

Iran Just **BROKE** Trump's Will to Fight, US Military in **PANIC** | Mohammad Marandi

Mohammad Marandi joins the show to discuss the huge developments in the war on Iran, including Tehran's defiance to US demands as Trump panics over the deteriorating position of the empire plus much more! Going to Tehran: <https://us.macmillan.com/books/9781250043535/goingtotehran/> LIKE the video and Subscribe for more in-depth geopolitical analysis! Leave your thoughts in the comments below! Support the Channel: Patreon: <https://www.patreon.com/dannyhaiphong> SUBSCRIBE ON RUMBLE: Rumble: <https://rumble.com/c/DannyHaiphong> #iran #trump #israel Follow Me on Social Media: Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DannyHaiphong> Telegram: <https://t.me/DannyHaiphong> Support the channel in other ways: <https://www.buymeacoffee.com/dannyhaiphong> Substack: chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com Cashapp: \$Dhaiphong Venmo: @dannyH2020 Paypal: <https://paypal.me/spiritho> #iran #trump #iranwar

#Danny

Welcome, everyone. Welcome back to the show. It's your host, Danny Haiphong. I am back at home, and so is Professor Morandi. Of course, that's a great thing, especially considering all that's happened in this war. Professor Morandi, thanks so much for joining me again today.

#Mohammad Marandi

Thank you very much for inviting me, Danny. It's always a pleasure and an honor.

#Danny

Yes, everyone. Thank you so much. Professor Morandi, everyone hit the like button. That's how you can boost the show. But first, Morandi, I wanted to begin the program with a question about where we are in the war. It appears that Iran is the one right now dictating terms. Iran has submitted proposals to the United States around the conditions for negotiations. And in the latest report, at least it's being reported like this, Iran is proposing a kind of phased negotiation where only maybe a single issue or a few issues are discussed at a time, at the moment tabling potential discussions about the whole nuclear question, uranium enrichment, etc., and instead focusing on the blockade and the Strait of Hormuz.

Now, the United States and Donald Trump are saying many different things. Marco Rubio has said they're not going to, you know, submit to these kinds of terms. And we also have Donald Trump saying today that Iranian leadership is in complete disarray and that it's begging the United States to reopen the strait for them. So maybe you can react to these current developments. It seems like

really, despite all the buildup, the will to fight on—there are a lot of reports that the will to fight on against Iran is kind of diminishing, despite all the buildup that's happened in recent days that Iran has reported on between the U.S. and Israel around them. So your reaction to these developments and what's going on right now?

#Mohammad Marandi

Well, I was on Larry Johnson's—my very good friend Larry Johnson's—show yesterday, and it'll be shown tomorrow or the day after, I suppose. But I don't know if it was during the show or before the show or after the show, he was telling me about how the Navy and Air Force commanders were pushing for the United States not to carry out an assault. But in any case, in Iran, the assumption is that there will be an attack and they're preparing for it. They've been preparing for it since the ceasefire, and the United States has brought in a lot of supplies and weapons, from my understanding, mostly for ground operations.

And so the next phase, assuming there is—excuse me—assuming there is a military conflict, the next phase will probably include both airstrikes and missile strikes against civilian targets as usual, because that's what they did last time around. Last time around, they couldn't do much against the military targets because they were mostly underground. So they took their revenge on ordinary people, both American pilots and Israeli pilots. They're brothers in crime. But this time around, they'll probably do the same. But if there's a land operation, the Iranians have also been preparing themselves for that as well—for decades, in fact.

They've been preparing themselves for a land assault for just as long as they've been preparing themselves with the development of these missile and drone bases. So you can be sure that the same missile and drone bases that shocked the Americans, and their underground assets—where they have air bases underground, where they have their anti-aircraft systems protected underground—you can be sure that they've also prepared enormous underground and well-protected facilities to deal with a ground offensive too. And just as the Americans and the Israeli regime miscalculated in this war, they will so far. I think that it's going to get worse for them, assuming that they continue the war.

I think we discussed this before, but I'll repeat it, and that is that Iranians, of course, don't want war. They did not start this war. If you watch Western media, if you listen to Western pundits and politicians, you'd think that it was Iran that started the war. But they didn't start the war, they didn't want the war. But now that the war's started, Iran wants a long war. And we saw that during the Ramadan war, during the 39-day war that began in the month of Ramadan, where the Americans, after I think 10 days or so, began sending messages.

First, Trump said unconditional surrender, and then after four or five days, when nothing happened, they put out these graphs showing that the Iranian drones and missiles were declining, that they were finished, that they destroyed everything. And then after a week or 10 days, when they saw

that Iran was hitting back 24 hours a day, they began sending messages to Iran. The Iranians ignored those messages until around day 33 or 34, something like that, when the Americans sent that 15-point plan that the Iranians then rejected because it violated Iran's ceasefire. Then the Iranians gave their own 10-point plan, which Trump accepted as a framework for negotiations. So that 10-point plan is what the Iranians are insisting on right now, and they're saying their priority is not nuclear talks.

Every time they sat and talked with the Americans in Islamabad, the Americans were insisting on the nuclear program. The Iranians said that's not our priority. Our priority is the 10-point plan. It is the war. It is the illegal siege. It is the genocidal attacks in Lebanon and Gaza. These have to be dealt with, and our negotiations are going to focus on the 10-point plan that Trump himself acknowledged would be the framework for negotiations. So he has nothing to complain about, even though subsequently his spokeswoman said, "We threw it in the bin," but Iran doesn't care what she says.

