



IRAN



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Nagin House, boutique hotel









Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)



Ayatollah Khamenei speaks to students at Tehran University after the JCPOA is signed.



Annual commemoration of taking American hostages at the U.S. Embassy—Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2015.



Hassan Rouhani,
President, 2014-2021



Emab intermediate-range precision-guided missile.





Hassan Rouhani was re-elected President of Iran in May 2017.



Ebrahim Raisi
Former Chief Justice of Iran's Supreme Court
The "Butcher of Tehran."



John Bolton



Massoud and Maryam Rajavi.

MEK World Congress in Paris, 2014.

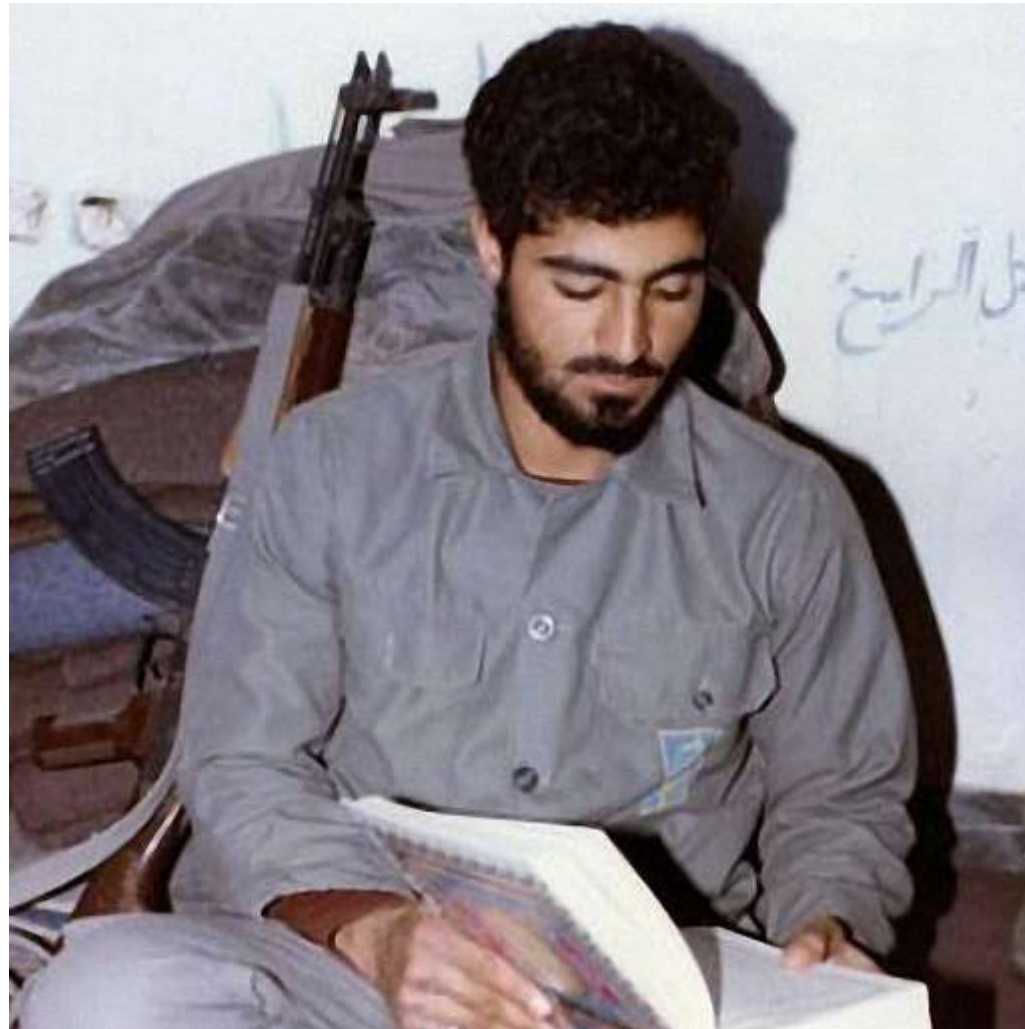


Qassem
Soleimani





Men and women in the streets in Tehran shout anti-Shah slogans during the second day of demonstrations against the Iranian monarch, Dec. 19, 1978.



