

#### In Our Opinion

## President Trump's trip to Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the UAE.

During the U.S. President's visit to the southern littoral countries of the Persian Gulf (which the Arab countries call the Arab Gulf), amidst gatherings with these heads of state and the signing of agreements, Washington has targeted Iran with increasing economic sanctions. The core reason for Washington's sanctions is that more than

45 years ago, Iranian workers and toilers uprooted and discarded its puppet monarchy. The place of the bloody dictatorship of the Pahlavi regime, which came to power through the CIA-engineered coup of August 19, 1953, was taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran (I.R.I.), with the support of Washington and its international partners.

The people of Iran, under the I.R.I., are squeezed between Washington's growing sanctions and the crushing economic conditions imposed by the Shia–Bazaar government. So much so that in the face of the I.R.I.'s war against Israel, the people are rendered defenseless before Washington's sanctions offensive. The only way forward for national growth and resisting both domestic and foreign sanctions is the independent organization of workers and farmers to simultaneously confront the economic crisis and the military nuclear program of the Shia–Bazaar state.

The question is: What has the I.R.I.—the embodiment of the Shia—Bazaar ruling alliance, an alliance that since the 1953 coup stood as a steadfast partner of the Pahlavi monarchy and then formed the foundation of the I.R.I.—offered to the region and to humanity?

The Iranian Revolution of 1979 brought the country and the entire Middle East region face to face with the possibilities of Independence and Freedom. Cities across the country were pulsing with the people's ability to resolve immediate and historical capitalist tasks. Amidst the revolutionary surge of national power of tens of millions, no imperial power dared encroach on the country. With the revolution's victory, Mellat, i.e. the urban and rural popular classes, demanded such reforms as:

Full realization of women's rights—both Shia/traditional and Orf/modern—the unity of all women across the country;

Full rights for Aghvam (including all religious minorities), whether Turk, Kurd, Arab, Gilak, Turkmen, Baluch, and others,

who for over half a century were oppressed by the Pahlavi regimes imposed by London and Washington, i.e., the first and second Pahlavi; unity of Persian, Arab, Turk, Kurd, Baluch and all the other Aghvam; as well as the right of all Afghan migrant workers.

Realization of all youth and student rights through a nationwide mobilization to eradicate illiteracy and poverty;

Establishing workers' rights through the formation of independent organizations—be they unions, councils, or Anjoman—to defend their living standards and to oversee and control production in all industries;

Eradicating rural poverty through implementing agrarian reforms needed by the landless farmers, and organizing small and medium farmers in independent village councils or Anjoman;

Recognition of the rights of all professionals, scientists, and small business owners;

Full realization of the rights of artists and intellectuals who, for nearly a century of monarchical autocracy, were subjected to attack, imprisonment, torture, and execution heightened by the Pahlavi monarchies;

Establishment of civil and political liberties—especially the right to propagate the independent positions of workers and toilers, such as the Kargar Journal, which is the basis for establishing freedom in the country.

The Khomeini-Bazargan government negated the will of the people and prevented the realization of all the above-mentioned rights.

After more than 45 years, what do we have in place of the people's rights?

A bunch of uranium enrichment centrifuges/ facilities, some missiles, and explosive aerial/drones of the I.R.I. with which it threatens and uses agaisnt Israel and the region. A military nuclear program and weaponry that the I.R.I. has acquired through collaboration with imperial powers, Moscow, and Beijing—and takes pride in.

The time has come to declare, through a nationwide referendum, the I.R.I.'s military programs—in the field of nuclear enrichment, its missile arsenal, and its war against Israel—forbidden.

To pave the way for Independence and Freedom—the path toward a government independent of the Shia–Bazaar, a government of workers and farmers.

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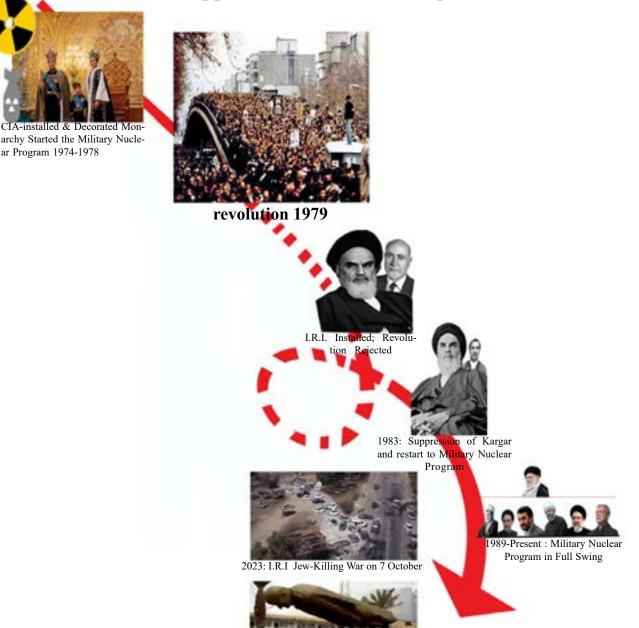
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#### I.R.I. "Redline": Opposition to Mellat—Independence & Freedom



Foreign Minister Araghchi and many other brokers and statesmen of the Islamic Republic of Iran (I.R.I.) before him have stated that they will not break the ruling "Redline" in their domestic and international policies. Workers, young people, urban and rural residents must understand that the "redline" of I.R.I. in this case and all others is a holdover from previous monarchies and does not benefit them.

Esteghlal va Azadi, the interests of the people, are not in line with I.R.I. redlines.

The history of the military nuclear program dates back more than fifty years, to the murderous dictatorship that was imposed and adorned as the second Pahlavi monarchy by the CIA after the disastrous August 1953 coup d'état. Because of this, the Pahlavi-SA-VAK, a dictatorship that Washington strategically partnered with in the Middle East,

IRI Sufferes Setback in Gaza-Lebanon-Syria

constituted the most brutal suppression in the nation's history. The Pahlavi-SAVAK was fully backed by the United States.

