

TEHRAN -- Iran on Monday reacted to statements issued by the United States and certain Western countries criticizing Iran's human rights records on the second anniversary of riots in the country that was caused by the death in custody of a young woman.

In a post on his X account on Monday, Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kan'ani said those countries should have a look at their own history which is full of rights violation cases before commenting about Iran's human rights records. He described the U.S. and allies as "professional violators of human rights" and "aggressors and imposers of bloody wars on other countries and nations".

TEHRAN -- Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Monday dismissed claims that the country has supplied weapons to Yemen, saying Sana'a is capable of meeting its military requirements.

"Accusing Iran of sending weapons to Yemen is an insult to the people of Yemen," Araghchi said in an interview with Yemen's Al-Masirah television channel. He added that Yemen possesses the military technology and has become capable of strengthening its arsenal.

Viewpoint

US Terrorism Again Falters in Venezuela

Iranian Students Shine at WorldSkills Lyon 2024



Foolad Sirjan Win Asian Club Volleyball Championship



Resistance Movements Praise Yemeni Missile Strike on Israel



President Pezeshkian: Don't Sanction or Threaten Iran



President Pezeshkian talks to reporters in his first news conference in Tehran on Monday.

TEHRAN -- President Masoud Pezeshkian said here Monday during a televised press conference that Iran will never give up its missile program, saying the country needs such deterrence for its security, in a region where Israel is able to "drop missiles on Gaza every day."

"If we don't have missiles, they will bomb us whenever they want, just like in Gaza," Pezeshkian said.

He reiterated Tehran's official stance with respect to its missile program, calling on the international community "to first disarm Israel before making the same demands of Iran."

"We need military power for the security of our people and country," he said. "We will not lose our defense power unless all are disarmed in our region. If America also respects our rights, we have no dispute. Do not sanction or threaten us, we will not be threatened."

In April, Iran launched an unprecedented missile and drone attack against Israel, firing some 300 projectiles, after the Zionist regime bombed its consular section in Damascus.

Pezeshkian said Tehran has shown restraint so far in its response to the Israeli assassination of the Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh because it believes the Zionist regime has been trying to lure it into a regional war.

"What Israel has done in the region and what Israel tried with the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh in Iran was to

drag us into a regional war," he said. "We have exercised restraint so far but we reserve the right to defend ourselves at a specific time and place with specific methods."

He conceded that Iran has hypersonic missiles, but he said not of the kind fired by the Yemenis on Sunday. "We don't have this missile in Iran at all," he said.

"It takes a person a week to travel to Yemen [from Iran], how could this missile have gotten there? We don't have such missiles to provide to Yemen," the president said.

He also denied that Iran has transferred any weapons to Russia. "This has not happened in our time. I won't go into what happened in the past. It is a possibility. There is no prohibition."

On the future of Iran's nuclear commitments and its enrichment of uranium at a level of 60% purity, he said Iran would not seek nuclear weapons but he hit out at the U.S. of tearing up the old nuclear agreement.

"The Americans have closed all the roads for us, everyone we want to talk to, the Americans say they will not allow it," he said.

The president said Tehran didn't want to enrich uranium to higher levels but had been forced to by the U.S. withdrawal from its nuclear deal.

"I think, we said many times, we don't want to do this at all. We want to solve our technical and scientific needs, we are not looking for nuclear weapons"

(Continued on Page 7)

Leader: Unity Not a Tactic but Qura'anic Principle



Ayatollah Khamenei meets with a group of Iranian Sunni scholars in Tehran on Monday.

TEHRAN -- Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei on Monday underlined the importance of Muslim unity, describing it as a "Qur'anic principle" and a key to counter ill-wishers' conspiracies against Muslims.

"The issue of the Islamic Ummah's identity is a fundamental one that transcends nationality, and geographical

borders cannot alter the reality and identity of the Islamic Ummah," he said in a meeting with Iranian Sunni scholars here.

