

Turkey, Israel and War

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Turkey has a large and powerful military and a strong economy. Until recent years, Turkey had a good cooperative relationship with the US, and also with Israel, and leaned strongly towards the West, being a long-standing member of NATO and eager to join the EU. Turkey has taken pride in being a secular democracy.

However, things are changing now. The reasons are many. [Philip Gordon and Omer Taspinar wrote an excellent analysis](http://einshalom.com/info/turkey06summer_gordon.pdf) (http://einshalom.com/info/turkey06summer_gordon.pdf) on Turkey's changing relations with the EU and the US, and the reasons and ramifications of this change in 2006. Their warnings and predictions are coming true today as Turkey rapidly strengthens its ties with Iran, Syria and Russia. Turkey has decided to cast its lot once again with the Islamic/Communist Eastern axis. Turkey apparently is betting that the Islamic/Communist alliance will win out over the reluctant and weakening Western alliance, the carryover of the Allies of WWI and WWII. Likewise the Western Alliance seems willing to feed Israel to the sharks for oil, so the benefits to Turkey in maintaining its good relations with Israel become less every year. On the contrary, the benefits to Turkey of taking an adversarial stance with Israel become greater as it looks once again not only to be one of the boys in the Islamic world but to assume leadership in the Islamic world. . . . [Turkey has been strengthening its political, economic, military and cultural ties to Iran](http://www.tehrantimes.com/index_View.asp?code=203139) (http://www.tehrantimes.com/index_View.asp?code=203139) for several years, and the time will come, probably in the near future, when Turkey will cast its lot completely with Iran and drop the pro-Western stances that it is currently maintaining. . . . Turkey has warned repeatedly that if Israel attacks Iran to destroy its nuclear capability, [Turkey will side with Iran](http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=8806211379) (<http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=8806211379>). The implication is that it would likely join an attack against Israel. Iran is close to creating a nuclear weapon now, and Ahmadinejad has both implied and said he would use such a weapon against Israel. Consequently, there is a good chance that Israel would eventually attack Iran's nuclear facilities, as it did Iraq's and Syria's, and Turkey would join the counter-attack. What has kept Israel from attacking Iran's nuclear facilities before now is the Turkish consideration, Russia's backing of Iran's nuclear program, and US/EU disapproval of such a move. In the past joint Arab attacks on Israel, Turkey did not take part. Turkey has a large and powerful army and is geographically close to Israel. If Turkey joined in a new war on Israel, the war would be much more difficult for Israel. Likewise, if Arab nations again attack Israel, the western nations would likely stand aside and offer no help to Israel, or even hinder Israel's self defense. The US is in a position to partially cripple the IDF's defense, because it has sole control of the new Israeli anti-missile defense system. If Israel attacked Iran purely in order to knock out its nuclear capability, focusing on its nuclear facilities and not attacking other targets, there is a good chance it would not be 100% successful, but it would certainly set Iran's program far back. However, it is very unlikely that Israel could destroy Iran's military capability in one strike, unless it was a nuclear or similar strike aimed to destroy the whole country, which is extremely unlikely. Consequently a counter-attack against Israel by both Iran and other Arab nations would be almost certain.

The US and EU would not be likely to join in the fighting. They would calculate that the Arab nations, with the strength of Turkey and whatever counter-attack Iran and its allies managed, would be able to destroy Israel, would probably decide it was pragmatic to let that happen. Another even stronger reason the US and EU would not join in the fighting directly would be because Turkey and the Arab nations would immediately cut off oil and block shipping for the EU and US if they moved to help Israel. Iran has stated directly that it would do this. . . . Along with breaking Western economies with an oil embargo and shipping blockades, Islamic nations have stationed jihadi cells in all of the western countries, which would be able to make terrorists attacks on their host nations on signal. The attacks might be along the line of the Mumbai attack in November, 2008, or might be bombings, or might be a "dirty bomb" . . . all of these and more are possible. It is conceivable that if such a war broke out, even if the Western powers did not indicate any willingness to help Israel, the Arab/Islamic alliance would still cut off oil and shipping to the West, in an all-out bid to break the Western powers and achieve dominance world wide. This isn't far-fetched, since the Islamic movement's aim is do exactly that. Iran and Saudi Arabia are both ruled by Islamic fundamentalists who want Islamic dominance and Sharia law throughout the world. Their methods vary, but their goals are the same. What better chance in their eyes to make an all-out push towards this goal, than in the event of a war as described above?

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By Michael Carl

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Famed PLO terrorist-turned-Christian Walid Shoebat is warning that the United States needs to be watching not Iran, Syria or even Hamas and Hezbollah as closely as it needs to follow the actions of the Islamic leaders of Turkey.

It was just a few months ago when Joseph Farah's G2 Bulletin reported Turkey appeared to be seeking the restoration of the old Ottoman Empire.

