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# Top Iranian Adviser: Obama is 'Weakest of US Presidents'

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**By: Sandy Fitzgerald**

President Barack Obama is "the weakest of U.S. presidents" and his time in the White House has been "humiliating," a top Iranian official said in an interview with the country's [Fars News Agency](#), according to a [translation](#) provided to The Free Beacon.

"Obama is the weakest of U.S. presidents, he had humiliating defeats in the region," said Ali Younesi, senior adviser to Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, in comments coming as the United States is trying to persuade his country to join the international coalition fighting against the Islamic State.

His words could also be a sign that the Rouhani regime does not intend to concede to the United States' demands concerning Iran's nuclear program.

U.S. Under-Secretary of State Wendy Sherman told Reuters Thursday that Iran will be considered responsible if a deal to curb the nuclear program is not reached in exchange for relief from extensive sanctions placed on the country.

The United States, along with Britain, China, France, Germany, and Russia have set a deadline of Nov. 24 for reaching a deal on the sanctions, and Sherman said Iran's best hope is to reach an agreement.

But if Younesi's words disparaging Obama are any indication, that agreement may still be much further away.

"Americans witnessed their greatest defeats in Obama's era: Terrorism expanded, [the] U.S. had huge defeats under Obama [and] that is why they want to compromise with Iran," Younesi said.

Younesi is not alone in his criticism of Obama, with even former members of the president's staff, such as [ex-Defense Secretary Robert Gates](#), critiquing Obama's leadership skills in his memoir.

Younesi also complained that conservatives in the United States are "warmongers," Free Beacon reports.

"They cannot tolerate powers like Iran," he said. "If conservatives were in power they would go to war with us because they follow Israel and they want to portray Iran as the main threat and not ISIS."

He was more complimentary to Obama's political party, saying Democrats view Iran as "no threat."

"We have to use this opportunity [of Democrats being in power in the U.S.], because if this opportunity is lost, in future we may not have such an opportunity again," Younesi said.

But lawmakers on both sides are pessimistic about Iran's tactics, saying Tehran is trying to stall for time while it builds a nuclear weapon.

Saeed Ghasseminejad, an Iranian dissident and associate fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD), told Free Beacon that Obama believes "by rewarding Iran and permitting it to do whatever it wants in the region, the mullahs in Tehran will be convinced to compromise."

However, Iran now controls three Arab capitals, Damascus, Beirut, and Baghdad, he said, and its allies just captured a fourth one, Sana in Yemen. Further, Iran's economy has improved significantly.

"Unfortunately, it does not seem that the mullahs reached the conclusion desired by the administration," he said. "Iranians believe this administration is weak, it has lost its economic leverage over Iran and there is no credible military option on the table. Iran has been rewarded upfront, they now ask for more while are determined to keep their nuclear program intact."

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