Prior to the 1979 revolution, a military nuclear program was started in 1974–1978 under the pretense of a peaceful program. The shah was overthrown, the country's Washington bases were shut down, and its cooperative program—including the nuclear program—were halted. Following the revolution, the administration that worked against the immediate and historic tasks of that revolution began the military nuclear program in four years.

1. The 1979 Revolution's Negation. The 1979 revolution was the result of the actions of working people, led by revolutionary strikes by oil workers, who broke through the dictatorial façade that seemed to have all the authority and persuaded the ranks of the fifth-largest army in the world to stand with the people. The shah and his group of SAVAK torturers and generals were alone and prepared to be overtaken by the revolution—which happened on February 11 and 12, that year.

Pahlavi monarchical autocracy was overthrown. Washington and other imperial countries hosted its remnants to support their espionage apparatus, propaganda, and Farsi radio programs that were broadcast to Iran. Remaining members of the monarchy relied on the substantial riches they had brought with them overseas to maintain their aristocratic way of life without the authority of absolute monarchy.

With the establishment of Esteghlal va Azadi, the triumphant revolution could have prepared to proceed. The latter necessitated a Workers' and Farmers' Republic, a direct governance of the people as suggested at the time by Kargar socialists. A government founded on the autonomous partnership between workers and farmers who enabled the revolution. The rights of women, Aghvam (such as Kurd, Arab, Turk, Gilak, Turkmen, Baluch, etc.—the union of Persian and Arab and all other Aghvam), and religious minorities (such as Sunni, Zoroastrians, Jews, Christians, Baha'i, Dervish, etc.) as well as young people and students, workers and farmers, professionals and small business owners, artists and intellectuals, and others are the only alliance capable of establishing and defending democracy (including Shia religious freedom).

The establishment of I.R.I. control resulted in the rejection of people's immediate and historic capitalist tasks; rather than advancing the revolution, a reversal occurred.

With the backing of the entire pro-Shah opposition, and their populist counterparts who had just been released from the shah's prisons, Washington and all of the imperial powers, Moscow and Peking, Khomeini (grand ayatollah, who had come to favor the collapse of monarchy) commanded the new government. Establishment of I.R.I. had probably the support of 25% of people that was announced as "99%" through a referendum. Referendum organizers later noted that in many parts of the country, a referendum could not and was not held. Based on this, the Council of Revolution and the new provisional government took action to disband and shut down all autonomous labor organizations and to oppose the rights of women and Aghvam.

Our young people must be aware of the class coalitions that established I.R.I. after the 1979 revolution.

A coalition of supporters centered on monarchy was put together during the CIA-led coup in August 1953 that installed the exiled shah. The partnership of Zahedi and Kashani (more on this later), both of whom collaborated with Nazi Germany during the Third Reich, supported the royalists. In summary, the Shia-Bazaar coalition was necessary for a successful coup d'état to put monarchy in power. SAVAK was later organized to atomize the working class through unchecked repression. In addition Shia suppression in the educational system was put in place in parallel to SAVAK. In elementary and secondary school, teachers would be reluctant to teach evolution or other subjects that infuriated Shia zealots who would pounce on them. Teachers were in fear of being labeled as "Communists" and facing SAVAK. With the overthrow of monarchy, the monarchy-centered ruling coalition of the regime of coup d'état was most helpful following the 1979 revolution.

It was time to turn to the crucial 1953 Shia-Bazaar coalition<sup>1</sup>, as the cornerstone of the new CIA-installed government which was first formed around cleric Abul Qasim Kashani (1882-1962) and general Fazlol-

1During the post-1953 coup which put the Shah in power, based on the coalition created in support of coup, Qom Seminary became the center for the ideological renewal of the state (further reading available in The New Trends in World History, by Babak Zahraie, 2015, at babakzahraie.blogspot.com). In this period, noted Shia scholar, Allamé Tabatabaie had the collaboration of Hussein Nasr, the royal philosopher (later the head of Aria Mehr University) as well as Henry Corbin. During this 25 years stretch according to the Shah's programs led by Washington anti-Soviet policy, the number of Shia mosques reached 55,000 (the number of such mosques now stands at nearly 90,000, without a single Sunni mosque being built, most of these mosques go unattended). The anti-Communist and deep repression against the working class practiced by Pahlavi were at their height during their reign. The fruits of which was utilized by the establishment of I.R.I. after the 1979 revolution. During the years of suppression of Kargar socialists the title Raveshé Réalism by Allameh was so lauded by the interrogators that it was impossible to ask if this is title is what you claim, how is it that the author and progenitors, all of whom, were opposed to the revolution of 1979.

lah Zahedi (1892-1963), once the despised Shah-SAVAK stood alone and rejected by history in 1979.

Name seekers who lacked a significant national following, such as Mehdi Bazargan (1907-1995) and other Jebhé Melli (National Front) leaders of the pro-Shah liberal bourgeois opposition, were appointed to the provisional government and revolutionary council to assume leadership of the state. As the leader of the new administration, Bazargan would proudly declare his opposition to the revolution on national television; that by providing his premiership, he was helping Mellat, and the country; that Mellat had done enough to ruin the country and needed to sit back. The leaders of the oil workers who had spearheaded the revolutionary strikes that enabled the revolution to succeed were promptly imprisoned by his minister, Ali Akbar Moinfar, a civil engineer.

Less than a year after the revolution, the liberal bourgeois leaders' term would end. Following his downfall, Bazargan claimed that he was employed as a driver for Khomeini's governing vehicle before being dumped. Other people were eager to take the wheel and propel the I.R.I. administration ahead. Yes, a lot more did. New personalities that would follow the governing path of Shia-Bazaar set by Bazargan with a different rhetoric. The history of the I.R.I. turned into a tale of government operatives battling for control of the country's financial resources and governmental power, even going so far as to carry out terror bombings and executions, in an effort to win imperial support to their faction. A basic outline of one of the most corrupt governments in Iranian history—on par with ruthless autocracy—that remains to this day.

