

Leader urges manhunt for Kerman masterminds

National Desk

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said the Islamic Republic insists on finding the masterminds of the Kerman terrorist attacks. The Leader noted that the Islamic Republic does not insist on accusing others for the Wednesday incident but insists on finding and suppressing the real and behind-the-scene perpetrators of the attacks which killed more than 90 people. Ayatollah Khamenei made the remarks during a meeting with thousands of people from Qom on Tuesday, marking the anniversary of the 1978 popular uprising in the holy city against the former US-backed Pahlavi regime. He expressed hope that the authorities would find the masterminds involved in the attack and punish them. The bombings, which were claimed by the Daesh terrorist group, were carried out near the burial site of Iran's late anti-terror commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani during a ceremony marking the fourth anniversary of his killing. The blasts left 91 people, including 14 Afghans, dead and 286 others wounded.

Soleimani who was the commander of the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, was assassinated in a US strike near Baghdad International Airport on January 3, 2020. According to authorities in the southeastern province of Kerman, all individuals suspected to be involved in the attack have been arrested so far. The leader also pointed to the importance of the active presence of people in the country's events, saying that the United States and Israel have been pursuing the policy of decreasing the participation of Iranians in the country's important occasions. He described the enemy's effort in downplaying the presence of people in the events, such as the Arba'een march and the anniversary of the assassination of Iranian anti-terror commander General Qassem Soleimani, as one of its tricks to decrease the people's participation in such occasions. Ayatollah Khamenei said that the reason for their enmity is that they have found that the main factor behind Iran's progress, its emergence as an important power in the region, and the creation of the resistance forces across the region, and foiling all of their



Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei speaks during a meeting with people from the central province of Qom on January 9, 2024. khamenei.ir

plots, including coups and imposed wars against Iran, is the presence of Iranian people in the country's events. He also referred to the foreign media's efforts to discourage people, especially the youth, from having hope in the future of the country, as other plots to decrease the people's participation on such occasions. Ayatollah Khamenei underlined that the best way to counter such

plots is the active presence of people in the country's political and economic issues, elections and even the security issues. The Leader of the Islamic Revolution also touched upon the ongoing Israeli onslaught on the Gaza Strip, saying that the resistance of Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory has frustrated the United States and Israel. He said that a limited number of people in a limited area of land

called the Gaza Strip managed to frustrate the United States and its vassal, Israel. The crimes that Israel is committing against the Palestinians will be recorded in history even after the regime is wiped off the face of the earth, he asserted. Additionally, he noted, it will not be forgotten that the patience of the Palestinian people and their resilience forced the regime to retreat.

Hezbollah hits Israeli base with drones in response to killings



AFP

Hezbollah launched explosive drones at an army base in northern Israel on Tuesday, declaring the attack part of its response to recent Israeli assassinations in Lebanon, as sources reported three Hezbollah fighters killed in an Israeli strike. The group said its drones had hit the Israeli army headquarters in Safed as part of retaliation for last week's killing of deputy Hamas leader Saleh al-Arouri in Beirut, and in response to Monday's killing of a Hezbollah commander, Reuters reported. A source familiar with Hezbollah operations said it marked the first time the group had attacked Safed, some 14 km (8 miles) from the border, during hostilities that began three months ago after Hamas attacked Israel from the Gaza Strip. An Israeli army spokesperson said a northern base was hit in an aerial attack but there had been no damage or casualties. The spokesperson did not say precisely where the incident occurred. More than 130 Hezbollah fighters have been killed in Lebanon during the hostilities with Israel, their worst confrontation since they went to war in 2006. The violence has forced tens of thousands of people to flee homes on both sides of the border, and has raised concern the conflict could intensify and spread further. The three Hezbollah fighters killed on Tuesday in a strike on their vehicle in the town of Ghandouriyeh in the south of Lebanon, the sources said, without identifying them.

In a statement, the Israeli military said its air force attacked Hezbollah targets in Kila - an apparent reference to the Lebanese border village of Kfar Kila - and a drone squad belonging to the group elsewhere in southern Lebanon. The Hezbollah commander killed on Monday, Wisam Tawil, was a commander in Hezbollah's elite Radwan forces and the most senior Hezbollah officer killed so far in the conflict. He had played a leading role in directing its operations in the south. Hezbollah deputy leader Naim Qassem, in a televised speech on Tuesday, said his group did not want to expand the war from Lebanon, "but if Israel expands it, the response is inevitable to the maximum extent required to deter Israel".

