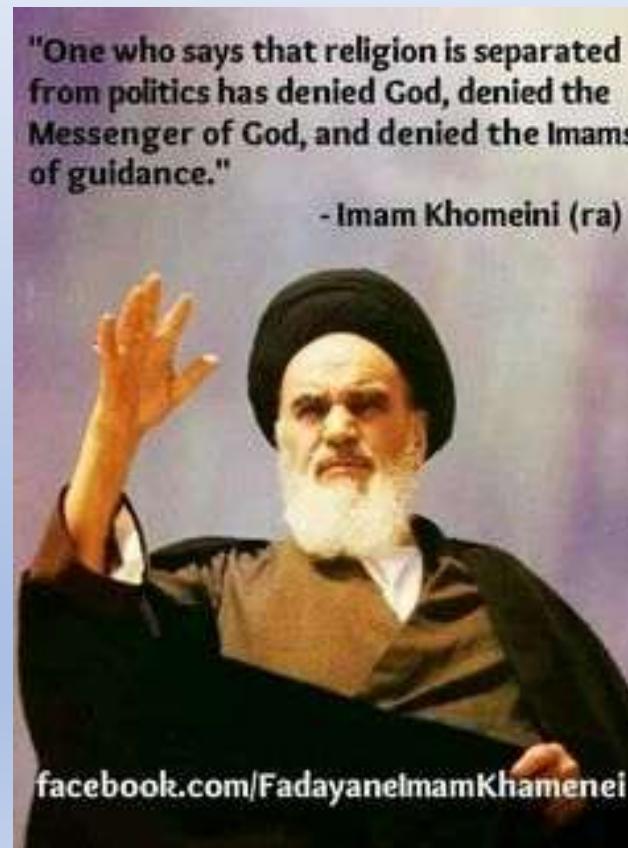


Welcome American Security Council Foundation

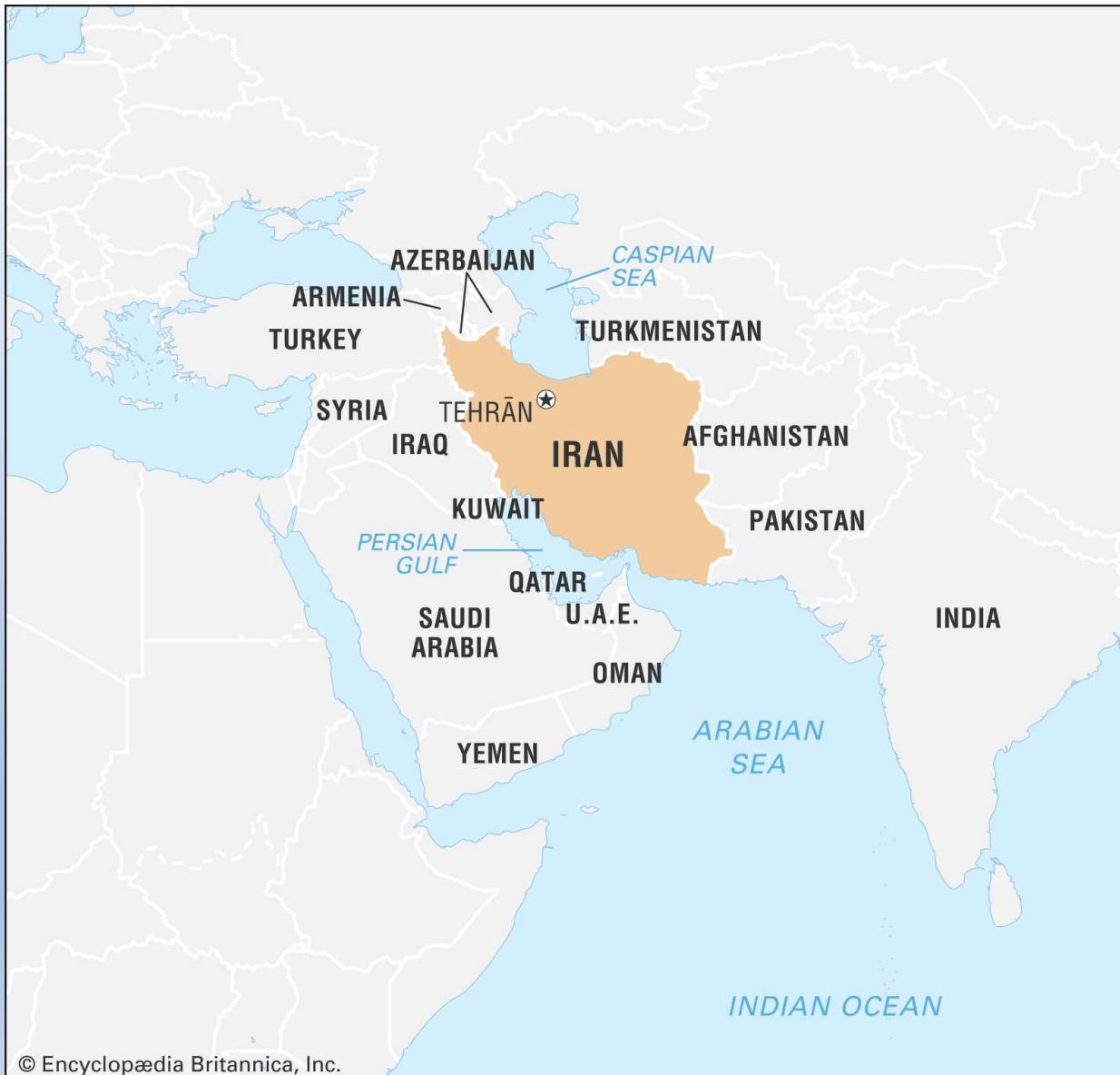


Peace Through Strength®

Is War With The Islamic Republic Of Iran Inevitable?









Islamic Republic of Iran Today

From CIA Unclassified Report

- Population of 83,024,745
- Muslim (the official religion) 99.4% (Shia 90-95%, Sunni 5-10%)
- Zoroastrian, the ancient religion of Persia, Jews, and Christians all are oppressed but allegedly permitted, Bahá'í founded in Iran in the 1860s are proscribed
- 38% of the population is under 25
- 48.86% of the population is age 25-54
- About 2 out of 3 Iranians have known no other system than the Islamic Republic
- Labor force 30.5 million (2017 est.)
- GDP is \$1.64 trillion in 2017 dollars, for comparison Florida's GDP was about \$1.1 trillion in 2019
- GDP Growth
- 3.7% (2017 est.)
- 12.5% (2016 est.)
- -1.6% (2015 est.) Note: Iran was in negative growth until Obama sent them billions in unmarked bills as part of the Obamabomb deal, meaning sanctions were working and crippling the Iranian economy
- Export partners: China 27.5%, India 15.1%, South Korea 11.4%, Turkey 11.1%, Italy 5.7%, Japan 5.3% (2017)
- petroleum is 60% of their exports

Who Governs In The Islamic Republic Of Iran?

- Iran is governed according to “Absolute Wilayat al-Faqih” (Guardianship of the Jurist).

Article 4: All civic, penal, financial, economic, administrative, cultural, military, political, and other laws and regulations must be based on Islamic criteria. This principle governs all the articles of the constitution, and other laws and regulations. The determination of such compatibility is left to the Foqaha of the Guardian Council.

Article 5: During the absence (ghayba) of his holiness, *the Lord of the Age, May God all mighty hasten his appearance*, the sovereignty of the command [of God] and religious leadership of the community [of believers] in the Islamic Republic of Iran is the responsibility of the faqīh who is just, pious, knowledgeable about his era, courageous, and a capable and efficient administrator, as indicated in Article 107.

