

Seyed Marandi: Yemen Enters the War - US-Israeli Strikes Spark RETALIATION

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Hi, everybody. Today's Saturday, March 28th, 2026, and our dear friend, our brother, Professor Seyed Marandi, is here with us. Welcome back, Professor.

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Thank you, Nima. Thank you very much for inviting me.

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Many people want to know what's happening right now in Iran. Yesterday, we saw a huge escalation by the United States. They attacked several energy facilities in Iran, including nuclear power plants and the heavy water site in the city of Arak. What's happening, Professor? What exactly happened yesterday?

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Well, you're right. They struck key infrastructure. The Iranians had already warned beforehand that if such strikes were carried out, the retaliation would be very severe. They've now stated that they will strike key infrastructure in occupied Palestine, as well as in the five regimes in the Persian Gulf—simply because these five regimes are part of the war. Without them, the United States cannot wage this war. Without their airspace, their land, the bases, and access to their ports, this war is impossible. And they're even funding it. These three countries—the Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar—are providing the funding.

So because of this situation, the Iranians feel that when these countries talk about their neutrality, they're insulting the intelligence of the Iranian people. The destruction of key infrastructure and major industrial assets in these countries has already begun, and it will continue until what the Iranians declared beforehand is fully carried out. And we have to remember, this has happened before. The Iranians warned the American regime that if they struck Iran's key infrastructure, there would be heavy retaliation. And the Israeli regime did that—they hit the South Pars gas field, and then Iran destroyed large parts of Qatar's gas installations, its LNG production facilities, as well as key assets in the Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

So when Iran makes these threats, it's very serious. If this continues, Iran will keep going. And ultimately, if we go down this road—if the Israelis push—it will lead to the complete destruction of oil and gas assets across the Persian Gulf. Then, even if there's some sort of agreement later, there will be no gas, no oil, and no tankers. Basically, what the Israeli regime is doing is sacrificing the entire world, the entire global economy. And Trump, being the obedient person that he is, even though we're told he's seeking an off-ramp, seems to simply not have the authority or the clout to end this. He's obedient to the Zionists and to the regime in Tel Aviv.

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He said 48 hours of ultimatum, then five days, then 10 days—and 10 days would be April 6th. But they attacked Iranian infrastructure, energy facilities inside Iran. Donald Trump said, "We're not going to attack these kinds of facilities," because he considered them important. But right now, they're doing exactly what they said they wouldn't do. What's your understanding? Because it's very important—what is the strategy on the part of the Iranians right now, and how would Iran respond to the escalation the United States is making?

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Well, Iran has already said, as I pointed out, that it's going to respond severely. It's going to hit harder. Whatever they hit in Iran, Iran is going to hit twofold, threefold, fourfold—probably not just twofold, but more. But that aside, this just shows, Nima, that Iran cannot have a ceasefire with the United States. This is just another indication of that. We had an agreement with the United States—the nuclear deal in 2015 with the P5+1—and the US was part of it. It wasn't a great deal for Iran; it was a great deal for the US. Trump tore up the deal. And then, even after that, during his second presidency, we were negotiating with Trump, and it became clear nine months ago that he was conspiring against us during those negotiations.

And again, before this war, it was the same. Right now, he's saying he's not going to attack the infrastructure—but they are. So that shows that Trump's signature, his promises, mean absolutely nothing. They're worthless. His words are worth nothing. And therefore, for this war to end, Iran is saying the conditions on the ground must change. The conditions must change in a way that ensures Iran is not attacked again in the future. We can't have a ceasefire where the American regime and the Israeli regime go back to the drawing board, regroup, rearm, and strike again six months from now, or a year from now, or a year and a half, or two years from now. That's not acceptable.

The five Iranian demands are very reasonable, and Iran is not going to let go of any of them. We will demand reparations, and we will get those reparations. These Arab family dictatorships in the Persian Gulf are utterly complicit. They have murdered many Iranians, and they will have to pay for it. Every single bit of money they owe to Iran, Iran will take from them—no doubt about that. In addition, Iran's sovereignty has to be respected, Iran's rights as a sovereign country have to be

respected, and the security of Iran's allies across the region has to be respected as well. So a ceasefire is just out of the question. No one in Iran will accept a ceasefire, because we know that if we accept one, they will wage war again.

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How do you see it, Professor Marandi—the way Saudi Arabia is acting? Because Fox News just announced that Saudi Arabia will join the fight. They're trying to stir something up in the United States, but after all, were they—I'm talking about the Arab states in the Persian Gulf—were they part of the war so far, and how deep were they involved?

