

## Zanzibar president lauds Iran's achievements

TEHRAN (IRNA) — Zanzibar's President Amani Karume here on Saturday lauded Iran's great achievements in different areas in the past three decades.

In a meeting with Iranian First Vice-President Parviz Davudi, he called for exchange of experience between the two states.

He added that his country's experts are willing to utilize the experience of their Iranian counterparts in order to make their country developed.

Expressing his satisfaction with the current visit to Tehran of President Karume, Davudi expressed hope that his visit would open a new chapter in bilateral cooperation.

He also hoped that Iranian experts would help Zanzibar further develop in all areas.

President Karume, heading a delegation, arrived in Tehran this morning to review issues of mutual interest with Iranian officials.

During his six-day stay, the Zanzibar president is to meet his Iranian counterpart President Mahmud Ahmadinejad and several other senior officials.

Zanzibar is located in eastern Africa.

## Iran's envoy: 5+1 group divided over nuclear talks

LONDON (IRNA) — A senior Iranian diplomat says the 5+1 group members are divided in conducting nuclear talks with the Islamic Republic because of its strong negotiation logic.

Rasul Movahedian, Iran's ambassador to Britain, also said on Saturday that the 5+1 group is not supporting EU Foreign Policy Chief Javier Solana in his efforts to continue nuclear talks with Iran.

Movahedian made the comment in an interview with IRNA when asked about the recent letter by Iran's top nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili to Solana on the necessity of continuing nuclear negotiations.

A copy of Jalili's letter has been tendered by Iran's Embassy to British Foreign Secretary David Miliband.

Iran says the 5+1 group is evading negotiating with Tehran over its peaceful nuclear program as the country has underlined the need for constructive talks and cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency and permanent members of the United Nations Security Council plus Germany.

"It should be interesting to the world community that when a logical question arises during talks, the other party resorts to pressure instead of negotiating," Movahedian said.

He said that the 5+1 group is suffering from the lack of coordination in the use of logic in negotiations by the Islamic Republic.

Movahedian noted that world powers have no other alternative but to continue 'serious and logical negotiations' with Iran.

On British policies concerning Iran's nuclear issue, he said that Britain is trying to impose its own views on the Islamic Republic and even other members of the 5+1 group, but has failed to gain any success.

He said that the British government wants to disrupt nuclear talks by proposing new sanctions against Iran's oil and gas sectors.

"Irrespective of the fact that imposing sanctions on our oil and gas sectors is not applicable under the current global financial crisis, such a British approach to Iran's nuclear program will be ineffective," he said.

Referring to the recent Security Council resolution against Iran, he said such resolutions 'have no political value' and indicate that the 5+1 group is not pursuing talks based on mutual respect and understanding.

# Larijani rejects candidacy

➔ Majlis speaker warns against hasty implementation of economic reform plan



Tehran Times Political Desk

TEHRAN — Majlis Speaker Ali Larijani said he will not run in the upcoming presidential elections.

"I have no plans for this," he told reporters on the sidelines of a meeting with the political associations of Fars province in Shiraz, southeast Iran.

Asked why the Majlis does not support the economic reform plan, Larijani said the plan should be studied carefully to see if it will breed more inflation.

Of course, he said, there are some positive points in the plan including the fact that the subsidies will be redirected.

Asked whether implementing the economic plan is essential, Larijani answered if the plan is implemented accurately within a "logical time period", it can be beneficial, otherwise its hasty implementation cannot be successful.

No 'tactical' approach

The speaker also rejected the speculation that it is a "tactic" by conservative camp that has so far refused to introduce its favorite candidates for presidential elections.

"I do not consider this as a tactic."

## Jalili's letter to Solana circulated as UN Security Council document

NEW YORK (IRNA) — Iran's letter to EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana and foreign ministers of the 5+1 group has been circulated as the UN Security Council's document.

Secretary of Supreme National Security Council Saeed Jalili forwarded a letter to Javier Solana, High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy/ Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union and Representative of the six countries on Tuesday, complaining that the Group is looking at nuclear

talks with Iran as merely a tactical tool.

