

1836

The formation of the London Working Men's Association gives rise to the **Chartist Movement**.

1846

The Papal conclave of 1846 elects **Pope Pius IX**, beginning the longest reign in the history of the papacy.



1858

Abraham Lincoln delivers his House Divided speech in Springfield, Illinois.

1858

The Battle of Morar takes place during the **Indian Mutiny**.

stronger than ever before?



Deprived of core territories in Syria and Iraq, Daesh has become more dangerous. Thousands of foreign fighters who avoided capture have dispersed, either quietly heading home or migrating to new battlefields, pledging to wreak mayhem and attract new recruits wherever they end up.

claimed attacks in Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of Congo, two states not known as hotbeds of Islamist extremism. The group also reported pledges of loyalty from other Sahel factions, further indications of an ambitious pan-Africa strategy.

Daesh Mark II has learned a lot from defeat. It will aspire to be more geographically dispersed to avoid presenting an easy target, it will consolidate its strength in the shadows to avoid provoking a decisive response, and it will avoid unnecessarily alienating local people. Daesh is also seeking to overcome past enmities with rivals such as Al-Qaeda, which had weakened the jihadist movement. The knee-jerk racism and Islamophobia of an emergent European far-right will leave disaffected young Western Muslims increasingly vulnerable to the blandishments of extremists.

Without radical efforts to address sectarianism, militancy, injustice and social exclusion in Iraq and other

priority states, most experts concur that the necessary prerequisites are in place for Daesh to again achieve breakout capacity. However, Daesh in 2019 it is a greatly more experienced, globe-straddling and organically integrated force than it ever was in 2014. Affiliated factions in Libya, Western Africa, Egypt, Yemen, Afghanistan, Indonesia and elsewhere will act in concert to make Daesh's second coming a truly globalised phenomenon. Where is the globalised response to an entity that is consolidating its strength across dozens of states?

In 2014 the world feigned astonishment when a hitherto unknown terrorist horde swarmed across much of Iraq and Syria. Yet Daesh's expansion had already been obvious for over a year to those who cared to pay attention. If history is condemned to bloodily repeat itself, it will be through criminal lack of foresight and leadership in failing to eradicate a menace that should never have been allowed to reconstitute itself as an existential global threat.

When grievances are addressed, citizens' voices are represented and a culture of tolerance is cultivated, society becomes effectively immunised against the nihilistic, hateful propaganda of both right-wing and Islamist extremists. Prevention is a thousand times better than cure. We know this, yet instead we choose once again to leave the hen-house door wide open for the wolves.

(Baria Alamuddin is an award-winning journalist and broadcaster in the Middle East and the UK. She is editor of the Media Services Syndicate and has interviewed numerous heads of state.)

's terror campaign

the tip of the iceberg



One positive outcome from Iran's increased terrorist activity has been to push the British government to finally designate the entirety of Hizbollah as a terrorist organisation.

follow America's lead in designating Hizbollah's military wing as a terrorist organisation.

In June last year, two Iranian diplomats were expelled from the Netherlands for plotting political assassinations in the country, while France's intelligence ministry foiled a bomb plot the same month to target a rally of opposition groups in Paris. Then, in October, Danish authorities accused Iran of an "unusual and serious" plot to murder an Arab separatist leader.

One positive outcome from Iran's increased terrorist activity has been to push the British government to

finally designate the entirety of Hizbollah as a terrorist organisation. Previously, London sought to make a distinction between the group's political and military wings, with only the latter designated a terrorist organisation, thereby allowing representatives of the political wing to maintain links with prominent British politicians such as Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn.

Moreover, the growing awareness that Iran's terrorist infrastructure poses a threat to Europe comes at a time when Iranian aggression is increasing in the Middle East.

Saudi officials have accused Tehran of being behind a Houthis missile strike against Abha airport in southern Saudi Arabia this week, which injured 26 people, while Iran will inevitably be the focus of investigations into the explosions that have reportedly hit two oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman. The latest incident follows accusations made by US national security adviser John Bolton that Iran was responsible for last month's attacks against four oil tankers off the coast of Fujairah.

These elements suggest that Iran has embarked on a new campaign of terror in which Europe is just as likely to be targeted as the Middle East.



TOP
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TWEETS

01



Despite the Greatest Presidential Harassment of all time by people that are very dishonest and want to destroy our Country, we are doing great in the Polls, even better than in 2016, and will be packed at the Tuesday Announcement Rally in Orlando, Florida. KEEP AMERICA GREAT!

@realDonaldTrump

02



Lakhs of aspirants from Kashmir & Ladakh are made to travel to Chandigarh, Delhi, Samba, Jammu, Punjab, etc. for NET, NEET, GATE, JNU, etc. This violates our Right to Education. We demand permanent testing centres in Kashmir & Ladakh and urgent relocation of exam centres.

@Shehla_Rashid

03



Trump promised affordable health care, then tried to rip care away from millions. Said he was for working people, then passed a tax bill benefiting the top 1% & corporations. He's ripped babies from their parents & called neo-Nazis "fine people." It's time for a new president.

@KamalaHarris

04



I am close to many elderly people who live hidden away, forgotten, neglected. And I thank those who are committed to a more inclusive society, which does not need to throw away those who are weak in body and mind. #WEAAD

@Pontifex

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)

Participating in the plastic ban



CAPT. MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

The Supreme Council for Environment has announced that Bahrain will ban single-use plastic next month. It is a much-needed move especially in our country, where land resource is limited and our maritime area is being polluted by plastic to the detriment of our marine life and coral reefs.

The use and availability of plastic is so widespread that, like tobacco and sugar, it is difficult to eliminate. After all, we all know that these items are bad for us but they are there within reach and we use them regularly.

Still, there are success stories about reduction of plastic pollution. Sri Lanka, for instance has completely banned use of plastic bags and you are given your shopping in reusable paper packaging, whether it is fruits and veg or even the gemstones that the country is famous for! The latest trend is edible or biodegradable cutlery and crockery because plastic spoons last more

than 200 years

in landfills. One company in India even produces flavoured spoons and forks that can be eaten like a biscuit after the meal!

How can large corporations help the no-plastic movement? Usually we hear of fines for using plastic. However, studies have

shown that rewards work better. How about giving customers a bonus point for every time they bring their own reusable bags and give them a spending reward if they collect about 50 bonus points? That works better than a fine for using plastic.

We also need to request restaurants and hotels to switch from using plastic water bottles since this is one of the biggest polluters. In Bahrain's hot climate, how about carrying our reusable water bottle and getting eateries to recognise this right to drink water from our homes instead of highly-priced bottled water?

Finally, it boils down to our sense of responsibility. The government has taken the correct step but the cycle of change will be complete only if we, the people participate in the progress.

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)