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Well, if they join the war, they'll be immediately destroyed. Remember, none of these countries have anything besides energy supplies. The foundation of their existence is based on oil and natural gas.

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And almost all of their key assets.

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Alongside the Persian Gulf, they can all be easily destroyed if they enter the war directly. Then everything is, as they say, fair game—everything will be destroyed, and those regimes will collapse. I don't think they have any real question about that. If the Saudi regime—and I'm sure you saw how Trump humiliated Mohammed bin Salman just hours ago, saying that he has to kiss him, you know, on the backside—if they have any dignity and honor, they would distance themselves from the United States. If they had any dignity and honor, they would distance themselves from the Greater Israel project, because after all, Saudi territory is something that the Israeli regime wants.

And the U.S. ambassador to occupied Palestine has admitted that, saying the United States would support it—they'd have no problem with it. So instead of moving closer to Trump, who talks about their leader in such a humiliating way, all they have to do is say, "The Americans must leave our territory. They cannot use our airspace, and they cannot use our bases. We can only have a normal relationship, like other countries." If that happens, much of the problem would be solved immediately. But they don't have that capability. These are proxy regimes of the United States. That's how they stay in power—through obedience to the United States.

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Finally, we've seen Yemen joining the fight. In your opinion, what's important about Yemen joining the fight? And are we going to see the Bab al-Mandab, you know, the Red Sea, being somehow managed the way Iran manages the Strait of Hormuz?

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Yes, I think ultimately that's the direction we're moving in. Remember, the axis of resistance has not escalated. We did not start this war—Iran did not start this war—and we are only escalating in response to escalation. But when they escalate, Iran hits much harder, as we saw with the strikes on Qatar's gas installations and on Saudi and Emirati oil and gas facilities. Now Yemen is entering the fight, but even their involvement has stages. It could get very bad. The ground forces of Yemen are enormous; they can easily overrun significant parts of Saudi Arabia, just like the Iraqi resistance could easily take Kuwait and liberate northern Iraq.

And they can go further than Kuwait—beyond Kuwait into Saudi Arabia to the south. The United States is pushing for an escalation that's only going to end very badly for the United States, and badly for the world. What we're seeing now is bad enough. And Israel doesn't care about the world. The Israeli regime doesn't care about India's economy, or Germany's economy, or Argentina's economy, or Nigeria's economy. They don't care about anyone. So they're more than willing to sacrifice the interests of the United States and the rest of the world for their own sake.

And that is exactly why Trump is working against the interests of his own people and against the interests of the international community—because he is obedient to Israel. Now, why is that the case? Is it because they have footage of him with little girls? Is it because of the people who've surrounded him? Is it because of the lobby and how much money they've given him? Or is it a combination of different things? Who knows? But at the end of the day, it's clear that the United States is stuck, and it's only going to get worse if they launch an attack tonight on Iran—a land attack, which is quite possible. The Iranian response will be massive. It will fail ultimately. They will have to leave, ultimately.

They'll be stuck in a quagmire. But if they do attack, it's only going to make things worse—worse and worse, and faster than what we have now. Iran has no option but to continue on the course it's pursuing, because Iran is the victim. Iran is defending itself. And the countries in the Persian Gulf that export oil and gas—they're all complicit: Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait—they're all part of this war. So Iran has no option but to treat them, the regime in Washington, and the regime in Tel Aviv in the way that it is. Otherwise, they'll try to undermine Iran's sovereignty, and the very existence of Iran is being targeted by the Zionists.

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I think one of the main messages, one of the key points, was mentioned by the head of the Iranian parliament, Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf. He said we have to put an end to this cycle of war, ceasefire, war. How is that going to be achievable? Is that going to... Because two of the fifteen points from the United States, which were presented to the Iranian side—one of them is to limit the Iranian ballistic missile program, and the other is about the Iranian nuclear program. Is there anything in those points that could be achievable, considering these two issues? No, not at all. Nothing.

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Nima, there are two things that the Americans simply cannot comprehend. It's beyond their mental capabilities. One is that the Islamic Republic of Iran is fiercely independent—based on the values of the revolution, its civilizational heritage, its religious ideology, and in particular the Shia notion of resistance, resilience, struggle against the oppressor, and support for the oppressed. This is what makes Iran very strong and very capable of protecting itself and standing up to a power much greater—meaning the United States, the collective West, and its regional proxies. The second is that, because of that independence...