"In view of the Geneva Talks and the emphasis of both sides on presenting a clear response to each other, the Islamic Republic of Iran in its letter of 5 August 2008 expressed its readiness to offer transparent response vis-à-vis reciting clear replies to its questions," Jalili said in his letter to Solana.

It is interesting for the international community to see that in the course of talks when a rational question is raised, the other party to the talks

resorts to levers of pressure instead of offering answers to questions and trying to remove ambiguities, Jalili said, adding that in the judgment of the world community, this unreasonable behavior is an indication of the lack of a clear response to the principled questions of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The absence of civilized tradition of "dialogue" among certain powers that prefer to use levers of pressure instead of reasoning is not a matter that is unknown to the world community, he said.

# Iran condemns UK release of terrorist

Iran has condemned Britain's decision to release a convicted terrorist involved in the London 1980 hostage-taking at the Iranian Embassy.

"Iran strongly condemns the release of the terrorist Fowzi Badavi Nejad who took part in the attack on Iran's London embassy, the hostage taking and the murder of two Iranian diplomats," read a statement released by the Embassy on Friday.

Fowzi Badavi Nejad was one of the six terrorists who took over the Iranian Embassy in London on May 1980 and took 26 people hostage, including embassy personnel,

visitors and two BBC journalists.

After the gunmen threatened to kill a hostage every half hour, the British Special Air Service (SAS) stormed the building and ended the siege. During the six-day incident, the gang killed two hostages and pushed the body of one out onto the Embassy steps.

The gunmen were members of a separatist Iranian group called the Democratic Revolutionary Front for Arabistan, which was financed by the former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

In 1981, the only-surviving gunman, Badavi Nejad, was convicted of conspiracy to murder,

manslaughter, false imprisonment and possessing a firearm by a British court and sentenced to five life sentences.

A British Foreign Office official, who asked to remain anonymous, revealed last week that Badavi Nejad had been granted parole.

The release of the convicted terrorist and the permission granted to him to stay in the UK has angered the former hostages and created security concerns for Iranian diplomats in Britain and their families.

Police officer Trevor Lock, who was a hostage in the 1980 siege, said he had written to the

Government objecting to Nejad's release, but his request had been ignored.

"He shouldn't be allowed to stay in this country... He will be living off the UK taxpayers," he said.

"He commits a major crime, goes to prison, comes out and is allowed to stay in the country where he committed it - madness," said Lock.

Badavi Nejad's release comes just days after another attack on the Iranian embassy. On September 22, the embassy's door was damaged in an assault that forced the London Metropolitan Police to launch an investigation into the incident.

(Source: Press TV)

## Envoy: Iran never yields to bullying powers

BAGHDAD (IRNA) — Iran's Ambassador to Baghdad Hassan Kazemi Qomi said on Saturday that the western countries are quite well aware that Iran never yields to bullying powers and that adoption of such policies against Iran does not bear any fruit.

The recent UNSC resolution 1835 was actually a political statement, he said.

The bullying powers lack logic of dialogue and only try to resolve issues through hegemony, he said.

They even ignored to give proper response to the proposal made by Secretary of Supreme National Security Council Saeed Jalili, he pointed out.

The western countries ignored Iran's proposal which aimed to remove existing ambiguities for both sides and help administer justice and restore peace and tranquility to the world, he said.

## Tehran concerned about U.S. acts of terror

Iran has warned against the grave peril of growing terrorism in its neighboring countries, urging global efforts to counter violence.

Iran's representative to the UN Sixth Committee session criticized counter-terrorism actions by big powers and called for appropriate measures to be taken to root out the problem.

"It is of great concern that many civilians are slain and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries are violated under the pretext of tracking down terrorists," Ishaq al-Habib told the UN session.

His remarks come after the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, warned Washington against pursuing a hidden agenda in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Washington has recently launched numerous missile strikes in volatile regions in northern Pakistan,

leaving many civilians dead in tribal areas.

