

Iran Daily condoles with its readers on the martyrdom anniversary of Hazrat Fatima (PBUH), the daughter of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Our next issue will come out Saturday.

# IRAN DAILY



EXCLUSIVE 6  
Impact of colonialism will be perceptible in Africa for many decades to come

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## Nasrallah: General Soleimani created resistance front against US occupation

The secretary general of Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement said top Iranian anti-terror commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani helped create a resistance front in Iraq and neighboring Syria against the presence of American occupation forces.

Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah made the remarks in a televised speech on Monday evening, while addressing a ceremony held in Beirut to commemorate the second anniversary of the assassination of Gen. Soleimani, the commander of the Quds Force of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the second-in-command of Iraq's Popular Mobilization Units (PMU), and their companions in a US drone strike authorized by former president Donald Trump near Baghdad International Airport on January 3, 2020.

"The presence of US forces in the region has brought about nothing other than destruction, bloodshed and displacement," he said, stating that the targeted killings of the two exemplary anti-terror commanders had severe repercussions for the entire Middle East, Press TV reported.

He highlighted that Soleimani and Muhandis made great grounds across the region, adding that all can draw valuable lessons from their martyrdom.

"The United States occupied Iraq for many years, massacred Iraqi people and looted the country's natural resources. It was Washington that created the Daesh terrorist group, and it, therefore, bears complete responsibility for the extremists' crimes and acts of terror," Nasrallah said.

While the US ruined Iraq through creation and full support of Daesh, the Hezbollah



chief said, Iran defended the Iraqi nation in the face of the terrorists.

"Given the horrendous crimes it has committed in the country, the US cannot be trusted and viewed as a friend of Iraq," Nasrallah pointed out.

He said the General Intelligence Presidency (GIP), which is Saudi Arabia's primary intelligence agency, had for years dispatched bombers to Iraq to carry out terrorist attacks, and Riyadh officially welcomed the advance of Daesh and occupation of large swathes of Iraqi territories in June 2014.

"The US and Saudi Arabia played major roles in the massacre of Iraqi people. Iran, on the other hand, had been a staunch defender of the nation," the Hezbollah leader stressed.

### Rapping normalization with Israel

Nasrallah said Palestinian territories have been occupied for decades, lambasting some Arab states for signing normalization agreements with Tel Aviv whilst millions of

Palestinians are living under Israel's occupation.

"Washington is responsible for all the crimes that Israel has perpetrated against Palestinians and the Lebanese nation. The US and Israel have killed many Palestinians, while the nation's supporters, Gen. Soleimani in particular, have sacrificed their lives," he said.

The Hezbollah chief noted that that Israel continues to threaten Lebanon and Palestine, saying, "The US cannot be considered a friend of Middle Eastern nations since it actively supports their main enemy, which is Israel."

"The US destroyed Syria, waged an all-out war on the country, and left Syrians unprotected in order to face slow and gradual death. This is while Gen. Soleimani and Muhandis confronted US evil plots in Syria," he said.

### Expulsion of US forces

Nasrallah also described the devastating Saudi-led military aggression against Yemen as a US project, emphasizing that the Riyadh

regime is simply playing out Washington's scenarios in its crisis-hit southern neighbor.

"The United States makes wars in the region in order to plunder our resources. Gen. Soleimani was there to alter equations and defeat enemies," the Hezbollah secretary general said.

Nasrallah said expulsion of US forces from the region will be the ultimate revenge for the assassination of Gen. Soleimani and Muhandis, underscoring that the Baghdad government and Iraqi nation are fully responsible for the removal of the occupation troops from the Iraqi soil.

"American forces will be finally driven out of the region. The US cannot be viewed as a great example given the substantial level of its domestic problems. The blood of martyred resistance and anti-terror fighters attests to the fact that Washington is the root cause of all problems in our region.

"As long as US forces are present in the region, there will be more occupation, aggression and oppression," he said.

## Seizure of UAE vessel sent chill down aggressors' spine: Yemen

The spokesman for Yemen's popular Ansarullah resistance movement praised Yemeni naval forces for seizing a United Arab Emirates-flagged cargo vessel as it was engaged in "hostile acts," stating that the incident took the Saudi regime and its allies by surprise and caused an intense feeling of fear in them.