Guardianship of the Jurist

- The “Jurist” is an unelected Islamic religious leader
- His job is to ensure that Iran is governed according to Islamic Law (Sharia)
- To export Iran’s Islamic Revolution and spread Islam and Sharia throughout the world
- And especially to support Islamic revolutionary movements to confront Israel, the United States and the West
- Hasten the return of the Twelfth Imam (the Mahdi)

The Constitution Of The Islamic Republic Of Iran

The preamble the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran says the purpose of the Islamic Republic is to bring the entire world under Islam and Islamic law:

With respect to the Islamic content of the Iranian Revolution, which was a movement for the victory of all the oppressed people over their oppressors, *the constitution prepares the ground for continuing this revolution at home and abroad*. Specifically, it strives to expand international relations with other Islamic movements and people *in order to pave the way for the formation of a single, universal community, in accordance with the Qur'anic verse*, “Verily, this Brotherhood of yours is a single Brotherhood, and I am your Lord and Cherisher: therefore Serve Me (and no other)” (21: 92).

The Purpose Of The Armed Forces Of The Islamic Republic

- The Armed Forces Of The Islamic Republic Are "An Ideological Army"

In establishing and equipping the defense forces of the country, the focus shall be on maintaining ideology and faith as the foundation and the measure. Consequently, the Army of the Islamic Republic and the Islamic Pasdaran Revolutionary Corps are formed in accordance with the aforementioned objective. *They will undertake the responsibility of not only guarding and protecting the borders, but also the weight of ideological mission, i.e. striving (jehād) on the path of God and struggle on the path of expanding the sovereignty of the law of God in the world;* in accordance with the Qur'anic verse: "Against them make ready your strength to the utmost of your power, including steeds of war, to strike terror into (the hearts of) the enemies, of Allah and your enemies" (8: 60).

The Ideology Of The Twelfth Imam Or Mahdi

- We saw him in a previous slide as the “Lord of the age” referred to in Article 5 of the Iranian Constitution
- True believers of *Mahdaviat* or the coming of Mahdi, believe the twelfth Shiite Imam, will rule the world before the end times
- Mahdi is believed to be in “Occultation” or spiritual hiding in a well next to Jamkaran mosque in a village on the outskirts of the city of Qom, Iran
- This is not myth to believers: When he was mayor of Tehran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, later President of Iran, had a road built especially for Mahdi that led to the mosque.
- How is this different from other millennial or apocalyptic religious beliefs?

The Difference Is That Men Can Act To Hasten The Return Of The Mahdi By Creating War And Chaos



So, Is War With Iran Inevitable?



Unfortunately, YES Because In Matters Of War And Peace The Enemy Always Has A Vote

Whether we admit it or accept it the Islamic Republic of Iran declared war on the United States in 1979, here are a few examples:

- The Teheran Embassy hostage taking (1979)
- Hostage taking in Lebanon (1982 - 1992)
- The Beirut Marine Barracks and U.S. Embassy bombings (1983)
- Pan Am Flight 103 destroyed over Lockerbie, Scotland (1988)
- Mining the Persian Gulf and harassment of shipping (1988)
- Truck bombing at the Khobar Towers in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia (1996)
- Provided material support to the 9/11 hijackers (2000 – 2001)
- Iranians Charged with Cyber Plots Against U.S. Banks, Dam (2016)
- Iranian Spy Ring, Ahmadreza Doostar and Majid Ghorbani, Indicted for spying in the United States (2018)
- Ongoing assassinations and attacks on U.S. interests, including terror plots right here in the United States
- Ongoing supplying anti-American forces in Iraq and Afghanistan with training, sophisticated improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and explosively formed projectiles (EFPs) and other weapons

So, What Could This War Look Like?



Iran's Nuclear Weapons Program

When asked what the lesson of the first Gulf War was General S.F.Rodrigues, formerly Chief of Staff of the Indian Army said, "Don't fight the Americans without nuclear weapons."

