



political
fascism
military
peace freedom

Periodical Newsletter

July 2024

Issue 3

ANTE-FASCISM

بازپیدایی
فاشیسم

سرڈیبر
علی ناظر

Next Issue
Contributors Invited

Looking at

- Needs for conflict escalation
- Export of conflict to the East
- Accepting state of fascism as a new norm
- Victimisation of morality

Is it Now Excuse Enough for IRI to Develop Nuke?

Shhhhh!!

There is a
War Going
on, but in
Democracy

Noone
should
talk about it

Right!!!

Letter to Editor

Dear Editor

Why should Haniyeh's murder be condemned? The killing of Qasem Soleimani by the United States, and now the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh by Mossad agents, indicates the legitimisation of political assassinations by a foreign country.

As a rule, "terror" can be defined as creating horrific disturbance in the body of the "ruling system" and informing the supporters of a movement about the choice of a "military tactic".

What is prominent in these two cases is that the legalisation of the assassination of political/military figures by the attacking country, is in line with the political-military objectives of the assassin. Here, hostilities have deviated from their normal and generally acceptable meaning, and any blind and aimless tactic to weaken the hostile force/country can now be put on the agenda.

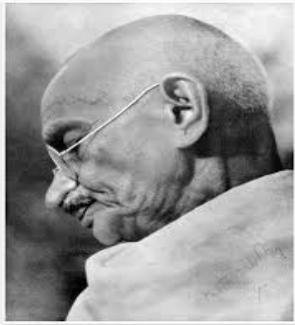
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Haniyeh Was assassinated in Tehran



ویژه نامه قتل اسماعیل هنیہ

The Last Assault of the Warmongers



Abstract

Today's missile attack on Tehran, and the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh could escalate the war in Gaza to a wider arena, begging the question of the IRI's stance on developing nuclear bombs as a preventative measure against the continual aggression of Israel and the USA against the IRI's interests in the region. Simultaneously, one could ask a hypothetical question that if Israel has dared to assassinate Haniyeh in Tehran, could it not be the one to have brought down former President Ebrahim Raisi's helicopter too? If so, where does this aggressive behaviour end, and how can the IRI extricate Israel from continuing with this tactic?

The fury is mounting in Tehran, particularly that the IRI may lose face should it not respond to the attack on its soil. The question is whether to enter an all-out war with Israel and the USA, or to develop a nuclear bomb to cause all sides to take a measured step? The following looks at this academic question.

Pezeshkian's factor

Around two weeks ago the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) establishment hoped that with Pezeshkian coming to power in the guise of Khrushchev in the new era of the IRI revisionism, other players may conclude that they could do business with the new face of the IRI. The suspicious world, however, needed time to comprehend Pezeshkian's gentle approach, and to ascertain whether he is really interested in collaboration, reinvigorating Iran as a reliable partner, and recognizing the need for a wide-ranging deal that prevents Iran from becoming a nuclear power and aggressive towards the West's interest in the region. The pessimistic world believed whatever Pezeshkian had said was just pre-election posing, and the IRI would continue down the path it had chosen in 1979.

Pezeshkian, the new face of the IRI, had repeatedly emphasised he was after one thing only: to remove sanctions and let Iran flourish. He never mentioned any change in the IRI's overall strategy; his messages of "change" and "opening to the world" reminiscent of Gorbachev's Glasnost (or Khrushchev's revisionism), meant nothing but a change of strategy. The West wants to know what this new strategy is, and how much the IRI is prepared to revise its stance.

Will the IRI cease spreading its wings as far as the Mediterranean Sea, Latin America, and Africa, and organising proxy groups in geopolitically important countries? Naturally, an olive branch can only be meaningful when the current strategic depth is revised, and the IRI distances itself from influencing the Middle East's complex current events.