"We extend our thanks to Yemeni naval forces for carrying out such a courageous and challenging military operation, which sent a chill down the aggressors' spine. The seizure conveyed a clear message to them and their sponsors that Yemen can inflict a defeat on them but will not be defeated," Mohammed Abdulsalam wrote in a post published on his Twitter page.

"The Yemeni nation expects the country's armed forces, in the wake of this unique operation, to notch up greater achievements in the future," he added, according to Press TV.

On Monday, the spokesman for the Yemeni Armed Forces said the country's naval troops, backed by allied fighters from Popular Committees, had

managed to seize a UAE-flagged vessel off the port of Hodeida as it was carrying military equipment and engaging in hostile acts.

Brigadier General Yahya Saree stated that the Yemeni forces and their allies



This picture, provided by the media bureau of Yemen's Operations Command Center on January 3, 2022, shows military equipment aboard a United Arab Emirates-flagged military cargo vessel seized by Yemeni naval forces.

captured the vessel after it trespassed into Yemen's territorial waters and was acting against the security and stability of the country.

The senior Yemeni military official added that the ship was loaded with various munitions and was seized off the coast of Yemen's strategic western province of Hodeida.

Meanwhile, Yemeni military and political affairs expert Brigadier General Abdul Ghani al-Zubaidi told Lebanon's Al Mayadeen television news network that the seizure of the Emirati-flagged vessel debunked the myth of Saudi Arabia's strategic security.

"In case the UAE opts to show reactions, the course of events will change and our missiles would likely be fired at it. The operation clearly points to the preparedness and great capabilities of the Yemeni Armed Forces as it is an audacious task to detain a military vessel," Zubaidi said.

He stressed that the capture of the UAE-flagged vessel sent a message to the United States and the Israeli regime, in addition to Riyadh and its allies, and exhibited the fact that the Yemeni Armed Forces possess great capabilities and can harm anyone who dares to attack Yemen.

Saudi Arabia, backed by the United States and regional allies, launched the war on Yemen in March 2015, with the goal of bringing a former friendly government back to power and crushing the Ansarullah movement.

## Emma Watson post in support of Palestinians angers Israeli envoys



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## Iran vows to defend itself forcefully against Israeli aggression

Iran's foreign minister hit back at Israel's foreign minister, Yair Lapid, for his "disturbing remarks" against the Islamic Republic, vowing that the country will defend itself with power against any aggression.

"The disturbing remarks of the foreign minister of the fake Israeli regime against the great nation of Iran" were a pipe dream, Hossein Amir-Abdollahian tweeted.

In an interview on Friday Lapid, when asked if Israel had the ability to strike uranium enrichment facilities or weapons sites in Iran claimed: "Israel has capabilities, some of which the world, and even some experts in the field, cannot even imagine. And Israel will protect itself against the Iranian threat."

He also suggested that Israel could attack Iran, if necessary, without informing the administration of US President Joe Biden, which is looking to rejoin the 2015 nuclear deal.

Israel vocally opposed the accord between Iran and world powers from which former US president Donald Trump withdrew and reimposed sanctions on Iran.

"We will forcefully and rationally defend the rights, interests and progress of the Iranian people," Amir-Abdollahian fired back.

"Zionism has no place in the future of the world," he added.

The Israeli regime has never stopped advertising the threat of "military action" against Iran and falsely accusing the Islamic Republic of seeking to acquire non-conventional military capability.



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Iranian generals, for their part, have decisively warned the Tel Aviv regime on multiple occasions against any adventurism against the country, pledging a crushing response to any attack, Press TV wrote.

Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) launched a massive military exercise last week, following which both Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Mohammad Baqeri and IRGC Chief Commander Hossein Salami warned that the Iranian Armed Forces will "cut off" the hands of aggressors in case of an attack against the country.

Iranian military experts and technicians have in recent years made great progress in developing and manufacturing a broad range of domestically-manufactured equipment, making the Armed Forces self-sufficient in this regard.

