

## Terror acts targeted Iraq's peace and stability: Larijani

**Tehran Times Political Desk**  
**TEHRAN** — In separate messages to the Iraqi president, prime minister, and parliament speaker, Iranian Majlis Speaker Ali Larijani has said that the terrorists, involved in the recent attacks in Baghdad, have aimed at disturbing its peace and stability.

Larijani added that the recent terror acts in Iraq showed the real face of the enemies and the so-called upholders of democracy, the Majlis media office reported.



Those who commit such crimes are intending to undermine the determination of the Iraqis to build a united, free, and Islamic Iraq, Larijani emphasized.

Some 150 people were killed and over 700 injured in two bomb attacks in Baghdad on Sunday.

The blasts hit Iraq's Ministry of Justice and a provincial government office, the Iraqi police said. Smoke billowed from the area near the Tigris River after two vehicles packed with explosives blew up just outside the Green Zone.

It was the deadliest attack in Iraq since August 2007, when truck bombs hit two ministry compounds and killed over 100 people.

## Iranian Consul in Jeddah appointed

**TEHRAN** — With the approval of President Mahmud Ahmadinejad, Mojtaba Qaemi-Mehr was appointed as Iranian Head Consul in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki had earlier proposed him for the position of the head consul.

Qaemi-Mehr previously served as the director general of press and media department of the Foreign Ministry, diplomat in foreign countries, editor-in-chief and editor of the internal dailies.

## Fordo nuclear plant is impregnable: general

**Tehran Times Political Desk**  
**TEHRAN** — The director of Iran's Civil Defense Organization has said the Fordo uranium enrichment facility is protected against any possible military strike.

Iran's new nuclear plant, as well as the Natanz enrichment plant and the Isfahan Uranium Conversion Facility, were all built under the supervision of the CDO, Brigadier General Gholam-Reza Jalali told the Mehr News Agency on Monday.

"We tried to build the country's nuclear sites based on new designs and tried to take every necessary civil defense precaution," he said.

Jalali also stated that the Fordo nuclear project will be completed soon.

# Ahmadinejad says expansionist policies cause of man's sufferings



**TEHRAN (IRNA)** — Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said countless bitter incidents throughout the history have poisoned man's life, stressing that cooperation, sympathy and shared scientific works were the key to building a bright future for the mankind.

The President made the remarks

in a meeting with the participants of the 3rd International Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad which was launched in Tehran October 18-26.

Ahmadinejad added that man's history has never been the ideal destiny for him.

He also called on all young scholars and scientists to help build a future for the mankind which would be truly becoming of its merits and capacities.

Commenting on the designation of 2009 as the International Year of Astronomy, the president noted that holding of such scientific events as the present Olympiad provides a chance for young scientists to develop a more vivid vision of man's future.

Students from 20 countries took part in the 9-day Olympiad event.

## Unlike US, Iran security based on people: Jalili

**TEHRAN (Press TV)** — Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Saeed Jalili says, unlike Washington, Tehran has always depended on its vast human resources for its security needs.

"The Islamic Republic, with the full support of the Iranian people, has always remained immune to foreign threats over the past 30 years," he said on Monday.

Despite possessing "nuclear and non-nuclear arsenals," and relying on "advanced and sophisticated weaponry," Washington and other world powers have failed to establish lasting security, Jalili added.

"When it comes to providing security, unlike the United States, the Islamic republic of Iran bases its approach on justice, serving the people, and interacting and communicating with them," he added.



Jalili was speaking against a backdrop of a deadly terrorist attack that left more than 40 people killed in the southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan on Sunday.

The Pakistan-based Jundallah terrorist group has claimed responsibility for the attack, which also resulted in the death of senior commanders from the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), Nour-Ali Shoushtari and Rajab-Ali Mohammadzadeh.

Led by Abdulmalek Rigi, Jundallah terrorists have staged a tidal wave of bombings and terrorist attacks in Iran, one of which left at least 25 Iranians dead in early June.

Although tragic and heartbreaking, the incident, "which saw the blood of IRGC martyrs and non-Baluch compatriots shed alike," will further strengthen unity and solidarity among Iranians, Jalili concluded.

## 'National interest should be considered during nuclear talks'

**Tehran Times Political Desk**

**TEHRAN** — Former advisor to the foreign minister Ali Khorram stated that national interests should be considered during the nuclear talks between Iran and the 5+1 group.

Negotiations are the best way to resolve the issues; however, national interests should also be taken into account during the talks, he told the Mehr News Agency on Monday.

Khorram added that Russia is the most dependable state from among the 5+1 group.