Following the Iranian revolution, Soleimani joined the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC).





Khomeini sends 1,500 Republican Guards to Lebanon to organize and train a Shi'a militia.



Soleimani speaks to troops during the Iran-Iraq War.



1989, Taliban takes over Afghanistan





Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei was said to regard Qassem Suleimani as a son.



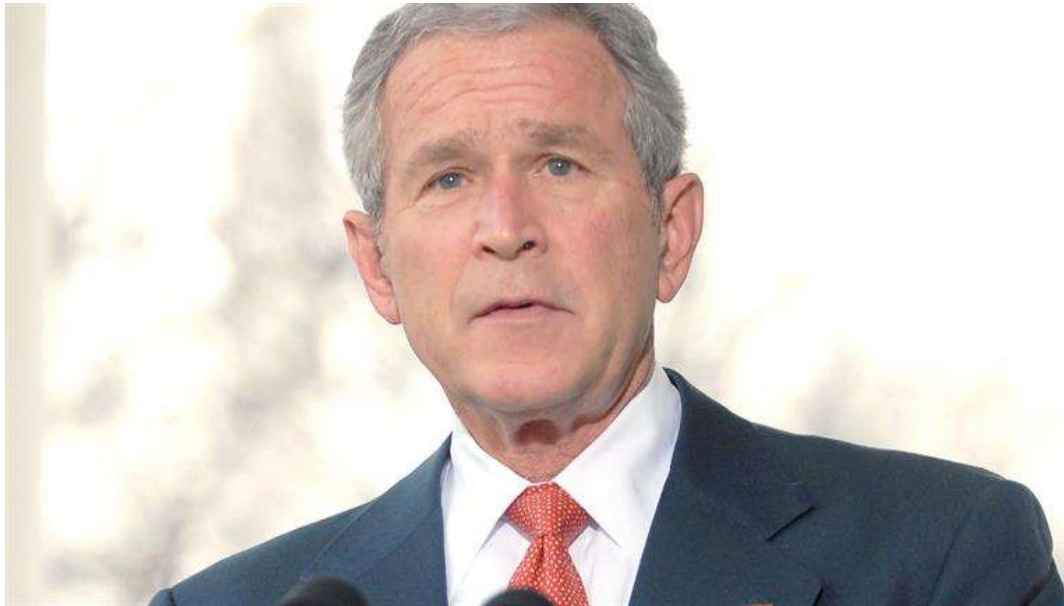
September 11, 2001, al Qaeda attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon.



1/29/2002. George W. Bush declares that North Korea, Iraq and Iran constitute an “Axis of Evil.”



3/20/2003. Operation Iraqi Freedom—U.S. invades Iraq.



2/26/03. George Bush predicts that the invasion of Iraq will be the first step in the democratization of the Middle East.



3/21/03. Neocons William Kristol, Richard Perle and Michael Ledeen say that Syria and Iran are next.



Soleimani in Baghdad with Popular Mobilization Unit chiefs
Abu Mahdi al Muhandis (Kata'ib Hezbollah) and Shebl al Zaydi (Imam Ali Brigade)



Major General Qassem Soleimani, Iran.