Iran doesn't care what he says. This is what's on the table. So for now, I don't see, at the moment, I don't see any signs of movement. But if at some point negotiations do resume, and they will one day—I don't know when—but when they resume, the Iranians will demand that the Americans first abide by their current commitments, and that is the ceasefire commitments. The Zionist regime violated the ceasefire commitments. And for 10 days, Iran said, we're not going to allow those extra ships to leave the Strait of Hormuz as a result. That was Iran's commitment.

And then when the Zionist regime ultimately was forced to accept the ceasefire, even though now it's slaughtering women and children as we speak, then Iran said, okay, we'll let those extra ships go through. Now, the reason why I say extra ships is because ships do come and go with Iranian permission. And Russian ships, Chinese ships, and Iraqi ships, you know, countries that were not involved in the war against Iran, unlike the Saudis and the Emiratis and others, their status is different because they engage in aggression. But sometimes their ships do go through, like a Japanese ship left the Strait of Hormuz, I think, today. Obviously, it paid a fee.

And I think, I'm not quite sure, I read somewhere where it took its oil from. But in any case, Iran allowed it to go. But in general, the Iranians were supposed to, in the ceasefire agreement, allow more ships to pass through the Strait of Hormuz. But since the Americans violated the deal by not pushing the Israeli regime to stop the genocidal strikes, Iran refrained from doing so. And then, as Iran refrained from doing so because of the Israeli regime, the Americans imposed a siege on Iranian ports—first on the entire Persian Gulf, then they said Iranian ports. And then Iran said, well, if you're going to—after the Israeli regime backed down and Iran said the ships can go—the Americans said, fine, but we're going to continue to impose the siege. The Iranians said that's a violation of the ceasefire.

That's an act of war. Boarding our ships is illegal. And so we're not going to let those extra ships go through. So Iran is basically saying that if you want to continue to speak with us, first you have to resolve the previous issues that remain on the table. You cannot have a ceasefire agreement with us

and not carry out your commitments and then expect to have more talks, because it's clear as day that if we have a new agreement, you will look back and remember what you refrained from doing during the previous agreement, and you'll repeat that in the new agreement. Americans will continue to refrain from carrying out their commitments, and it will just be a useless process. So we are where we are right now, and the Americans are hoping that they'll starve Iran.

Literally, they speak about starving the Iranian people, which shows the nature of the Trump regime and the regime in Washington in general. But what they're doing is starving the world economy, all for the sake of the Israeli regime, all for the sake of Netanyahu. The entire world is suffering and moving towards perhaps an unprecedented crisis in history, and quite possibly an unprecedented crisis, simply because of Israel, because of this genocidal regime. Everyone must pay the price. And it's very interesting that many of these countries that are paying the price now are countries that supported the genocide—the Europeans, the Australians, the New Zealanders, the Canadians—all those genocide supporters, they are paying the price just like the American people and just like everyone else, because the Israeli regime demands this illegal war to continue.

#Danny

Well, Pastor Ronnie, I wanted to read what Donald Trump said on Truth Social and then ask you about the reality here. So Donald Trump said that Iran just informed us—and I know you responded to this—that they are in a state of collapse, in quotes. They want us to, quote, open the Hormuz Strait, end quote, as soon as possible as they try to figure out their leadership situation, which I believe they will be able to do. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Now, Pastor Ronnie, as he's talking about the Iranian leadership being in disarray, Foreign Policy Magazine and NBC News are all saying that actually Iran is more united than ever and there's no sign of collapse.

And then we also have reports about an Iranian energy crisis coming. And then you have the UAE leaving OPEC. Could you talk about what the reality is? Like, is this blockade working? Is Donald Trump right when he says that Iran is in a state of disarray and a state of collapse? And what's the reality here? Is the UAE the one we're hearing is pulling out of the historic OPEC alliance that has been around for decades upon decades now, dictating oil production in much of the world? Your thoughts on these things?

#Mohammad Marandi

The UAE is a broken regime, and it's never going to return to what it was before the war. And they bet on the wrong horse. The regime thought that it could have its cake and eat it too. It thought that it could participate in the slaughter of Iranian schoolgirls and that it could pretend that it's neutral. And the regime did a huge injustice to its own people, just like the other regimes in the Persian Gulf that participated in this war. All these regimes have hurt their people in a big way. And as things stand, it'll get far worse for them.

If the conflict, if the military conflict continues, they already know what Iran can do, and they should expect Iran to continue to do what it did after, you know, because if the United States strikes Iran, it can only be done with their consent, because they've given their air, their sea, and their land to the Americans to wage war. And they even fund the war. They assist, they provide financial support to these bases. It's quite stunning. And they're not just small bases. I mean, they're huge, and they're all over these countries. So the UAE really isn't important. They can stay in OPEC, they can leave OPEC. They have to figure out how to survive the regime, and I'm not quite sure that this regime is sustainable.

But with regards to what Trump said, if we look at Washington, the fact that so many generals have been removed and the Secretary of the Navy has just been removed, and the infighting that we see in the United States, and how the public is completely against this war of choice and this murderous war of aggression, I think if there's going to be talk of disarray, then I think the United States, I think Washington, looks more like the side that is in disarray. In Iran, no, that's not true. I mean, you can always see their differences. Everyone in Iran has their own view, and contrary to what they've been saying in the West all these years, in Iran you have healthy debates, you have different political parties, you have different factions, and they're very hostile towards each other, often in their media. Of course, now after the war started, a lot of that has died down for the time being. But of course, there are differences, but differences in the sense that the country is in disarray—that's nonsense. In Iran, it's clear how the state functions. Anyone can read the Constitution. And we have a leader, we have a president, we have the head of the judiciary, we have parliament, the speaker of parliament, and we have a Supreme National Security Council. We have the armed forces.

