



USA Vs Iran: Reason behind enmity & America's antipathy towards Tehran

WIDE ANGLE



There are many countries that don't have democracy but United States has excellent relations with them. Many other nations are accused of gross human rights' abuse but this fact is not mentioned and it doesn't come in way of US' relations. Then, what makes US and Iran, such bitter opponents!

The Asian Tribune
www.asiantribune.net

Analysing the complex relationship and reasons behind the hostility

For more than 45 years, the two countries—US and Iran have been adversaries.

America, the super power, seems obsessed with Iran and it constantly issues statements, applies sanctions & uses other

possible measures to corner Iran. Rhetoric, propaganda and coup attempts are also part of this exercise.

There are other countries too that have nuclear programs and there are authoritarian nations that are

allies of USA. Also, countries that don't do well on human rights and are known to crush dissent, exist in different parts of the world.

But regarding Iran, US' obsessive focus & wish for a regime change

is at another level. The strategic reasons, regional dominance in Middle East & other aims, are behind this bitter and old feud. Read on **Page 4**.

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*Iran had nationalized its oil sector in 1951. The decision had angered Britain, which wanted control over oil & saw it as a blow to its economic interests.

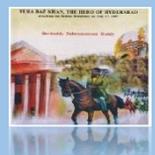
*Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh's government in Iran was toppled, in 1953. The coup was engineered by CIA and MI6 [US-UK' agencies].

*In 1953, Reza Pahlavi returned to power as the Mosaddegh led regime fell in Tehran. During Shah's authoritarian rule, Iran remained a strong US ally.

*In 1979, Shah's government was overthrown. After Khomeini's return & the Islamic revolution in Iran, there was an end of formal diplomatic relations between US and Iran.

INSIDE: THE ASIAN TRIBUNE

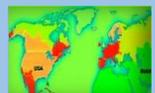
***Revolutionary leader's role in the attack on British residency during freedom struggle. Page 2.**



***Gambia drags Myanmar to International court over Rohingya genocide, hearing begins. Page 3.**



***Iran is seen as a roadblock in US' scheme of things in West Asia. Page 4.**



Revolutionary freedom fighter Turrebaz Khan had attacked British residency during freedom movement

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Turrebaz Khan was the revolutionary who led the audacious attack on British residency in Hyderabad during the first war of Independence in 1857.

This heroic act and the supreme sacrifice of soldiers, had caused a stir in the entire region.

The attack was planned in order to free the rebel Indian soldiers who were held in prison, there.

Earlier, as news from the North about the revolution in Oudh and other regions arrived, there was resentment among people in Hyderabad too. Like most of the other princely states, here too the ruling class was pro-British.

Cheeda Khan had revolted against British when the state contingent's 3rd cavalry was ordered to march to Delhi, at Buldhana. He had refused to fight for the East India Company and left with other soldiers. However, they were arrested and handed to Resident.

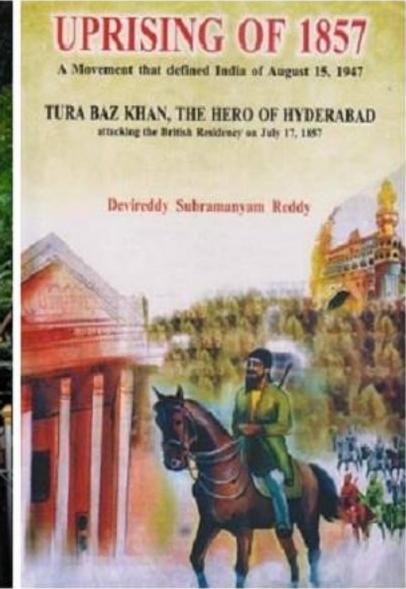
In order to rescue them, *Sher-i-Hyderabad* Turrebaz Khan and other revolutionaries surrounded the Residency. As large number of rebel soldiers reached, Turrebaz Khan and Maulvi Alauddin along with Rohillas demolished wall and broke into the residency. There was a full-fledged battle.

A large number of rebel soldiers were martyred. Treachery and deceit, particularly, role of several officials who had sent information to British officials about the impending attack, was responsible for the defeat.

Turrebaz Khan got injured but managed to escape. He was later identified and arrested. He was asked about whereabouts of Maulvi Alauddin but he refused. He was to be sent to Andaman Nicobar but he managed to escape from the prison on January 18, 1859.

Now, an amount of Rs 5,000 was announced on his arrest. This was a huge cash reward by the standards of the era. He was caught and killed [shot dead]. Khan's body was hanged by a tree near Residency. This was to send a strong message to the revolutionaries as well as the ordinary people.

[Excerpt from an article that was first published at www.anindianmuslim.com]



The memorial in memory of Turrebaz Khan alias Tura Baz Khan in Hyderabad. Devireddy Subramanyam Reddy's book on the right.

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Hearing starts in ICJ over Rohingya genocide

Gambia, a tiny nation, drags Myanmar to International Court of Justice



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The case of atrocities on the Rohingya minority in Myanmar finally reached the international court of justice and the hearing has begun.

The role of Gambia, a small African nation, has been vital in this fight for justice against Myanmar.

As third party, Gambia had approached ICJ and it later got the support of many other

countries. This week the hearing began and Gambia's attorney general and justice minister Dawda A Jallow stated in front of the ICJ that the Myanmar government had targeted the Rohingya, a minority, and aimed at the latter's destruction. Later on, Myanmar officials tried to defend the role of the government and said that the charges of genocide and atrocities were not correct.

