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Iran from fake election to fake dollars



Despite the official American and Iranian denial of the information that appeared in the article published by The New York Times on Oct. 21, which stated that Iran has agreed in principle to hold one-on-one talks with the U.S. after the presidential elections; however this news is true. While officials who are close to President Barack Obama have intentionally leaked the news to influence the presidential elections, Iran agreed to the bilateral meeting, in order to gain some time to develop its nuclear program, and instigate a trouble between the U.S and their European allies. The article was published in The New York Times after a report written by a former CIA agent, knowledgeable in Iranian affairs, in which he stated that both, the U.S. and Iran, reached an agreement after talks held in Doha, Qatar. Gary Samore, White House Coordinator for Arms Control and Weapons of Mass Destruction, Proliferation and Terrorism, had also held talks in Ankara with an Iranian envoy, who uses his work at the Iranian Embassy as a cover for his actions. All these movements may just be part of Iranian tricks domestically and abroad, to blackout the main story that was the center of attention for the past weeks, namely the collapse of the Iranian currency (riyal), which led to turmoil at the beginning of the month, and especially on Oct. 16, when the companies objected to the soaring prices of raw material and complained about the difficulties they face to cover the expenses. In an attempt to anticipate wider potential social turbulence, the Iranian regime had intentionally created some schemes, in an act that has become very common in its overlooking of the welfare of its people. Moreover, there are also signs of management chaos and lack of leadership harmony, with conflicting messages addressed by several parties of the regime and that are being increasingly heard. On Oct.13, a member of the Shura Council acknowledged the great impact of the foreign currency crisis on the economy, and the threat emanating from the demonstrations of the bazaar merchants, expressing his fear from wider public protest. His apprehension perfectly contrasts with the messages of the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who is trying to be reassuring, as if nothing has changed. Another sign of the gravity of this situation is the religious institution that has started to insist on finding a solution to the economic crisis. The solution adopted by Khamenei's regime reveals a clear desire to work on maintaining his position, regardless of the huge price paid by the Iranian people in return. The regime tried to blame the flow of billions of counterfeit dollars to the Iranian foreign exchange market by traders in the black market. On Oct. 6, the semi-official Iranian news agency ISNA, stated that "some" are trying to win at the expense of the public through counterfeit currency that is being traded in the exchange market! This has created anxiety and panic among the people who have exchanged their money in recent weeks, in an attempt to preserve some of the value of the riyal, which is rapidly deteriorating. Multiple sources indicated that "the authorization to carry out this activity" was issued by the highest ranked official in the country, i.e. Khamenei's office. Many Iranian sites published the statement of Arsalan Fathipour, the head of the Parliament's Economic Committee, in which he talks deliberately about "billions of counterfeit dollars" in the country's currency exchange market. Fathipour was warning the Iranians against the counterfeit currency which swamped the market, while the government was behind it. The Iranian source says that it is impossible for the Iranian market to be flooded with nearly eight billion dollars, without any real intervention from the regime, "because a small group of counterfeiters cannot logistically organize such a fraud." The reason behind swamping the market with counterfeit dollars, was to control the riyal that lost 41% of its value against the dollar. The Iranian citizen who had \$11,000 last year, is left this year with \$3,400 and he does not really know how much he possesses in fact, because the regime prohibits the publication of the true exchange rate. With this collapse, the judiciary spokesman gave orders to impose death penalty on whoever damages the Iranian economy, and that was a direct threat to