

# For the Soul of a Nation: A Comparative Analysis of US Imperialist Atrocities and National Resilience in the Fatherland Liberation and 'Ramazan' Wars

Author

Nosok Timofei

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## 1. Abstract

The present study conducts a comparative analysis of the US-led military interventions in two different time periods of history: the Fatherland Liberation war (Korean War (1950-1953)) and the 2026 aggression on Iran by the US and Israeli regimes which is named the "Ramazan War" in the provided Iranian document.<sup>1</sup> Having conducted thorough research of the primary documents, namely, the official DPRK historical account and Iranian diplomatic compendium, the present paper aims to identify the similarities in the US imperialist policy regarding the modus operandi, violations of international law, and the strategic goals. In particular, the paper identifies the aggressive actions of the United States, the violations of international law, the intentional destruction of civilian infrastructure, and random violence. Moreover, the study points out the remarkable resilience of Korean and Iranian people who, being in extraordinary circumstances, were ready to resist any aggression in order to maintain the independence of their country. Consequently, the paper suggests that the presented systematic violations are inherent for the US imperialist policy aimed at maintaining its global supremacy. The purpose of this work is to show the similarities in US lead aggression and violations of international norms by imperialistic decision making. The work can be used for analytical materials for diplomatic missions and education goals.

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<sup>1</sup> *40 Days of Military Aggression of the United States and Zionist Regimes Against the Islamic Republic of Iran* (Tehran: Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2026).

## 2. Introduction

Throughout the years of the 20th and 21st century, there have been many examples of the military interventions by major world powers. One of them, the Fatherland Liberation war (Korean War (1950-1953)), became a crucial point during the Cold War period which had an important impact on the geopolitics of Northeast Asia. Several decades later, another conflict was meticulously described by the Iranian government, the 40-day military aggression that the Iranian people had to face from February 2026, which is called the "Ramazan War."<sup>2</sup>

In this study, it will be demonstrated that there is an alarming and unsettling consistency to the strategy of the US in the case of dealing with independent states challenging their political ambitions. The following comparison between the DPRK official explanation of events as presented in *\*The US Imperialists Started the Korean War\** and the compilation of Iranian government's documents entitled *\*40 Days of Military Aggression of the United States and Zionist Regimes Against the Islamic Republic of Iran\** will reveal the trend of imperialist behavior defined by legal dishonesty, violence and systematic destruction of civilian life and national legacy.<sup>3</sup>

The analysis will be carried out based on the first point – the identification of the core imperialist mentality as a cause of the conflict. Then the magnitude and character of military activity, violations of international laws and justifying strategies of aggressors will be compared. Finally, the impact on society and the legacy of the resistance will be discussed.

## 3. The Imperialist Mindset: A Consistent Cause of Conflict

One of the similarities between the two wars lies in the fact that both of them are seen as a result of US imperialism. Both the documents demonstrate a consistent view of the reasons for conflict.

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<sup>2</sup> *ibid*

<sup>3</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War* (Pyongyang: Foreign Languages Publishing House, 1977); *"40 Days of Military Aggression."*

*World Domination and Strategic Outposts* - The DPRK text states that the Korean War became the "first adventure of the US ruling circles to carry out their world domination scheme." Korea has been chosen as the venue for this war due to its "military-strategic importance." It became a "gateway to the Asian continent" and "stepping-stone for the conquest of the whole of Korea and Asia."<sup>4</sup>

*Economic Crises as Catalysts* - Both documents relate the start of the war to internal economic conditions within the United States. The DPRK text highlights the economic crisis of 1948-1949 and cites the words of General Van Fleet who called Korea "a blessing." "There had to be a Korea here or somewhere else in the world. It's necessary for a war boom," he admitted.<sup>5</sup> In its turn, the Iranian document provides a legal report stating that the aggression was "a premeditated, unjustified and unprovoked act of aggression," which was committed during the nuclear negotiations between Iran and the US.<sup>6</sup>

