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متن زیر را بادقت مطالعه و به فارسی ترجمه کنید

Saudi Arabia and the "war on terror"

Speaking to the media during a visit to the Incirlik Air Base in Turkey, US Defense Secretary Ashton Carter praised the Saudi monarchy for proclaiming a new so-called "Islamic alliance" against terrorism.

Carter declared "We are happy with the alliance formed by Saudi Arabia and looking forward for the steps being taken by them against terrorism".

No sooner was the Saudi announcement made, however, than a number of countries raised questions about their inclusion, without their knowledge, in the so-called alliance. Three Muslim countries of Iraq, Syria and Iran were excluded, leading to charges that the Saudi monarchy is really only patching together a kind of 'Muslim' alliance to prosecute its own vested interests.

A more fundamental question is what does the Saudi regime mean by "terrorism"? Clearly, it is not referring to the various Al Qaeda-linked groups fighting in Syria, all of which get substantial funding as well as large numbers of fighters and their religious-ideological inspiration from the Wahhabist Saudi kingdom.

This fact was confirmed by then-US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in a classified 2009 cable declaring that "donors in Saudi Arabia constitute the most significant source of funding to terrorist groups worldwide."

This was further acknowledged by US Vice President Joe Biden in a speech delivered at Harvard last year. He admitted that the Saudi regime, along with other US client despots in the Middle East, had "poured hundreds of millions of dollars and tens, thousands of tons of weapons into anyone who would fight against Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Of course what both Clinton and Biden sought to conceal was that this operation was fully coordinated by the CIA out of a station in southern Turkey. Washington had armed and funded similar groups in the US-NATO war for regime change in Libya, and well before that had







worked closely with the Saudis in fomenting the war in Afghanistan, which gave rise to Al Qaeda.

So what does the Saudi monarchy view as terrorism? The answer can be found in its prison cells, where three young men, all arrested when they were minors, are awaiting death by beheading for the "crime" of participating in peaceful protests against the relentless repression of the US-backed regime in Riyadh.

They are among 52 similar, dubbed "terrorists" whose mass execution is expected at any time. Two of them—Ali Mohammed al-Nimr, who was 17 at the time of his arrest, and Abdullah al-Zaher, who was 15—in addition to being sentenced to die by decapitation with a sword, are to be crucified, their headless bodies mounted on crosses in a public space as an example to anyone thinking of defying the House of Saud.