

Iranian-American Negotiations Are a Setback and Political Suicide for Iran

(Translated)

News:

The White House announced on Friday (24/04/2026) that envoys Steve Wittkoff and Jared Kushner would depart for Islamabad on Saturday (25/04/2026), morning for direct talks with the Iranian side, mediated by Pakistan. This announcement came as AlJazeera's correspondent reported that Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi had arrived in Islamabad on Friday evening. Fox News quoted White House spokesperson Karoline Leavitt as saying that Iran had contacted them and requested a direct meeting, and that there had been "progress" from the Iranian side in recent days. She expressed hope that the talks between the two sides would be fruitful and contribute to advancing an agreement. Later, US President Donald Trump said that Iran intended to present an offer that met US demands. In contrast to the US statements about the anticipated meetings with the Iranians, Iranian television reported on Friday evening, (24/04/2026) that Araghchi did not plan to meet with the US envoys, adding that Islamabad would convey Tehran's observations on de-escalation. Fars News Agency also quoted sources close to Iran's Supreme National Security Council as saying that there were no negotiations with the United States. The New York Times quoted Iranian officials as saying that Araghchi would travel to Islamabad carrying a written response to the American proposal for a peace agreement, and that he was expected to meet in Pakistan with Wittkopf and Kushner to continue negotiations.

Comment:

It is clear from the course of negotiations between the Iranian and American sides that the Iranian negotiator does not accept what America dictates, and that he wants compromise solutions, not the American ones that seek to subjugate Iran to become a subordinate state, obeying its orders and ending at its beck and call. It is also clear that America's patience with Iran and the length of the negotiations, despite deploying its full diplomatic weight and its agents in the region, most notably the rulers and leaders of Pakistan, indicates that America is in a predicament and does not appear to possess any leverage that it can use or brandish against Iran to subdue it. On the contrary, it seems that Iran possesses leverage that can alter the course and outcome of the negotiations, such as maintaining the closure of the Strait of Hormuz and threatening to close the Bab el-Mandeb Strait. These powerful cards are what led Trump's America to deny his readiness to use nuclear weapons against Iran; the denial here is a statement of fact, not a denial of reality. In other words, the idea is on the table, and the reason for its introduction is the predicament America has created for itself, from which it seems unable to extricate itself in the foreseeable future. The only way out is to create an exceptional regional and international circumstance, namely, the use of nuclear weapons.

It is true that the Iranian side is being negotiated by the military, not the politicians, as has become clear from the nature of the written response that Araghchi is carrying. The Iranian military has reached a point of distrust, or even refusal to authorize, the American-approved political negotiators, Araghchi and Bazjan. This has led them to entrust

