

# Leader urges Muslim elites to push for cutting ties with Israel

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said the elites of the Muslim world shoulder a heavy responsibility vis-à-vis the ongoing developments in Gaza and should create a public demand to cut relations with the Israeli regime. Speaking at a meeting with a group of commanders and personnel of the Iranian Air Force and Army's Air Defense Force in Tehran on Monday, Ayatollah Khamenei cautioned against "humanitarian catastrophes" unfolding in Gaza following US support for the Israeli regime, Press TV reported. He stated that nations are capable of pressing their governments to end their support for the Israeli regime.

Although this "cruel and wolflike" regime has taken the lives of women, children and the sick and killed more than 27,000 people, some Muslim countries still provide it with economic aid and even weapons, the Leader noted. "A decisive blow does not mean going to war with the Zionist regime (Israel), but it

means cutting off economic relations with it," he said.

Elsewhere in his remarks, the Leader warned of the enemy's "specific plot" against Iranian elites inside and outside the country, saying the enemy primarily seeks to prevent the elites' growing role in the country and raise doubts among them.

He urged Iranian elites to thwart the enemy's plots aimed at raising doubts in the country.

Ayatollah Khamenei asserted that national power boosts national security, saying that the enemy's plots will be neutralized when it witnesses the Iranian people's presence and preparedness as well as the Islamic establishment's power.

He added that the elites can play a major role in high-turnout parliamentary elections on March 1, whose outcomes, he contended, would boost national might. He further said the elites' negligence toward their duties would lead to a devastating blow to the Iranian nation.



Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei speaks during a meeting with a group of commanders and personnel of the Iranian Air Force and Army's Air Defense Force in Tehran on February 5, 2024.

● khamenei.ir

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Iran 'will not hesitate' to respond to any attack on its territory**

### International Desk

Iran said Monday it "will not hesitate" to respond in the event of US attacks on its territory after the White House declined to say whether strikes on Iran were ruled out.

White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan said Sunday the US will press on with its retaliation against resistance groups in Iraq and Syria, which the US says are being supported by Iran.

Asked whether the United States would rule out the possibility of striking Iran directly, Sullivan told NBC, "It would not be wise for me to talk about what we're ruling in and ruling out."

"If (Iran) chose to respond directly to the United States, they would be met with a swift and forceful response from us," he said. Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani hit back on Monday, saying: "The Islamic Republic has shown that it has always reacted decisively to any threat to its security, territorial integrity and sovereignty."

Iran "will not hesitate to use its capabilities" to respond to any attacks on its soil, said Kanaani during his weekly press briefing. He, however, reiterated that Iran "does not seek to aggravate tensions and crises in the region."

**Pakistan calls on int'l community to halt India's use of force against Kashmiris**

### International Desk

Pakistan's Ambassador to Iran Muhammad Mudassar Tipu called on the international community to urge India to halt the brute use of force against the Kashmiri people. He made the remarks during a ceremony organized by the Embassy of Pakistan in Tehran to commemorate the Kashmir Solidarity Day.

The Pakistani diplomat said, "For over seven decades, Kashmiris have been victims of India's state-sponsored terrorism, including gross and systematic violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, which have further intensified under the BJP-RSS combined "Hindu Rashtra" project, under which sinister anti-Kashmiri policies are also being pursued to change the demographic composition of the occupied territory."



## Raisi: Restored ties to help Iran, Sudan compensate for lost opportunities

### International Desk

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said Tehran considers restoration of ties between Iran and Sudan as a basis for compensating lost opportunities.

Raisi made the remarks at a meeting with visiting Sudanese Foreign Minister Ali al-Sadiq Ali in Tehran on Monday.

Referring to the existing capacities in the two countries and their mutual will to improve political, economic and cultural relations, the Iranian president said the exchange of ambassadors and the reopening of embassies in Tehran and Khartoum can pave the way for the revival and development of ties between the two countries.