Iran makes its own decisions in Tehran. It doesn't buy F-35s or other American weapons just because the United States demands it. Instead, it developed its own indigenous capabilities. It built missile cities, drone cities, and factories to produce and improve them, strengthening Iran's technological capacity. It also invested in its universities. That's why, over the past couple of days, the United States and the Israeli regime have started bombing Iranian university campuses in Tehran and Isfahan, and will probably continue. But they can't take away knowledge. Iranians are educated, they're smart, and they'll rebuild—better than before. Iran is independent.

No other country in this region is anything like Iran. You have that resilience, and you have that sense of independence. Iran has developed those capabilities—we have those. They said this war would end in two days. Why? Because they underestimated Iran's resilience. Then, after three or four days, they said Iran was beginning to run out of missiles and drones—again, because they underestimated Iran's capabilities. And that's what's going to lead to their ultimate defeat in this war. If Trump is smart enough to find an off-ramp and overcome the Zionist obstacles, the damage will be less. The more he doubles down, the greater the damage will be, and it will happen much more quickly.

So the choice lies in Washington, but Washington doesn't care about the interests of the United States—it cares about the interests of the Israeli regime. We'll have to see, as the pressure builds across the world, because everyone is blaming the Israeli regime. Everyone knows they're behind it. They're blaming Washington because everyone knows it's behind it. So both in the United States and

around the world, as the pressure builds and the global economy suffers, we'll have to see whether the arrogance of Zionism will be forced to end this aggression, or if it will double down and make the catastrophe even worse than it already is.

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I think part of the equation is what's happening in Israel. It seems that in Israel, the head of the IDF said the army is collapsing from within. They have a lot of problems on that front with Lebanon. And we know that Hezbollah has made a big sort of comeback when you look at what it's doing right now. They're hitting the central part of Israel, the southern part of Israel. They're fighting on the battlefield, destroying Israeli tanks. How do you see the combination of what Hezbollah is doing? And right now we have, you know, Hezbollah in Iraq and the Houthis, the Yemenis, joining the fight.

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Nima, you know, in the West, whenever these journalists speak with me—these mainstream journalists or think tankers—they contact me and ask questions. I explain things to them, sometimes on their television or radio programs. And they always want to think this is propaganda. For years, we've been saying, and the evidence is there on your show and elsewhere, that if they attack Iran, they will fail and cause a global energy crisis—exactly as I've been saying for years, and exactly as others on your show have been saying. Every time they told me Hezbollah had been diminished, I always said, Hezbollah is not diminished.

It's a very powerful force, and it's rearming and preparing itself for the future. It has learned a lot about Israeli technology. The Israelis were preparing for eighteen years for this war, and Hezbollah does not control Lebanon. Lebanon is full of enemies of Hezbollah. And, of course, al-Qaeda, a U.S. tool, is now in Syria. Despite that, they prepared themselves, and exactly what we knew would happen, happened. They are performing extraordinarily well. Yemen, which defeated the United States in another war a year ago, is much more prepared today for war than even back then. And the resistance in Iraq is just beginning—it's just beginning. The escalation has not gone very far up the escalation ladder yet. So, the West always underestimates.

They always believe their own propaganda—just like their propaganda about Iran. They always say Iran is weak, Iran is unpopular. The regime—you know, when you always hear “the regime, regime, regime”—they love calling Iran a regime. They can keep doing that; we're fine with it. They keep saying it's unpopular. They believe their own propaganda that the regime kills tens of thousands of its people on the streets and that sort of nonsense. They're the ones to blame, because they're the ones who created these terrorist groups and these armed rebellions leading to the murder of innocent people. But they try to blame Iran. Their media repeats whatever they say, because the media is not open, it's not free. They belong to the Epstein class, just like the regimes belong to them.

But the problem is that they believe their own propaganda, and so they underestimate. They believe their propaganda that Hezbollah is finished. They believe their propaganda that in Iraq, they're in control, that the Iraqis hate Iran. And they believe their propaganda about Yemen. As a result, they only make things worse for themselves, because they develop policies based on their own propaganda—and then they hit a brick wall. And then they wonder why it didn't work. They don't think that their own estimations, their own analyses, were deeply flawed. That's why, when they develop new policies, they're still based on the same propaganda model—the propaganda they've been producing through their own systems. So, this is where we are. Hezbollah has been pounding the Israeli regime.