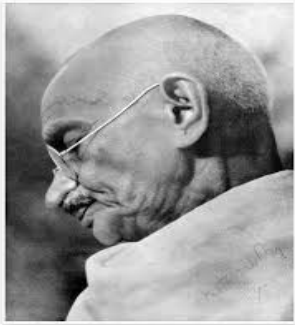
Some analysts believe the IRI is about to revise its strategic depth and pull back from all the concerned geopolitical locations, but will then replace it by acquiring a nuclear capability, hence replicating the '70s détente era of the Cold War and to "act in such a manner as to prevent the development of situations capable of causing a dangerous exacerbation of their relations". Hence if this came to pass, it would constitute an equilibrium amongst the nuclear armed global powers, reducing tensions and continually aggressive postures against the IRI's existence.

There is, nevertheless, an American hardline (generally known as the hawks) who advocate that an aggressive approach towards the IRI is the only practical path that could prevent the IRI from reaching the point of no return and

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becoming a thorn in their eye. Decisive steps should therefore be taken before the IRI has time to contemplate taking this path.

A few days before Pezeshkian's inauguration as the IRI's President, Israel had accused Hezbollah of launching a rocket attack on the Golan Heights that killed several residents, including some children. Hezbollah has denied involvement, and accused Israel of inciting the volatile situation to start off yet another regional conflict which may bring the IRI into the equation. The IRI had also warned Israel in the strongest possible terms that an attack on Lebanon would be met with a strong reaction. Some have tried to argue that getting the IRI involved may bring the whole region to an all-out war, sparks of which could eventually burn the West's interest into ashes.

Reminding decision makers, when Israel attacked the Iranian consulate in Damascus, in a tit-for-tat the IRI launched an air attack on Israel, known as Operation True Promise. Although the IRI launched over 300 drones and some ballistic missiles at Israel, many did not reach Israel, as they were intercepted with aid from the USA, Britain, and France. Even the few which hit did not make a devastating impact on the Israeli military capability. Should the USA, Britain, France, and Türkiye have not gotten involved in defending Israel, the current stand-off might have had a different status.

To make matters more complex, President Erdoğan of Türkiye – a NATO member - has warned Israel that the Turkish army might enter Palestine to put an end to the atrocities enacted by the Israeli Army, and to prevent Israel from extending the war to Lebanon; "enter the conflict as it had done in others" – meaning Libya and Syria. Israeli Minister of Foreign Affairs Israel Katz reminded Erdoğan of how Saddam Hussein ended up: "Just let him remember what happened there and how it ended."

Regardless of whether Erdoğan's posture has teeth or not, whether Türkiye would risk its financial and political gains just to defend Palestinians is more of an academic question and has little weight.

Nonetheless, signs indicate that the warmongers are planning for the last onslaught to intensify the flames of war and to let West Asia burn for a while, anticipating the IRI would get involved. John Bolton, inciting expansion of war, tells The Telegraph that "The West may now have no option but to attack Iran ... Tehran will only accept it has miscalculated if it faces significant costs for its recent acts of aggression". Nothing could be more inviting and effective than killing two birds with one stone; hence killing Hanieh when he is a guest in Tehran.

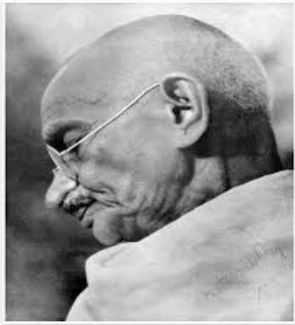
Strategic Depth

After dealing with the armed uprising of the leftist armed opposition forces based in Iran's Kurdistan and Iraq, seeing the end of the eight-year war with Iraq's Saddam Hussein, which was followed by Operation Eternal Light of the Mojahedin-e Khalq (MEK), who were based in Iraq, the IRI was convinced that a more comprehensive strategy needed to be thought of. The strategy was eventually adopted when America and coalition forces invaded the neighbouring countries of Afghanistan and then Iraq.