The Leader said malicious efforts to make Muslims indifferent to their Islamic identity are "contrary to Islamic teachings, which hold that a Muslim should not be oblivious to the suffering of another Muslim

in Gaza or other parts of the world."

Ayatollah Khamenei's meeting with Sunni scholars came at the beginning of the Islamic Unity Week which coincides with the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon Him).

The Leader urged Sunni scholars to rely on Islamic identity and the Islamic Um-

mah as he reminded of long-standing plans and activities of ill-wishers to fuel religious differences in the Islamic world, especially in Iran.

"They seek to separate Shias and Sunnis in our country and in others Islamic regions using intellectual, propagational, and economic tools. They incite anger and discord through measures such as pressuring individuals from both sides to speak ill of each other."

Ayatollah Khamenei emphasized that relying on unity is the solution to counter these conspiracies. "The issue of unity is not a tactic but rather a Qur'anic principle."

The Leader expressed regret over certain intentional or unintentional actions which undermine the unity between Shia and Sunni communities.

"Of course, despite the multitude of conspiracies, our Sunni community has diligently countered these hostile motives, as evidenced by the 15,000 Sunni martyrs during the Sacred Defense and other

(Continued on Page 7)

Yemen Downs 3rd American MQ-9 Reaper in a Week

SANAA (Dispatches) — Yemen's Ansarullah movement said Monday it shot down another American-made MQ-9 Reaper drone, with video circulating online showing what appeared to be a surface-to-air missile strike and flaming wreckage strewn across the ground.

The U.S. military said it was aware of the claimed downing of a drone over the country's southwestern Dhamar province, without elaborating.

Other videos showed Ansarullah fighters gathered around the flaming wreckage, a propeller similar to those used by the armed drone visible in the flames. One attempted to pick up a piece of the metal before dropping it due to the heat.

Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree, a Yemeni military spokesperson, identified the drone as an MQ-9. He said it was the third downed by the Yemeni forces

in a week. He said the Yemeni forces used a locally produced missile.

Reapers, which cost around \$30 million apiece, can fly at altitudes up to 50,000 feet (15,240 meters) and have an endurance of up to 24 hours before needing to land. The aircraft have been flown by both the U.S. military and the CIA over Yemen for years.

Yemeni forces have targeted more than 80 Israeli-linked vessels with missiles and drones since the occupying regime's war on Gaza started in October. They seized one vessel and sank two in the campaign that has also killed four sailors.

Yemen maintains that it targets ships linked to Israel, the U.S. or the UK to force an end to the Zionist regime's campaign of death and destruction in Gaza.

The downing came as Yemen

hit the center of the occupied territories near Tel Aviv with a hypersonic ballistic missile which shook the Israeli entity.

The operation by the long-range missile sparked a fire and forced about 2 million settlers to scurry for shelter.

Saree said Yemen "targeted a military position of the Israeli enemy in the Jaffa area" with a "new hypersonic ballistic missile" that travelled 2,040 km (1270 miles) in just 11 1/2 minutes. He said Israel's defense system failed to intercept the missile.

"A Yemeni missile reached Israel after '20 missiles failed to intercept' it," said Nasrudin Amer, the head of Yemen's Sabaa news agency.

Hypersonic missiles travel much faster than traditional ballistic or cruise missiles, making them extremely difficult to detect, track, or intercept by current defense sys-

tems.

They travel at speeds greater than Mach 5, which is five times the speed of sound (approximately 3,800 miles per hour or 6,100 kilometers per hour).

Unlike ballistic missiles, which follow a predictable parabolic trajectory, hypersonic missiles can maneuver during flight, making them highly agile and harder to predict. This allows them to evade missile defense systems more effectively.

Additionally, hypersonic missiles can fly at lower altitudes compared to ballistic missiles, often in the upper atmosphere, which makes them harder to detect by radar systems designed to track higher altitude ballistic trajectories.

Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar on Monday congratulated Yemen for the missile strike on Israel.

(Continued on Page 7)