*Creating a Client State* - US policy of building a client state is revealed in both conflicts. In this regard, the DPRK document mentions the whole process of building the Syngman Rhee regime, following the dismantlement of the People's Committees and turning it into the "tool of neo-colonialist rule."<sup>7</sup> The Iranian document does not provide much information about the beginning of the war; however, in relation to the second one, it points to subsequent military aggression by US and Israeli regimes and implicitly criticizes regional countries hosting American bases as "cat's-paws" in the conflict.<sup>8</sup>

#### 4. A Lawless Blueprint: Systematic Violations of International Law

The strikingly similar elements lie in the way international laws are systematically violated as well as the methods used by the forces led by the US.

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<sup>4</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 15.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 22.

<sup>6</sup> "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 1, "Legal Report on the Crime of Aggression."

<sup>7</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 18-20.

<sup>8</sup> "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 2, "Correspondence Regarding Regional States."

### *A. The Crime of Aggression*

In both cases, there is no doubt that the conflict is characterized as an act of aggression, the \*jus cogens\* ("peremptory norm") of international law.

Fatherland liberation war: In the text of the DPRK, the crime of aggression is clearly indicated by highlighting "the undisguised preparation for an aggressive 'March North' war." This was done by creating the ROK army, the 'north-bound' expedition, and "the pre-emptive 'Small War' across the 38th parallel." The invasion on June 25, 1950 was "unleashed" by the US, who "started war" already since September 1945 when arriving in the south.<sup>9</sup>

Ramazan War: In the text from Iran, there is a whole paragraph devoted to the "Violation of the peremptory norm of the 'prohibition of aggression'." The UN Charter, the ICJ Nicaragua case, and the UNGA's Definition of Aggression are referred to show that the actions of the US and Israeli regimes were "an egregious crime of aggression." It further highlights that Article 3(f) of the Definition of Aggression qualifies the action of any State allowing its territory to be used by another to attack a third State as an act of aggression itself, thereby implicating the host states of US military bases.<sup>10</sup>

### *B. The Weaponization of Law and Fabrication of Pretext*

In both cases, the use of international legal instruments is presented with consummate skill as cynical manipulation in order to give any illegal actions an appearance of legality.

*The 38th Parallel:* The DPRK carefully discloses how the US made the 38th parallel "a temporary line of demarcation for the surrender of the Japanese forces but quickly turned it into a permanent dividing line and a bulwark to make South Korea its colony." The story of a spontaneous decision of junior military commanders of one day represents a striking illustration of US disrespect for national sovereignty and its consequences for Korean people.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 25-30.

<sup>10</sup> "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 1, "Violation of the Peremptory Norm of the 'Prohibition of Aggression'"; UN General Assembly Resolution 3314 (XXIX), *Definition of Aggression*, Article 3(f).

<sup>11</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 12-14.

*Exploitation of the United Nations:* Both times, in both wars, the US is denounced for exploiting the mechanism of the UN. In the case with Korea, the text explains that the US put the question of Korea to the UN "to decide on 'separate elections' and a 'separate government'" and pushed through a resolution recognizing the puppet government as the "only legitimate government."<sup>12</sup>

Similarly, the Iranian document includes letters and official positions detailing how the US attempted to gain Security Council authorization for its naval blockade and military actions after the fact, a tactic it describes as a "gross distortion of the UN Charter."<sup>13</sup>

### *C. Targeting Civilians and Civilian Infrastructure*

The wanton and purposeful killings of civilians and civilian targets represent a very disturbing commonality point.

