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AHMADINEJAD STRESSES NEED FOR NEW WORLD ORDER

June 8, 2010 Fars News Agency reported: "The conditions we are experiencing today need planning for new orders in the world and (our) cooperation and co-thinking for organizing the conditions," Ahmadinejad told reporters before departing for Istanbul, Turkey to take part in the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA).

Reminding that major world and Asian players will take part in the Istanbul conference, the Iranian president underlined that "Iran, too, will have active participation in drafting the final statement, taking stances as well as mutual consultations" with participants in the conference.

Ahmadinejad said that his visit will take place at the invitation of Turkish President Abdullah Gul, and pointed out that he is slated to meet other foreign officials during the visit. Ahmadinejad further confirmed his subsequent trip to Tajikistan, saying the visit will come in response to Tajik President Emomali Rahmon's visit to Tehran in March 2010.

The Iranian president mentioned that he will take part in the 'Water for Life' international conference in Tajikistan. The CICA Conference is underway in Istanbul on June 4-10."...

CICA is an inter-governmental security forum in Asia which was initiated by Kazakhstan's then president in 1992 and currently has 18 member states, including Iran, Russia, China, South Korea and Turkey."..."

SOROS SAYS 'WE HAVE JUST ENTERED ACT II' OF CRISIS

June 10, 2010 Bloomberg reported: "Billionaire investor George Soros said "we have just entered Act II" of the crisis as Europe's fiscal woes worsen and governments are pressured to curb budget deficits that may push the global economy back into recession.

"The collapse of the financial system as we know it is real, and the crisis is far from over," Soros said today at a conference in Vienna. "Indeed, we have just entered Act II of the drama."

Soros, 79, said the current situation in the world economy is "eerily" reminiscent of the 1930s with governments under pressure to narrow their budget deficits at a time when the economic recovery is weak.

Concern that Europe's sovereign-debt crisis may spread sent the euro to a four-year low against the dollar on June 7 and has wiped out more than \$4 trillion from global stock markets this year. Europe's debt-ridden nations have to raise almost 2 trillion euros (\$2.4 trillion) within the next three years to refinance, according to Bank of America Corp.

"When the financial markets started losing confidence in the credibility of sovereign debt, Greece and the euro have taken center stage, but the effects are liable to be felt worldwide," Soros said."..."



DEBT SPREADING 'LIKE A CANCER': BLACK SWAN AUTHOR

June 10, 2010 cnbc.com reported: "The economic situation today is drastically worse than a couple years ago, and the euro is doomed as a concept, Nassim Taleb, professor and author of the bestselling book "The Black Swan," told CNBC on Thursday.

We had less debt cumulatively (two years ago), and more people employed. Today, we have more risk in the system, and a smaller tax base," Taleb said. "Banks balance sheets are just as bad as they were" two years ago when the crisis began and "the quality of the risks hasn't improved," he added.

The root of the crisis over the past couple of years wasn't recession, but debt, which has spread "like a cancer," according to Taleb, who is now relieved that public attention has shifted to debt, instead of growth. The world needs to prepare itself for austerity, he warned. "We need to slash debt. Unfortunately, that's the only solution," Taleb said.

Other analysts warned about austerity programs spreading from the euro zone to the US where the growth in debt will become unsustainable over the longer term.

Obama administration's efforts to pull the US out of recession haven't succeeded, according to Taleb. "It's not that they make mistakes, it's that they almost get nothing right." Moreover, a second major stimulus package may be futile, he warned.

"Obama promised us 8 percent unemployment through stimulus. It hasn't worked." There are significantly more liabilities in the US than in other countries around the world, he said. "Don't give a junkie more drugs, don't give a debt junkie more debt."

TURKEY CALLS CHARGES TURNING FROM WEST 'DIRTY PROPAGANDA'

June 10, 2010 AFP reported: ""Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan offered reassurance on Thursday that his country is not turning away from the West in the wake of its vote against UN sanctions on Iran, calling such charges "dirty propaganda".

Speaking at a Turkish-Arab forum, Erdogan pointed to French investments in Syria and other Arab countries, adding: "But when it comes to Turkey investing in Arab countries or vice versa, a dirty propaganda is trying to impede this process."

Those who say that Turkey has broken away from the West are the intermediaries of an ill-intentioned propaganda," he said. "We are open to all parts of the world. We are not open to one and closed to another."



