



Trump Breaks Character as He Strikes Yemen, Threatens Iran

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Power and persistence: The shifting dynamics of West Asia in the Trump era

By Batool Subeiti

LONDON - The future direction of West Asia remains uncertain, but one fundamental principle holds: power determines survival. Those who lack strength—whoever they may be—will not endure, including the Israeli occupation. Meanwhile, the strong will consolidate their position.

This is the key understanding: power provides the opportunity for consolidation.

Any actor that disregards Trump and proves that the region does not belong to America will assert itself, prompting a Trumpian response of withdrawal. Trump does not see the region as strategically vital. He promotes the worst-case solutions to achieve maximum compromises, but when faced with resistance, he retreats.

The primary goal behind attacking Yemen was to send a message to Iran. However, Yemen's response will reinforce a critical lesson: force alone will not break its resolve. The same applies to Iran—Trump's threats during negotiations have not forced it to yield. Even when Trump ordered the assassination of General Qassem Soleimani, he pleaded with Iran not to retaliate. Now, his rhetoric toward Iran remains hollow.

Yemen targets USS Harry Truman Aircraft Carrier

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN - The Yemeni Armed Forces have announced that they successfully targeted an American aircraft carrier for the second time within just a few hours.

In a televised statement, military spokesperson Brigadier General Yahya Saree confirmed that Yemeni forces had targeted the U.S. aircraft carrier USS Harry Truman for the second time in 24 hours in the northern Red Sea.

The attack involved 18 ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and drones in an engagement that lasted several hours.

The statement also mentioned that they successfully foiled a planned hostile attack against Yemen.

According to the statement, enemy warplanes were forced to return to their bases after Yemeni forces launched missiles and drones at the aircraft carrier and its accompanying warships.

Saree stated that the operation was part of the Yemeni Armed Forces response to the ongoing U.S. aggression.

He also stated that the attack was part of what Saree described as a struggle against tyranny and arrogance.

Washington's open interference in selecting Lebanon's central banker

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT - In continuation of the recent U.S.-led Israeli military attacks on Lebanon and following the election of Joseph Aoun as President of the Republic and the appointment of Nawaf Salam as Prime Minister, American pressure on Lebanon is escalating in an attempt to "undermine" the influence of Hezbollah and its allies.

One of the most prominent manifestations of American tutelage is the blatant interference in deciding on security, military, judicial, and financial posts.

The Lebanese financial sector has long been subject to U.S. pressure; talk of U.S. interference in the selection of the new governor of the Central Bank of Lebanon is not new.

In light of official submission to Washington's interference in every detail of Lebanon's political affairs, Reuters quoted five informed sources as saying that the United States has begun interfering in the Lebanese government's consultations regarding the selection of the next central banker "in a bid to curtail corruption and illicit financing for Hezbollah through Lebanon's banking system."

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Pezeshkian meets senior military commanders to discuss defense, security

TEHRAN - In a significant engagement with the country's military leadership, President Masoud Pezeshkian visited the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics on Sunday evening, where he held discussions with high-ranking commanders of Iran's Armed Forces.

During the meeting, President Pezeshkian expressed his deep appreciation for the dedication and sacrifices of Iran's Armed Forces.

The discussions covered a range of strategic and operational issues, including national defense policies, regional security dynamics, and ways to further enhance the country's military capabilities. The president and the senior commanders exchanged views on strengthening Iran's defense posture in light of evolving security threats and the necessity of maintaining a state of readiness.

Expect a 'decisive and definite' retaliation: Iran responds to Trump's latest threats

TEHRAN - Tehran has stated that any act of aggression will be met with a "decisive and definite" response, according to Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman, as the United States continues to threaten the Islamic Republic over its ties with Resistance groups including Yemen.

The U.S. military recently conducted operations in Yemen, marking the first such actions since President Trump assumed office in January. These strikes, carried out on Saturday night and targeting Sana'a and numerous other provinces, tragically led to the deaths of at least 53 individuals, predominantly women and children, and left 101 others wounded.

"We will respond decisively to any threats to Iran's territorial integrity, national security, or interests—this is indisputable," said Esmail Baqaei during his weekly press briefing on Monday. ▶ Page 2

A look at the history of Iran's efforts for the nationalization of its oil

TEHRAN - Soon after oil was discovered in Iran in 1908 as the first country in the region, colonial powers, particularly Britain and later the United States sought to bring the Iranian national wealth under their control, depriving the impoverished nation of its revenues.

In the absence of a powerful Iranian government during both Qajar and the successor Pahlavi dynasties, the British colonial power used force and abused the weakness of the Iranian state to coerce it into making concessions which allowed foreign companies to control oil extraction and sale. The nationalization of the oil industry was the response to such colonialism. Different weak Iranian monarchs made concessions to colonial powers.

D'Arcy Concession

In 1901, William Knox D'Arcy, a British investor backed by the British government, reached a sixty-year agreement with Mozzafar al-Din Shah of Iran to exploit Iran's potential oil resources. Six years later, in 1907, his exploration efforts paid off and oil was discovered in Masjedsoleyman in the southwestern province of Khuzestan for the first time in the West Asia and southern Persian Gulf regions. Within two years, the Anglo-Persian Oil Company was established to produce and bring Iranian oil to world markets. ▶ Page 2

Nowruz in Tehran embraces tranquility amidst urban splendor

By Afshin Majlesi

TEHRAN - As Nowruz approaches, Tehran's hustle and bustle gives way to serene tranquility, offering visitors a unique perspective on the Iranian capital.

Gone are the days of stop-and-go traffic, choking air pollution, and overcrowded streets, the overall atmosphere is replaced by almost clean air with a delicate scent of blooming flowers.

The two-week Nowruz holidays, which officially start on March 19, offer travelers a captivating journey through Tehran's rich history and culture when most businesses and schools close their doors. ▶ Page 6



Imam Reza shrine hosts pilgrims for Iftar

People are breaking their fast at the holy shrine of Imam Reza (AS) in the city of Mashhad.

Historical documents indicate that the oldest known Iftar meal was served at the holy shrine 335 years ago.

Ramadan is a time for practicing humility, patience, simplicity, empathy, and acceptance when things don't go their way. It's also a time to make stronger bonds of fellowship.

Muslims observe religious fast from dawn (fajr) to sunset (maghrib) and pray more than usual and with even more intensity to get closer to God. Ramadan is traditionally a time of great hospitality and generosity.