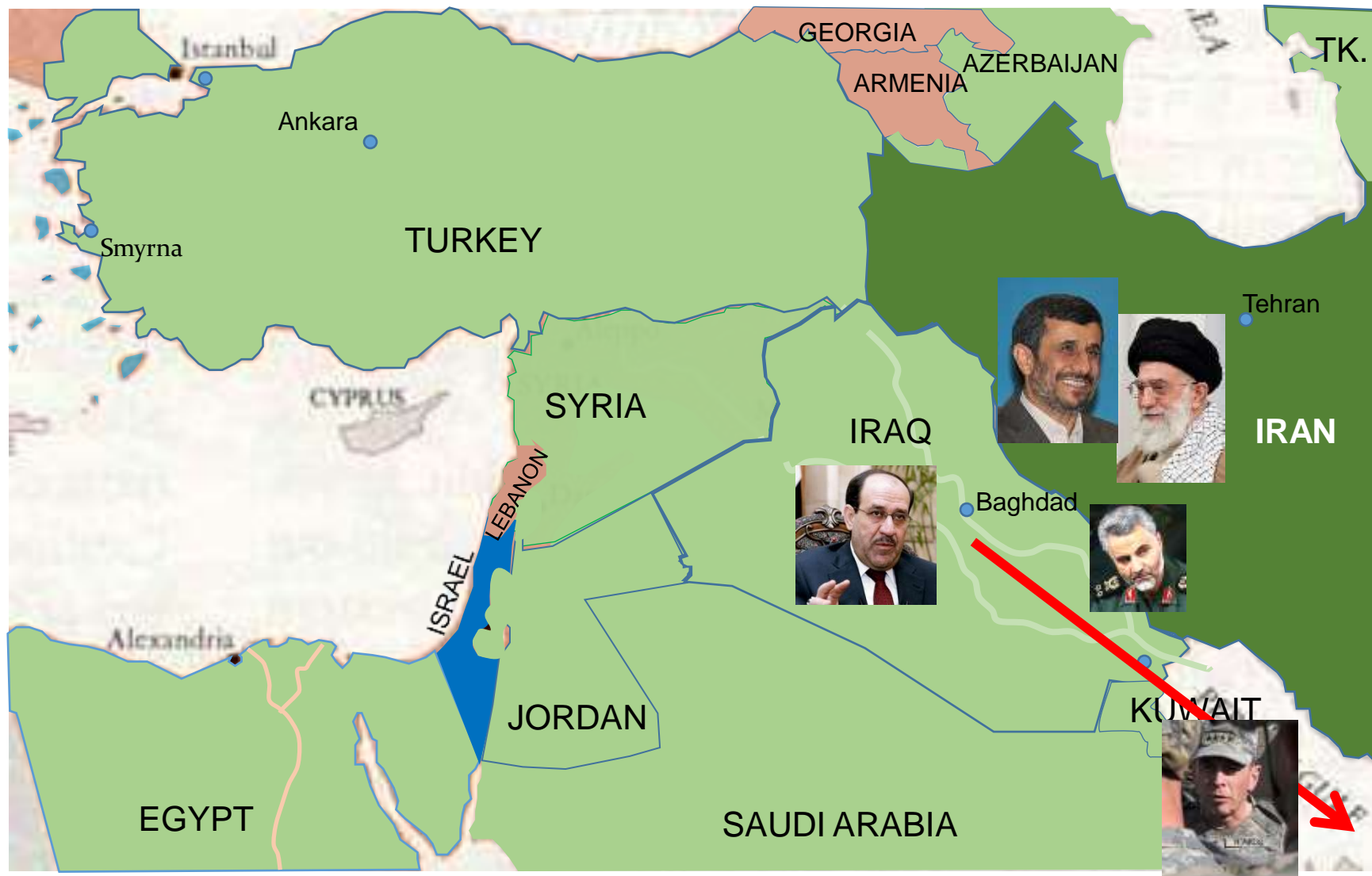


General David Petraeus, United States.

The world's top two experts on insurgency/counter-insurgency military operations.







