

Iran to establish legal deterrence on global stage

Gov't designated front man for legal prosecution of US-Israeli war crimes

CONFERENCE

A specialized assembly convened on July 18, under the chairmanship of the Iranian president and with the participation of Ayatollah Seyyed Mostafa Mohaghegh Damad, the minister of Justice, a cohort of deputies from the executive branch, and preeminent scholars within the legal and judicial spheres, to examine the legal and judicial dimensions of the 12-Day War and the Ramadan War. This assembly was instituted with the objective of formulating a comprehensive strategy for domestic, foreign, and international prosecutions of offenses perpetrated against the Islamic Republic of Iran. The orators elucidated the prerequisites and mechanisms for confronting the legal challenges arising from the criminal acts of the United States and the Zionist regime.

During this assembly, President Pezeshkian, while underscoring the scientific and strategic validity of this initiative, asserted: "A systematic approach to the legal and judicial dimensions of recent wars is not merely an irrefutable necessity for fostering societal awareness and vigilance, but also establishes the foundation for the formation of Iran's power of influence and legal deterrence within global assemblies. The application of contemporary knowledge and the opinions of elites in this field must occur within a framework of precise and transparent pub-

lic information dissemination."

The president, while undertaking a pathology of prior performance in this domain, remarked: "Regrettably, we have thus far failed to exploit the full scientific capacity of jurists and experts, and, at times, through unprofessional statements, not only has public benefit diminished, but erroneous legal expectations have also been cultivated within society. Henceforth, we must exercise vigilance to ensure that our actions possess scientific coherence and evidentiary admissibility."

Pezeshkian, while expressing gratitude for the endeavors undertaken in the preparation of the "Comprehensive Atlas of Legal-Judicial Action Research," proceeded to delineate the managerial priorities of this project, adding: "First, the continuation of the path based upon transparency and veracity; second, the documentation of findings in a manner rendering them admissible in domestic, regional, and international tribunals; and third, the utilization of the capacities of all Iranian intellectuals resident abroad and Muslim jurists worldwide for the further enrichment of this process."

The incumbent Iranian president, while emphasizing the avoidance of redundancy and the necessity of forming specialized working groups, affirmed that for the realization of this objective, he is personally prepared to convene continuous



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (c) addresses a specialized meeting attended by Minister of Justice Amin Hossein Rahimi (R), Ayatollah Mohaghegh Damad (2nd-L), and a group of officials and prominent legal experts on July 18, 2026.

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and daily meetings with experts in this field until the final result is achieved. Furthermore, he considers inter-sectoral interaction and synergy among the three branches of government and scientific institutions an operational imperative, and, should material support be required, "no effort shall be spared."

In another segment of his address, Pezeshkian, alluding to the unprecedented coordination among the heads of the branches of government, observed, "Throughout the history of the Islamic Revolution, such cohesion among the executive, judicial, and legislative

branches for the prosecution of a right of the Iranian nation is without precedent." He noted that the Head of the Judiciary Gholam Hossein Mohseni-Ejei and Speaker of the Parliament Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf are accompanying him in this path with their full capacity, and that "this commendable solidarity, which at times even encounters unfair criticisms, merits appreciation and support."

Key responsibility vested in Ayatollah Mohaghegh Damad

During this assembly, with due regard for his distinguished

scientific and expert record, the executive responsibility for legal-judicial research pertaining to the aggression and war crimes of the United States and Israel was delegated to Ayatollah Mohaghegh Damad, so that, through meticulous division of topics and the establishment of cross-sectoral mechanisms, the process of initiating claims in international courts may be pursued with augmented efficacy and mastery.

Ayatollah Mohaghegh Damad, in his own remarks, while emphasizing the entirely voluntary and sincere nature of the working groups responsible for

compiling this atlas, stated: "Divine motivation and service to the people constitute our sole capital in this endeavor. The history of our country demonstrates that whenever we have neglected the knowledge and experience of jurists, we have sustained substantial losses. The scientific community of the nation supports the government in this undertaking and shall, with full dedication and vigilance, stand alongside the president."

Subsequently, specialized topics, including protocols for the documentation of governmental, public, and private damages; the rectification of deficiencies in existing judicial processes; methodologies for public education and information dissemination; the accurate representation of legal and judicial facts on the ground; the configuration of a legal posture commensurate with international standards; and strategies for overcoming obstacles to the initiation of claims; were subjected to profound and expert scrutiny.

The Comprehensive Atlas of Legal-Judicial Action Research concerning the Aggression and War Crimes of the United States and the Zionist Regime, representing the fruit of extensive academic and specialist endeavor, has been compiled in over 700 headings and comprises 6 chapters, each of which has been precisely arranged and disaggregated into 27 separate sections.

Commencement of national, int'l legal campaign



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OPINION EXCLUSIVE

The specialized assembly to examine the legal and judicial dimensions of the 12-Day War and the Ramadan War, convened under the chairmanship of President Pezeshkian and with the attendance of a number of the most eminent jurists, university professors, and judicial and executive officials of the country, was not merely an expert meeting; rather, it constituted a step toward the formation of a national strategy for the protection of the rights of the Iranian nation and the pursuit of the legal accountability of the perpetrators of aggression and the damages inflicted upon the country. International experience has demonstrated that, alongside political and military arenas, the legal arena also represents one of the most critical fields for the de-



A government handout photograph shows weapon remnants displayed on a table near the ruins of the Shajarah Tayyebbeh elementary school, where a US precision strike reportedly killed 175 people, mostly children, on February 28, 2026. The remnants have been identified by The Times as components of a modern, US-made Tomahawk missile.

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fense of national interests. The more precise the documentation, the more coherent the coordination among institutions, and the more extensive the utilization of the capacity of legal elites, the greater the likelihood of success in legal and judicial prosecutions.

During this assembly, a report was presented on the actions undertaken in the domain of damage documentation, evidence collection, coordination among responsible institutions, and legal measures already implemented; simultaneously, existing obstacles,

challenges, and gaps were examined. The objective of these deliberations was not merely a review of past actions, but rather the design of a roadmap for continuing this path and reinforcing the country's preparedness in the arena of international law. The president's

emphasis on the utilization of all scientific, academic, and specialized capacities of the country conveys an important message to Iran's legal community: the defense of the rights of the nation is not a mission confined to a single institution or body; rather, it necessitates the extensive participation of university professors, researchers, attorneys, judges, jurists, and all those who are solicitous and who can assist the country along this path by offering scientific and legal solutions.

It is self-evident that the adjudication of war crimes and the claim for damages constitute a process that is not short-term. This path requires professional documentation, the drafting of robust legal briefs, the utilization of the capacities of international law, collaboration among domestic institutions, and the exploitation of the successful experiences of other countries in pursuing international claims. The institution of the Deputy for Legal Affairs of the President, within this framework and through coordination with other relevant institutions, is diligently pursuing the path of documentation, the consol-

idation of legal measures, coordination among responsible authorities, and the utilization of national and international capacities, in order to provide the necessary groundwork for an effective defense of the rights of the Iranian nation before international legal and judicial bodies.

What is of importance today is the continuation of this synergy, the avoidance of fragmented actions, and the transformation of the country's scientific capacity into a cohesive legal campaign; a campaign whose objective is not merely the registration of events, but rather the reasoned, documented, and effective defense of the rights of the Iranian nation and the claim for the legal accountability of the perpetrators of aggression and the damages inflicted.

This assembly should be regarded as the commencement of a significant phase along this path; a phase in which legal knowledge, executive experience, and national will converge so that the voice of the right of the Iranian nation in the arena of international law may be heard with enhanced argumentation, documentation, and scientific support.