And in the Supreme National Security Council, the president is the head of the council. It has a chair that is jointly chosen by the president and the leader. Dr. Laredan, who was martyred, was the chair before. Now there's another chair. You have the heads of the three branches of government. You have representatives from the military, the cabinet, and the leader has two representatives in the council too. So the Supreme National Security Council makes the decisions, makes strategic decisions. And if the leader approves, then that's how things will be. The Supreme National Security Council has, as we all know, made Dr. Ghalibaf, the Speaker of Parliament, the person who negotiated with Vance in Islamabad, the representative for and the person in charge of negotiations with the United States.

Very clear. It's Dr. Ghalibaf. If ever there's any confusion among Western analysts, all you have to do is show them a picture of Dr. Ghalibaf and say that this is the guy. Don't worry. This is the guy in charge. He, of course, is answerable to the council, the Supreme National Security Council, and, of course, the leader. But that's it. So he's the person in charge. He makes the decisions. And if the council has no problem with it, if the leader has no problem with it, then that's final. So that is all nonsense. I stress that in Iran, of course, there are different opinions. This happens all the time. But not in the way in which they are trying to imply in the West. No. In fact, it's much more clear who's in charge in Iran than in the United States.

#Danny

Hold on, Professor Morandi, I just want to interrupt because we're going through some connection problems at the moment. But usually when I interrupt, it comes back. Yeah, I think so.

#Mohammad Marandi

So where did I get cut off?

#Danny

You were talking about Ghalibaf, but continue wherever you'd like to pick up.

#Mohammad Marandi

Dr. Ghalibaf is the person in charge, and so, as you know, it's clear that, in fact, when the Americans and the Iranians both went to Islamabad for the negotiations, that is the only time that the Iranians and Americans have negotiated directly in recent years. The only time, that single day. So some people were saying, when Islamabad happened, the talks, they were saying, so they were negotiating. No, they weren't. Messages were going back and forth. That's been happening for years. And afterwards, messages go back and forth. That's been happening for years, for decades.

But when Dr. Ghalibaf went to Islamabad, and I accompanied the delegation, they asked me to go and help with media, and I wouldn't refuse, obviously, if they wanted help. So Dr. Ghalibaf, when he was there, and it's interesting, by the way, as a footnote, while we were there, on our way there, the Washington Post published an article, an opinion piece, saying that the Iranian negotiators should be assassinated. So the regime in Washington and the media in the United States compete in carrying out war crimes and crimes against humanity. That's the state of affairs with the Epstein class that's in charge of the media and government. But in any case, Dr. Ghalibaf, when he was there, he made no phone calls to Iran. Why? Because he had authority.

He had the authority to negotiate. He had already had his conversations with Ayatollah Khamenei, the leader, and the Supreme National Security Council, and he went to negotiate. But Vance, even though he was surrounded by his two Israeli agents, Whitcroft and Kushner, had to make, I think, a dozen phone calls throughout the day. Why? Because he had no authority. He even called Netanyahu, and Netanyahu later said that Vance reported to me, as if he's supporting it. And he also said other American leaders report to me every day, which is interesting. You'd think that that would cause outrage in the Western media, but of course it went unnoticed. So Ghalibaf was sitting there and Vance was constantly on the phone. So who, which side is in disarray?

#Danny

Right.

#Mohammad Marandi

Which side can't make decisions? Which side lacks authority? Which side is unstable? I mean, all you have to do is look at— I don't look at his Truth Social posts unless someone forwards them to me. I, you know, I don't bother reading his nonsense. But, you know, who's the person who's constantly saying, one day calling, saying that he's going to wipe out Iranian civilization, and you didn't hear anyone in the West, in Western media, these major journalists, or you didn't see the New York Times or the Guardian with huge headlines saying that Trump is a mass murderer, Trump wants to carry out the greatest Holocaust in human history.

None of them said that because they have no moral compass. They're all the same when it comes to empire. We see that in Gaza, we see that in Lebanon, we see that everywhere, you know, right? You know, they've been sniping little kids in Gaza for the last few days, and in Lebanon they carpet bomb. And Western media pretends that nothing's happening in Gaza, and Western journalists, in order to help the Israelis, say these are Hezbollah strongholds or Hezbollah targets when they're in Beirut. They know they're lying. So in any case, what we have is an American side that is unable to make decisions, and the Iranian side is clear about what it wants. It says it's been agreed upon that this 10-point plan be the center of negotiations, the focus of negotiations, the negotiations be founded based upon this text. And Iran insists that that happens. And the Americans, whether they like it or not, that's the Iranian position.

#Danny

Hmm. You know, Professor Morandi, The Atlantic came out with an article, a report that I think is very interesting. And in the last few days, we've seen CBS News come out with a report about Iran using what is a Cold War-era aircraft, a fighter jet, the F-5, to strike Camp Buehring in Kuwait. And that has caused a storm. Now, J.D. Vance, reportedly, according to The Atlantic, is the soul...

And we heard Iran also say that the Trump administration has kind of, how should we say, put J.D. Vance in a kind of corner, not really allowing him to even speak, engage in negotiations, and you even said during or even in the lead-up to a new round of negotiations, not even have him participate. And you talked about how when he was in Islamabad, he was kind of almost acting as a point person for the Israelis, with no real independent agency of his own. But according to The Atlantic, what they are saying is that J.D. Vance is very concerned that the Pentagon itself, almost in its own panic, is hiding the reality of the situation in the war from Donald Trump.

