

World Cup 2026: Corruption, Entertainment, and Nationalism in Times of Crises

News:

The US is set to co-host this year's World Cup football tournament with Mexico and Canada, beginning on June 11th, 2026.

Comment:

While still waging war in Iran and supporting its foster-child, the Jewish entity, in its ongoing genocide against the Muslims of Palestine, which has merely decreased in intensity but continues as the occupation, killings, torture, food shortages, and spread of preventable diseases ravage Gaza, the US is poised to co-host this year's FIFA World Cup – one of the largest global entertainment events.

Millions around the globe will be intensely following and celebrating this event, perhaps as a respite from daily lives in a world plagued by continuous crises. However, no amount of "sportswashing" the host-nations, chief among them USA, will bring any respite to the entire populations suffering under the US-led brutal wars, global capitalist corruption, or the oppressive US-backed dictatorships, especially in the Muslim world.

At the same time, authorities and organizations across North America have been raising alarms that this World Cup tournament, just as previous ones, might lead to a surge in exploitation of vulnerable individuals and human trafficking of especially young women and girls. In other words, global entertainment events are not only used politically to distract the masses, but also pose a serious danger to vulnerable locals and foreign workers alike.

Under the presidency of the amoral, megalomaniac Trump, the ugly reality of the global capitalist system, spearheaded by the US, has been laid bare for all to see. Yet, in these times of corruption and crises, no political calls for boycotting the World Cup or using it as a platform to demonstrate resistance against imperialist US policies are heard, further underscoring the hypocrisy and weakness of the so-called "world leaders."

Rather than criminalizing the US, wrenching free of its dominance, and coming to the aid of the Muslims suffering in the region at this crucial hour, when the super-power feigning invincibility is being humiliated in Iran, we will see Muslim countries sending teams to compete in the World Cup under nationalistic banners.

There is no victory for the Muslim Ummah to be had on the football field under a nationalistic banner in a corruption-spreading tournament hosted by the enemies of Islam! Rather, it is incumbent on the Ummah of Muhammad (saw) to unite under the banner of Islam and seek the victory of Allah (swt) by expelling the Western colonialists and their Zionist spawn from our lands and establishing the rightly guided Caliphate, which will protect the people and look after their affairs, not sedate them with entertainment and frivolity.

**Written for the Central Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir by
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