The terror-bombing and executions occur during the 1980–1988 Iran–Iraq war. The goal of Shia-Bazaar policy of military compulsion during the country's defense against the invasion of Iraq, which Washington supported, is to halt the civil and political freedoms that the revolution has so arduously earned. Less than four years after the revolution, in 1982–1983, the Kargar newspaper, the nation's voice for independent politics, is outlawed and the socialist leaders of the Kargar party are imprisoned.<sup>2</sup>

Imperial powers led and supported the Shia-Bazaar incarcerations without charging the detainees because they had done nothing wrong but voice their opinions. Among these opinions, Kargar pointed that it is necessary to place military leadership under the control of workers' autonomous organizations, whether they be councils or unions, in order to ensure war victory and to save the lives of working people sons who were being brutally sent over mine fields by tens of thousands to their deaths by the Shia-Bazaar leadership of the war; the latter, possibly Iran's longest war, ultimately came

2 Along inhuman conditions during incarcerations, the toolbox of incarcerations includes the well-established norms of political police; like having a Presidential candidate of Kargar, who had since left the movement on the basis of liberal bourgeois platform that I.R.G.C. needed to withdraw from the western war fronts (an awkward position to say the least, considering the role of IRGC was bloodily contested by the first president and the rest of I.R.I. during terror-bombing-execution period), declare during a brief incarceration that he was pro-government in toto and would deliver Prosecution ultimatum for Kargar party's socialists outside prison to disband. This prosecution action was done in order to disrupt the civil liberties campaign that was underway and cause confusion among some intellectuals. Because they were unable to destroy the organization in response to the prosecution's ultimatum, other lesser-known figures decided to disband Kargar>s political program instead, and authorities would then publicize their opinions. In addition, there is a widespread call for the Kargar party, from near and far, to label these people traitors or turncoats. Due to their long-standing, principled tradition dating back to the student movement of the 1970s, the socialist tendency, harassed and imprisoned, would refuse to do so. Such events were not unprecedented (for instance, a father of socialist imprisoned in Ahwaz following the revolution would write an open letter requesting that Islamic courts hang his son) during a civil liberties campaign. In this instance, Kargar socialists respected everyones opinions, even if the government used them to further repress political opposition. They would also carry out their civil liberties campaign without getting sidetracked from its objectives of getting the release of prisoners. In the meantime, emphasizing their support for the creation of a workers' and farmers' government as the historic solution to establishing democracy and achieving national sovereignty.

to a halt at the border through a negotiated settlement without success in defeating the Saddam forces—Mellat's independent role was politically quashed by I.R.I. during the war and thus, there was no path to victory.

Under the leadership of Khomeini-Rafsanjani, the Shah-Washington military nuclear program was resumed during the repression of Kargar and the right of workers and their allies in society to organize and speak freely. According to the latter, Israel is a one-bomb nation that may be completely removed from the map. In order to accomplish this goal, which the entire I.R.I. policy has been pursuing for decades, he would not only say but also made that state's priority.

I.R.I. "Redlines," the alleged right to enrich uranium, to rule the region, or to exterminate the Jews at some point, only serve the interests of the Pahlavi autocracy that was overthrown by the 1979 revolution, the imperial powers led by Washington, and Shia-Bazaar rule, which is without historical destiny and is only wedged between the interests of Mellat and the imperial powers.

It is essential to comprehend Mr. Araghchi's fabricated "Redlines" in light of the country's well-established military nuclear program history:

2. From monarchy to IRI, the history of the military nuclear program. According to the late Akbar Etemad (1930–2025), the Shah's nuclear agency president, Iran's nuclear program was started in 1974–1978 during the brutal Pahlavi regime. According to the Shah's directive to Mr. Etemad, the initiative begins under a nonviolent pretext and will eventually evolve into the production of an A-Bomb when the need arises. Shah in-

vests a portion of "his" acquired Petro-dollars from the 1970s, when the royal family believed and behaved as though they owned Mellat and the country in every way, from the purchase of weapons to the purchase of luxury items and artwork, in nuclear enterprises overseas, particularly in France. Shah sends a number of Islamic students to MIT and other prestigious US colleges to study nuclear technology under the guidance of Hussein Nasr, a philosopher for the royal court who would handpick them against the populist/leftist supporters who were popular at the time. Similar to the late Etemad under the Shah, these students completed their education and returned to work on the military nuclear program under I.R.I. following the revolution.

Many Pahlavi initiatives were halted in their tracks by the 1979 revolution that toppled the Pahlavi and destroyed the SAVAK, the despised secret police. The nuclear program is one of them.

The nuclear program was restarted during the Iran-Iraq war, about the same time when Kargar was banned and socialists were imprisoned in 1983. The program is fully developed by 1985. By the start of the twenty-first century, I.R.I. hopes to have a nuclear weapon. At this point, the Shia-Bazaar governing elite, under the leadership of Rafsanjani, claims that Israel is a one-bomb nation that could be permanently annihilated. They would organize widely publicized seminars titled *A World Without Israel*.

I.R.I. and the Obama Administration reach an agreement by 2018 to restrict uranium extraction in lower concentrations. Based on I.R.I. assessments, this agreement preserves the foundation for future bomb production. Following the signing of the agreement, the scheme collapses. I.R.I. boldly declares that nothing will stop us from reaching our objective and proceeds to purifying uranium to 60% and by some accounts accumulating almost a ton of it—enough to produce almost ten bombs. I.R.I. leaders have been saying that they can manufacture a bomb in a few weeks or days, but they haven't done it yet!

I.R.I. begins taking part in a fresh round of "indirect" talks with the Trump Administration in 2025. Washington's regional interests take precedence over Israel's right to exist, and as demonstrated by the actions of the previous administrations (not just since October 7 war by I.R.I./Hamas but since the establishment of Israel), these interests conflict with Israel's right to exist. Instead, the Trump administration suggests that the current negotiations aim to prevent IRI from possessing a nuclear weapon, which is a vague generality. These talks are the outcome of the blows dealt to the I.R.I. by Israel's heroic efforts to defeat Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon, which prepared the way for the fall of the Assad regime in Syria.