In particular, what is being cited is that the availability of missile systems is the consequence of a dramatic drawdown in munitions that is going to essentially demilitarize much of the world of the United States' presence, especially its missile systems, air defense, et cetera, if this thing continues onward and ends up escalating again. What do you make of these reports and what they say about

the reality of the war right now? Because it seems like, in the midst of what you said before, that there is a buildup around Iran, that there is an expectation by Iran that another attack is going to happen. It seems like there's also a lot of internal disarray, chaos happening inside both the White House and the Pentagon that seems to be influencing Iran—why there is this, I think, long pause and maybe an inability to strike Iran in the way that the United States and Israel would hope to do. So, your thoughts on this?

#Mohammad Marandi

Well, this goes back to what we were discussing a bit earlier, and that is that, you know, when they say there are still Americans.

#Danny

Sorry, I just want to interrupt you so you don't answer the question under the conditions of a connection problem. Are you still there?

#Mohammad Marandi

Yes, I can. Sorry about that. That's just how it is.

#Danny

No, no, no, no. It seems like when I interrupt, things kind of come back to normal. So again, it started right as you began, so you can start again.

#Mohammad Marandi

Yeah, I was just saying that when they speak of disarray, as we discussed earlier, that is, I think, something that should be attributed to the United States, not to Iran—both the White House and the Pentagon. We've heard that in the Pentagon there's a sort of rebellion against the Secretary of War, as he calls himself. And this is even after those commanders, the generals, were removed. And the generals were removed right before that operation that they carried out near Esfahan that was really about the nuclear enriched uranium, not about a pilot. But I would assume that their removal had something to do with that operation and that they were warning against doing this sort of thing. And so they were kicked out of the Pentagon and the White House.

From what we're hearing from different sources, things are not going well there either. Meanwhile, while the Americans are imposing a siege on Iranian ports, regardless of how effective it is or not—and different people have discussed that on your show, I think—but the fact is that the United States has imposed an embargo on the entire world, and the world is heading towards catastrophe. Every hour we're moving closer, every minute, literally, the world is moving closer towards

catastrophe because the Strait of Hormuz is shut down. And, you know, I'm sure all of your guests have gone over this multiple times. It's not just oil. It's not just natural gas. It's not just LNG. It's not just helium. It's not just fertilizer. It's not just petrochemicals. The list goes on—gasoline.

And also for the United States, a lot of the huge amount of wealth that these family dictatorships in the Persian Gulf would make would go to U.S. stocks and bonds or U.S. weapons. So a lot of the money would go right back to the United States. And that's not happening anymore. So the crisis is getting worse. And what we're seeing is the tip of the iceberg. We really don't comprehend how bad it is. We only hear sometimes from experts when they sort of discuss the implications and what lies ahead for the global economy. Does the sheer danger become clear to us? So while he's trying to strangle Iran, he's strangling himself. He's strangling Americans. And all for the sake of Zionism, all for the sake of a genocidal regime, all for the sake of genocide. But the real question is, who is going to be more steadfast, Iran or Trump?

Well, we saw in the 39-day war who outlasted the other. Trump came in demanding unconditional surrender, and by the end, he accepted the Iranian 10-point plan as the basis for negotiations. So it's clear who had the upper hand. And in this siege warfare, regardless of how effective the siege is—and it's obviously going to cause pain for Iranians—they're trying to block food, they're trying to block medical supplies, they've stolen Iranian medical supplies. But regardless of all that, Iran is a resilient country. I think people now across the world are appreciating Iran more than ever before. And last time I was on your show, I did advise people to go and buy that book, **Going to Tehran**. I still advise them to do that and to buy it for others and friends. People should read the book by Flynt and Hillary Leverett.

If the United States had listened to them—first of all, they deal with a lot of the myths about Iran—but if the United States had listened to them, we wouldn't be where we are today. We wouldn't have a global economic crisis. Instead, the United States marginalized these people, antagonized these people, demonized these people, and listened to the Zionists, and we are where we are. But the Iranians have extraordinary resilience, and they're admired across the globe now. The anti-Iranian propaganda, the anti-resistance propaganda that we were hearing for decades from regimes close to the United States and our region, Western media—people see through that right now.

I was just saying to Nima earlier that a friend of mine, he's a Brazilian Marxist. He's in Shanghai right now. They're having this conference or this set of meetings between leftist organizations across the Global South, and he was saying that many people were expressing interest in becoming Shia Muslims, these Marxists. And that shows the extraordinary amount of soft power that Iran and the Axis of Resistance and Hezbollah and others have. Hezbollah right now—we all remember how everyone, well, most people, were saying that they were weakened and broken, and the Americans and the Israelis, and Erdogan, took Syria.

And, of course, the U.S. and its regional proxies installed these puppets, the president and the prime minister of Lebanon. And everyone said the resistance is over. And we were saying, not at all. And

today we see what Hezbollah is doing to the Israeli regime, despite antagonism from ISIS and al-Qaeda in Syria, and the Western puppets in Beirut, and, of course, the genocidal regime in Tel Aviv. So all of this antagonism towards Iran is not working. Again, I advise people to read the book and to give it to people who are interested in what's going on. It's an eye-opener, I think. But in any case, the important point is that for Iran, this is a war for survival, for the axis of resistance. It is an existential war.

