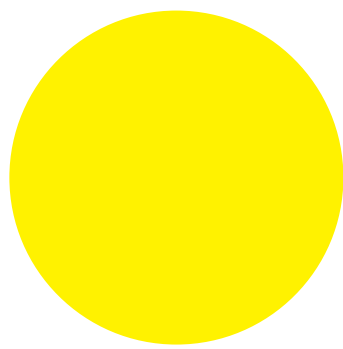


Iran vows legal response to IAEA 'inaction' after attack on nuclear site



Pezeshkian: Only 'unconditional halt' to Israeli aggression can end war



FM rejects talks with US over complicity

Region vents its anger at Israel on

Day of Wrath & Victory

People put states to shame

Political Desk

Another wave of mass protest against the crimes of Israel and the silence of the international community swept various cities of Iran, Pakistan, Yemen, and some other regional countries on Friday, dubbed "The Day of Wrath & Victory".

After holding Friday Prayers, a traditionally unifying and empowering practice among Muslims, people of Shiraz, Qom, and Ahvaz — to name a few — said goodbye to their martyrs who were brutally slain by the Zionist regime during its days-long illegal war on Iran. The Zionist regime broke several international laws regarding warfare conduct by targeting civilian and nuclear infrastructure, civilians — especially women and children — and five hospitals since it started the war unprovoked on June 13. The attack was described as "desperate" by Tehran's Friday Prayers Imam, Mohammad Javad Haj Ali Akbari.



SNN

Price of war with Iran far higher for US than for Israel

By Emad Abshenas

Middle East affairs analyst

OPINION
EXCLUSIVE

In today's world, shaped more like a jungle than a rules-based order, the double standards of some Western governments are on full display. A case in point is that G7 leaders have recently said that Israel has a right to self-defense against Iran. What they have conveniently left out is the fact that it was Israel that fired the opening shot—it was the aggressor, not the victim. Yet Western powers have looked the other way, ignoring a blatant breach of international law. According to the UN Charter, Iran has every right to defend itself against an external attack—something Israel clearly initiated. Nowhere in international law is there a provision allowing a state—particularly a

regime like the Israeli one—to launch preemptive strikes only based on speculative fears or vague threats. If such logic were to take hold, global peace would go out the window, with every country justifying war under the guise of "what if." But that's exactly what the world is witnessing: the West granting Israel a blank check to act with impunity, sheltering it under their security umbrella. This unchecked support has pushed nations around the world to realize that the only way to safeguard their sovereignty and survival is to take matters into their own hands. Iran, for its part, had no desire for war. Tehran made considerable diplomatic efforts to resolve tensions—particularly with the US—through peaceful means. The 2015 nuclear deal, known as the JCPOA, was a cornerstone of this effort. Iran signed the accord and remained

committed to its terms, only to see the US walk away from it unilaterally in 2018, shredding the agreement and abandoning its obligations. The recent Israeli strike on Iran, timed right before a new round of nuclear talks, pulled back the curtain on Washington's real intentions. The US was not simply aware of the strike—it was complicit. By pushing forward with negotiations, the US effectively gave Israel the cover it needed. The idea was to keep Iran at the table, distracted and restrained, while Israel geared up for military action. The talks, in hindsight, appear to have been nothing more than a premeditated ruse. Now that Iran has come under attack, it has no choice but to hit back. Facing an unprovoked assault, Iran is compelled to respond—to strike military targets in the occupied territories.

That, after all, is the only kind of deterrent that might drive home the consequences of aggression. Inside the occupied lands, even Israeli citizens are waking up to the fact that their leadership is dragging them into a war with no end and no justification. For years, many Israelis were either unaware or willfully ignorant of the militaristic trajectory their government was on. But now, as missiles fly and shelters fill up, reality is sinking in. There is a growing sense that continued aggression could strip Israelis of the very security they have long taken for granted. Many are preparing to pack up and leave. In fact, that exodus is already underway. Tens of thousands of Israeli settlers have begun fleeing. The regime, desperate to stop the flow, has reportedly imposed restrictions on departures to prevent depopulation. Still, people are finding ways out—some going

so far as to flee on rudimentary boats just to get across the water to Cyprus. Based on current estimates, the cost of fleeing Israel to Cyprus can range from \$10,000 to \$20,000. From there, many are returning to their countries of origin. Some are reportedly willing to shell out as much as \$100,000 to escape the war zone. As for the chatter around direct US involvement in the conflict—let's be clear: The US has already been involved from day one. The idea that Washington might be dragged in is, frankly, laughable. What is really at stake is whether the US is prepared to send its troops home in body bags for a war orchestrated by Netanyahu and his hardline clique. Do ordinary Americans want their sons and daughters thrown into a war that serves the political survival of Israel's prime minister? Should the US opt for direct mil-

itary involvement, it would be entering the fray with far more to lose than Israel. Iran is some 1,500 kilometers from Israel, meaning Iranian missiles have to travel vast distances to reach their targets. Hitting Israel is not easy. But US military bases and assets across the region are far more exposed—and much easier to hit. If it comes to that, Iran will undoubtedly exact a heavy price. And it will not just be about American troops. All US economic interests in the region—oil, gas, infrastructure, and more—would be fair game. American companies operating in the region, which are numerous and heavily invested, would find themselves in the crosshairs. Iran has every legal right to retaliate economically when its own infrastructure is under fire. And make no mistake—if the US enters this war, it will walk away bearing far deeper wounds than Israel ever could.