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Press TV

US eyes Iran proxy war through Israel: Analyst

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"The US is intent on fighting a proxy war against Iran through Israel as it did in the past through Iraq. In fact, this Washington does only to gratify its own morbid temptation in attacking Iran," eminent Middle East expert Dr. Ismail Salami wrote in *an article* on Press TV website.

The Iranian author pointed out that Iraq served as the agent of the United States during the 8-year war with Iran. Salami alluded to a covert American program during the Reagan administration, revealed in a *New York Times* report in 2002, that "provided Iraq with critical battle planning assistance at a time when American intelligence agencies knew that Iraqi commanders would employ chemical weapons in waging the decisive battles of the Iran-Iraq war."

However, after the war ended, and the US "was bitterly frustrated in its subversive gambit against Iran, it sought another adversary to replace Iraqi Saddam."

"Israel was thought to be a perfect substitute and a formidable foe for this mission as it was a Jewish population repeatedly condemned by Iranian leaders as an occupying regime. For its part, the Zionist regime harbored some covert and overt aversion for the Islamic Iran," he noted.

The eminent political analyst praised Iran's military might in averting any possible threats against the country's nuclear facilities, saying Israel will receive a crushing response from Iran's military forces if it dares attack the Islamic Republic.

"The fact is that Israel has a long history of showing teeth to and spewing out threats against Iran and that it has never mustered up enough courage to launch such an attack as it knows the consequences of such grave foolhardiness."

"Strangely, western and Israeli media aggrandize the military prowess of Israel to the skies and underestimate that of Iran. Playing on a paradoxical plane, the US-led psyops against Iran are geared towards inflating the Iranian nuclear threat and manufacturing a nuclear illusion over Iran while the same authors of anti-Iran plots relegate the country's military might to such a pitiful minimum that Iran will eventually have no choice but to buckle under the military might of the Zionist regime," he pointed out.

The senior analyst dismissed the US allegations that the Islamic Republic's nuclear energy program includes a military component as a pretext to push Tel Aviv into launching an attack against Iran.

"Under the pretext that Iran is seeking a nuclear weapons program and that it might jeopardize or even exterminate the Zionist regime, Washington handed Israel some feeble excuse to initiate a series of threats against the Islamic Republic. All this chicanery has been done with the sole purpose of destroying the Iranian nation."

Salami reiterated the peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear activities, which has been attested to even by the US intelligence community.

"To that effect, a highly classified 2011 US intelligence assessment also largely affirms that Iran is not seeking a nuclear weapons program, a view, originally made in 2007. Known as national intelligence estimates (NIE), the reports conclude that 'Tehran halted efforts to develop and build a nuclear warhead in 2003," he noted.

"Yet, despite the testimony of their own intelligence agencies, Washington keeps a mulishly adamant stance on Iran, disseminates falsity on its nuclear energy program and goads Israel into attacking Iran," Salami concluded.