For the United States, it's a war of choice. Trump carried out this war, as Joe Kent rightly said, the head of counterterrorism and counterintelligence, right? No, counterterrorism, and installed by Trump. When he resigned, he said Iran's no threat, Iran's not making a nuclear weapon, and this war is because of Zionism and the Israeli regime. So for Trump, this is a war of choice. So whether it's the 39-day war where Trump had to back down, or now in this siege that Trump has imposed that goes both ways against Iran and Iran's proxies in the Persian Gulf and the international community, Iran is definitely going to outlast him, just as they did during the war, because it's an existential war.

And for him, it's a war of choice. People in the United States are, you know, they're angry. They're saying, why are we paying a price for a war that you promised us not to get into? Why are we paying, you know, why is the cost of living getting worse because a genocidal regime is demanding it from us? So these are questions he has to answer, and he has no answer. But what do people in Iran say? People in Iran say, well, the United States, which has waged an unprovoked war against us, is now trying to starve us. Are we going to submit? No. That's basically how things are. So who is going to win? Who is going to persevere? It's obvious.

#Danny

Hmm. Yeah, and when I was in China, similar sentiment. Most people, if not everyone—I was in a conference that also had a lot of international visitors from all over, especially the Global South—everyone right now has a lot of admiration for Iran. And whether it's they want to join the Shia Muslim contingency, or whether it's that they're very interested in how Iran's, you know, particular political and spiritual development overall, how that's influenced its ability to resist—I mean, that's a huge, that's going to be a historic question from here on out. And we heard Vladimir Putin, after Abbas Araqchi came and visited and had that 90-plus-minute conversation with Putin, he also said that, you know, Iran's resistance has been incredibly admirable and very influential for the Global South. So this is going to be a historic question for quite a long time that people are going to be pondering.

#Mohammad Marandi

Yeah, and you know, Danny, many people thought Iran—even people who supported Iran, friends of Iran, friends of mine—thought Iran would collapse, even though we were saying that this is not going to happen. Because everyone thought that this empire just can't be defeated. And you see,

even in the United States, a lot of people are supporting Iran because they know that this empire is not serving justice or even their own interests. So people across the world have seen that the empire is far weaker. This conflict is not over, and the United States will try to impose as much misery on ordinary Iranians and the Lebanese and anyone who supports the people of Palestine. Because remember, this is all about Palestine.

The conflict with Iran, the conflict with Hezbollah, with Ansar Allah, with the axis of resistance, it is all about Palestine. I mean, Iran and the resistance have always supported the Cuban people, and we should all keep repeating and telling people that the United States is committing crimes in Cuba because the Western media is indifferent. Even the fake leftists and The Guardian, they don't care. But we should remind people of what's going on in Cuba and what's happening and what the Americans are trying to do in Venezuela. But in any case, this is basically about Palestine. And the suffering of the Lebanese people is because they fought to draw away the forces of genocide from Gaza.

That's what they were doing all along, because they were slaughtering the children, and Hezbollah sacrificed their own people, their own families, in order to spare the people of Gaza. That, I think, makes them the most heroic force of good of our time. So this is all about Palestine. We have to remember, we have to revive that momentum that Trump succeeded in breaking when he imposed that fake ceasefire in Gaza with the help of these regional regimes that went to Egypt to act like a bunch of buffoons in front of him. They all whitewashed his genocidal personality. But more importantly, all those huge protests across the world, they died down subsequently. But the genocide in Gaza continued. I mean, in Lebanon, it's even worse now.

But in Gaza, they kill kids every day. Every day. They snipe kids in classrooms. It's just unbelievable how monstrous they are, and how Western diplomats, the EU diplomats, how disgusting they are, and how Western journalists, how disgusting they are—those who are based in Palestine or those who are based in Lebanon—who call these airstrikes on towns and villages Hezbollah strongholds or Hezbollah targets to sort of justify these monstrous atrocities. But, you know, this is not over, and the war is going to continue. And we haven't reached that final stage. But with every minute, the global crisis is going to get worse.

And if the United States attacks Iran, which I think is quite likely because they amassed so many troops in the region and spent many, many billions of dollars just in the last two, three weeks to bring in so many assets, I think it's highly likely. I don't think this is just some bluff. But it's not over, and they're not going to win. Now, some again, as before, are saying, why did Iran accept a ceasefire? And I explained before that after the 12-day war, Iran accepted the ceasefire even though it won the war against the Israeli regime. But Iran needed the ceasefire because it had to redesign its defense capabilities and offensive capabilities, because it saw shortcomings during that 12-day war. And we saw the results in this war. Even though U.S. firepower is far greater than the Israeli

regime, Iran, despite the Israeli blitzkrieg attack, defeated them after eight, nine days. Netanyahu was begging for a ceasefire. But here, the firepower was far greater, and these regimes in the Persian Gulf were there to help the Americans.

Despite that, Iran did so much better than during the 12-day war. Why? Because they spent that time wisely, those eight, nine months. And when the ceasefire happened this time around, Iran scored a huge victory, a political victory. The world saw that the United States went from demanding unconditional surrender to accepting Iran's 10-point plan. I think that's a huge achievement. But also, Iran needed to prepare itself for the next phase. And for Iran, it's much easier to do so because it's on its own home turf. So we are where we are, and things could get a lot worse before they get better. But I think there's no doubt that the Trump regime will fail, regardless of what happens. Meanwhile, whether they attack or they don't attack, the global economic crisis gets worse and worse and worse.

#Danny

Yeah, I mean, I totally disagree with people who criticize Iran for this, especially this round of taking a ceasefire, because Iran was able to consolidate and focus hard on how it's structuring its control over the Strait of Hormuz. And it has been able to rebuild, according to reports that I've seen. It's been able to focus on rebuilding key infrastructure, getting that started. And then Iran has also announced that during this time, it has not been sitting idly by. It has actually been, as you said, reconstituting its defenses and actually expanding its production of key parts of its arsenal, like ballistic missiles, etc.