Many in Turkey and the West are concerned that NATO's sole mainly Muslim member is sliding away, pointing at a severe crisis with Israel over its bloody raid on aid ships last week and Turkey's "no" vote on fresh UN Security Council sanctions against Iran regarding its nuclear programme Wednesday.

Erdogan's Islamist-rooted government has sought a stronger Turkish role in the Middle East, notably improving ties with Muslim countries, among them former foes Syria and Iran.

US Defence Secretary Robert Gates said Wednesday the European Union's refusal to offer Turkey a swift accession process has partly caused Ankara's foreign policy shift and the deterioration in its relations with Israel."...

Concerns over growing rapprochement between Turkey and its Middle Eastern neighbours and Iran grew following the Israeli raid on an aid expedition bound for Gaza on May 31 in which nine Turks were killed.

After recalling its ambassador from Tel Aviv, Turkish President Abdullah Gul said relations with Israel would "never be the same".

Erdogan has stepped up the rhetoric against Israel as tens of thousands of Turks have taken to the streets of Istanbul each day to vent against Israel and praise Gaza's Hamas rulers."

ARAB NATIONS CHEER TURKEY FOR TOUGH ISRAEL STAND

June 10, 2010 The Associated Press: "Arab nations burst into applause Thursday as Turkey's prime minister walked to the podium at a summit, reflecting Turkey's meteoric rise on the world stage amid disputes over Israel's blockade of Gaza and U.N. sanctions against Iran.

The Turkish-Arab Economic Forum opened with calls for an international investigation into the May 31 Israeli commando raid on aid ships bound for Gaza, a topic emphasized by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

"Are we going to remain silent over the murder of nine people? We can't turn a blind eye to this banditry in international waters," Erdogan told the Turkish-Arab Economic Forum. "From now on, this can't continue as it is."

Arab league chief Amr Moussa also accused Israel continued "atrocities and assault" in violation of human rights and international law and praised Turkey for challenging Israel on the raid that left eight Turkish activists and a Turkish-American teenager dead. Israel insists its commandoes acted in self-defense after being attacked by pro-Palestinian activists on the aid ships. Moussa said the nine dead "are our martyrs as well."

Turkey's popularity in the Muslim world has surged as it led the world in condemning Israel for the raid on ships trying to break Israel's blockade of Gaza. Turkey _ a non-Arab, predominantly Muslim country _ also won favor among Arab allies for objecting to new sanctions against Iran, which the U.N. Security Council passed Wednesday after rejecting an Iranian nuclear fuel swap-deal brokered by Ankara.

"Arms, embargoes and exclusion are not working," Erdogan said, adding that the world was paying a heavy price as a result of such policies in Iraq and Afghanistan. "There are hundreds of thousands of widows, who will account for this? There are orphans, who will account for this? Those who turn this geography into this (mess) have to be held accountable."

Erdogan, however, said his country would still work to keep the nuclear swap-deal Turkey brokered to resolve the Iranian dispute on the table. He strongly rejected allegations in the West that Turkey was shifting toward the East..."..."

U.S. MOVES TOWARD 'MAJORITY MINORITY'

June 10, 2010 The Wall Street Journal reported: "Whites are on the verge of becoming a minority among newborn children in the U.S., marking a demographic shift that is already reshaping the nation's politics and economy.

The Census reported Thursday that non-white minorities accounted for 48.6% of the children born in the U.S. between July 2008 and July 2009, gaining ground from 46.8% two years earlier even as immigration slowed amid the deepest recession in decades. The trajectory suggests the U.S. will soon hit a tipping point where minority births eclipse those of whites of European ancestry, demographers say.

"The question is just when," says Kenneth Johnson, senior demographer at the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire. He guesses this demographic milestone will be crossed in the next few years, and could happen as early as 2011.

The numbers reflect the extent to which immigrants from places as far flung as Mexico, India and the Philippines are putting down roots in the U.S., bearing children who are changing the face of America even as they assimilate."...

A number of forces are pushing the U.S. toward a nation that is "majority minority." White women are having fewer children. More minority women, especially Hispanics, are in their prime child-bearing years.

While the recession has slowed the transformation by making people of all races less willing to start families, births among non-whites still grew faster than those among non-whites. Among the Latino population, for example, there were roughly nine births for every one death, compared with a roughly one-to-one ratio for whites."

*Compiled by L. Jim Tuck, Pastor
UCGIA Oakland, San Jose, and Santa Rosa
ljt5053@sbcglobal.net*