The release of Israeli hostages held by Hamas has not been explicitly demanded by Washington or other imperial nations from I.R.I. Washington, like the previous Administration, has hushed the central role of I.R.I. in the October 7 Jew-killing war under the guise of trying to end the war or wars in the Middle East much like its regional allies among Arab and non-Arab countries. Washington has put obstacles in Israel's way of defending itself against the existential threat of Tehran's uranium enrichment facilities,

which are used to prepare a nuclear bomb for the Jew-killing wars.

It is clear that the current Pezeshkian-Araghchi governing cadre's "Redline"—led by Khamenei—violates the country's sovereign rights. Washington, the Shah, Shia-Bazaar cadres under Khomeini from 1983 onward, and Khamenei—his presidents Rafsanjani, Khatami, Ahmadinejad, Rohani, Raissi, and the current Pezeshkian—are listed in the history of the nuclear program from its inception to the present. On this "Redline" that runs for fifty years from Shah-Washington to Shia-Bazaar-Washington, where is there any indication of Mellat or national sovereignty? The triumph of the 1979 revolution, which relied on the might of tens of millions of people working together in peaceful action rather than conventional or unconventional weapons, proves that there is no mark that serves Mellat on this "Redline".

It is understandable why the leaders and cadres of the I.R.I. are unable to defend their military nuclear program in front of the public. The military nuclear program, which the Trump Administration is currently facing/carrying on, has been a joint endeavor between the country's leaders and imperial powers for fifty years. For Tehran to be able to openly justify its nuclear program, the country/Mellat's sovereign truth is lacking.

It takes negotiations behind closed doors to identify and resolve the numerous inconsistencies that the military nuclear program faces, preventing public debate and criticism from being expressed. Like all previous Tehran's leaders, Mr. Araghchi portrays them as the most fervent defenders of the Palestinian people, despite their complete harm to

the cause of Palestine and the other Middle Eastern peoples! So much so that Mr. Araghchi proudly and openly avoids possible questions and answers from imperial bodies on any public stage.3 What if they inquire as to why you set up your uranium enrichment 'business' in the middle of mountains and tunnels? What if they inquire as to why 60% uranium enrichment is produced? What if someone inquires as to why the nuclear program was restarted in 1983, when independent press and politics, like Kargar, were suppressed, and when Pahlavi's persecution of independent working-class organizations was reinstated? It is imperative to stifle any public discussion regarding the erosion/stifling of national sovereignty caused by I.R.I. military projects. There is no connection between the interests of national sovereignty and I.R.I. "Redline."

The Need for a National Plebiscite. Unquestionably, the country and its government need a national referendum to reject its uranium enrichment program and missile program, which are opposed by the broadest public suffering from widespread poverty, unemployment and inflation. A move that can fortify the hands of an autonomous coalition of workers and farmers to form their own government—the only one capable of making the leaps necessary to eradicate Shia-Bazaar's economic disaster and its military nuclear program.

The people must be prevented from making their own decisions at all costs via the rise of the Shia-Bazaar element of the 1953 CIA-led coup in the wake of the 1979 revolution known as the I.R.I., a political ascent and march backed by Khomeini and the entire <sup>3</sup>Araghchi states he will not participate in "public discussion" at Carnegie

3Araghchi states he will not participate in "public discussion" at Carnegie international conference on nuclear policy or any other public tribune (March 22, 2025).

ruling Mashrooté, the liberal bourgeoisie. This is a matter that is directed and supported by all imperial powers. Terror-bombing and executions with imperial support, and to block flourishing of democracy are the norm set during the Iran-Iraq war.

Therefore, I.R.I. presents the very barbaric idea of learning how to create a nuclear bomb or creating "smart" bombs, missiles, and drones-all of which are Shia-Bazaar fallacies bequeathed from Pahlavi-imperial rule—as a means of defending the country. A military solution was attempted during the Iran-Iraq war, which was the opportunity for Iran to win the war but ended in failure after eight arduous years. However, the only action and message for optimism and progress, for prosperity and peace, not only for Iranians but also for the rest of the region and the globe, is the union of workers and farmers and the independent government they can establish.

The Shia-Bazaar government's uranium enrichment and military enhancements are not necessary for national sovereignty and liberation; as seen by the I.R.I.'s 45-year rule, these military initiatives can only impede democracy and the people's desire for the cherished goals of Independence and Freedom.

To better understand the "Redline" of Shia-Bazaar, which Mr. Araghchi is now presenting against the national sovereignty, it is necessary to go over the facts of the I.R.I. nuclear program in the context of its war for the eradication of the Jewish state based on its establishment in the aftermath of the 1979 revolution. Its war on Israel is the extension of its strategic drive against

Iran's workers and farmers from inception.

3. IRI Military Nuclear Program and War to Eradicate the Jewish State. Israel has been the target of a vicious war by I.R.I. Due to losses by its "Axis of Resistance" in Gaza, Lebanon, and Syria, it has experienced setbacks in its October 7 Jew-killing War. Due to setbacks, the I.R.I. has been obliged to conceal its nuclear military program by negotiating with Washington in an effort to keep the core of its military nuclear program hidden. Imperial dilemma is how to keep Israel from defending itself against existential threat posed by I.R.I. and its Axis of Resistance as the evidence of the Israel defense against I.R.I./Hamas war of October 7 indicates.

The ability of Israel to defend itself against this primary existential threat, the need to demolish a large portion of the I.R.I. nuclear industry, some of which is buried in tunnels and mountains, to postpone its intentions to develop an A-bomb for a while, are the challenges facing the nuclear military program. The I.R.I. must dismantle its whole nuclear program, which is referred to as peaceful, on its own initiative, although it is unlikely that it will as that would be a major concession to the interest of the urban and rural popular classes at home. The autonomous action of tens of millions of members of the working class and their supporters to pursue Independence and Freedom is the ultimate guarantee for such an accomplishment, to completely stop uranium enrichment.