"Currently, Russia is a dependable country to the Islamic Republic of Iran because the officials of our country (Iran) have many

political coordinations with Russia at a high level," he said.

The five permanent members of the UN Security Council (Britain, China, France, Russia, and the U.S.) and Germany — which are collectively known as the 5+1 group — plan to hold a new round of wider-ranging nuclear talks with Iran in Geneva next week.

The nuclear fuel talks in Vienna concluded on Wednesday October 21 without a final agreement, but IAEA Director General Mohamed ElBaradei presented a proposal for the four countries (Iran, Russia, France and the U.S.) to study, saying he hoped that all parties would make a firm response to his draft deal by Friday October 23.

Under the draft deal, a large consignment of Iran's enriched uranium would be shipped out of the country for processing into fuel rods with a purity of 20 percent, which would be used by a research reactor in Tehran that manufactures medical radioisotopes.

Iran has not yet responded to the draft yet.

"We are still working and elaborating on all the details of this proposal, from technical and all other aspects," Iran's IAEA Ambassador, Ali Asghar Soltanieh told ISNA on Saturday.

"After the final evaluation, I will inform ElBaradei next week, as soon as I return to Vienna, about the results (of our evaluation)," he said.

## Turkish PM says West treating Iran unfairly

**LONDON (AFP)** — Turkey's prime minister accused Western powers of treating Iran unfairly over its peaceful nuclear program, in an interview Monday in which he referred to the Iranian president as a friend.

Speaking to The Guardian newspaper, Recep Tayyip Erdogan downplayed Western concerns that Iran wants to build nuclear weapons as "gossip", and implied that the accusers were guilty of hypocrisy.

"There is a style of approach which is not very fair because those (who accuse Iran of pursuing nuclear weapons) have very strong nuclear infrastructures and they don't deny that," he said.

"The permanent members of the UN Security Council all have nuclear arsenals and then there are countries which are not members of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) which also have nuclear weapons.

"So although Iran doesn't have a weapon, those who say Iran shouldn't have them are those countries which do."

Erdogan also said a military strike against Iranian nuclear installations would be "crazy", according to the newspaper.

"If the idea is to devastate Iran or somehow erase it altogether I don't think that would be right," he added.

"On the one hand you say you want global peace, on the other hand you are going to have such a destructive approach to a state which has 10,000 years of history. It is not correct."

Turkey, a NATO member, has in recent years improved ties with Iran, its eastern neighbor, and sought to help resolve the nuclear dispute.

Erdogan said of Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinejad: "There is no doubt he is our friend. We have kept very good relations and we have had no difficulty at all."

## Hariri to visit Iran, Mottaki says

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The reporter also asked if he thinks Israel will attack Iran's nuclear facilities, and if so, how would Iran respond.

The Iranian foreign minister said that Israel is currently in its weakest position ever and cannot realize its aggressive goals.

However, Iran will be ready to give a crushing response to any insane move on the part of the Israelis, he added.

In response to a Brazilian reporter who asked if Tehran and Brasilia are going to increase their bilateral nuclear cooperation, Mottaki said that in the near future, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad will make a trip to Brazil, on the Brazilian president's invitation, and hopefully it will be a turning point in bilateral relations.

Last year the two countries' foreign ministers exchanged visits to prepare the groundwork to enhance strategic ties, he noted.

On the nuclear issue, Mottaki said that Iran and Brazil have the same stance and recognize the inalienable right of nuclear

Non-Proliferation Treaty signatories to utilize nuclear energy meant for peaceful purposes.

He went on to say that the Vienna talks over providing the Tehran reactor with nuclear fuel resumed last week.

Iran has announced it needs 20 percent enriched uranium for the Tehran reactor and received a proposal to receive the 20 percent enriched uranium in return for a consignment of about 5 percent enriched uranium, he added.

"We are examining the proposal and will respond soon."

A Russian reporter asked his view about the anti-Russian slogans chanted by some post-election protesters.

Mottaki said Iran is a democratic country and different parties can express their own ideas about foreign policy, but the Iranian administration has a stable diplomatic relationship with Russia and the cooperation in the construction of the Bushehr nuclear power plant is a symbol of this.

On the proposed Iran-Pakistan-India gas

pipeline, Mottaki stated that India still has time to rejoin the project.

On China's role in the nuclear negotiations, he said China is an important country that has access to nuclear technology, and if China is willing to provide Iran nuclear fuel, Iran will welcome the cooperation with China.

Mottaki also paid a visit to the Mehr News Agency and Tehran Times daily booth at the Tehran press fair.