And remember, Hezbollah is the big hero of the last two and a half years. They made, and they continue to make, sacrifices. Just today, the Israeli regime has been murdering journalists, targeting journalists. They've been murdering medics. And of course, the West doesn't care, because they are controlled by the Epstein class—Western media. They murder women and children. They bomb houses. And Western media calls these "Hezbollah strongholds" so that people won't recognize that these are just apartment blocks they're bombing and destroying. Hezbollah has made all these sacrifices because it wanted to stop the Israeli regime from slaughtering the kids in Gaza. The sacrifices of Hezbollah and the resistance were for the children of Gaza. History will remember Hezbollah as the most humane and ready-to-sacrifice force on this planet.

And of course, the same is true with Ansar Allah in Yemen, the same is true with the resistance in Iraq, and the same is true with the Iranian people. The resilience of the Iranian people is extraordinary—young teenagers, girls, boys, standing on the streets as missiles are fired at them, at their demonstrations by this Epstein coalition. But they don't run away, they don't stampede; they stand their ground. They're extraordinary. But Hezbollah, because of the fact that it has a border with occupied Palestine, has come under the most vicious of all attacks. And they will emerge victorious. The region and the world will have to learn what Hezbollah is—why they are so resilient, why they are so effective in standing up against Western domination, Western imperialism, and the brutality of Zionism.

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Yesterday we learned from the head of the IAEA, Grossi. He said that the only way you can destroy Iran's nuclear program is to hit them with nukes—nuclear weapons, nuclear bombs. The Iranian Foreign Ministry responded to what Grossi said. Professor Marandi, I think many people inside and outside Iran were concerned about this kind of talk. It's not Benjamin Netanyahu or Ben-Gurion saying it—it's the head of the IAEA, to put it that way. This is hugely dangerous, the way they're talking about it. What do you make of it?

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He's a shameless proxy, a shameless agent of the United States. He's a nobody. The only reason he's in charge of the organization is because they want him there. And he wants to be supported by the United States and others, by the powers affiliated with the United States in the future. Such statements are disgraceful. But we're talking about the Epstein class—we're talking about a genocidal force that does things to babies and little girls. And of course, they bomb children. The first thing the United States did in the war against Iran was bomb a school—an elementary school for girls. Anyone who says it was an accident doesn't know what he or she is talking about.

This was the first attack on the first day. All the initial targets—the first round of targets—are well vetted. They have weeks, if not months, to vet these targets. That school had been there for years. Some of the children in that school were the sons and daughters of officers from the nearby naval installation. They wanted to teach them a lesson. If a school were targeted three weeks later by an officer, I could imagine it being plausible that, in the rush to find new targets, a mistake was made—plausible, not probable. But for this to happen on day one? Impossible. It's impossible. Just like when they targeted the leader's office—it was very well planned.

They targeted the school—it was very well planned. And it was a double-tap attack. They've carried out many double-tap attacks. Many. These are monsters—U.S. pilots are sinister monsters, just like the sinister monsters in the Israeli Air Force. They're the same. These are evil people. The U.S. Armed Forces is a satanic force—a deeply satanic force. I posted one of the double-tap attacks, actually, and I think others—many others—have done so as well. The lady who survived the first attack, and then they attacked again—I think you may have seen it, where she says... Anyway, that school was the—

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It was a victim of a double-tap attack. You can find the address of the school on any app, foreign or Iranian. So this is what we're dealing with—we're dealing with the Epstein class. So what else do you expect from someone like the head of the IAEA? And of course, ultimately, if they push in that direction, the entire world will move toward developing nuclear weapons. Everyone will, because everyone will know that the only way they can remain safe is to have nuclear weapons—not just Iran, everyone.

And that would mean—it would push the world toward destruction, full destruction—because all countries that have the capability, and many will have that capability with AI and new technologies... every year it's going to get easier. So you can imagine countries across our region and across the global majority starting to develop nuclear weapons—and then they'll be used. So the madness of the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, I think, is clear for everyone to see. And the reason behind it? The Epstein class. Professor Seyed Marandi, what is happening between Iran and Qatar?

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Because since this war started, we've seen that Iran has, for a few days, decided not to attack or hit targets in Qatar. What's happening between the two?

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Well, I don't know the details, but Qatar is very much guilty of crimes against the Iranian people. CENTCOM was based in Qatar. It was from Qatar that the drones flew to murder General Soleimani. Qatar was behind the U.S.-Zionist project of ISIS and Al-Qaeda, alongside Erdogan and others—Abdullah in Jordan and so on. But Qatar was the financial force behind it. And Qatar, of course...