The George Rasley corollary to that observation is "You don't seek nuclear weapons unless you plan to fight the United States."

The Problem Is Our Enemy Is NOT The Iranian People We Are Fighting The Ideology Of The Islamic Republic

- Why would Iran's leaders start a war they know they can't win?
- First, let's define "winning"
- The Shi'ite doctrine enshrined in the Islamic Republic's Constitution demands that Iran act to hasten the return of the Twelfth Imam
- War and chaos are necessary *preconditions for the return of the Twelfth Imam*
- Iran's domestic politics: unemployment, environmental degradation
- They understand us better than we understand them and they believe America is uniquely unsuited to fighting what is in reality a religious war

The Good News Is The Regime And Its Policies Are Fragile

- 1991 - 1993 - economic protests by urban poor
- 1999 - students riot after closure of reformist newspaper *Salam*
- 2009 - 2010 riots after Ahmadinejad stole the election
- 2011 - 2012 Green movement coincided with Arab Spring
- 2017 - 2018 Dey protest economic and political grievances
- Now - economic grievances and government lies and corruption

Chants Heard During the Dey Anti-Regime Protests in Iran Continue Throughout 2018

Chants from Dey Protests (December 28, 2017 to January 9, 2018):

1	"With spirit! With blood! We'd sacrifice [our lives] for Ahvaz!"	3	"[Forget about] Syria, think about our condition!"	5	"Reza Shah, may your spirit live on!"	7	"Death to Khamenei!"	9	"If one embezzlement ends, then our problem will be solved!"
2	"We are the children of the [Iran-Iraq] war! Fight us and we will fight!"	4	"Death to the dictator!"	6	"No to Gaza! No to Lebanon! I [will only] sacrifice my life for Iran!"	8	"Cannon[s]! Tank[s]! Firecracker[s]! Mullahs must get lost!"	10	"Death to Rouhani!"

Until Now No President Has Been Willing To Face The Truth About Iran

Unfortunately, when the Iranian people have protested the failures of Khomeinism and *Absolute Wilayat al-Faqih* the United States has done little or nothing concrete to use that popular discontent to undermine the regime, instead substituting holding worthless real estate in the Middle East and killing a few thousand ignorant jihadis for fighting and winning the real war – which is the defeat of Sharia-supremacism and Iranian *Absolute Wilayat al-Faqih*.

Alternatives

(simplistic)

Obama – Make like we can be friends, kick the can down the road, let them get nuclear weapons and missiles and let a future president figure it out. Obviously, knowing what we know about Iranian ideology this is folly.

Bolton – Preemptive strike at some date and time of our choosing: Dangerous but may at some point be necessary if we keep following the Obama “strategy.”

Michael Ledeen (former Reagan NSC staffer author of two books and numerous article on Iran) – Active efforts to bring about regime change without American combat elements (Reagan vs Soviets strategy). If a democratic non-theocratic Iran can emerge from an internal revolution, then perhaps a democratic non-theocratic Iran *might* be persuaded to abandon its nuclear program.

Trump ?????

Regime Change vs. All Out Shooting War

Here are four simple steps that we could take almost immediately to help bring about regime change in Iran:

- Pump-up the power and content of Farsi language programing through radio and TV, especially satellite TV, making it clear that we stand with the people of Iran in their quest for liberty.
- Pump-up the power and content of our Farsi language social media communications with the people of Iran and integrate them with radio and TV messages proposed above.
- Use clandestine means to deliver encrypted cellphones, satellite phones, radios and laptops to Iranian dissidents to ensure that they can communicate with each other outside of government channels.
- Create online and on-air communications channels that dissidents can access to communicate outside of the Iranian government channels, for example satellite digital radio channels could provide Iranians with news, entertainment and information on protest locations.

After that provide lethal aid only if and when groups prove themselves