An MNA reporter asked him about the results of the recent nuclear talks with the West and the possibility that there are ulterior motives behind their proposal.

"If we believe in the vigilance of the Islamic Republic's diplomacy, we know that Iran will not get stuck in a trap," he replied.

A Tehran Times reporter asked Mottaki about the recent terrorist attacks in Iraq.

He strongly condemned the terrorist acts in Iraq, saying, "We believe there are some ulterior motives behind these acts, the most important (being) an attempt by foreign forces in Iraq to prolong their presence in the country."

## 'Pakistan pledges to capture Jundallah terrorists and extradite them to Iran'

**Tehran Times Political Desk**

**TEHRAN** — Iranian Interior Minister Mostafa Mohammad Najjar has said that Pakistani officials have promised to cooperate with Iran and to take the measures necessary to capture the members of the Rigi terrorist group and extradite them to Iran.

Pakistan and Iran are both victims of terrorism and should cooperate in efforts to establish security in the region, he told reporters in Tehran on Monday.



The Jundallah terrorist group, which is also known as the Rigi group because it is led by Abdul-Malek Rigi, has claimed responsibility for an attack that killed over 40 people, including five senior commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in the southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan on October 18.

Militants of the Jundallah ring regularly cross over into Iran from their hideouts in neighboring Pakistan to attack civilians and police officers.

Najjar said that during his visit to Pakistan he informed Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani, and Interior Minister Rehman Malik about the Iranian nation's expectations of Pakistan.

He also stated that Tehran and Islamabad have drafted a security agreement on cooperation in dealing with problems such as human trafficking, illicit drug trafficking, and arms trafficking on their borders, as well as money laundering and cyber crime.



## Russia asks West to 'patiently wait' over Iran

Russia has urged world powers to 'patiently wait' for Iran to consider and respond to an IAEA-drafted proposal on a third-party nuclear fuel supply.

In a Monday interview with the Vremya Novostei, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said Western countries, for starters, should stop accusing the Tehran government of wasting time.

"We should not give the impression that everything has stayed as it was," he noted. "On the contrary, we need to give the Iranians positive stimuli."

"And will it be possible to do this if it is presumed that the Iranians are wasting time?" he asked.

Ryabkov said the IAEA draft deal, which was sent to Iran, Russia, the United States and France on last Wednesday, has helped "cool down emotions" and hence provided an upbeat forecast for future meetings.

The Tehran research reactor, which supplies medical isotopes for treating cancer to more than 200 hospitals in Iran, requires uranium enriched up to 20 percent.

Iran's Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki announced on Monday that Tehran will soon express its views about the deal. "We may give money to supply the fuel as we did in the past or we may deliver part of the fuel that we currently possess but we do not need," Mottaki said.

Ryabkov urged European powers to focus on the significant progress that has been made in discussions between Iranian diplomats and representatives of the P5+1 (the permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany).

*(Source: Press TV)*

## 12 million Iranians are smokers

**TEHRAN** — The managing director of the Iranian Tobacco Company says that 12 million Iranians smoke cigarettes.

"There are 12 million cigarette smokers across the country, bringing tobacco turnover to \$3 billion," Mohammad Abtahi said here on Sunday while visiting the booth of the Tehran Times daily and the Mehr News Agency at the Tehran Press Fair.

"However, drug smuggling in Iran has decreased by 10 percent over the past year," Abtahi added.

He stated that the daily per capita consumption of cigarettes in the world is 7 but the rate is 2.2 in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It is projected that Iranians will smoke 61.2 billion cigarettes in the current Iranian calendar year of 1388 (began March 21, 2009), up from 60.4 billion in Iranian calendar year 1387 (March 2008-March 2009), showing a projected rise of 1.2 percent over the past year, he said.

Iran's Tobacco Company's latest figure shows tobacco turnover reached 3 billion dollars.

"Around 30 percent of the turnover is authorized by the Iran's Tobacco Company and the rest is carried out by smugglers and foreign companies," Abtahi added.

According to the Iranian tobacco company over one third of cigarettes around the world are contributed by smugglers.

The Tobacco Atlas estimates that tobacco use kills some six million people each year — more than a third of whom will die from cancer — and drains \$500 billion annually from global economies.

According to the World Health Organization, one in ten deaths among adults worldwide is caused by tobacco. Tobacco caused 100 million deaths in the 20th century. Just in 2005, it caused an average of one death every six seconds. If current trends continue, the death toll is expected to reach over 8 million annually by 2030 and could hit one billion deaths in the 21st century.