Invasion of two countries on its doorsteps convinced the IRI that the current defensive military doctrine needed to be formalised and hence, the strategic depth on its western borders needed to be expanded as far as 30 kilometres inside Iraqi territory.

This need was confirmed when ISIS entered the picture, and both Syria and

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Iraq crumbled under the control of ISIS. Once again, the IRI needed to revise its defence doctrine, and concluded that the strategic depth of 30 kilometres was not enough and that it had to change it yet again, from a mere physical security of the border strip to a strategy that incorporates the ideological ingredient too.

For this purpose, and with the direct intervention of Qasem Soleimani and the Quds Force (IRGCQ), in Iraq, Yemen, Syria, as well as Lebanon, the IRGCQ began to train and prepare in-house forces that were subservient to the IRGCQ division.

The new militia that recruited both religious and patriotic individuals locally not only received training from highly expert commandos of the IRGCQ, but also put their newly acquired skills to practice, while fighting ISIS in Iraq and Syria.

The Houthis' skill was tested when Saudi Arabia, Al-Qaeda, and UAE forces began incursion into Yemen. Once again, America, Britain, France, and others, supplied arms and trained the invaders, hoping that the Yemen conflict could come to an easy and speedy conclusion in their favour. This was a miscalculation that had kept the Saudis involved for many years. Eventually the Houthis were triumphant, proving to have become more proficient in guerrilla warfare and asymmetric operations. Similarly, the popular mobilizations in Iraq and Syria were able to not only force ISIS, US, and coalition forces to retreat, but also to persuade countries such as Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, which claimed to be a regional superpower in the Arab world, to recognize the IRI as a capable and competent regional force.

Following the ceasefire between Yemen and Saudi Arabia, the Al-Aqsa Storm awakened many of those who had fallen into hibernation with a shock. When Hamas, a force supported by the IRI, invaded part of the territory that Israel had forcefully claimed, Israel's retaliatory attacks on the defenceless people of Gaza and the brutal murder of civilians and children forced the IRI to adopt yet a new strategy to change its strategic depth.

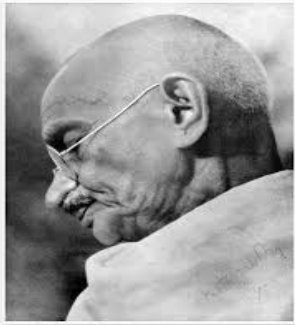


The Israeli response to the Al-Aqsa Storm Operation proved to the IRI that the underground tunnels in Gaza or other locations in the occupied territories, as well as Hezbollah's increasing military presence, could no longer guarantee the security and existence of the IRI. Israel and America have concluded that the Axis of Resistance must be dismantled. Following the Gaza invasion, the IRI needed to measure how far the Israelis and Americans were prepared to go.

In retaliation to the Israeli airstrike on the Iranian consulate in Damascus, which killed several high ranking IRGCQ officers, in the measured, limited and forewarned operation called True Promise, the IRI attacked Israel and bared some of its sharp teeth, hoping that this should stop any further aggression.

Some believe that this risky and ambitious military exercise might have cost the IRI dearly. Soon after, the helicopter of then-President Raisi crashed with no apparent technical reasons, which forced the IRI into an unexpected, early and hurried presidential election. Nevertheless, Operation True Promise had also suggested that perhaps the IRI was close to producing an atomic bomb and may even have some in its arsenal already. That is why it took such a risk in attacking Israel.

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Whether True Promise was a success or just a mere show of outdated drones that could not get through the Iron Dome, it had effectively dampened the flames of tension between Israel and the IRI, as far as the IRI thought.

Since 7 October 2023, when the evil atrocities and human carnage were unleashed, Israel can now claim that the infrastructure of Hamas is largely destroyed, and Hamas' military structure is made inoperable for the foreseeable future; hence Israel has achieved its utmost military objective. This is particularly so after the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh (head of Hamas' political wing), Mohammed Deif (commander of Hamas' military wing), and Fuad Shukur, (a Hezbollah Commander).