Hamas chief urges Muslim states to arm resistance

Gaza War not Palestinians' only: *Haniyeh*

International Desk

Head of Hamas' political bureau Ismail Haniyeh has called for Muslim states' support in Gaza war, saying the war in Gaza is not just about the Palestinian people. "We see countries of the world pouring weapons into the occupation (Israel)... The time has come (for Muslim states) to support the resistance with weapons, because this is... not the battle of the Palestinian people alone," Haniyeh said on Tuesday in a speech in Doha. He also underlined that the Israeli enemy has failed to achieve any of its objectives in the war on the Gaza Strip. Israel vowed to crush Gaza's

Hamas after the resistance group carried out the deadliest attack in the regime's history on October 7. The Israeli army said on Tuesday that 185 soldiers have been killed so far in its offensive against Hamas fighters in the Gaza Strip. It said nine soldiers died in fighting on Monday, one of the deadliest days for the military since it launched a ground invasion of the Palestinian territory on October 27. On Tuesday, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken held talks in Israel as he sought a plan for Gaza's post-war future, while Israel's military pushes ahead with its offensive in the beleaguered territory.

Blinken, on his latest mission to rein in the Gaza war, told Israeli leaders that there was still a chance of winning acceptance from their Arab neighbors, if they create a path to a viable Palestinian state. On his fourth trip to the region since October in a so far largely fruitless quest to tamp down the violence, Blinken said he would share what he had heard in two days of talks with Jordan, Qatar, the UAE and Saudi Arabia. Blinken had already said he would press Israel on the "absolute imperative" to do more to protect Gaza's civilians and allow humanitarian aid to reach them. His boss, President Joe Biden, said overnight that Washington

was quietly pushing Israel to begin withdrawing some forces. Biden, confronted on Monday by protesters shouting "Cease-fire now!" while visiting a church in South Carolina, said he had been "quietly" working to encourage Israel to ease its attacks and "significantly get out of Gaza". The Health Ministry in Gaza said Tuesday at least 23,210 people have been killed in the Palestinian territory, adding that it had recorded 126 deaths in the past 24 hours. The UN humanitarian office OCHA said that "as casualties rise, the ability to treat them continues to be in jeopardy". It said three hospitals in central Gaza and Khan Younis, including

Al-Aqsa, were "at risk of closure due to the issuance of evacuation orders in nearby areas and the ongoing conduct of hostilities nearby". Sean Casey, World Health Organization Emergency Medical Teams coordinator in Gaza, said that "we are seeing the health system collapse at a very rapid pace". He said many staff at the Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis had joined hundreds of thousands of other Gazans crowded into shelters in the strip's southernmost tip, leaving just one doctor for more than 100 burn victims. **AP, AFP, REUTERS, and Al Jazeera contributed to the report.**

First Announcement


N.I.S.O.C
 NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
 AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-38-0040002

National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends to purchase the following goods

Items	Material Description	Quantity
27	PARTS FOR "WENZEL" HYDRAULIC FISHING JAR 3-3/8 IN. OD., 1-1/2 IN. ID., 2-3/8 API IF CONN. VALVE MANDREL HOUSING	135 NO

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.nisoc.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 35,204/23 EURO or 15,043,543,818 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials thorough technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment Forms can be accessed via: www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab. ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P.

NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D. SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.
NOTE: Based on enactment issued by Nisoc's Tender committee, foreign companies must submit a Bid Bond Guarantee amounting to aforementioned (paragraph 1)Euro amount. Otherwise, their quotations will not be considered.

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex, Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran
 Tel. No.: 061 34 12 4644
 Fax No.: 061 34 45 74 37

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Iran rejects US claims on Yemen's Red Sea attacks

Iran's permanent ambassador to the United Nations rejected the United States' "unfounded allegations" against Iran concerning Yemen's pro-Palestine operations in the Red Sea, slamming it as a bid to divert attention from the "root causes" of the situation in the key maritime waterway. In a letter to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, the Iranian envoy reaffirmed Tehran's commitment to maritime security and freedom of navigation, and rejected "unfounded allegations" made by the US and Israel at a UNSC open briefing on the situation in the Red Sea held last Wednesday, Press TV reported. US Deputy Ambassador Christopher Lu urged the UNSC to take action against Yemen over its pro-Palestine operations that have targeted Israeli-linked ships in the Red Sea, and accused Iran of being "deeply involved in planning operations against commercial vessels in the Red Sea." The letter added that the recent incidents in the Red Sea came in response to Israel's US-backed "genocidal war" in the Gaza Strip. It urged the UN Security Council "to uphold its responsibilities to address the causes of the current situation in the Red Sea" and take decisive measures to "compel" the Israeli regime to end its brutal war on Gaza. The Iranian envoy also warned against any provocative or irresponsible actions by the United States in the Red Sea that may endanger the peace and security of the region.