

**THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN:  
HAS THE SUPREME LEADER LAID THE FOUNDATIONS  
IN ORDER TO SCUTTLE A PERMANENT ACCORD ?**

The Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Ali Hoseini-Khamenei, appears to have laid down the foundations for the latest round of discussions, due to commence, tomorrow.

Ayatollah Ali Hoseini-Khamenei – who has held onto the reins of power in the country since June 4, 1989 – has gone on record as stating, definitively, that the United States of America has shown, time and again, positive, active, and typically mutual hatred or ill will toward Iran.

The exact words that the Supreme Leader used were, inter alia:

*‘We (Iran) had announced previously that on certain issues, if we feel it is expedient, we would negotiate with Satan (the US) to deter its evil ... The nuclear talks showed the enmity of America against Iran, Iranians, Islam and Muslims.’*

The Ayatollah is, in the American vernacular, ‘*not just whistling Dixie*’, he means what he says: He does not want to allow the world to consider his words in the realm of the nonsensical; and, further, if push comes to shove, any bellicose attack on Iran, direct or indirect, by whomsoever or whatsoever, would, as far as this religious zealot is concerned, be an attack, not just on Iran and all of its 80 million, mostly Muslim citizens, but on the world of Islam and Muslims, around the world.

In short, the Ayatollah is obliquely threatening the US to watch its Ps and Qs ... or suffer the consequences.

He is suggesting, in very clear terms, if one can read between the lines from that which he uttered, last Thursday, that he would not hesitate to call for a Jihad from the Faithful if needs be such.

His statements came on the eve, so to speak, of the latest round of talks to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, tomorrow. These talks are aimed at nutting out the processes with regard to the implementation of the Interim Nuclear Accord that was signed between Iran and the European Union (EU) – the so-called P5+1 – in Geneva, last November.

This Interim Nuclear Accord places certain temporary constraints on Iran’s nuclear activities, but it agrees to permit the country to continue to enrich uranium, nevertheless.

Tentative negotiations between Iran and the P5+1 have been finalised with regard to the technical details for the implementation of the Interim Nuclear Accord. This clears the way to freeze some parts of Iran’s nuclear programme in exchange for a limited amount of relief from financial sanctions, put in place by the United Nations.

The green ‘go’ button will be pushed on January 20 (next Monday) when about \$US7 billion will be released to Iran over a period of six months, with the first installment of \$US550 million, due to be transferred within the first week of February.

The Administration of President Barack Hussein Obama is of the opinion that there is, at best, a 50-percent chance of Iran, agreeing to a final, comprehensive agreement that will remove the threat to the world of Iran,

being in a position to become a nuclear power.

But there are those in the US Senate who do not trust the Government of Iran; they are pushing for even more financial sanctions to be imposed by the UN.

Israel is of the avowed opinion that Iran wants to be a nuclear power for the sole purposes of being in a position to construct nuclear weaponry. Israel is a nuclear state and is a staunch ally of the US.

It has gone on record as stating that it would not tolerate a nuclear-armed Iran. Further, it would not bound by the November Interim Accord.

For its part, Iran has gone on record, on numerous occasions, stating that it does not want to tolerate Israel any longer than it is compelled to suffer its existence; and, that it would enjoy expunging it from the face of the earth.

### **Iran's Present Leadership**

Since August 3, 2013, the President of Iran has been Hasan Fereidun Ruhani, whose Number Two is Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif Khonsari.

Both of these gentlemen are extremely intelligent and both have been involved, over the years, one way or another, in the country's nuclear programmes.

The interim demands that this political duo have, thus far, successfully negotiated comprise, among other things, to concede pennies in order to amass the pounds. In other words, to yield to select interim demands by the P5+1 in order to obtain agreements that will be embedded in a final, comprehensive agreement ... if it comes to pass.

Meanwhile, the enrichment of uranium in the country continues; and, the number of centrifuges continues to grow.

The final, comprehensive agreement between the UN and Iran will not be a permanent accord, in any event, when (or if, ever) it is reached, later on this year, but just another interim agreement.

It has been suggested, in some camps, that the present restrictions on Iran's nuclear programmes should be made permanent thus appeasing sovereign states (such as Israel, in particular) that fear the Islamic state and its real intent in demanding the right to enrich uranium to a level that it could be used to manufacture weapons of mass destruction, known as weapons-grade, fissile material.

There are those people who maintain that a solution to restrain Iran, permanently, so that it would never be in a position to produce weapons of mass destruction, is unlikely, ever, to come to pass; and, that this fall's meeting will result in a Mexican standoff, leading to an agreement to hold further meetings ... and, then, further meetings ... ad infinitum.

One would hope that such a situation would not come to pass because, as time flies, so the Iranian centrifuges continue to proliferate and more and more weapons-grade fissile material is produced and stored in secret underground bunkers in the mountains of the country.

For this and other reasons, it seems only logical that the UN should, as a matter of extreme urgency, demand that Iran permit international inspectors the right to examine any and all nuclear facilities in the country on very short notice so that, in the event that Iran is found to be violating the terms and/or intent of any international nuclear agreement, the truth can be known, far and wide, along with evidence, prima facie.

Thus, it follows that the UN sanctions on Iran should not be lifted, at all, but only be suspended.

It is highly unlikely, if not impossible, for Ayatollah Ali Hoseini-Khamenei to agree to have an international

verification team(s) of nuclear experts to be permitted, willy-nilly, to enter Iran and to start poking round, looking for evidence of potential violations of nuclear agreements.

One has only to view the existence of the Lebanese-based Hezbollah with its army of terrorists that is sponsored and armed by Iran to ponder the politics of a country that, on the one hand, makes the claim of wanting nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, and, on the other hand, it supports and arms terrorist organisations.

A comprehensive and binding agreement between Iran and the UN is, of course, the best way forward, but, as **TARGET** () has made it only too clear, a political solution to the many and varied problems that confront the UN in respect of this Islamic country is akin to an ant, considering the best way to overcome an elephant.

In this medium's view, a political solution is just not on the cards – at least, not in today's world, and, certainly, not with the current Supreme Leader of Iran, who does not hesitate to label the US as 'Satan'.

Which brings one to the question as to whether or not another war is likely: One hopes and prays that it does not come to pass.

Because, then, everybody loses.

However, can the world allow Iran to be in a position to threaten its neighbours with attacks, launched by Iranian missiles, armed with nuclear warheads?

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