Israel could also claim that the second objective was achieved through peaceful means, when China invited all the Palestinian factions, who eventually agreed to form a national unity government, and agree to consider putting a two-state solution back on the agenda. Hence, the continued existence of the state of Israel is now guaranteed by all the Palestinian factions. Israel can now enter the next phase of annihilation of Hezbollah in Lebanon.

Israel is after a direct conflict with the IRI, as well as involving the USA more directly.

The new front with Hezbollah may have two outcomes. One outcome is that the IRI does not directly get involved, in which case Lebanon would eventually crumble. That would allow Israel to deal with the IRI directly without any fear of the surrounding proxy forces. Alternatively, the IRI may get involved directly, in which case a wider war will escalate in the region, and the West involves itself, as they did in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and Libya.

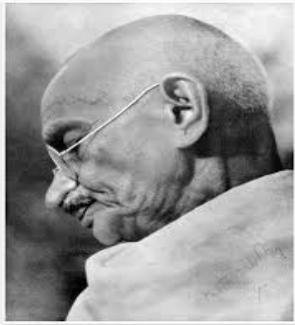
The best solution for Israel is if the IRI does not initially get involved, and lets Hezbollah become as weakened as Hamas is today. The IRI has repeatedly said that would be considered as the last straw.

In view of the above, the IRI, particularly after the election of Pezeshkian, may finally come to conclusion that it is best to retreat inside its own recognised frontiers, and let the proxy forces fight on their own lands; but to acquire a stronger hand to prevent any potentially risk of aggression.

Pezeshkian's interactionist stance may well be the sign that the IRI has changed its defence doctrine yet again and may want to arm itself with nuclear bombs that could act as its "Iron Dome". But leaving its allies/proxy groups in the claws of the enemy will be encountered with a strong protest within the IRI's established theocratic regime. The IRGC has been pushing for both developing nuclear bombs and maintaining ties with the proxy groups, supporting them with technical know-how, and allowing them to stockpile an arsenal that lasts the war with Israel and its allies for a long period.

Pezeshkian seemingly opposes this to a point; instead interested in establishing a concrete business relationship with the West, should he be given the opportunity. The assassination of Haniyeh in Tehran put the IRI on the back step, proving that when it comes to Israel, Pezeshkian will toe the line. Multilateral cooperation may well be desirable for Pezeshkian and the newly formed government, but it does not suit Israel. Israel is after a long conflict that involves everyone on one side, and the IRI on the other. The IRI not only must be humiliated but also left inoperable for a long time. The assassination of Ismail Haniyeh brings the IRI to a dilemma. Should it react to the invasion of Iran's sovereignty, which could further spark the war, or let it

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pass for now? Israel's hope is definitely that it will choose the former, particularly now that all the active Palestinian factions have reached national reconciliation and have agreed to act within the framework of the UN resolutions and commit themselves to the two-state solution. This may well guarantee the continued existence of Israel for now, but will it also secure its existence in the future?

Warmongers who want to disintegrate the large countries in the Middle East into smaller and more manageable states could not achieve their objectives unless a devastating war engulfs the Middle East and certain part of Africa. Nevertheless, such a war cannot begin if the IRI and the USA are not dragged in and do not play the war game, as is expected from them. The United States has however, always maintained that its policy is to keep the enemy as far away from its borders as possible.

Both the isolationist Trump and the interventionist Harris are against direct military involvement. Neither will be willing to enter this costly conflict that has no exit strategy. Hezbollah however has played into Israel's hand, when Hassan Nasrallah said war with Israel has entered a "new phase". This was music to the Israeli war strategists' ears. According to the New York Times the IRI will respond with drone and missile strikes on military targets in Tel Aviv and Haifa.