Hundreds of thousands of Rohingya were forced to leave the country due to the killings and attacks over a long period. The Rohingya populace that was mainly concentrated in Rakhine state, was targeted and had been subjected to discrimination over a long period. Human rights agencies had been documenting the injustice—from denial of citizenship to discrimination in jobs and other

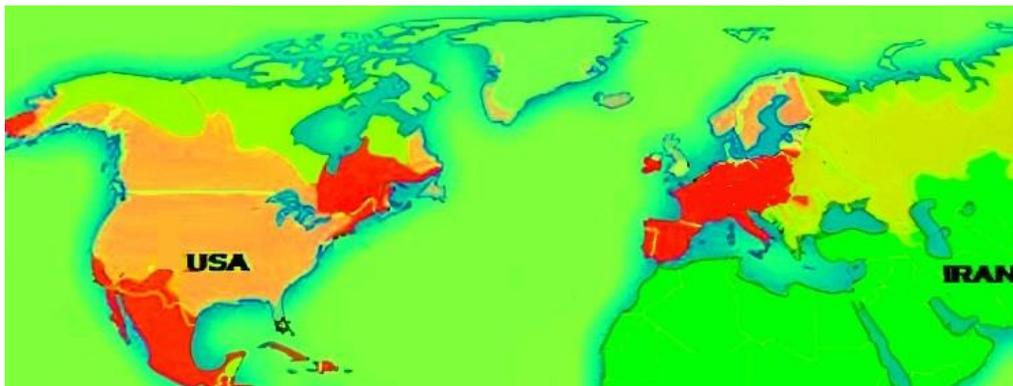
ways of harassment, until the community was brutally attacked in the last decade. Hundreds of thousands had to leave their land. Their settlements were burnt and bombed. Rohingya refugees live in Bangladesh, Malaysia, Saudi Arab, Pakistan and several other countries. In view of their immense suffering, the ICJ case assumes significance.
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For US, Iran is an impediment to its strategic interests & military influence in West Asia

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US' age-old conflict with Iran is not just due to US' differences over certain issues or the super power's wish to promote democracy & promote human rights.

Rather, it is a mix of geopolitics, strategic interests and aim to strengthen its influence in Arab world, especially, because US is a global super power and Iran's stand & independent policy (or defiance) don't suit the American scheme of things—in the US-led global order.

Several monarchies in Middle East are US' allies. Hence, the authoritarian rule or lack of democratic values doesn't bother America. US has its military bases in those Arab nations.

However, Iran's case is altogether different, as it is seen as an adversary with ambitions to establish its own influence in the region.

Iran is a large country and it has its proxies in different countries in the region viz. Hezbollah, Houthis & Hamas. It is seen as a country that can counter Israel, which is America's strongest ally & partner. Tel Aviv has relations with a host of Arab

countries and it is also able to hold sway over them.

But, Iran is a problem for Israel, as it is a strong country and the recent Iran-Israel war has demonstrated Iran's military prowess. It has become clear that Israel can handle other nations but it needs US' support to keep Iran off. This is a situation that is not in favour of United States, the super power that wants to maintain its dominance in the region. Iran kept repeating that its nuclear program was for peaceful purposes but there was more strong reaction to it, compared to the silence over Israel's nuclear program.

The reasons are clear. US-led world order has a condition and it is about having countries aligned to it. If a country pursues a different

course and follows a policy that challenges the US' vision of the world, then it is seen as a move against the American interests.

There are regimes that are repressive or autocratic, but they are tolerated as they cooperate with America in all aspects—militarily as well as economically.

Iran remains a tough nut to crack. It has been a critic of America and despite attempts for regime change, the West has not been successful to enforce a rebellion in the country.

It has also managed to survive despite tough sanctions and open hostility, which is a major factor in the unipolar world.

US is well aware that Israel is worried about a nuclear armed Iran. Tel Aviv sees Iran as an existential threat.

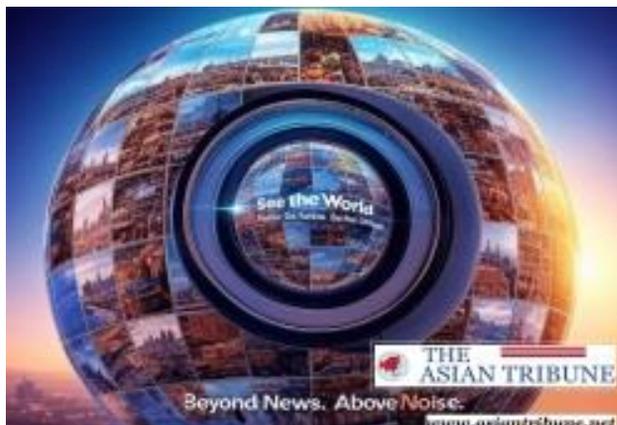
The major cause of worry for US is that a nuclear armed Iran would change the balance of power in Middle East, completely.

Other countries in the region are dependent on US and buy American weapons, apart from aligning with it.

Iran has allies on the other side viz. China and Russia. Clearly, Iran, a country of nearly 90 million people, which has more population than Britain (70 million), France (69 million) or Germany (80 million), is seen as an adversary.

Apart from the strategic importance, the alliances, economic ties and shared interests decide how a country is seen as an ally or an adversary.

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