The report said Turkey's increasing lack of interest in the European Union combined with its efforts to re-establish its influence in Turkic countries of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan and its outreaches to Russia, Syria and Iran are cause for concern.

At the time, the shift by Tayyip Recep Erdogan, Turkey's leader, from West to East was obvious, because Turkey announced it was cutting Israel out of annual military exercises involving NATO forces while it sought out military exercises with Syria.

Now Shoebat, the grandson of the Muslim Mukhtar of Beit Sahour-Bethlehem and a friend of Haj-Ameen Al-Husseini, the grand mufti of Jerusalem and notorious friend of Adolf Hitler, is worried about what Turkey is saying and doing.

As a young man, Shoebat was part of the Palestinian Liberation Organization and participated in acts of terror and violence against Israel. After moving to the U.S., he worked for the Arab Student Organization at Loop College in Chicago and continued his anti-Israel activities. In 1993, Walid studied the Tanach (Jewish Bible) in a challenge to convert his wife to Islam, finishing up by changing sides.

"Turkey is the biggest threat," he told WND in an interview. "Turkey is the strongest military power in the region, and it's the second largest army in NATO. The statements coming out of Turkey should be of great concern to Americans."

"Erdogan is saying 1.5 billion Muslims are waiting for the Turkish government to arise. This is pretty scary. Turkey rules only 70 million people so why are they talking about 1.5 billion Muslims?" continued Shoebat, who has written "For God or For Tyranny: When Nations Deny God's Natural Law" as well as "God's War on Terror." About 98 percent of Turkey's estimated 74 million people are Muslim.

"Erdogan has made the statements, and he's impacting a youth movement in Turkey that is calling for the glory days of the Turkish rule through the Caliphate. Let's not forget the history," he said.

"It was Turkey that lost the power of Islam when the Caliphate was dismantled and Shariah law was no longer the law of the land," Shoebat said.

At the end of World War I, Mustafa Kemal, who became Kemal Ataturk, dissolved the Ottoman Empire and moved to form a secular Turkish state.

"The youth movement believes that Turkey is the hub from which Islam must rise again," Shoebat said. "We need to look at Turkish activities to see the danger.

"It is the political agenda of these [Islamic] governments that we need to be aware of and not just the military apparatuses," Shoebat said.

He said the creation of the worldwide Muslim Brotherhood – and all the terror it sponsors – was spawned by the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire.

"In 1924, the Caliphate was dismantled by the West, and this is why Muslims hate the West. Americans don't understand why Muslims hate us so much. In 1928, four years later, the Muslim Brotherhood was born. This is the umbrella of all the Muslim terrorist organizations," he said.

"The Muslim Brotherhood is the mother, and it was established four years after the dissolution of the Turkish Ottoman Empire. This really answers the whole question when people ask about the roots of Islamic terrorism," he said.

"They ask if it's because we invaded Iraq or because Israel occupies their territory. That's not true, because in 1928, there was no occupation of Iraq, and there was no occupation of 'Palestine.' This Islamic movement has never ceased to attempt to establish a Shariah hegemony in that region," he said. So what's going on at this point?

"So we see now the metastasizing of the Muslim Brotherhood into all parts of the Muslim world from Algeria to Syria to Lebanon to Egypt everywhere, even in the United States of America," Shoebat said.

"All the Islamic organizations in the United States of America, no exception, are branches of the Muslim Brotherhood and they have made their declarations of their plans publicly. So, we have ample evidence to recognize that this is an old threat, this is an old war," he said.

A recent crisis confronted Turkey when a number of top army commanders were arrested after being accused of plotting to bomb mosques and overthrow the "increasingly Islamic-oriented" government. The army commanders reportedly feared a growing fundamental Islamic influence across the country.

Shoebat also warned it is dangerous for freedom-loving interests to announce a date for a coalition pullout of Iraq.

"If we create that vacuum, and in the Middle East vacuums are always filled up, this vacuum, I guarantee you, will be filled by Iran. They see the writing on the wall that America is going to pull out. 'Just be patient and lay low. We move in and we take that country in the future,'" Shoebat said. He said if that happens, Islamic interests will have the region "all the way to the border of Israel."

"Iran is definitely working on a nuclear weapon and we definitely need to have a presence in the region to keep Iran at bay," Shoebat said.

There have been reports of increasing Shariah-related violence within Turkey. Agence France-Presse reported just weeks ago how a 16-year-old girl was buried alive by relatives in a gruesome honor killing just because she reportedly befriended boys.

Police reported finding the body of Medine Memi in a hole outside her house in Kahta about six weeks after she disappeared. Authorities reported her father and grandfather were arrested.

Shoebat now lives in the U.S. with his family, but keeps his location secret for protection. He's spoken at Harvard, Columbia, Concordia, UCLA, USC, the University of Georgia, Washington University, Penn State and other universities. Media outlets worldwide have reported on his life's work.