For many years, the United States has been dependent upon strategic depth well outside its borders. Getting involved in the Korean and Vietnam wars took place in an era when the USA believed in direct involvement in foreign conflicts. But this eventually changed its nature to the financing and arms supply in proxy wars, let others do the direct fighting. The formation of the Zionist state of Israel was partly to fulfil this purpose. Should the oil-rich countries want to rebel, such as in 1967, or to change sides from the American Empire and its allies to the so-called "enemy", such as China or Russia, Israel could act as a proxy of the United States and make the Arab countries regret such a stance.

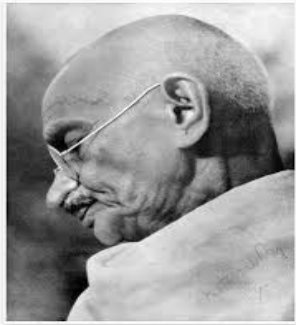
Following the embarrassing and costly outcome of invading Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria, the United States (both Republicans and Democrats) is now convinced that the cost of direct military intervention is far greater for them than supplying and supporting a proxy war, even if it takes a heavy blow (such as the Iran-Iraq war, Saudi-Yemen war, India-Pakistan war, or the Balkan wars).

Israel is, however, a different kettle of fish. One cannot simply ignore the Zionist Israel due to its financial and political lobbying, and its ideological influence among the American elites. For this, when the IRI launched Operation True Promise, the defence of Israel's airspace was covered by France, Britain, and the USA's might. It was however made clear to the Israelis that limited, minimal human cost, and guaranteed support is the maximum price that the United States and allies are prepared to pay. Netanyahu and his fellow thinkers, however, argue that it is now the time for the IRI to be removed, even if the human cost is to be high. The USA, while strategically not wanting Israel to be wiped off the map, is however unwilling to participate in their war game that has no exit plan.

Nuclear weapons

The IRI meticulously listens and analyses all arguments for/against this war game plan.

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Now that Israel has removed the gloves by invading Iran's territorial space and killing Haniyeh, the IRI is left with no solution but to lean towards an Iran armed with nuclear weapons. American presidents, one after the other, have, however, repeatedly warned that they will never allow the IRI to become a nuclear power, and that all options are on the table.

Right-wing politicians, however, insist that a mere warning would not suffice; the USA should destroy the IRI nuclear infrastructure now, before it is too late. They suggest entering a war of the Vietnam calibre would be more cost-efficient for the United States than an IRI with nuclear weapons in its arsenal; particularly that Khamenei's inevitable death and the following change of leadership could have an irreversible impact on Iran's defence doctrine.

The last assault should take place before the doctrine is changed. The counterargument insists that the harder the push, the likelier the IRI will be to jump ship and go to the extreme. When Trump came out of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) the IRI took the opportunity and moved from 20% enrichment to 60% plus. It is now believed that the IRI is only one or two weeks away from producing the bomb. Should the West take a harder line, the IRI may just do as North Korea did.

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Far right group believed to be behind Southport riot

Independent:

Violent clashes took place outside a mosque in Southport on Tuesday night as the town mourns a knife attack that left three young girls dead on Monday.

Rioters mobilised as a vigil was due to take place for the three victims: Bebe King, six, Elsie Dot Stancombe, seven, and Alice Dasilva Aguiar, nine.

Expressing far-right views, the group gathered outside a mosque to protest against Islam after misinformation shared online suggested the attacker, 17, is Muslim.



Why should Haniyeh's murder be condemned?

When Israel targeted the Islamic Republic of Iran's consulate in Damascus, the IRI's military attack was legitimised. It legalised and justified the hostile territory to behave ad hoc. When Qasem Soleimani was killed, it became naturally agreeable for the IRI to attack a military base of a superpower.

When Haniyeh is murdered, not in Palestine, but in a country that is not his homeland, the murder of a political-military guest in a hostile country could become normal and acceptable.

As of today, every person, from the heads of the opposition to a head of a government, has become an acceptable target.

Unfortunately, the countries that support Israel do not realise this, or if



they do, they are happy with the continuation and expansion of the war in the West Asia. Indeed, if they are against terrorism, they should condemn this murder, otherwise they will open all doors and gates to the "blind terror"; any murder can be justified.