The governing regime in I.R.I. aspires to become a nuclear-armed state and a regional missile power capable of carrying a nuclear arsenal against Israel, adopting the strate-

gy of the now-defunct and toppled Pahlavi, Washington's strategic ally in the area before to the 1979 revolution, for total regional supremacy. In keeping with the chauvinist grandeur of the overthrown Pahlavi, I.R.I. officials declare the region to be "our" territory. For the past 45+ years, they have made every effort to impede the rights of women and Aghvam that are leading social forces, working-class allies, for national sovereignty.

4. I.R.I.'s Ruling Politics is Abound in Anti-Semitism. Throughout the history of I.R.I., Kargar socialists have been the exception, advocating for the rights of women, religious minorities, and the Aghvam. Kargar representatives made it clear right away, such as during the live national TV debate in front of 22 million people, that I.R.I. is a promise to nowhere and that the only way to establish democracy and accomplish historic capitalist tasks-namely, the rights of women, Aghvam and religious minorities, youth and students, workers and farmers, professionals and small business owners, and artists and intellectuals—is for workers and farmers to band together for independent action.

The Nazi-style propaganda that I.R.I. spreads against Israel is constantly disgusting. For instance, pro-government processions in and out of the country demand the annihilation of Israel every year on the government-sponsored "Qods" day, which is held near the end of Ramadan. All government-sponsored activities during the Haj or pilgrimage to Karbala and Najaf are similarly held. Day in and day out, be it in government Friday prayers or other government declarations, the call for destruction of Isra-

el along with anti-Americanism is non-stop. The ruling media, from Kayhan to Shargh, quote and reproduce the anti-Semitic stench of imperial media about how the Jew-Zionist lobby controls Washington and the global banking system.

The military nuclear program by I.R.I. continues the program of the overthrown Pahlavi monarchy as it relied on the support of Washington for its domestic and foreign policy.

For example, the Shia-Bazaar government that was established following the 1979 revolution, despite being pressed between the imperial and the people, I.R.I. has relied on one important source of support over the decades since the start of its military nuclear program, which have been replete with stopand-go, opposition, and sanctions: the global financial capitalism dominated by Washington—the rational of the rulers of I.R.I. is we are the best to stop the gains of the revolution of 1979 and try to roll it back. I.R.I. has positioned itself as the regional/global anti-Semitism leader. The latter has been the policy of global financial capitalism for more than a century. Israel gains in beating back the War of October 7 has placed the plan for building an A-bomb to destroy the Jewish state by I.R.I. into a quandary.

The autonomous activity of urban and rural popular classes seeking to abolish anti-Semitism-Zionism and Israel-bashing (baseline policy advocated by numerous pro-Washington governments in the west Asia to North Africa region) in the Middle East is the only sure-footed approach to terminate the military nuclear program and war-mongering against the Jewish state. Similar to

World War II, anti-Semitism is a major factor in financial capitalism's push for World War III. I.R.I. has stated that it will play a significant role in this upcoming catastrophe. If given the opportunity, it will wage its October 7 war once more, but with greater ferocity.

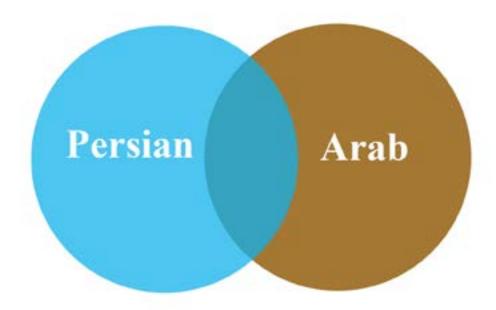
Given the series of Israeli victories in Gaza and Lebanon that resulted in the overthrow of the Assad dictatorship in Syria, the I.R.I. "Redline," which was drawn against the independent union of workers and farmers as well as the efforts of society to achieve Independence and Freedom since the beginning of Shia-Bazaar rule in 1979 that was drawn through collaboration with Washington and its imperial allies, is difficult to uphold.

Shia-Bazaar rule, which was established as a new governmental product by Khomeini after the toppling of Shah and was based on the substance of the Zahedi-Kashani coalition from the notorious 1953 CIA-led coup d'état, is isolated, vulnerable, and being rejected by society. All it has accomplished is to introduce one of the most crooked capitalist governments in Middle Eastern history, determined to destroy the Jewish state by bringing about the Second Holocaust, or World War III.

Masoumeh Taban

Ordibehesht 1404; May 2025

## Persian Gulf and Arab Gulf





The Persian Gulf and documentation pertaining to the legitimacy of this name from a long time ago are abundant in publications, public media, tribunes, and official websites in the Islamic Republic of Iran (I.R.I.); let's assume that this has been the name of this waterway since the time of Adam and Eve. Anyone who disagrees will be prosecuted and may experience various disasters since they have denigrated the Iranian people.

In actuality, a lot of Arab countries go by the name of the Arab Gulf. Egypt, for instance, is a long way from this inlet. In Egypt, the Arab Gulf is referred to in all publications, maps, educational systems, and communication channels; the Persian Gulf is unknown. Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and other Arab nations also use the term "Arab Gulf." At the very least, the chauvinist I.R.I. press must present the reality in other countries. The moniker Arab/Arabian Gulf

is used by millions of people. Although you know the granddaughter's name, Zohreh, and you can present her identification, half of the family refers to her as Zahra. Bloodshed between family members is unnecessary. Anyone can use Zohreh/Zahra, which is their preferred name. Respect for one another is necessary and in this case requires specifically for the rights of the Arab Qoum/nation residing in Khuzestan and the southern part of the country.