So all of that seems to be on the plus side of the equation, plus stopping the bombing, which is a plus side of the equation as well. So all of that seems to work in Iran's favor. But one thing I wanted to ask you, Professor Morandi, in addition, if you wanted to comment on this: there have been these reports saying that Iran is running out of places to store its oil. It has only about 12 to 21, 22 days of capacity left, and that the U.S. blockade is having a significant effect on Iran being able to export its oil. This was reported by Bloomberg, and I'm wondering about the veracity of these reports and what Iran is doing potentially to get around any of the effects of the blockade so far. So your reaction to any of this?

#Mohammad Marandi

Well, we've heard different reports about the blockade and the extent to which it has been successful and how many ships have gone through. But the fact is that whether Iranian ships have been able to pass through in large numbers or not, this is going to have a significant impact on Iran. There's no doubt about that. And of course, it's going to lead to more difficulties in Iranian oil exports. But we have to keep in mind that Iran has been here before. When Trump revived the maximum pressure sanctions—and of course, this happened under Obama too, when he started this, because he was the person who initiated the maximum pressure sanctions—but when Trump

restarted them, Iran's oil production and exports almost went to zero. So it's, you know, for a couple of years, two, three years, we weren't exporting any oil.

The little oil that we were exporting was basically oil that we owed to the Chinese for things that they'd done in Iran, so we weren't making money off of it. So this is something that we have to, you know, keep in mind — that Iran is a country that's been under maximum pressure sanctions for decades. So it is more resilient. And, of course, the people are by nature resilient, as we've seen, and the fact that they've withstood all those sanctions and still they won the war — that resilience, I think, and the fact that they've experienced these sorts of difficulties before, is different than when the global economy, which is not sanctioned, is now going to be facing this. So a sanctioned country that has been through this before can relive this experience more easily than those who have no idea what to do under these new circumstances.

But also, Iran can export some of its oil by, well, either by sea to a degree, but also through land. For many years, Iran was importing oil from Kazakhstan, then re-exporting its own oil on behalf of Kazakhstan through the Persian Gulf. And so, railways to Central Asia, to China, they can be used. Of course, it'll be more difficult, more costly, but this is war. And of course, the United States has taken supplies, stolen supplies from Iranians — medical supplies. But, you know, Iran has many borders: Pakistan, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, the Caspian Sea, Russia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Turkey, Iraq. So it's a huge country.

It's not like, you know, it's the size of France, Germany, and Britain combined, and a bit bigger too. It's not Russia, but it is a very large country. So again, at the end of the day, the important thing is that the Iranians — for them, they're a resilient people. And this is a war. This is a war for survival. This is another genocidal war that they love carrying out, whether it's Cuba or Venezuela, and in particular Palestine or Syria or whatever. For them, it's a war of choice. But they've chosen the wrong country to try to defeat this time around — the Trump regime, the Epstein class. So yes, life will definitely, it's going to have an impact on Iranian society. But that's war.

#Danny

Yeah, yeah, indeed. It is war. One of the things that we're hearing, Professor Rondi, we're hearing that Iran is pursuing land routes, of course, to transport its oil, particularly to China, which is one of the biggest clients in terms of Iranian oil exports. And there are also reports in the Strait of Hormuz, and I think this is maybe part of the implications of this blockade by the United States and, of course, the ongoing aggression against Iran in general. The result of this, or one of the outcomes of this, has been Iran becoming an even bigger engine of building a more independent, multipolar world away from U.S. hegemony.

So you have the increasing use of land routes to transport oil. And then also in the Strait of Hormuz, there was a lot of joking going on with the Japanese vessel that was, you know, allowed to cross by Iran in coordination with the Iranian Navy — that the Japanese vessel had to actually pay Chinese

yuan in order to settle the toll with Iran. So, you know, again, these are the kind of reports we hear more and more now as Iran is forced to, as well as making even bigger decisions and choices and efforts for its own survival, but also for its own benefit, charting this more independent, multipolar world out of this war.

#Mohammad Marandi

Yes, and Iran had no intention of taking the Strait of Hormuz. This is thanks to Netanyahu and Trump and these five family dictatorships in the Persian Gulf that pushed Iran to do this. They militarized the Persian Gulf. They used it as a platform to assault Iran, and Iran is not going to let that happen again. And Iran is also going to make these countries that have been hostile towards Iran and have helped with this war pay compensations. And legally, Iran can do so. It is interesting that, illegally, Iran, since they didn't sign this 1982 convention, they can't do this. But, you know, Western journalists say, well, this is illegal. And, well, you know, whether it's illegal or not — and it's not — but the war was illegal. Why aren't you worried about, why don't you talk about the war? That's just how Western journalists are. Everything is about Iran.

They can rape and plunder, you know, they can rape prisoners in Gaza, and then they can snipe little kids. But it's never—it's all, you know, it's always about Israel. It's about the Israeli regime, it's about Israelis and all that. So the same is true with Iran. We're all Amalek, after all. So Iran is not going to relinquish the Strait of Hormuz. That's never going to happen. And the United States can launch an attack, they can launch a ground attack, they can take territory. They'll have to leave ultimately. Iran, in some places, won't let them move forward. In other places, they'll probably let them advance and start punishing them with missiles and drones and rockets and so on. But regardless of what happens, the Iranians are not going to give up the Strait of Hormuz. And the Americans are going to ultimately have to concede defeat. And these regimes in the Persian Gulf, it's only going to make the reparations for them much more costly.

