

## One Door Closes, Another Opens: Trump's Withdrawal from Iran Nuclear Deal Plays to Pakistan's Strategic Advantage

Pakistan Should Silently Celebrate Trump's Pullout From The Iranian Deal

By <u>Andrew Korybko</u> Global Research, June 08, 2018 Region: <u>Asia</u>, <u>Middle East & North Africa</u> Theme: <u>Intelligence</u>, <u>US NATO War Agenda</u> In-depth Report: <u>IRAN: THE NEXT WAR</u>?

Trump's withdrawal from the Iranian nuclear deal actually plays to Pakistan's strategic advantage and should be silently celebrated by its decision makers.

The whole world is wondering what will happen next after Trump pulled the US out of the Iranian nuclear deal, but while there is a lot of fear mongering in the press about what to expect and plenty of condemnation over what just happened, the reality is that this is a fortuitous move for Pakistan that should be silently celebrated by its decision makers for the following reasons:

### Trump's Attempts To Weaken Iran Might Actually Strengthen It

Provided that Iran understands what just happened in the manner that will be described below and more or less adheres to the following scenario forecast, then the Islamic Republic might actually be strengthened by what Trump just did and not weakened, even if the mainstream media misleadingly portrays it otherwise in its attempts to manufacture a false perception among the global masses.

#### The US Has Proven Itself To Be Untrustworthy

Unlike it may have been in times past, there is now irrefutable evidence that the US cannot be trusted to honor even public agreements that it helped negotiate, to say nothing of secret ones behind closed doors, which should give pause to any Pakistani representatives the next time that the US approaches them about a so-called "deal".

#### Pakistan's Rapprochement With Russia Is Validated

Now that the US has proven itself to be utterly untrustworthy, Pakistan's rapprochement with Russia is validated because everyone can now see the wisdom in Islamabad choosing to balance its erstwhile close relationship with Washington through a comprehensive diversification of relations with Moscow.

#### Indian-Iranian Relations Might Soon Suffer

The US' re-sanctioning of Iran and threat to do so against any companies that continue to conduct certain types of business with the Islamic Republic might hit Indian infrastructure projects in Chabahar and pertaining to the North-South Transport Corridor (NSTC) especially

hard, and New Delhi can no longer be counted on as a reliable long-term purchaser of Tehran's energy resources.

### Iran Now Knows Who Its Real Friends Are, And Pakistan Is One Of Them

After the US expectedly scrapped the nuclear deal and the high probability exists that India might limit its hitherto strategic relations with Iran under pressure from its newfound Washington ally, Tehran finally knows who its real friends are, and this revelation can lead to a renaissance of Iranian-Pakistani relations that prevents third-party provocateurs from sabotaging their relations like they did in the past.

### Iran Might Pivot From West Asia to Central-South Asia

Faced with a worsening of full-spectrum pressure against it on the western flank, Iran might seek a "pressure valve" through intensifying its cooperation with Central Asia and Pakistan, particularly as it relates to potentially pairing Chabahar with Gwadar and establishing the tangible infrastructural foundation of CPEC's western branch, or W-CPEC+.

# Pakistan Could Prospectively Play The Central Role In Facilitating Iranian-Chinese Trade

With China's reported high-speed Silk Road railway plans for Central Asia yet to break ground and CPEC already being open for business, there's a very real chance that Pakistan can prospectively play the central role in facilitating Iranian-Chinese trade through W-CPEC+ and accordingly boost its Eurasian geostrategic significance in response.

# If India Downscales Its Cooperation With Iran, Pakistan Could Replace The NSTC With The RPEC

It remains to be seen, but provided that India downscales its cooperation with Iran in the face of American pressure just like it did in pulling out of the Fifth-Generation Fighter Aircraft agreement with Russia recently, then Pakistan could replace the NSTC with a Russia-Pakistan Economic Corridor (RPEC) that becomes part of the northern vector of CPEC, or N-CPEC+.

# The Post-Deal Deepening Of Iran's Ties With Pakistan-China-Russia Would Strengthen Eurasia

Iran's unprecedented strategic reliance on neighboring Russia following Trump's withdrawal from the nuclear deal and the Islamic Republic's projected pivot towards Pakistan and China could form the integrational basis for the so-called "Golden Ring" of multipolar Great Powers that might naturally extend to include each party's close Turkish partner as well.

### Multipolar Support For Iran Would Weaken The US' Unipolar Hegemony

The collective support that the aforementioned four Great Powers could provide to Iran during this crucial time would symbolically represent the emergence of a multipolar world order that's prepared to counter the US' unipolar hegemony in areas of shared concern, with this possibly being a test run for more sustained cooperation in dealing with other crises such as the long-running one in Afghanistan.

### Pakistan Is Slated To Play A Pivotal Role In These World-Changing Processes

Pakistan's geostrategic position as the Zipper of Eurasia makes it poised to play the pivotal role in these world-changing processes of supercontinental integration and multipolarity, though the next step must be that its leadership reaches out to Iran and makes it aware of this grand vision in order to probe the pace at which Tehran wants to proceed.

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