

Headlines:

- **US Rejects Kurdistan Independence Vote**
- **Tillerson in China to reap the fruits of American Aggression against North Korea**
- **Mushrik China Confiscates Qurans and Mussalahs from Muslims**

Details:

US Rejects Kurdistan Independence Vote

The events in Iraqi Kurdistan this week provide good insight into the West's sincerity to its proclaimed values of democracy, freedom and national self-determination. On Friday, US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson issued a statement rejecting this week's Kurdistan independence vote; according to the *Washington Post*:

"The United States on Friday declared illegitimate Monday's Kurdish referendum on independence, as the Iraqi government imposed a ban on international flights to airports operated by the Kurdistan Regional Government and Iraqi troops prepared to seize the semiautonomous region's border controls."

"The United States does not recognize the . . . unilateral referendum," Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said in Washington's first substantive statement on the vote, in which nearly 93 percent of voters in the Kurdistan region approved declaring an autonomous state in northern Iraq.

"The vote and the results lack legitimacy," Tillerson said, "and we continue to support a united, federal, democratic and prosperous Iraq." He urged both sides to reject the use of force and engage in dialogue, and to remain focused on the fight against the Islamic State, which he said was "not over."

In Iraq, the Americans are pursuing at this time the solution of a weak federation so as to keep the central government weak. This requires manipulating Kurdish nationalism only to the degree necessary for this purpose: too little and the central government will dominate, too much and the Kurdish region will secede.

The true basis of Western political thinking is material benefit, which translates at the foreign policy level into national interest. If it suits American national interest, they are quite willing to immediately contradict their own ideals of freedom and democracy. They simply promote whatever suits their interests at any particular time.

As for Islam, Muslims adhere to it not for its perceived momentary benefit but because of its truth and because it is worship of their Creator. Islam rejects nationalism, regionalism, sectarianism and any other political thought that can divide the Muslim Ummah. This is because our Creator is one, and our Ummah is one and our State, the righteous Islamic Khilafah (Caliphate) on the method of the Prophet (saw) should also be one.

Tillerson in China to reap the fruits of American Aggression against North Korea

After months of trading insults with North Korea, taking America's conflict to the brink of nuclear war, US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is now in China to extract concessions,

which indicates the real purpose of American aggression towards North Korea. According to Reuters:

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson will hold top-level talks in China on Saturday as the United States looks to an economic squeeze of North Korea it hopes will compel the reclusive country's retreat from nuclear arms and missile programs.

The United States sees China as critical to averting a military confrontation with Pyongyang, which is fast advancing toward its goal of developing a nuclear-tipped missile capable of reaching the United States.

U.S. officials say Beijing appears increasingly willing to cut ties to North Korea's economy by adopting U.N. sanctions, after long accounting for some 90 percent of its neighbor's foreign trade.

America is confronted by a rising power in China, and it has been taking multiple steps to contain this rise, while at the same time engaging with China in order to draw it away from challenging American interests. America's conflict with North Korea is only one project in this scheme.

Our noble Prophet (saw) also employed political manoeuvring in order to contain his primary opponent, the Quraish of Makkah, for example through the events of the Treaty of Hudaibiya. But the political manoeuvring of the Prophet (saw) was designed to avoid bloodshed, both of Muslims and of their opponents. On the other hand, this latest example of American political manoeuvring has risked the lives of hundreds of millions by threatening nuclear war.

The world will soon see the return of the righteous Islamic Khilafah on the method of the Prophet (saw) that will return true peace and justice to the entire world, working for ideals that it is sincere to, and engaging even with its opponents with honour and dignity.

Mushrik China Confiscates Qurans and Mussalabs from Muslims

The Chinese authorities continue to persecute Muslims, particularly in the Xinjiang province, as they fear the rise of Islam within the Central Asian lands that they usurped from Muslims at the time of their weakness in Islam. According to the *Independent*:

"Chinese authorities are ordering Muslims in the country to hand over their prayer mats and copies of the Quran or else face punishment, it has been reported.

Officials in Xinjiang province have warned members of the Uyghur ethnic minority they must surrender religious items on pain of "harsh punishments", according to an exile leader.

"We received a notification saying that every single ethnic Uyghur must hand in any Islam-related items from their own home, including Qurans, prayers and anything else bearing the symbols of religion," Dilxat Raxit, of the exile World Uyghur Congress, told Radio Free Asia (RFA), which is operated by the US government.

The directive also applies to ethnic Kazakh and Kyrgyz Muslims, RFA said. It was reportedly announced via the WeChat social network."

Muslim rulers have become used to looking to China as an alternative to American domination but they must consider that the Chinese are mushrikeen and enemies of our religion. Muslims will only be truly free of foreign domination when they learn to depend only upon themselves, their Deen and their true Lord, Allah (swt). Then the entire world will lay at their feet.