#Danny

Yeah, I think it's really important to make clear, too, that when Iran proposes this kind of phased negotiations and puts out there that the Strait of Hormuz will be a point of negotiation, I don't think at all, as you said, that the range of those negotiations will ever reach the point of, well, Iran is just going to relinquish whatever authority it has set forth previously upon the Strait of Hormuz. No, I think it'll always be about, well, what does that look like? And how much can Iran actually extract in terms of concessions from the aggressors through the Strait of Hormuz? That will be the range. It will not be anything outside of that.

But also with the Strait of Hormuz and the whole question of legality, too, what's so interesting is that no matter what debate people want to have about whether the Strait of Hormuz is international waterways or Iranian territorial waterway, whatever it is, in the condition of war, no matter what, the Strait of Hormuz falls within Iran's territorial waters, regardless of whether you believe it has the

right to assert that or not. And therefore, in the laws of war, if Iran is the victim of, especially of a naval war, but any kind of war, it has the right to defend itself through its territorial waterways, which means everything it's doing is actually legal in terms of the laws of war.

It's not illegal. It's legal under international law. So it doesn't really matter anyway, because international law, of course, people can bend it however they want. But at the end of the day, Iran has definitely taken what most people, I think, in the world view as reasonable measures to defend itself from aggression, and the Strait of Hormuz is a big piece of that. So anyway, any reaction to this? And there are some audience questions that we can get to before we head out here. Yeah, just one other point that I want to allude to, and that is that...

#Mohammad Marandi

We're in the Persian Gulf region and on the Arabian Peninsula, we're heading towards hot weather. And it's the end of April, and May is the transition month. And by the end of May, it's going to be very hot and humid. And if Americans want to engage in war and start striking Iranian critical infrastructure, well, they know exactly what's going to happen. And that is going to make it hell on earth for the Americans and those who assist them.

So it's, you know, we have to remember that when the Americans invaded Iraq and also when they invaded Kuwait, they did it, I think, in—I don't know, I always work with the Iranian calendar—but I think in January or so, when the weather is cool. These circumstances in the weeks ahead are going to be very, very different. It's already getting warmer, but it's going to get very hot in that area. So it's going to be very tough on American soldiers. And if, again, the Iranian critical infrastructure is struck, the Iranians have said that they will retaliate. And I think the implications are clear.

#Danny

Yeah. Yeah. I mean, a retaliation at this point, with gas prices where they are.

#Mohammad Marandi

And of course, the Israeli regime will pay a heavy price as well. But, you know, these countries in the Persian Gulf, it's extraordinary why they're siding with the Israeli regime and the United States. Without them, the United States couldn't have waged war against Iran. And without them, they can't do it now either. They've done such a disservice to their own people. They murdered so many Iranians, their partners in crime. But they've done such a disservice to their own people and participated in a war to help Netanyahu and Trump that I think is just unbelievable. I mean, in the case of the Emirates, which is really a proxy regime for Zion, I mean, it's a Zionist ally. It's the worst regime possible that you can think of in this part of the world, aside from the Zionist regime. But everyone else, it's just stunning how obedient they are to the United States and how compromised they are.

#Danny

Yeah, so much so that the UAE, it's been reported that they were coordinating directly with the Israelis for their territory to be used. So not just the Americans, but they were coordinating directly with the Israelis. And in Bahrain, I'm sure you've heard the reports that Bahrain has been clamping down incredibly hard on its population in light of the fact that there was a lot of support within Bahrain for Iran and against the U.S. war. So this is an ongoing theme. And I want to ask, so there are a couple of questions here. It's not just Bahrain.

#Mohammad Marandi

Across the Arab world, Iran has had huge support, because people across the Arab world know where these regimes stand. And all the money that they made never went to help the Palestinian cause.

#Danny

No. No. Definitely not. Definitely not. That's, you know, anyone with two eyes who paid any attention to what's happening in the region can see that quite clearly. Professor Randi, so there are a few questions. Was the Iranian National Cemetery struck? Is that something that you know about? This is someone from the audience.

#Mohammad Marandi

The Iranians don't have a... because every city has its own cemetery or cemeteries. Iranian National Cemetery?

#Danny

I'm not aware of that either.

#Mohammad Marandi

Maybe a cemetery has been bombed. I sort of vaguely remember something. I'm not sure. I mean, one of the problems is I was doing so much media work during the war, often I was behind and didn't know what was going on as much as ordinary people. So, like, the irony was that I knew less about what was going on. But they... that's funny. I sort of think that they did bomb a cemetery, but I'm not sure. I mean, they've done all sorts of atrocities. They've bombed hospitals. They intentionally bombed that school, killing 168 kids. I mean, that was day one. We discussed this before. It was day one of targeting. I've been in war, and I've been on the first day of operations.

You know, the first day of a major operation, the first targets, the initial targets, are all very carefully vetted—very carefully—for months, sometimes for years. And so it is inconceivable that the Americans didn't know that this was a school. That school was there for years. It is inconceivable because they were on the maps, both Iranian and American. But the sin of those kids was that some of them were the children of officers, and the Americans wanted to punish them. And those who say, how can that be? I mean, all they have to do is come to Tehran and look at the hospitals that were bombed, look at the Red Crescent Society buildings. I think I told you this the other time I was on one of the shows.

One of my friends, his brother-in-law has a business. I don't know exactly what it is, but he hired two truck drivers who own their own trucks to take some goods from his city to another city, or maybe from another city to his city—I don't know—but in the south of Iran, near the Persian Gulf. And the Americans bombed the trucks, killing the drivers and destroying the trucks and all the goods. They just murdered them. That's what they've been doing. They've been slaughtering people, bombing vehicles, bombing trucks, bombing buildings. They're no different from the Zionists. The American pilots are just as criminal.