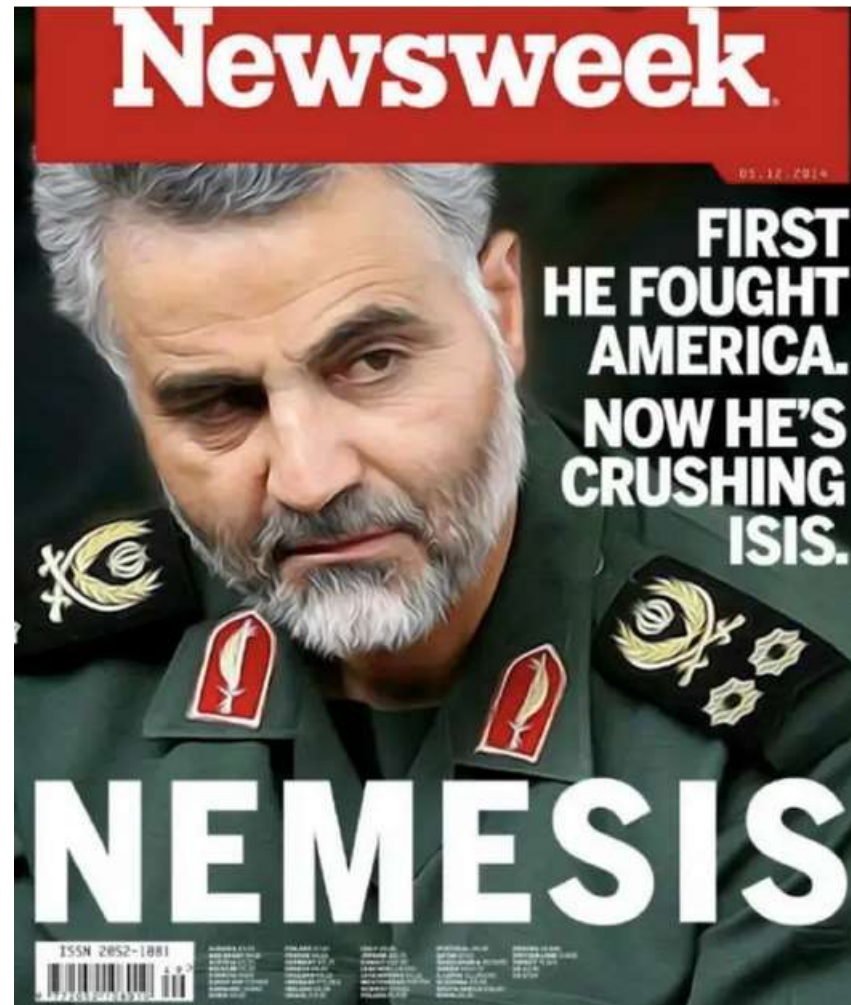
Dec. 2011 US withdrawal leaves Nouri al Maliki to deal with Iran



Summer 2011, Arab Spring demonstrations against Assad in Syria turn into open revolt.
Suleimani brings in Iraqi militiamen led by Quds Force commanders to help.



Early 2013, Assad is still losing ground. Suleimani has Hezbollah attack and take rebel stronghold at Qusayr. Syrian army then takes the initiative in the Syrian Civil War.



Newsweek, May 12, 2014.



Iranian Quds Force
Gen. Qassem Soleimani



ISIS fighter captured
by Iraqi militiaman.

4/4/15. Shi'a militias (Popular Mobilization Units) liberate Tikrit.



General Qassem Soleimani, pictured in northern Iraq in May 2017.

