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HEADLINE: IRAN: DAILY DENOUNCES US INTELLECTUALS WHO SUPPORT **WAR ON TERRORISM**

BODY:

Text of editorial by Heshmatollah Fallahat-Pisheh: "Key Intellectualism"; published by Iranian newspaper Resalat on 21 February

During the last days of their political lives, both Winston Churchill and Napoleon Bonaparte uttered the same sentence, which in essence said: "I have realized that thought alone rules in the world."

Normally one considers thought to have a positive and respectable connotation, but without a doubt destructive ideas such as ruling over the world, especially when they find operational backers, have lacked good intentions and have been evil. Many times throughout history, intellectuals who cannot or do not want to take up arms, have turned parts of the world into ruins by resorting to the pen; the destructive force of their ink is hundreds of times greater than that of the bombs that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. The 60 **American intellectuals** who have supported Bush's war-against-terrorism statement are among the key intellectuals of the 20th and 21st century; recently, in an action that has been rare during the lifetime of these intellectuals, they have introduced themselves as backers of war. The philosophers and intellectuals who are thinking and writing in the corners of their rooms could have planned for the happiness of the world and its people and for unity based on peace; but many of them are attached to or partners with the politicians and thus, with their pens, they drag humanity into conflicts and prepare the political atmosphere for crimes at the global level. Fukuyama and Huntington have already prepared themselves to write the "Mein Kampf" of Bush.

A few main points about the statement of the **American intellectuals** are worth pondering:

- 1 The necessity that America and its values be the centre of the world and the globalization trend.
- 2 Reliance on war being unavoidable and taking pride in a war that may have many victims.
- 3 Reliance on the bifurcating the world between the friends of modernism and those who should not even have the right to live in their poor homes.
- 4 Insulting Islam and the people of over 40 Muslim countries.

5 Holding that resort to the United Nations is problematic and that it needs to be bypassed.

6 Seeking a world that would accept America's hegemony.

Some 53 years ago, in the book "The Power Elite," C. Wright Mills spoke about what went on behind-the-scenes of democracy in America. In his opinion, the three elite groups of the wealthy; the political elite and professional politicians; and the few owners of the large companies in the military complex formed the triangle of the ruling power elite in America. But he did not point out that at the heart of this triangle are some key intellectuals like Fukuyama, Huntington, and some professional journalists, who convince and deviate the other intellectual layers and the public opinion of America regarding deals and deceitful policies of the power triangle and present plans and theories for the creation of America's hegemony.

Today economic recession, the fall in the arms market, and the halt in the use of military products has faced the efforts of the political side of the triangle for establishing an international hegemony. Thus key intellectuals have interpreted their various ideas in accordance with the military-based policy needed by Washington and are even raising the horrid plans of the past within the framework of the requirements of today.

In reality, this group has found the atmosphere suitable for imposing their 20th century perspectives, and this situation has created the grounds for paying attention to the opinions of those who look with doubt at the principal scenario for 11 September.

Among the signatories of the letter sent to Bush, we can see the names of some who have become famous for their hegemony-seeking doctrines. Francis Fukuyama and Samuel Huntington are more famous than the others. What is interesting is that both of them, in articles following 11 September, tried to use the atmosphere for proving the theories they had presented in the previous century.

Fukuyama, the author of "The End of History" and "The Last Man," one month after the events of 11 September, namely, on 11 October of last year, in an article in the Guardian newspaper, divided the world into the two poles of modern and backward and wrote that apart from Turkey, which has received passing grades from among the Islamic countries (based on the criteria of liberal democracy), the others resist modernism, and America can use its military might to break this resistance. He claims that Islam is the only cultural system that continually produces individuals like Bin Ladin and the Taleban, those who threaten modernism.

Huntington's ideas require more pondering; in view of a number of major examples, one can consider the letter of the 60 intellectuals to have been written by the author of "The Clash of Civilizations." On the first day of 2002, in an article entitled "The Era of the Battle of the Muslims" (Newsweek), he wrote: In 40 countries of the world, there are bases that threaten the West. While expressing concern about the self-awareness of the Muslims, their envy regarding the West's wealth and their anger regarding US-Israeli relations, he thanked Bin Ladin for causing the West to reunite. In Huntington's opinion, among the present generation in Islamic societies, there are many youths who are considered the main elements for carrying out violence against Western societies.

The group of key intellectuals has mesmerized America's society by the ugly game of power in the ruling elite triangle, to the point that, according to Noam Chomsky, today a major part of the other intellectuals and America's public opinion do not know what is transpiring behind-the-scenes of the relations between America and Israel in the Islamic Middle East.

The power elite and the key intellectuals of America have drawn up horrific plans against Islam. Maybe the name of the progressive country of Iran had been placed on the agenda of the criminals of the 21st century a little earlier, and this strategy is being carried out under the cover of fighting terrorism and searching for peace. Unfortunately, in these conditions, those intellectuals in the world who are concerned with humanitarian issues are on the fringes.

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