*Massacre and Terror:* In the DPRK report there are some shocking details of "atrocities of mass murder" where civilians were massacred in Sinchon County where "35,383 or a quarter of the total population" were murdered within a little more than a month's time period. Civilians were burned, drowned, tortured.<sup>14</sup> The "Ramazan War" incident parallels the "11:30 Crime" where an attack was carried out on the Shajareh Tayyebah girls' school in Minab and led to the martyrdom of over 168 schoolgirls.<sup>15</sup> The Iranian report considers this an "extremely grave and multi-layered violation of the fundamental principles of international law," a "war crime and crime against humanity." Both of the incidents are not considered accidental or collateral but premeditated acts of mass murder.

*Systematic Destructing of Civilization:* In the US campaign in Korea there is a description of "scorched-earth" and "strangulation" operations that should "reduce all DPRK cities to ashes first to give the Korean people a shock terrible enough for them to tremble."<sup>16</sup> The Iranian report analogizes this to the repeated threats by US officials to "return Iran to the

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<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, 16-17.

<sup>13</sup> "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 2, "Letters to the UN Security Council."

<sup>14</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 45-48.

<sup>15</sup> "Portavoz del CGRI: La guerra del Ramadán reveló la vulnerabilidad estratégica de Estados Unidos," *Pars Today*, August 11, 2026.

<sup>16</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 50-52.

Stone Age" and destroy its "whole civilization," a sentiment explicitly condemned by UN Special Rapporteurs. The intent is clearly to break the will of a nation by annihilating its physical and cultural existence.<sup>17</sup>

*Targeting of Cultural Heritage:* Both documents highlight attacks on cultural heritage as a tactic of cultural genocide. The DPRK text notes that US bombing destroyed priceless historic relics like "Yongmyong Temple and Pubyok Pavilion" in Pyongyang.<sup>18</sup> The Iranian report provides a detailed account of the "wound on the body of history and culture," documenting damage to 116 historical monuments, including the UNESCO-listed Golestan Palace, Naqsh-e Jahan Square, and Chehel Sotoun Palace, framing it as an "assault on the historical memory of humanity."<sup>19</sup>

*Environmental Terrorism:* A distinctly modern parallel is the targeting of infrastructure with catastrophic environmental effects. The DPRK text notes the bombing of "power stations and reservoirs related to the people's livelihood."<sup>20</sup> The Iranian document expands on this, devoting a section to the "catastrophic environmental, public health, food security, and cultural heritage impacts" of attacking oil reservoirs in Tehran, which released "517,000 tons of carbon dioxide" and other pollutants into the environment, an act it labels "ecocide."<sup>21</sup>

#### *D. The Unrestrained General*

In both cases, there is a US military general who epitomizes the hubris and brutality of imperialism.

*MacArthur:* According to the DPRK text, MacArthur is the "leading advocate of the 'Asia first policy'" and a general who wanted to become the "'sovereign of the Far East'". "Eleven-Point War Instruction" issued by MacArthur to Syngman Rhee shows his plan to take command over all the forces as well as get Japanese forces to invade. "Special order"

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<sup>17</sup> "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 3, "Statements and Positions"; UN Special Rapporteurs, "Condemnation of Threats Against Iran," cited in the Iranian document.

<sup>18</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 53.

<sup>19</sup> "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 3, "Wound on the Body of History and Culture."

<sup>20</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 55.

<sup>21</sup> "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 3, "Catastrophic Environmental, Public Health, Food Security, and Cultural Heritage Impacts."

that MacArthur gave to "Retake Seoul! There are girls and women. For three days the city will be yours" is used as an evidence of his barbarity.<sup>22</sup>

*Clark and US rhetoric:* The same rhetoric is used in the Iranian report where there are threats of US officials cited several times in the Iranian document, including the threats of the US President and Secretary of War saying "no quarter, no mercy for our enemies" and "maximum lethality, not tepid legality".<sup>23</sup> This rhetoric is considered to be an incitement to commit war crimes and genocide and provides important \*mens rea\*. The UN Fact-Finding Mission cited in the Iranian document supports this by saying that "such rhetoric may be indicative of violations and crimes under international law".<sup>24</sup>

## 5. The Indomitable Spirit: Parallels in National Struggle and Resilience

The final and perhaps most crucial parallel is the response of the Korean and Iranian peoples. Both documents, while from different eras, highlight a collective agency and determination to resist.