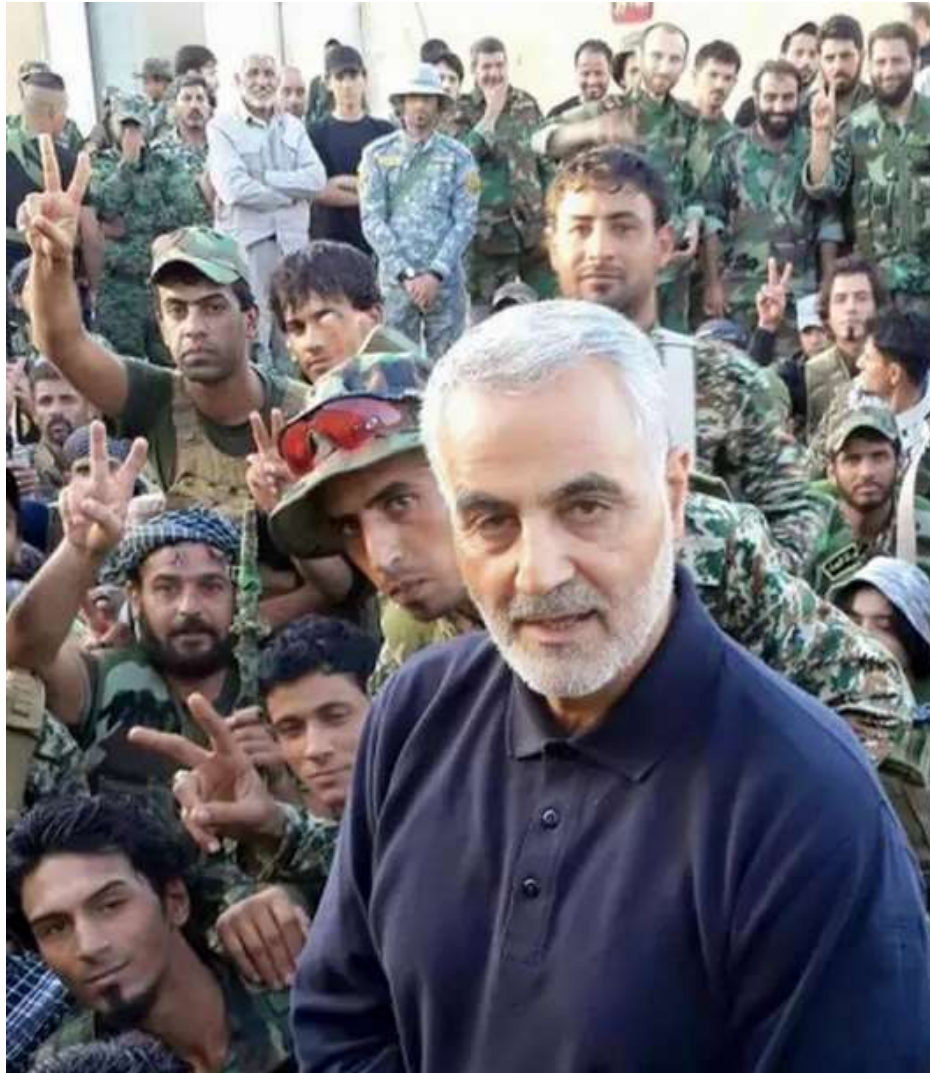
End of the JCPOA



Donald Trump
Elected President of the United States Nov. 8, 2017



1/10/20. U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin at a White House press conference.



A CIA agent described Qassem Suleimani as “the most powerful operative in the Middle East today.”



6/13/19, Kokuka Courageous ablaze in the Gulf of Oman.



9/15/19, drone and missile attack on Saudi Aramco facility.



12/27/19, 30 rockets fired at U.S. K1 military base near Kirkuk, Iraq..



December 31, 2019 the US embassy in Baghdad is attacked by Kata'ib Hezbollah protesters who burn tires in front of the embassy.



TERMINALS

**Baghdad
International
Airport**

**Suleimani was in
a vehicle struck
by two missiles as
his convoy exited
the airport.**

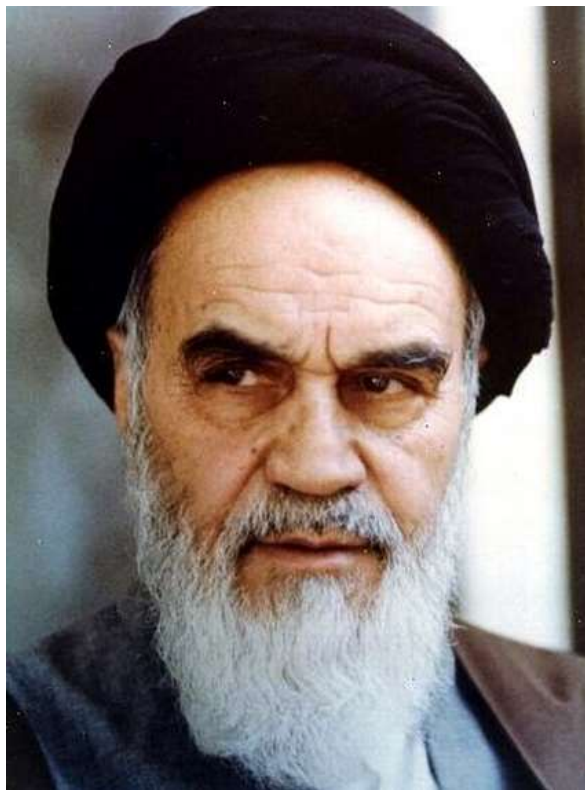
AIRPORT ST.







Remains of Ukraine Air flight 752 shot down by the IRGC. 179 killed.



Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini



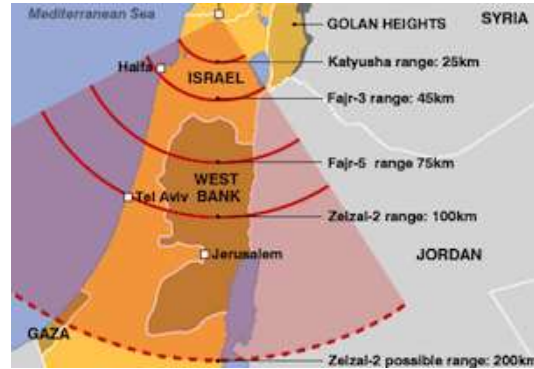
Brig Gen Esmail Gha'ani
Replaces Qassem Soleimani as Quds Force commander.

Subversive Iran



Iran-Iraq-Syria-Hezbollah/Lebanon "Shi'a Corridor."

Hezbollah:



Hezbollah's Iranian missiles can hit most of Israel from southern Lebanon.

Syria:



Hezbollah helps Assad, provides security for the Shi'a Corridor.

Hamas and Islamic Jihad:



Rockets are fired toward Israel from the Gaza Strip (R). Iron Dome missiles intercept (L). - Anas Baba/AFP via Getty Images



New types of weapons: the SH85 and Ayyash missiles, fired at Ben Gurion Airport, Ramon Airport, Tel Aviv and Beersheba. – Algulf.net

May 12, 2021— Hamas employs more sophisticated weapons.

Azerbaijan:



Israeli-made Aerostar medium altitude long endurance drone on display in Baku, Azerbaijan, Dec 10, 2020. (Photo by Aziz Karimov/Getty Images)

Iraq:



Mustafa al-Kadhimi,
Prime Minister of Iraq.



Iran-backed Shi'a Popular Mobilization Units at Ayn al-Hisan, near Tel Afar,
west of Mosul.

Afghanistan:



Afghan refugees are seen crossing the border into Iran at Islam Qala, Herat Province in western Afghanistan.

Yemen:



Missiles in the hands of the Houthis can hit most of Saudi Arabia's major cities.

Potential negotiations

Iran's goals:

- Security for Iran
- Security for Shi'a in general
- Removal of sanctions against their country
- Regional political leadership

Iran's bargaining chips:

- Nuclear program
- Peace

U.S./Iran areas of mutual interest:

- **Sunni extremists.** Sunni extremists like al Qaeda, the Taliban and ISIS are major threats to the lives of Shi'a throughout the region, particularly in Syria and Iraq. Iran, India, Russia and the U.S. all see extremism as a major problem.
- **Drug trafficking.** Afghanistan under the Taliban is the world's largest source of illegally produced opioids. Cooperative counter narcotics efforts would contribute to Iran's security and to world-wide drug control.
- **Water.** Water resources in the shared border area between Iran and Afghanistan are a major source of tension. Afghan agriculture is expanding and is upstream from Iran's eastern provinces. The U.S. could be a mediator and provider of technology.
- **Refugees.** Iran houses the second largest number of Afghan refugees after Pakistan. As economic conditions have worsened in Iran due to U.S. sanctions, providing for the refugees has become an economic burden. U.N. help is limited and Iran has recently deported more than 20,000 refugees back to Afghanistan.

Recent elections



June 15, 2013 Hassan Rouhani is elected President of Iran.
May 2017, re-elected overwhelmingly after negotiating the JCPOA.



U.S. President Donald Trump
Withdrawn from the JCPOA on May 18, 2018
and re-imposed sanctions.



February 2020 Parliamentary Elections. Iranian “Hard-liners” took over Parliament.



Ebrahim Raisi

Former Chief Justice of Iran's Supreme Court
2021, elected "Hard-liner" President of Iran



Ebrahim Raisi
Former Chief Justice of Iran's Supreme Court
2021, elected "Hard-liner" President of Iran



Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei
Supreme Leader



November 2019 protests,
Isfahan.



1/11/20, protestors on Hafez Street, Tehran



July 2021 protests.











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