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They were very much involved in the genocide in Yemen—the genocidal war, both genocidal wars, the first one and the second one led by the Americans. In the first one, they were part of it. I actually defended Yemen on Al Jazeera, on a program called **Inside Story**, twice. And then I was banned from Al Jazeera for a couple of years, just like with Syria. After a few times when I was invited to discuss Syria, they banned me from Al Jazeera English. The same thing happened after the genocidal war in Yemen. But then, when the Saudis and the Emiratis targeted Qatar and it turned away from that genocide—alongside Turkey, where, you know, Erdogan was also supporting the genocidal war against Yemen—they shifted their position. And then again, they invited me.

So this is how Qatar works. They move back and forth; they change policy. After Iran punished them—when the U.S.-Israeli regime coalition bombed Iran's gas assets—Iran struck Qatar very hard. Again, I'm speculating here, I'm speculating. After a couple of days of emotional meltdown in Doha, I think they began to rethink and say, "This is not going to end well for us. Iran is not going to be defeated." And maybe—I'm guessing—maybe they're now trying to be more serious about bringing an end to this war. The Saudis and the Emiratis have gone to the other side. They're becoming more entrenched in this policy of killing Iranians, and they will, of course, suffer the consequences immensely if this continues. I don't know the behind-the-scenes story.

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Talks and so on. But it does seem that there's a shift in the propaganda coming from Al Jazeera and the many other Qatari media outlets. And that's probably indicative of some other issues going on behind the scenes.

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There are two different paths for the Arab states in the Persian Gulf. One of them is to get closer to Iran, or to reach some sort of understanding with the Iranians in terms of regional security. The

other is to get closer to the United States—as Donald Trump said, with MBS basically kissing Trump's rear. You know, there's not really any other option for them right now, Professor Marandi. In the long run, if you're a wise player, as we've seen with the outcome in Ukraine, everybody can see what's happened there. And what's amazing to me is seeing Zelensky going to these countries, trying to get help. You have to be really desperate.

And you ask for help from Zelensky, who's somehow on the verge of total collapse and losing the country. But after all, Professor Marandi, you see these countries, in the long run, understanding what's going on. Because after all, we assume that—correct me if I'm mistaken—Iran would hold the Strait of Hormuz. It's not going to be free for these countries to use the Strait of Hormuz anymore. So they have to come to some sort of mutual understanding between the two parties, the Iranians and the Arab states. Is that going to happen? Or do you see them getting closer to Zelensky and Donald Trump—which, we know, would not end well for them if they go in that direction?

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You know, it's interesting that MBS and MBZ—both of them—have to kiss Trump's behind. But by inviting Zelensky, the Russians are watching their actions, and it's obviously not going to go down well in Moscow. But you know, Nima, Iran has tolerated a lot. I mean, let's put aside Western propaganda. The Western propaganda model is falling apart, and people are beginning to see through it. For 47 years, Iran was antagonized—it was called evil, the West was good. Now people are waking up. They see that the only country opposing genocide in Gaza is Iran and its axis of resistance allies, like Yemen and the organizations that are struggling.

And the West and everyone else is either supporting the genocide or they're indifferent to it. So it can't be that the Iranians are the bad guys. The bad guys are the ones opposing genocide, and the good guys are the ones who support it? The propaganda model is falling apart. For 47 years, Iran was never a force of aggression, contrary to what the United States was saying. These family dictatorships in the Persian Gulf funded Saddam Hussein's aggression against Iran—an aggression the West pushed for. They gave him hundreds of billions of dollars. After the war ended, Iran forgave them. Then they started to support ISIS and al-Qaeda in Syria.

Now we see that they're engaged in a war against Iran, and they also helped with the 12-day war too. Their radar installations and U.S. bases were all used against Iran—from Syria and Turkey to the Persian Gulf. The U.S. radar capabilities were all being used against Iran. And of course, this war shows they are the aggressors. No one believes them for a minute when they pretend to be neutral; they're just insulting everyone's intelligence. The status of the Persian Gulf will change after this. Enough is enough. Iran will control the Strait of Hormuz, and through that control, they'll get their reparations. There's no doubt about it.

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Yeah. Then Iran sees the damage that's happening right now to it, and it's somehow being compensated through the management of the Strait of Hormuz.