The U.S., already engaged in two deadly and costly wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, has long claimed to be seeking out terrorists in the oil-rich Middle East.

According to recent reports, however, U.S.-led coalition forces began secret talks with the Taliban after the allies in the so-called war on terror came to an impasse in their efforts to tackle the insurgency in

the violence-racked Central Asian country.

U.S.-led coalition forces have hinted that they are far from victory in Afghanistan. U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates has said that it is necessary to bring the Taliban into a process of reconciliation.

British Brig. Richard Blanchette, the spokesman for the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), has also said there can be no military solution.

Since the invasion of Afghanistan by U.S.-led forces in 2001, many Afghan civilians have been killed in various acts of terror, and many others have been displaced. The number of civilians killed in Afghanistan has worried the international community.

Afghan and UN reports indicate that at least 99 civilians, including a dozen children, were killed in an air raid on August 22 in the village of Azizabad. (Source: Press TV)

## Iran's vice president sets two preconditions for talks with U.S.



TEHRAN (IRNA) — Vice President for Media Affairs Mehdi Kalhor said on Saturday that Iran has set two preconditions for holding talks with the United States of America.

In an exclusive interview with IRNA, he said as long as U.S. forces have not left

the Middle East region and continues its support for the Zionist regime, talks between Iran and U.S. is off the agenda.

It is the Americans who are in dire need of reestablishing ties with Iran, he underlined.

Iran is not obliged to reestablish ties with the U.S., he said.

"If they take our advice, grounds for such talks would be well prepared," he said.

It is stupidity to hold talks without any change in U.S. attitude, he underlined.

## Mottaki voices concern over rise of terrorism, extremism in region

TEHRAN (IRNA) — Foreign Minister Manuchehr Mottaki Friday evening expressed deep concern about expansion of terrorism and extremism in the region.

Talking to IRNA prior to his departure from Islamabad, the foreign minister said the Western governments themselves would face the dangerous consequences of these two phenomena in the region.

Tehran believes that foreigners are the main cause of rise of extremism in the region, he said, noting that those who arrived in the region with the motto of security and democracy, are the root cause of creation of violence and insecurity.

On critical situation in Afghanistan, Mottaki stressed that both Pakistan and Iran attach great importance to Afghan security and stability.

Tehran and Islamabad also underscored the need to help the Afghan democratic government and nation to solve their problems, he added.

Condemning the recent terrorist operations in Pakistan, Mottaki said Pakistan is a major regional country whose stability and security is important to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

As to the situation of the Iranian hostages transferred to Pakistan, he said the main issue discussed with the Pakistani officials was the issue of hostage taking.

He urged Islamabad to extradite those hostage takers who are imprisoned in the country to Iran to stand trial in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

He called on the Pakistani officials to make their border lines insecure for the terrorists and make efforts to prevent repetition of such incidents.

Mottaki arrived in Islamabad Friday morning to discuss issues of mutual interest with senior Pakistani officials.

During his one-day visit, he held talks with President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani, and his counterpart Shah Mahmood Qureshi.

## Larijani to visit Switzerland, Finland

Tehran Times Political Desk

TEHRAN — Majlis Speaker Ali Larijani plans to visit Switzerland at the head of a high-ranking parliamentary delegation to participate at the 119th International Parliamentary Union (IPU) conference in Geneva.

The IPU conference, from October 13 to 15, will bring together parliament speakers and lawmakers from more than 140 nations.

It will be Larijani's first foreign visit as parliament speaker. During the conference, he will hold talks with counterparts from different countries and some officials of the host country.

Larijani will also present a speech at the conference.

The conference is an opportunity to discuss plans for parliamentary cooperation between Iran and other participating countries.

During the meeting, subjects such as the role of parliaments in advancing nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, securing the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, climate change, sustainable development models and renewable energies, freedom of expression and the right to information will be studied in three expert committees by lawmakers from around the world.

Larijani will also pay a two-day visit to Helsinki where he will hold talks with senior Finnish officials on bilateral relations including parliamentary ties and discussions over international issues.