Executive Summary

This paper is an in-depth psychological analysis using many standard tools used in “profiling” and the latest methodological approach to decoding deeper unconscious motivations and beliefs. The subject who is Mahmoud Ahmadinejad a man, the author’s concludes, is perhaps the most dangerous man the West is currently facing.

The paper takes the reader through the logic of Ahmadinejad's mind, looking at his background, religious beliefs and most importantly his unconscious thought process. The author’s conclusion that the Western powers namely the United States and Israel need to take a closer look at how they view Ahmadinejad.

CBS correspondent Scott Pelley, in his 60Minutes interview with Ahmadinejad, asked the question that burns the midnight oil in many capitals around the world, “Does your country want to build a nuclear bomb?” A simple reading of the verbatim transcript leads to a reassuring, “No.” Unfortunately the analysis presented in the profile leads to a more anxiety-provoking presumption.

Goodfield concludes that Ahmadinejad is on a messianic mission as the divine harbinger of the Mahdi’s coming, to pave “the path for the glorious reappearance of Imam Mahdi.” Ahmadinejad’s syllogistic logic makes him a “True Believer,” with 21st-Century technology at his fingertips and a 12th-Century brain as a guidance system. This is a wake up call for any who write him off as a Middle East “demented despot.”
Iran’s Mahmoud Ahmadinejad:

21st Century Technology with a 12th Century Philosophy
What Can We Expect?
An in Depth Clinical Profile

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Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (mash-MOOD ah-mah-dih-nee- ZHAHD) is one of the most dangerous persons on the planet today. If a person were able to say this directly to him, I am sure, he would look at you in astonishment and genuine disbelief. His sincere belief is the reason that makes this provocative assertion important to consider. He has no secret pathological desire to hurt anyone or anything. He is, however, convinced on an unconscious level that he is a prophet or divine harbinger of the Mahdi’s return. Prior to the Mahdi’s the world, as we know it, will erupt in an apocalyptic end.

This paper will explore Dr. Ahmadinejad’s unconscious thought process, and surface the mindset that raises such profound concerns in so many people.

Who is this man who grabs headlines and strikes fear in many? Causing lights to burn late in Western capitals with his inflammatory rhetoric? Is he a modern day crusader, a promulgator of peace, a man willing to stand up to Western infidels -- or a pathological person? Is he bent on using the world stage to act out his inner conflicts? Here is what I know after years of analyzing and discussing this very complex, yet simple person.

Applying the same methodology used to analyze Slobodan Milosevic (Forensic Examiner, Summer 2006), Saddam Hussein (Forensic Examiner, Summer 2007) and Mohammed Farah Aideed (Forensic Examiner, Fall 2009) presented in the Forensic Examiner. Iran’s President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s unconscious mind will undergo the same scrutiny as the others did in previous articles.

It is hard to pick up a newspaper or turn on a radio or television and not hear Iran’s leader proclaiming remarks that inflame many people in the West. Israel should be “wiped off the map,” (Oct. 2005, New York Times.)

He shocked many with the assertion that the “Holocaust did not happen.” During a speech at the UN General Assembly 21 September 2009, he had questioned whether the Holocaust was “a real event", and called it a pretext used by Jews to trick the West into backing the creation of Israel. With a darting tongue and a disingenuous smile, he is both famous and infamous, and firmly fixed on the world stage. But who is, this sixth President of Iran, Mahout Ahmadinejad?
Background on Ahmadinejad

Ahmadinejad was born October 28, 1956 in Garmsar in southeast Tehran, the fourth child of an ironworker who had seven children.
When he was 32-years younger, he was a former Revolutionary Guard, a novice on the national stage, and a hard-line conservative much feared by the reformist movement.
Ahmadinejad only became nationally visible after he became Tehran's Mayor.
He was admitted to the University of Science and Technology where he studied to become a civil engineer. He ranked 130th in the nationwide university entrance exams in 1975. In 1986 he continued his studies at the same university, where he was accepted as a MS student. Obviously intelligent, he received his doctorate in 1987 in the field of engineering and traffic transportation planning.
It was reported that he directed assassinations in the Middle East and Europe, including the assassination of Iranian Kurdish leader Abdorrahman Qasemlo, who was shot dead by senior officers of the Revolutionary Guards in a Vienna flat in July 1989.
According to Revolutionary Guard sources, Ahmadinejad was a key planner of the attack. He was also reported to have been involved in planning an attempt on the life of Salman Rushdie.

Ahmadinejad lives as a simple man, with a very Spartan lifestyle, in a modest apartment flat with his family. He is married with two grown sons and one grown daughter.

As President, he occupies the second-highest ranking office and fulfills the roles of Head of State and Head of the Executive Branch. The Supreme Guide, a religious personage, elected by the Assembly of Experts, plays an important role. Political power is vested in the Supreme Guide policy and remains in their hands.
Reference: [http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/iran/ahmadinejad.htm](http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/iran/ahmadinejad.htm)

What is clear is, that Dr. Ahmadinejad is not only educated and bright, he is also opinionated. Those ideas and viewpoints have many here in the West concerned, perhaps even genuinely worried. For example, on March 2007, he said, in response to the United Nations sanctions; "I want you to know that the Iranian nation has humiliated you many times, and it will humiliate you in the future."
He continues to fan the flames of discontent with remarks like; “If former U.S. President (George W. Bush) had respected (the) rights of other nations, the 9/11 events would have never happened.... If you held any respect for nations, Iraq and Afghanistan would never been occupied and hundreds of thousands of people there would not have been killed, wounded and misplaced. ”
Nov.10, 2011,Qazvin, Iran, UPI Ahmadinejad: No talks on nukes.