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Yes, I think it's clear that the Iranians will continue to control the Strait of Hormuz. They will probably demand a fee— from my understanding, a fee for every ship that passes. Why? Because this oil and gas wealth leaving the Persian Gulf region, or the ships coming into the Persian Gulf region, are going to countries that waged war against Iran, that killed Iranians, that are complicit in murder, death, and destruction. So they're going to have to pay for it. There's no reason for them to complain, and Iran will make sure they receive reparations in full.

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The leadership in Iran, Professor Mann, it's not just because of the war happening right now. We had these Arab states helping Iraq during the Iran-Iraq war, and the same thing is happening again.

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Before, Iraq was a hostage to Saddam Hussein. So they were supporting Saddam, not Iraq—that's how I see it. I understand why you say it, but I always say Saddam, because the people of Iraq—as we see now—the Americans inadvertently unleashed the power of the Iraqi people. Now they're fighting for their independence. One of the first successes of this genocidal war against Iran and the Axis of Resistance is that the people of Iraq are finally liberating themselves from U.S. and NATO occupation.

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How is that going to work for, you know, Bahrain or Kuwait? Do you think we're going to see some sort of uprising in these countries? I think the case of Bahrain is really risky for the government—for those trying to hold on to power. But we know what's going on, what's boiling in Bahrain.

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Well, we know that Kuwait could be taken by the Iraqi resistance within hours. And if this war continues—especially if there's escalation and the oil and gas infrastructure in these countries is destroyed, and the electrical power plants are destroyed—these countries will fall apart. These family dictatorships will be swept away. I'm sure many of them have already left, or at least many of their family members have. They have many palaces and tens of billions of dollars in the West that they've stolen, so they'll be okay. But if these regimes collapse and people take over, that's quite possible. If they survive, they'll have to confront a new reality.

They can no longer treat their people with impunity, and they can no longer allow their territory to be used to kill others. That era is finished. That era is over. So, the arrogance of Mohammed bin Zayed—and look, when you look at the Arab world, the Arab world is cheering as the assets of these dictatorships are being struck, because everyone knows, people across the Arab world, their hearts are with the Palestinian people. Their hearts are with the resistance. Their hearts are with the Axis of Resistance. You can see this in the online comments. If you look at the YouTube channels of many of these new Arab media outlets that basically belong to Western proxies, you see the comments.

You see what people are saying online. These dictatorships don't represent the Arab people. They represent the Epstein class—they're proxies of that class that dominates the West. And ironically, some of their names are actually in the documents. So literally, they're part of the Epstein class, or they're loyal to it. If these regimes want to remain as family dictatorships, they're going to have to start behaving like normal countries. If they're removed, then I think, you know, the free people in these countries will take over. Iran will obviously be very friendly toward them.

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The UAE is talking about cooperating with the United States to capture three islands in the Persian Gulf that they claim as theirs. But how do you see that happening? Because the United States wasn't even able to defend its own bases in those countries. They have a lot of weapons and forces there, but they withdrew most of them before the war started. And now they're talking about invading these little islands in the Persian Gulf, as if they're going to achieve some sort of strategic gain. In your view, what's happening in that direction? Is that really going to happen, or would it even benefit the United States in the war?

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The United States will either carry out an operation against the islands or against Iran's coastline, or it may conduct special operations inside Iran using helicopters and planes tonight or in the coming days. It's quite plausible, right? They might take some territory here or there, but they'll be in trouble, and Iran will escalate. Iran has already said there's a country very much involved in the upcoming attack against it. They haven't named that country, but many people are saying it's the UAE. And Iran has said they will destroy everything in that country, and when that happens, that country will no longer have a future. So whether an island is occupied for a while, or a piece of territory is taken by the aggressive—uh, the Epstein army—it doesn't matter.

Iran will defeat the United States, and Iran will punish the family dictatorships. That means there will be less oil on the market, less gas on the market, and as we go forward, it'll keep decreasing, depending on the level of escalation. The United States can't stop Iran's missiles and drones. They're spread out across the country, not just on the coast. And we already saw that the United States lied. They said, you know, after three or four days, that Iran's missiles and drones were running out. But look at the last ten or twelve days—it's been much more, and much more precise than during the

three weeks before that. So Iran's capabilities are very much intact. They're getting better and better. And if the Emirates or anyone else continues down this road, it will lead to further destruction.