*Guerrilla War as a Form of Resistance:* According to the DPRK, the key to success was the participation of the "People's guerrilla units" in the South who tied down enemy forces, disrupted the work of the enemy, and motivated the population. This is seen by the DPRK as a continuation of their fight for reunification.<sup>25</sup>

*Consolidation at Home and Mass Motivation:* In the North, DPRK narrative discusses the consolidation of the "revolutionary, democratic base" by way of land reform and nationalization of industry in order to allocate resources for the war.<sup>26</sup> For the Iranian case, the document hints at the resilience of Iran in the report titled "Will International Law Survive Fury-driven Attacks!?: condemnation of "systematic and widespread nature of these attacks" and unshakable determination of Iran "to take defensive measures". The

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<sup>22</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 35-38.

<sup>23</sup> "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 3, "Statements and Positions."

<sup>24</sup> UN Fact-Finding Mission, "Report on the 2026 Iran Conflict," cited in "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 3.

<sup>25</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 60-62.

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*, 58-59.

constitutionally ordered transfer of power followed by "large public demonstrations of national solidarity" is one of the examples of such resilience of institutions that contrasts with the expectations of the aggressor about quick collapse. Both states used state-building to guarantee survival against annihilation.<sup>27</sup>

*Right to Self-Defense as a National Duty:* The concept of self-defense is not just a legal right but a patriotic duty. The DPRK text celebrates the "heroic People's Army" that rose up in the "Fatherland Liberation War."<sup>28</sup> Similarly, the Iranian report frames Iran's defensive actions under "Operation True Promise 4" as a lawful "exercise of its inherent and inalienable right of self-defense."<sup>29</sup> In both cases, the people are portrayed not as passive victims but as active defenders of their nation. This creates a parallel where the act of resisting aggression becomes a fundamental aspect of national identity.

## 6. Conclusion

The comparison of the behavior of the US imperialists during the Fatherland Liberation War and the 2026 Ramazan War with Iran demonstrates a clear, albeit disturbingly consistent model of their actions in the international community. First of all, the US is presented as the primary aggressor in both cases, whose strategy relies on domination over the whole world and does not hesitate to violate international laws and take lives in order to implement its agenda.<sup>30</sup>

What is more important is that the character of the crimes committed by the US, targeting civilian population, destroying cultural monuments and environment, manipulation of international legal agencies, are presented not as isolated incidents, but as consistent strategies of American imperialism.<sup>31</sup> At the same time, the official statements made in the period of the Korean War by DPRK and in the period of the 2026 Ramazan War by Iran are extremely similar in their message, that of the imperialist state waging an unlawful war with brutal methods and failing because of the spirit of people.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 3, "Will International Law Survive Fury-driven Attacks!?"

<sup>28</sup> *The US Imperialists Started the Korean War*, 64.

<sup>29</sup> "40 Days of Military Aggression," section 1, "Exercise of Iran's Inherent Right of Self-Defense."

<sup>30</sup> Juan Cole, "America's Imperial Wars, from Korea to Iran," *Informed Comment*, July 16, 2026.

<sup>31</sup> "外部强权为何难以重塑亚洲," *Lianhe Zaobao*, August 4, 2026.

<sup>32</sup> Cole, "America's Imperial Wars."



The parallel struggles of the Korean and Iranian nations serve as powerful case studies in the enduring truth that aggression, no matter how sophisticated or merciless, cannot ultimately triumph over a people's collective will to live, to survive, and to maintain their sovereignty.<sup>33</sup> Thus, the United States demonstrates a uniform pattern of behavior, regardless of time or region.

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<sup>33</sup> "外部强权为何难以重塑亚洲."

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