In the case of this waterway's name, the Persian and Arab Gulf, the clash over names have deeper roots and date back to the first Pahlavi (established by the British-backed coup d'état in 1299/1921) and second Pahlavi (installed by the CIA coup in 1332/1953) monarchies that were setup to violate the country's national sovereignty, Independence, and Freedom. The Islamic Republic of Iran bases all of its positions on the

Persian Gulf and Arab Gulf Massoud Siami

continuation of the Pahlavi tyranny policy: The issue of ignoring and opposing the Arab name in conjunction with Persian for the gulf is another "Redline" of I.R.I. that is left over from the Pahlavi despotism's puppet state, which is obviously at odds with the national sovereignty of the country. How about?

The question of the Persian Gulf's name in old history has to do with ancient geography; the Greeks may have been the first to identify and name it. The reaction of the entire Islamic Republic of Iran, which operates under the auspices of international financial capitalism, demonstrates the contradictions faced on the name. In the modern era, that is, after the first Pahlavi was established by Great Britain, the second Pahlavi was installed to power by the CIA coup, and the I.R.I. continued to use the same state apparatus, this is crucial for international financial capitalism setup for oil-rich Pahlavi-Iran and I.R.I. policy that follows the mandate for ignoring and opposing the rights of Arabs and other Aghvam in the country.

Beginning in the early 1960s, the second Pahlavi was designated as the gendarme of the Persian Gulf by British colonialism, which ruled the region. At the time, littoral nations south of the Gulf were not as they are today and along Saudi Arabia, they did not have as much air and naval power as they do now. The Islamic Republic of Iran continued and maintained this negative legacy, the gendarmerie of the Gulf, as part of its governmental policy. Mellat's willingness to pave the path for Independence and Freedom was demonstrated during the 1979 Revolution. The Khomeini-Bazargan regime, which founded the Islamic Republic of Iran, accomplished the exact reverse

of this objective. The conflicts between the government and the people's will inevitably became more noticeable over time.

Accepting the Arab Gulf as a parallel to the Persian Gulf is nearly impossible for the Islamic Republic of Iran, which views the region as its own, has waged the Wars of Shia Napoleon to crush the Arab Spring revolution in Syria (since 2011), advanced to the Israeli border with the goal of destroying the Jewish state, and led the October 7, 2023, pogrom against it (for now, we set aside its failure in Gaza, Lebanon, and the overthrow of its bastion, Assad dictatorship in Syria). It loses the illusion of ownership of the Gulf, authority over its oil reserves and commerce, and the threat of closing the Hormuz Strait. When the British opted to hand over the Gulf to Pahlavi military, the follow-up with the introduction of Arab Gulf name would cast doubt on who owned the three islands that the Shah had been granted by British colonialists.

The issue is much worse as we travel further back in time. Reza Khan, under British stewardship, turned the principle of tribal/Aghvam cooperation with the central state—a consensus that has been a cornerstone of the old Asiatic system since the formation of the old Persian Empire more than two thousand years ago-into the suppression of tribes/Aghvam[nationalities] by the central government, by the self-declared/British-declared Pahlavi dynasty. This marked the beginning of an unprecedented stage in the history of the country: the nationalities, Aghvam, would not be permitted to teach their own language, would be frozen in cultural development, and would instead be forced to host his brutal army throughout

Persian Gulf and Arab Gulf Massoud Siami

their territories.

Throughout modern history, the royal my's sole purpose is to suppress people and patriots, and lacks the will to act against imperial domination or invasion. Most people are familiar with Iran's occupation during World War II and the end of the first Pahlavi's 20-year dictatorship. Reza Khan had turned into a supporter of Nazi Germany, the Third Reich. When the Allies invaded, his ruthless suppressive army, as the saying goes, did not fire a shot. When it comes to suppressing protests like Woman-Life-Freedom, the I.R.I.'s army and military forces (there are numerous like the army, IRGC, Basij and more) are no exception. They display their prowess and engage in bloodletting against Aghvam, Kurds, Baluch and Jewish homeland in particular. But in the case of the US-backed invasion by Iraq, which was provided as the opportunity for Iran's victory, two I.R.I. militaries along with its Basij for eight years failed after Shia-Bazaar obstructed and blocked Mellat's independence throughout the war.

Following the British creation of the Pahlavi dynasty, the former sought to take over our country like a gas station owned by London (much like the country becoming a gas station owned by Washington after the 1953 coup). False claims of Pahlavi narrative, i.e. Persian chauvinism and the restoration of deceptive historical splendors by the repression of Aghvam and Eelat (tribes), women, youth, workers and peasants, intellectuals and artists, and others constituted the violent celebration of autocratic monarchy. Anti-Arabism was at the core of this reactionary movement started by Pahlavi.

By presenting Arab-bashing poetry Shahnamé originals, monarchy hires would feed the nation with anti-Arab fever with the lyrics and tone of Ferdowsi's Shahnamé. To the extent that anyone raised under Reza Khan's regime would be prone to that way of thinking. For instance, because of the lessons learned under Reza Khan's rule, Khomeini (grand ayatollah) depicts Arabs in his writings from World War II as the embodiment of both ancient and contemporary savagery and cruelty. According to the propaganda of the governments of Khamenei and Vellayaté Faghih, on course with Pahlavi's false claims, we are the inheritors of a grand civilization cooked up by Pahlavi-imperial powers. I.R.I. replaces Shia grandeur or a combination of the two does not eliminate the vice of such a claimed inheritance and its impact against national sovereignty; rather, it merely makes the issue worse. The independent union of workers and farmers is the sole assurance of Independence and Freedom. Workers and farmers do not need to be fed with false/reactionary cultural narratives that hampers their unity.

The jar of royal propaganda that the I.R.I. inherited is broken when one acknowledges that millions of Arabs refer to the Persian Gulf as the Arab Gulf. The Arabs in Khuzestan—the people of what was known as Arabistan prior to the rule of Reza Khan-Britain—the Baluch in Baluchistan, the Kurds in Kurdistan, the Turks in Azerbaijan and so on (during the Constitutional Revolution of the early 20th century, it was said that wherever Azerbaijan goes, Iran follows, and since Reza Khan's time, it has been defined that wherever there are Aghvam, there is repression of the central government), prioritize their Qoum/ national identity. They

may be aware of Iran's identity, which is always replete with central government repression of Aghvam, depending on how far or close they are from the propaganda of the central government. There is no doubt that members of Aghvam are more aware of and assimilated to Iran the higher they are in the capitalist order pyramid.

