do, but remember, you are doomed to perish and you will be cut to pieces. Then (on the Day of Judgement) you will be taken in to the presence of the Prophet and you will be burned with the sins you have committed by shedding the blood of his progeny and disrespecting the sanctity of his family. You will be taken in the presence of the Prophet to a place where his family members will be gathered and you will undergo horrible punishment and then there will be no escape for you and your companions."

The noble captives through their sermons turned the tables on the tyrant. They suffered all the calamities with patience and through their bold statements unmasked hypocrisy. Thus were universalized, internationalized, and immortalized genuine teachings of Islam, for the protection of which, Imam Husain (AS) had chosen to drink the elixir of martyrdom rather than acknowledging the illegal and un-Islamic rule of Yazid.

That is the reason we continue to commemorate the tragedy of Karbala, discourses on which during the months of Muharram and Safar, strengthens faith and exposes injustice and falsehood in every age and place.

Annual Ashura Poetry Night to Feature Tribute to Martyred Leader



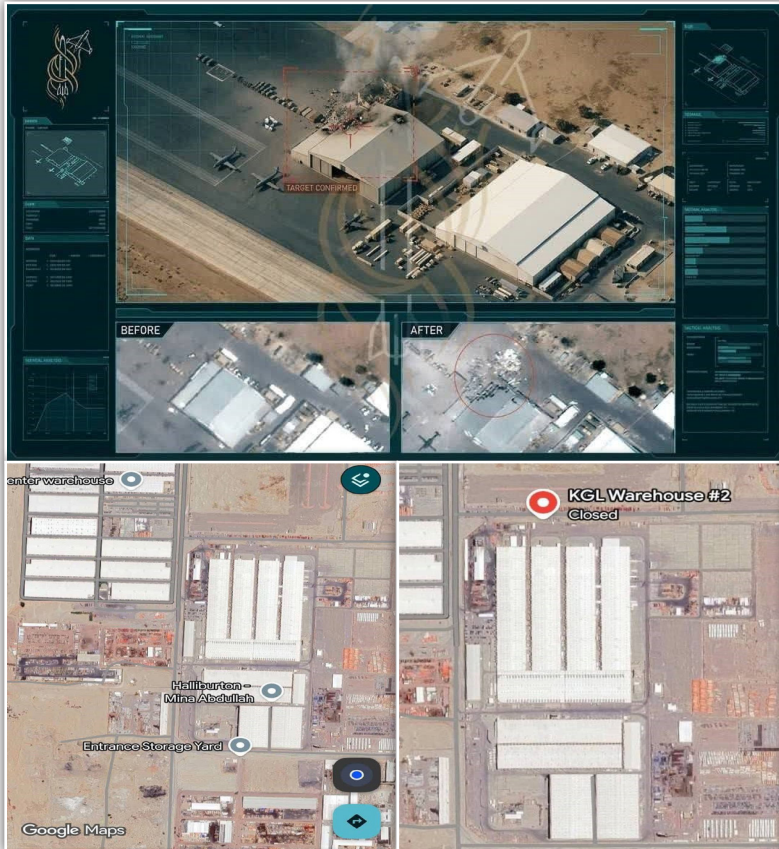
Men Sitting Volleyball Team Defeats U.S. at World Championships



'Stealing Iraq's Oil': Resistance Slams Deal During PM Zaidi's U.S. Trip



IRGC, Army Destroy U.S. Military Infrastructure Across West Asia



These satellite photos show damage to U.S. bases in Jordan and Kuwait.



TEHRAN – The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) and national army launched a new series of missile and drone strikes against U.S. military facilities in Kuwait, Bahrain, and Jordan, targeting logistics hubs, command centers, and airbases in retaliation for American attacks on Iranian territory.

The IRGC announced the fresh reprisals in multiple statements on Wednesday, describing them as the fourth, fifth, and sixth waves of its

"Operation Nasr 2" (Victory 2). The Iranian army separately said it had conducted the eighth phase of its "Saegheh" (Lightning) drone operations against U.S. positions.

In the fourth wave of Operation Nasr 2, codenamed "Ya Abba Abdullah al-Hussein," the IRGC said it struck and destroyed the "KJL" main logistics and support center of the U.S. Army in West Asia at Mina Abdullah, Kuwait.

The IRGC stated the facility was "set ablaze and destroyed". The force said retaliatory operations will continue and the Strait of Hormuz will remain closed until the end of "America's evils".