To illustrate, a few days ago, a 17-year-old boy, originally from Rwanda but raised in Britain, stabbed and killed three young girls and injured many more in a blind and horrific attack. If this logic is followed, this horrific act can be justified, because Britain, as an accomplice in the murder of tens of thousands of children in Palestine, must be reciprocated in the same way, with acts of "blind terror".

But is this logic truly justified?

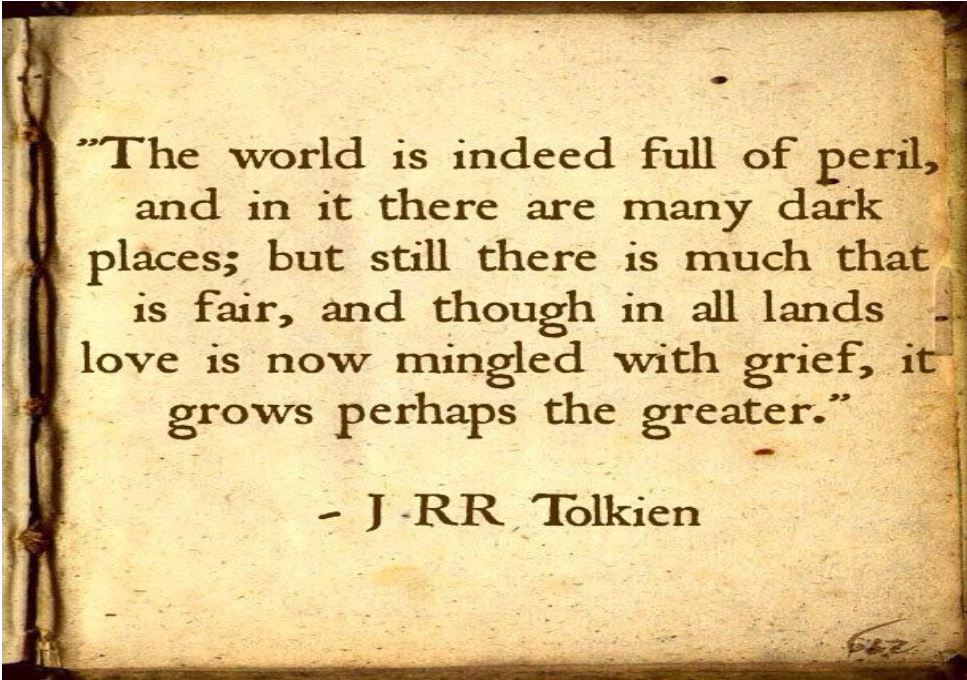
Is this really the right approach to guarantee one's security? Blind killing, the killing of children and defenceless citizens, the killing of political figures when they are official guests in a foreign country?

Indeed, where does this extreme view end?

Ali Behrooz (Dr)
31 July 2024



Getting Closer to the Dooms Day



To Defeat the Fascism, We Must Delegitimize the Ideology

Providence - Nadine Maenza & Brandon H. Wheeler (January 3, 2020) in an article suggest that Islam [IranCrises.info: Religion] is being instrumental in the hands of Fascists.

The rhetoric about the so-called "War on Terror" has led us down the wrong path for 20 years. Terrorism is a tactic. We are not at war with terror. Similarly, our fight is not against radical or extreme Islam. When it comes to the Middle East, particularly Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Iran, it is imperative that we understand the true nature of the threat. We are fighting Islamic Fascism—the political idea in which state actors or nonstate actors are using Islam to rule people through the use of violence. This is not about Islam itself, but rather about belligerents hijacking the religion for their own political purposes. With this definition, it is clear that you can be a good Muslim and not be a fascist. This is the reality for thousands of Sunni Arabs who fought and died alongside Christians and Kurds against ISIS as members of the Syrian Democratic Forces.