#Danny

And let's be quite honest, while it's abhorrent and disgusting, and of course we should be absolutely infuriated by something like what happened to the school in Iran and to those 160-plus young girls, this is not something the United States has not done before in terms of targeting civilians, targeting children. They never apologized. No, and we can have dozens and dozens of examples.

#Mohammad Marandi

They didn't even acknowledge that they had done it.

#Danny

No.

#Mohammad Marandi

They tried to blame Iran for it.

#Danny

Yeah, it's ridiculous. So, weather station—someone wanted to know—has rain really returned since? That's about the weather stations blowing up. I'm not so sure about these details. I mean, it's been a while since these things happened. So, Professor Ron, any thoughts on this?

#Mohammad Marandi

Yeah, we've had, you know, for four or five years, we've had drought. And this year was pretty good. Tehran less so, and a couple of cities near Tehran. But on the whole, the amount of rainfall and snow that we've had is above average. But Tehran, I think, has been better. Right now, in the mountains above Tehran, there's a lot of snow still, even though it's the end of April. But I don't know if it has anything to do with these, you know, with the American radar installations, and that I have no knowledge of, these things.

#Danny

Last but not least, is Palestine included in the peace deal? Keep up the good work. Yes, I mean, the ceasefire includes Palestine. Yes, it is.

#Mohammad Marandi

Yes, Lebanon was named because there was heavy fighting in Lebanon. But it said the region, so that would include everything. But, you know, the problem is that these regional governments, they went to Egypt, you know, Jordan, Turkey, the Egyptians, of course, you know, the Qataris and others. They went there and basically whitewashed Trump and supported that fake ceasefire. So there is already a ceasefire in place, and it's very difficult for Iran to force some change when the entire region, you know, those who are selling oil like the regime in Azerbaijan and transporting that oil like Turkey or receiving natural gas like Egypt or doing business and trade like Jordan—when all these countries go and help Trump impose this fake ceasefire, it's very difficult for Iran to do much about it. But in any case, the Iranians have said that regional ceasefire includes Lebanon, includes Gaza, but it specifically named Lebanon because there was heavy fighting.

#Danny

Yeah, and I think also there's language about all of the fronts being resolved, which would include basically every resistance front that has any... of course, because this is all about Palestine.

#Mohammad Marandi

I mean, everyone has been sacrificing for Palestine. Iran has been sacrificing. Yemen has been... everyone has been sacrificing for Palestine. In fact, sometimes it's amazing. You see some people online making comments. I don't respond to them, but you know where they're from, and their own countries are complicit in all this, and they attack the resistance and always use some excuse. Why did you do a ceasefire? Why did you do this? Why didn't you do that? You know who these people are. Your country, the Emirates, is helping the Israeli regime. Your country is helping the regime in some other way. So a lot of these people are influencers who are close to these regimes that are complicit.

#Danny

Yeah, indeed, I mean, I feel like since this is going to be a long, protracted war, a long, protracted resistance—I mean, that resistance is always like this—it takes a while before it comes to a head and real, significant, historic outcomes are reached. And so, I guess we'll have to cringe through these kinds of reactions for quite some time. I think this is a great last question to end on. What would you say to the people who stand—this is from MK Dash, I won't read all of that, but thank you—people around the world are seeking unity more than ever. What would you say to the people who stand with Iran and humanity in general?

#Mohammad Marandi

Get on the streets and revive the, uh, the anti-genocide protests on Gaza. And of course, you know, if they're interested in Iran, I mentioned that **Going to Tehran** book that I think is a very good read. Alastair Crooke also has a book, **The Culture of Resistance**. It's so worth reading, it's very good. It's old, but it's a good book. But people should get back on the streets. You know, the momentum that was lost has to be revived. They are sniping girls in classrooms in Gaza. They're murdering kids every day. And of course, they're doing the same in Lebanon. But you know, Gaza—we should make this the central focus of all of our work. And we all have to be active online, we have to be active elsewhere. We have to put pressure on governments without breaking laws. But we have to revive the momentum.

#Danny

Yeah, I think that's a great place to stop. I want to thank everyone who gave Super Chats, became members. Thank you, Ernie. Thank you, Freddie. Thanks to Texas Real for that question. Thanks to Wing of Shoe, Peters, everybody. Thanks to Kirk Doherty. I wanted to let people know that, speaking of Alastair Crooke, he's actually coming on the show tomorrow, 10 a.m. Eastern time. So be sure to watch that, April 29th, tomorrow.

#Mohammad Marandi

So press the like button so that tomorrow his interview shows up.

#Danny

Yeah, yeah, yeah. Press the like button here because that will spread this video around. And yes, the more you're engaged actually with this channel—liking, commenting, of course subscribing—but subscriptions, they mean something, but it's more about how you engage. So liking the videos, if you comment, that's great too, because that will tell YouTube that you like this channel more than just subscribing and then not doing any of those things. So these are kind of the little things.

#Mohammad Marandi

I can't contribute because I'm sanctioned. But if others contribute, that's fine.

#Danny

Hey, I appreciate that. Well, you know, gifts and curses from U.S. sanctions, I think, in some ways. But, Professor Morandi, this was great. Everyone hit the like button as you go. Of course, in the video description are all the places you can support this channel. We're going to head out together, and I will see you tomorrow, 10 a.m. Eastern Time, April 29th, with Alastair Crooke. Bye-bye.