In the fifth wave, codenamed "Ya Ali Ibn Abi Talib," the IRGC Navy launched an attack at dawn targeting the NSI Management Center, the Command and Control Center, major warehouses containing military

Water Facilities, Ports, Natural Habitats, Sleeping Troops Targeted U.S. Expands Terror Campaign Against Iran's Civilian Infrastructure

TEHRAN -- Iranian officials said on Wednesday that U.S. strikes hit civilian and military sites across southern Iran overnight, martyring civilians and military personnel, damaging infrastructure in several provinces.

The latest attacks came as U.S. President Donald Trump threatened further strikes on Iran's energy infrastructure and bridges unless Tehran returned to negotiations.

"We will hit Iran very hard tonight. We will hit them very hard tomorrow night, and the night after that. Next week will be very bad for them," Trump said in an interview with Fox News on Tuesday evening following a new wave of attacks and the renewed U.S. naval blockade against Iran.

Trump also threatened to destroy Iran's bridges and power plants unless Tehran resumed negotiations.

Responding to the remarks, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian dismissed Trump's rhetoric, saying it reflected a longstanding policy of pressure against Iran.

"Those who sought to tear our Iran apart and break this nation into pieces, where have they ended up? What have they actually achieved on the ground?" Pezeshkian said.

He added that Iran will "defend every inch of its territory," saying, "These disrespectful remarks are only worthy of them, not the Iranian nation."

Iranian officials said the overnight strikes targeted military and civilian locations in Khuzestan, Hormozgan, Bushehr, Ilam, and Sistan and Baluchestan provinces, as well as the Persian Gulf islands of Qeshm and Hengam.

In Khuzestan Province, authorities said three locations in Ahvaz were struck overnight, while an earlier strike on an agricultural water pumping station in Mahshahr County killed one security guard and wounded four others.

Separate strikes in Abadan killed three people and injured several others, according to Iranian officials.

Officials also said projectiles struck (Continued on Page 7)

Iran Readies 24-Satellite Constellation, Triple-Satellite Launch

TEHRAN – Iran will continue expanding its space infrastructure and accelerate development of communication, remote sensing and radar satellites in the Iranian year 1405, with plans including further work on the Nahid-2 and Nahid-3 communication satellites, the Shahid Soleimani satellite constellation, triple-satellite orbital injections, the launch of Pars-2, and the unveiling of the country's first domestically built radar satellite, the head of the Iranian Space Agency (ISA) said on Wednesday.

Speaking at a press conference, Deputy Communications Minister and ISA chief Hassan Salarieh said Iran's space program is currently focused on three main areas: development of space infrastructure, satellite design and manufacturing, and downstream services based on satellite imagery and data.

Salarieh said infrastructure projects launched under Iran's 10-year space program are continuing, including expansion of satellite control centers, launch facilities, testing laboratories

parts and equipment, and fuel depots belonging to the U.S. Fifth Fleet in Bahrain.

The IRGC said those facilities "were struck and destroyed" Additional strikes targeted Sheikh Isa Air Base, destroying several warehouses containing weapons and parts of enemy vessels and aircraft.

In the sixth wave, codenamed "Ya Allah," the IRGC Aerospace Force struck Al-Azraq Air Base in Jordan, targeting shelters housing U.S. F-15, F-16, and F-35 fighter jets. The IRGC said it also destroyed a number of MQ-9 strategic drones stationed at the base.

Later Wednesday, loud explosions were heard near Bubiyan Island and Camp Virginia in Kuwait, where U.S. forces are present. Some Iraqi media outlets also reported multiple explosions in Erbil, Iraq.

The Iranian Army announced it had conducted the seventh and eighth phases of its "Saegheh" (Lightning) operations targeting Al-Azraq Air Base in Jordan for the second time.

According to the army's statement, destructive drones struck F/A-18 fighter jet hangars, personnel accommodation buildings, and large military equipment warehouses.

The army said it has carried out multiple phases of drone operations against U.S. bases since the U.S. violation of the ceasefire.

In messages addressed to the people of Kuwait, the IRGC said its ground and aerospace forces targeted the satellite communications center, missile and air defense radar, the Patriot air defense complex, the U.S. military base depot in Kuwait, and HIMARS

and supporting infrastructure. He said significant progress has been achieved during 1404, with several facilities becoming operational, including the Salmas satellite control center.

He added that work will continue this year on laboratories, the Chabahar launch base and other infrastructure projects. According to Salarieh, Iran plans to establish an integrated nationwide network of satellite control centers to improve communications with satellites, speed up the reception of satellite imagery and data, reduce access intervals and extend satellite operational life.

He also announced plans to establish a network of mobile ground stations to ensure uninterrupted satellite communications and data services across the country, adding that several new facilities would be inaugurated and unveiled during 1405.

On satellite manufacturing, Salarieh said one of the country's most important achievements in 1404 was the launch of Nahid-2, (Continued on Page 7)