Back in October 2023, Iran and Sudan agreed to re-



Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi (R) shakes hands with Sudanese Foreign Minister Ali al-Sadiq Ali in a meeting in Tehran on February 5, 2024.

● president.ir

store diplomatic relations after seven years following a thaw in ties between Iran and Saudi Arabia in March 2023, which led to restorations of ties between many regional countries. Earlier on Monday, the Sudanese foreign minister also held a separate meeting with his Iranian coun-

terpart Hossein Amir-Abdollahian.

Both officials expressed the determination of their countries to strengthen cooperation as a new chapter has opened in mutual ties after a seven-year hiatus.

"The presence of the Sudanese delegation in Tehran

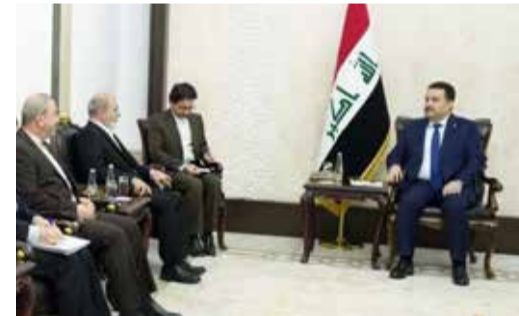
indicates the firm determination of high-ranking Sudanese officials to expand relations," said Amir-Abdollahian.

He added that the reopening of the two countries' embassies would play an important role in improving bilateral cooperation.

The top Iranian diplomat noted that the country has great capacities and experience in the industrial sector, technical and engineering services, modern technologies, medicine and pharmacology, which it can share with Sudan to help the African country achieve development and progress.

The Sudanese foreign minister, for his part, regretted that Tehran and Khartoum had severed relations, and said his country is resolute on boosting ties with Iran in various fields.

## Iraqi PM: Baghdad against unilateral actions that contradict int'l principles



### International Desk

Iraq's Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani said his country will not accept any unilateral action by neighboring countries that contradict the international principles based on mutual respect of the countries' sovereignty.

In a meeting with Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) Ali Akbar Ahmadian in Baghdad on Monday, al-Sudani said that Iraq has proved it is seeking good relations with countries in the region, but will not compromise on its security and sovereignty.

The Iraqi prime minister stressed that Baghdad has made enormous efforts in line with ensuring stability and peace in the region.

Ahmadian, for his part, reaffirmed Iran's commitment to Iraq's security and stability, saying that Tehran insists on the continuation of cooperation between the two countries in accordance with a security agreement signed between the two neighbors.

In a separate meeting with Iraqi national security adviser Qasim al-Araji, Ahmadian said that Iran respects the national sovereignty of Iraq, and that the two countries can resolve their problems through constructive negotiations.

The meeting came weeks after Iran launched missile strikes on anti-Iran groups and an Israeli spy headquarters in Erbil, the capital of the semi-autonomous region of Kurdistan.

Iraq condemned the strikes as "attack on its sovereignty," recalled its ambassador from Tehran, and summoned Iran's envoy in protest at the attack.

Meanwhile, the head of the Iran-Iraq Chamber of Commerce, Yahya Al-e Eshaq, rejected media reports about the revocation of the license of Iran's Bank Melli in Iraq, saying that the Iranian bank has not been active in the country over the past two years.



## Calling for graphite electrode manufacturers and suppliers

Arvand Jahan Ara Steel Co. is located near the city of Khorramshahr in Khouzestan province, south west of Iran, intends to invite qualified suppliers/manufacturers to supply 500 tons of Graphite Electrodes for electrical arc furnaces.

Therefore, any company that is interested can send a request to participate in the tender and its reference list to the following email address till February 13, 2024.

Address E-mail: [Edris-s@ajs.co.ir](mailto:Edris-s@ajs.co.ir)

Web site: [www.ajs.co.ir](http://www.ajs.co.ir)