They are much more vulnerable to destruction than we are. Iran is a nation of 90 million people, highly educated. It has agriculture, it has industry, it is a civilizational state. And as I said, the religious culture in Iran makes them resilient. Just as they have defeated their enemies until now, they will be able to rebuild—and rebuild better. After this war, the United States will never be able to treat Iran like this again. Iran will advance much faster than before. So these regimes have made the wrong choice, you know, a choice that will lead to their devastation. The only smart move for them is the reasonable one: to tell the Americans, "Okay, this is finished. You're not using our territory anymore. You have to empty those bases."

You have to refrain from antagonizing Iran from our airspace or our land. Then the relationship can move in a positive direction, and the war would come to an end. Because without these countries, the United States cannot wage the war. It's just not possible. So they brought this upon themselves. They can save themselves, but instead of doing that, they're doubling down because they're foolish proxies. And the Americans don't care about them. When Trump says so-and-so can kiss him wherever, he has no respect for them. He only cares about the Zionists. Now, whether he actually cares about them or they have something on him, that's another matter. He's a psychopath, but there are reasons for what he does—and it's not because he cares about these family dictatorships.

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I would assume that Iran has done a lot of studies about a possible ground invasion, especially regarding those islands in the Persian Gulf near the Strait of Hormuz, because some people are talking about Larak Island. Larak Island is close to Qeshm. And it reminds me, Professor Marandi, of what happened in the Kursk region in Russia. The Ukrainians used their best elite forces in the Kursk region, and that invasion ended with the slaughter of all those Ukrainian troops. It was a huge defeat for Ukraine in the end, because they sent their best ground forces there, and they were wiped out by the Russians. Do you think the same could happen here? Because you can't really avoid the invasion, but the question is, will they be able to sustain it? Can they hold the territory—the island? That's the big question people are asking.

#Seyed

They said that during the 12-day war, they'd kill Iranian military commanders and the so-called regime leaders, and that the government would collapse. Well, the Islamic Republic won that war. Then in this war, they said it would be over in a couple of days. Now that the Americans have brought everything they have, along with the assets they gave to the Israeli regime as gifts, they thought it would be over in a couple of days. But after a few days, when nothing happened and Iran was effectively defending itself, they said, "We've destroyed all their missiles and drones, and look, the numbers are going down." And now it's almost a month.

And Iran is hitting harder and harder, so they've already miscalculated. I have no doubt they'll miscalculate again when they try to conquer territory. They'll get bogged down, and as that happens, energy prices will soar through the roof. That won't be sustainable. The Iranians have been planning for this for 25 years. They're smart people. It's an independent country, unlike any other on this planet, and it's already shown that the West has miscalculated and that they've planned well for war. Everything so far is going according to plan. I'm not privy to any confidential information, of course.

#Nima

It seems that we've lost Professor Marandi. Let's see if he's going to get back. Let me just... yeah. I'm trying to reach Professor Marandi to see if he's connected.

#Seyed

Yeah.

#Nima

It seems we have some sort of problem with the connection to Professor Marandi. The internet—he's not receiving my messages. I tried to send him one, but yeah, we lost him. Let's see if he's going to get back. I think what happened, and what I was talking about with the Kursk region—you all remember what happened. The Ukrainians attacked the Kursk region, thinking that was going to be one of their last moves. Yeah, Professor Marandi is here.

#Seyed

Sorry, Nima. That's how it is here for now. Yeah—where did I get cut off?

#Nima

I was mentioning the Kursk region—what's happening there—and comparing it to what might happen if an invasion took place, for example, on Larak Island, and how Iran is prepared to respond to that.

#Seyed

Well, all I can say is that we have to look at the past. During the 12-day war, the United States thought Iran would collapse—but Iran won that war. Then, in this war, again they thought it would be over in a day or two after the martyrdom of Ayatollah Khamenei, trying to create fear among Iranians by slaughtering their children. That didn't happen. And then, after a couple of days—three, a few days—they said they were destroying all of Iran's underground and missile capabilities. That

didn't happen either. So the Iranians know what they're doing, and Iran, after almost a month now, continues to hammer them. They've planned this well in advance.

It is a deeply independent country with very smart people—very young, sophisticated scientists and highly motivated individuals who've designed these defense capabilities. So they've miscalculated so far. I'm sure that when they invade Iran, whether it's through some sort of heliborne operation deep inside, or an invasion of an island or part of its coastline, they will fail. It will be a quagmire. The Iranians have already planned for this—they've been planning for decades. So it's only going to make things worse for the United States, and it will drive the price of energy through the roof, far worse than it is now.