Therefore, the IRI's setback in its regional wars conducted by its proxies raise more public questions about its "redline" on the Persian and Arab Gulfs, its nuclear military program, and other redlines, like the suppression of independent political tendencies like the independent Kargar and socialists, and the prohibition of the independent organization of workers and farmers since 1983, as the results of IRI actions in conjunction with imperial backing.

Restoring Independence and Freedom, which the I.R.I. has attempted to oppose and thwart for over 45 years, requires putting aside all the redlines left over from the brutal Pahlavi monarchy. Women, Aghvam, unity of Persian-Arab as well as Persian with all other Aghvam, religious minorities, workers and farmers, young people and students, professionals and small business owners, artists and intellectuals, and the unity of Mellat elements should all be allowed to act independently in the nation's political space and their rights respected.

Massoud Siami, May 2025, Ordibehesht 1404

## "ابرا برا برا، حماس اطلعي برا" "!Out, out! Hamas, get out!"



The slogans in this picture. "We want to live in peace", "Give us hope", "We refuse, we want to live", "Stop War".



"Out, out, out! Hamas, get out!"

On March 25th Palestinians in Beit Lahiya (northern Gaza), Jabalia Refugee Camp, Nuseirat neighborhood, have taken to the street to vent their frustration with Hamas. Slogans of "Hamas Out", "Enough Death" are openly voiced. The call for Hamas to stop the war and get out spread all across Gaza, to Khan Yunis, and Gaza City (Shijaiyah neighborhood). The elders of Beit Lahiya not shying away from the camera proclaimed "Their rule (Hamas) has ruined our homes, has destroyed us, killed us and displaced everyone that is why Beit Lahiya, its elders and its youth stand united to end Hamas rule here." According to witnesses "it was the first of the protests in Beit Lahiya that women joined, some bringing their children." The 18 year iron grip of Hamas on the Palestinian is showing cracks.

This unbearable Palestinian living situation was created when Hamas committed a pogrom, taking and holding hundreds of hostages and killing over a thousand of Jews, attacking the Jewish states right to exist. In the aftermath of Israels self-defense Hamas was weakened and Gaza as anticipated by Hamas destroyed. Hamas used all of Gaza citizens and all structures, schools/hospitals as shield to its Jew-killing. Themselves

they crawled to their web of tunnels longer than New York City subway. Hamas leaders proclaimed that this is a price we have to pay; thousands lives were ruined and Hamas control of Gaza was drastically reduced. A weakened Hamas had to commit to a truce. A short lived truce in the Hamas engineered war allowed some hostages to be freed and some hope for the Palestinians. The truce that started Jan 19 came to an abrupt end when Hamas refused to release the remaining hostages. As a result the peace negotiation stalled, the truce broke down and the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) resumed its military pressure on Hamas, on March 18, to release the remaining hostages and disarm Hamas. As Hamas insisted on its murderous war, firing long-range rockets at Isreal and IDF responded to the escalation, the Palestinian in Gaza voiced their frustration at Hamas on its refusal to release the hostages and end the war it started. This further loosened the brutal grip of Hamas over Gaza. "Hamas out", "Enough destruction, enough killing, we want to live", "The people want the fall of Hamas", "Hamas are terrorists", "We refuse to die", "Out, out, out! Hamas out!" echoed in Gaza and on social media.

Weakened, Hamas could not respond with full force and had to resort to false claims that the demonstrations are against Isreal and issuing death threats to demonstrators. On March 29 Hamas brutally torture, beat and murdered a 22 year old Palestinian who participated in the demonstration dropping him off in front of his family home in order to scare Palestinians from venting their opposition to Hamas and its war. This time the Palestinian facing Hamas brutality did not retreat and recoil, but the demonstration intensified and outright attack on Hamas operatives pursued. On April 2 after a Hamas operative shot Abdulrahman Sha'aban, members of the Abu Samra clan publicly executed the Hamas operative who committed the murder. As Hamas threatens to punish all those who criticize them and as politicians and Arab media like Al Jazeera call for forceful response by Hamas, but the political calculations have changed for Hamas on the home front.

This political landscape changed when Israel defended itself, the only safe sanctuary of the Jews, and thereby weakening not only Hamas but also Hezbollah, creating the situation of the brutal dictatorship of Assad to crumble, and weakened Iran's "axis of resistance". The Jewish nation defending itself strengthen the voice of all nationalities in the region. Benefiting from this new political shift Palestinians find now the space to voice their objection to Hamas rule in Gaza, its refusal to release the remaining hostage, end the war/pogrom, they started on Oct 7.

Many outside Gaza, including the president of Palestinian Authority, have called for Hamas to release the hostages. Many residing outside of Gaza, like the leadership of I.R.I. and anti-Semitic establishment heading the world financial capitalism have refused to demand release of hostages from Hamas; UN and Red Cross have not demanded to visit the Israel's hostages.

Madjid Dehghan May 2025

#### Workers' Oversight and Control over the Nation's Customs

# The Only Way to Prevent Explosion Disasters and Guarantee Decent Wages and Safe Working Conditions



Truck Drivers Protest Government Inaction Toward the Families of the Victims in the Rajaee Customs Fire

Fire/Explosion at Rajaee Customs (April 25, 2025) was reportedly caused by the detonation of flammable materials at the dock/warehouse. The number of casualties is high: 70 dead, 22 missing, 22 unidentified bodies, and over 1,200 injured. Many families seeking to identify the bodies of the deceased have received no answers. Some of the workers involved in the incident belonged to ethnic groups such as the Baluch and remain unidentified.