Iranian officials have repeatedly underscored that the Islamic Republic will not hesitate to build up its defense capabilities, emphasizing such abilities are entirely meant for the purpose of defense and will be never subject to negotiations.

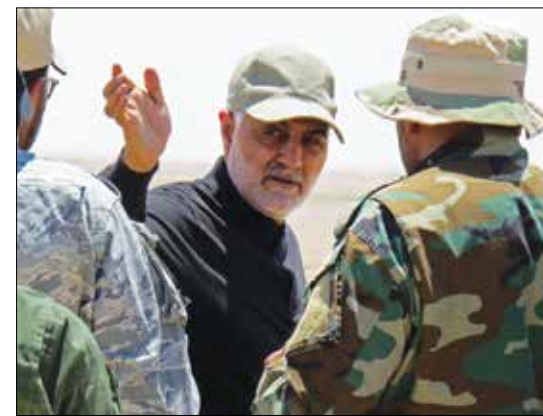
## US assassination of Gen. Soleimani 'war crime': China

China on Tuesday called the US assassination of Iran's top commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani in 2020 a "war crime" and a "wanton violation" of international norms.

"The assassination was an example of Washington's wanton violation of the norms governing international relations based on the United Nations Charter and another war crime committed by the US with excessive use of force," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said on Tuesday, CGNT reported.

Wang made the remarks at a regular press briefing in response to a question about the second anniversary of Gen. Soleimani's assassination in a drone strike near Bagdad airport on January 3, 2020, which was ordered by former US president Donald Trump.

Gen. Soleimani was the commander of the elite Quds Force of Iran's Islam-



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ic Revolution Guards Corps when he was targeted.

The US breaks international law and conducts targeted killings with acts of terrorism in sovereign countries, and kills hundreds of thousands of innocent people in different places across the world, Wang said, describing such behavior as illegal and atrocious.

But the US always uses the "rules-based international order" to white-

wash this behavior, the spokesperson added.

"The US repeatedly claimed that it will defend the 'rules-based international order,'" Wang said.

"But facts have proven over and over again that the US only cares about an order that meets its needs and serves its interests. What the US strives to defend is an order that consolidates its hegemony and allows it to remain above the international community."

People in Middle Eastern countries and across the world will not accept such "rules and order," which are against international law, he added.

Iran's President Seyyed Ebrahim Raeisi on Monday vowed revenge for the assassination of the general unless Trump was put on trial.

Raeisi said Trump as "the prime criminal" of the case must be punished by death for his central role in the deadly strike.

## Raeisi orders relief for Iran's flood-hit regions

President Seyyed Ebrahim Raeisi ordered his chief of staff and the energy minister to mobilize efforts to help flood-hit people in Iran's south.

At least eight people have been killed in flash floods hitting provinces of Fars, Sistan and Baluchestan, Hormuzgan and Kerman due to heavy rains expected to last until later this week.

"So far eight people have died and two are still missing," spokesman for the national rescue service Mojtaba Khaledi said, adding 14 others have been injured.

Five of the deaths occurred in Fars, local crisis management official Rahim Azadi said. Heavy rains damaged "agriculture, infrastructure, urban and rural housing", Azadi added.

Iran's Red Crescent has provided "emergency accommodation for more than 3,000 people, and over 20,000 have received relief assistance", its head of rescue and emergency operations Mehdi Valipour told state television.

"Houses have been flooded and infrastructure such as

roads and communication systems have been damaged," he said, adding more than 500 teams were providing assistance in parts of the country's south and east.



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Pictures published by the Red Crescent on Tuesday showed its personnel setting up tents in sports halls and assisting cars trapped on flooded roads or stuck in snow-covered mountain areas.

Relief operations were underway in 87 cities across more than half of Iran's 31 provinces, it added.

The weather system is expected to last until Friday, an official from Iran's meteorological agency told national television.

Largely arid, Iran has endured repeated droughts over the past decade, but also regular floods.

In 2019, heavy flooding in the country's south left at least 76 people dead and caused damage estimated at more than \$2 billion, AFP wrote.

Scientists say climate change amplifies droughts and that their intensity and frequency in turn threaten food security.