And it will become irreversible, because when they destroy the oil and gas infrastructure, that means opening the trade of corals will really be of no use. So we'll have a depression that will last for years, and the world will blame Zionism, Trump, and so on. I have no doubt that Americans will declare victory—they'll go to an island and say, "We did this and did that." You know, the fools who always believe American narratives will continue to be fools. But already we're seeing that, in pushing back against this genocidal force—this "Epstein," what is it, Operation Epstein Fury—it has failed so far, and I have no doubt it's going to fail in the coming weeks as well, although it will come at a great price to the world. They are sacrificing the international community for these genocidal monsters, but that is the reality we live in.

#Nima

Professor Seyed Marandi, the blame game is happening in the United States. Yesterday, it was in the news that J.D. Vance talked with Benjamin Netanyahu, telling him that the information Mossad was providing before the war was inaccurate or unrealistic. And in Israel, they're trying to blame each other. Mossad blames Benjamin Netanyahu. But in the United States, it seems that J.D. Vance was trying to convince people that we had to go to this war because, if we didn't, the Iranians could use these suicide bombers along with the rest of their nuclear weapons—something so strange.

I don't know how we came up with these kinds of arguments. But after all, how do you see the tone in the United States? We had the cabinet meeting—Donald Trump was speaking there, and Steve Witkoff was asking why the United States decided to go to war again, repeating the same lines, the same points from the document they tried to send to Iran. And J.D. Vance was trying to defend Donald Trump. What's your understanding of these changes happening in the United States, considering the fracture within MAGA as well?

#Seyed

Well, Vance is obviously lying, and it's the same lie about nuclear threats and things like that. It's just so ridiculous that I think everyone recognizes he's lying. But someone who knows Vance told me—someone with name recognition, though I won't name him. Maybe at some point I will, if I get

his permission. He once told me that Vance actually knows the truth about many things, but he's too ambitious. He told me this before Vance became vice president—or maybe it was right at the beginning, I'm not quite sure. It was about a year ago, so I'm not sure if it was after the election or before. But he said Vance is too ambitious. So even though he knows many truths about Iran, about the region, about Zionism, about ethno-supremacism, or about the genocide in Gaza, he's too ambitious to take the right stance because he knows he'd get nowhere in politics.

So when he says "nuclear threats" and so on, it's just an act of desperation to justify something that has no justification at all and is completely immoral and murderous. Vance and Tulsi Gabbard are just two cowards. And the only person so far who has any degree of credibility is, of course, Joe Kent, who in his resignation letter basically said what we all knew. Anyone who's been watching your show and your different guests over the last couple of years would have already known everything that was in his resignation letter. So I think Trump is finished. I mean, this war won't end tomorrow—it'll probably get worse.

#Nima

You're back, Professor Marandi.

#Seyed

Oh, I didn't know I was lost. When did I get cut off?

#Nima

Yeah, you were talking about Vance, and you said the only reasonable person in the Trump administration was Joe Kent, who decided to leave.

#Seyed

Yes, that's basically it. I was just saying that Vance and Tulsi Gabbard are cowards. They know the truth—they're cowards. And Kent showed some integrity. And all I said after that, I think, is that anyone who's been watching your show and your different guests for the last two years already knew what Kent wrote.

#Nima

Before wrapping up, Professor Marandi, we know they tried to put something out—they said he's going to be the leader of Iran, that he's trying to negotiate behind the scenes with the Trump administration. Right now, there's a new article in **Newsweek** talking about Rouhani as Donald

Trump's candidate. How do you see the leadership in Iran right now? I want to know your understanding of these kinds of moves. They're trying to manipulate as much as they can, but what do you make of it?

#Seyed

It's their own orientalist mindset, their ignorance and arrogance. That's what makes them always miscalculate. As I said earlier, we have a constitution. We have a leader, Ayatollah Sayyid Mojtaba Khamenei. We have a speaker of parliament, Dr. Ghalibaf, who's a professor at my university. We have a president—a heart surgeon—much more educated. It's clear that our leaders are far more educated than Western leaders. We have a head of the judiciary, and we have a chair of the Supreme National Security Council. It's exactly as it was a month ago, two months ago, six months ago, and a year ago. Whoever wants to negotiate with Iran, it's clear it will be just as it used to be—the same mechanism, and it will be the state that's involved. They can't manipulate things; they'll have to deal with the five conditions that Iran has already set.

#Nima

Thank you so much, Professor Seyed Marandi, for being with us today, as always.

#Seyed

Thank you, Nima. Always a pleasure.