#### What is the solution?

In the short term, the government is obligated to publicly report all fatalities and pay compensation (Diyya) to grieving families in accordance with its own Islamic law.

According to Sharia law, the Diyya for a man is approximately \$16,000; for a woman, it is half that—\$8,000. Government reports have not disclosed any information regarding the value of these compensation payments. This is an opportunity to declare equal compensation for men and women, based on the principle of man-woman equality before the state in today's society. The government has not reported any potential female casualties in this explosion while many know there are indeed many female employees at Customs.

In the long term, Customs and all similar state institutions must be placed under the oversight and control of Customs workers. This is so they can thoroughly inspect/control the contents of incoming cargo on docked ships, incoming goods, and stored materials, and prevent the stockpiling of flammable and explosive substances. Who

better than the Customs workers themselves to oversee and control Customs operations? Who is worse, as indicated by experience of fire/explosion/graft at Customs than government managers and capitalists who rely on Customs services for over a century to line their pockets.

In the Islamic Republic of Iran, the entire hierarchy of power and governance is aligned with the interests of capitalism. A major portion of corruption and embezzlement in the country originates from Customs warehouses. Workers' control over Customs could put an end to this embezzlement and the bribery that has become a permanent feature of Customs clearance work.

Most importantly, workers' oversight through unions or Anjoman can safeguard and determine the income of Customs workers suffering from economic hardship and ensure a safe working environment. Just like what workers' control can do for all workers and their families in industries and mines.

The supervision and control of workers across all industries in the country is the foundation of reconstruction and the realization of Independence and Freedom. This cannot be achieved without political independence from the Shia-bazaar alliance—that is, the current capitalist system.

Customs, in light of tragedy that has killed and injured hundreds of workers must take the lead in workers' oversight and control. Through such supervision of Customs and all industries in the country, workers can learn the path to organizing their own government and establishing a workers' and farmers' government. Dara Barzegar Ordibehesht 1404 / April 2025

## Customs from Qajar to Pahlavi to Islamic Republic of Iran.

The tragedy of death and injuries at Rajaei Customs in Bandar Abbas (April 26, 2025) is a moment for young workers to ponder on a short history of Customs setup under the tutelage of colonialists and monarchies as well as current I.R.I. To understand how it can only benefit the country through fundamental state reform (like the fundamental reform needed in education, health, industry, agriculture, universities and all the other organs of Shia-Bazaar rule inherited from monarchy state built by imperial powers); changing the government from one serving Khosoulati factions to one serving Mellat, i.e. a workers' and farmers' governmennt:



The problems of Customs go back over 100 years, in fact as old as the history of entry of capitalism to semi-colonial countries of Asia, like our own country. Iran sat between the Russian Tsarism and the rush of commodities from the far away Britain. The object of colonialists and their companies was to sell the most and take over the internal market of Iran during the Qajar period. Where the monarchy would give out Concessions, like tobacco, borrow from their banks and looked for revenue from imports before even there was a Customs

office as we know it. Concession and import became a source of income for the poles of capital/state—before the discovery of oil became a major source of income for monarchies of the 20th century.

During the Qajar era (the State of the Qajar Realm), when under the umbrella of absolute monarchy society was sedentary (local appointed Hakem, ruler) and mobile (tribal chieftains), each center of power—be it a khan or local ruler or a tribe, as well of the host of members of oligarchy and court—would want to control their own imports, exports, and Customs revenues. This state of affairs needed more organization:

Under Naser al-Din Shah, with the guidance and support of the British government, the Belgian Joseph Naus was appointed to the Customs post (1898/1277) in order to establish a centralized Customs, placing the control and oversight of Customs revenue at the service of Qajar-state. During the reigns of the first and second Pahlavi, this control—control of the Customs—was in the hands of the absolute monarchy, and along its revenue it was key, as they wanted to pass their goods and get a share of everything being imported

and all enterprises in the country—the discovery of oil and its income became a major source of income for absolute monarchies, first and second Pahlavi.

In other words, Customs was setup to aid imperial companies and serve as a source of income for the absolutist monarchies, i.e. Qajar and Pahlavi. Much like the latter would make billions of dollars from sales of oil to imperial companies during the 20th century.

With the revolutionary uprising of 1979, the possibility arose for Customs, to define what is imported and its revenue control to serve the needs of the country and the vast populations. However, with the formation of the Islamic Republic of Iran (I.R.I.), the 100 years-old system survived and the control of Customs fell into the hands of Shia-Bazaar. With fragmentation of state power as the result of revolution of 1979, each government faction wanted its control over Customs, its own Eskellé (wharf). Custom's warehouses fell in the hands of various power centers of capital/state, each of which took control of imports and Customs revenue for itself to control goods as the example of smuggled spirits and cigarettes, etc. indicates. The control and administration of Customs, to be in service of national independence, remained out of the people's reach. Customs continued serving the government managers, civil and military, and the many factions of Shia-Bazaar, traders and capitalists, for the profits they were seeking.

Under such system, be it a Qajar or Pahlavi or I.R.I. under Shia-Bazaar, Customs workers/staff are there only to serve the profit making class, i.e. Khosoulati (private-state). The well-being of Customs workers/employees would come last and the protection of their standard of living and ensuring a safe work environment is secondary and not ensured. Under I.R.I., where Customs' management is acting on behalf of state factions and is integrated with state like all other managements of industries and commerce as well as government various administrations, the corrupt system trickles down: each Customs department is centers of grafts and under-the-table operations where employees would charge customers for what is their work duties (like all other employees of various departments of I.R.I.) to supplant their meager salaries kowtowing the large sums of profits made by government managers. All of which points to the fact that there is no solution other than workers/employees control over Customs to pave the way for establishment of a workers' and farmers' government; the only type of government which will close the long chapter of profit making through imports by the absolutist shahs, Shia-Bazaar, and instead would place the monopoly of foreign trade in the hands of state; to start serving the country and not Khosoulati. D.B.