His deep religious belief, coupled with his genuine dislike for the government of Israel and that for which it stands, makes Ahmadinejad to some of the most dangerous leader alive today.
Before any inferences are drawn regarding his clinical profile, it is first appropriate to present the tool, philosophy and methodology by which any clinical observations and conclusions are drawn.
The Goodfield Method

Let's Take a Look Using The Goodfield Method

The Goodfield Method is a system of analyzing behavior based solely on what is observable and testable. To accomplish this method it makes use of the Non-Verbal Leak, or NVL.

An Non-Verbal Leak (NVL) is:

The first step in reading anyone is to address our first impression. The first impression is just that. It is your initial reaction to that individual. It is important to remember, that the microscope and telescope did not create that which was not there. They simply provided a closer look and that consequently changed the way we saw and lived our lives. The Non-Verbal Leak is simply another life viewing tool.

The NVL is a way of looking at the unconscious strategies that the individual presents in their total nonverbal behavior. The NVL is the silent language of the unconscious, silent yet powerful; visible yet often consciously unseen, influential yet often denied. It seduces, sabotages and subjugates us in our daily interactions with others.

The NVL is a repetitive, patterned movement from the shoulders up that reflects an unresolved, perceived traumatic event. It reflects old decisions and strategies from the past. It is unconscious, visible and testable. It is the other half of our own language. The NVL is a new, yet familiar, step into the human communication process. With these new tools many mysteries unravel and are revealed.

The next step after the NVL has been clearly demonstrated to be a recurring patterned movement, is to find out what the message in these unconscious movements is. To find the answer, the symbolic meaning of the NVL, must be found.

There are three ways in which the Symbolic Level of the NVL is thought about, when evaluating it to a symbolic level. A Symbolic Level is a level in which a deeper meaning can be ascribed to the actions shown on the observable nonverbal level. It is decoding the behavior in a way that provides a next step to rendering the deeper unconscious meaning shown in the nonverbal level.

**Impact** (Symbolic Level One, or SL1) – The impact is the person’s first recording of a stimulus entering his system. It is real in the eye of the person that experiences it. For example, a crisis happens and the shock to the system can record on a conscious or at an unconscious level. The impact upon a person is on intra-psychic, socio-physiological or on an interpersonal level.
In the Goodfield Method we talk about six possibilities that can be an Impact (SL-1):

* Shock (eyes large)
* Trance (eyes that are unfocused, white under eyes)
* Fear (tearing)
* Denial (eyes closing and sometimes one eye looking away)
* Disbelief (eyes closing, eyebrows up)
* Pain (tearing, turn away from)

**Primary Emotion** (Symbolic Level Two, or SL2) – the first reaction a person has to the perceived information. It is how he would really like to react to the situation.

Primary Emotion can be:
* Anger
* Sadness

**Primary Coping Strategy** (Symbolic Level Three, or SL3) – what the person actually does – the person’s realization that when gives in to the Primary Emotion there could be unacceptable consequences. The SL3 is the person’s basic strategy for dealing with those feelings in his/her life. It’s the compromise that works for him at that moment.

With time and similar perceptions of what his world is like, he develops similar strategies for similar situations.
It includes- denial, trance, anger, control or distancing using variations of the other six SL3’s, Calculated Emotional Response (CER), seduction or anger out.

So something happens (SL1), it’s traumatic, and the first reaction (SL2) to it, is to strike out. But when you start thinking about striking out you say to yourself: “Hey, if I do this I’m going to end up in a world of trouble.” The goal (SL3) is to establish balance and to restore homeostasis to the system. It is a person’s management strategy for their life.
We are now ready to look at Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

The following observations, inferences and judgments are drawn from an appearance of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on *60Minutes*, a CBS television program. It is suggested that you see the interview for yourself. [http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=3290029n&tag=segementExtraScroller](http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=3290029n&tag=segementExtraScroller)

The video images came from the broadcast of September 20, 2007 recorded in the garden outside the President’s office in Tehran Iran.

The interview was conducted by then CBS Correspondent Scott Pelley.

The NVL shows Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s unconscious influences.

**Decoding the meaning of Ahmadinejad’s Non-Verbal Leak (NVL)**

**FIRST IMPRESSION:**
A person with major trust issues. A person with charisma.
An angry man bent on getting even with the world for perceived injustice.
Observable aspects of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's Non-Verbal Leak (NVL)

NVL
1. Eyes open
2. Tongue out
3. Eyes closed
4. Eyes open
5. Disingenuous smile

Symbolic Level of Response
- Eyes open
- Within 1/10 sec later both eyes closed
- Disingenuous smile
- Tongue out
- When this referential data is elevated to its symbolic meaning of the nonverbal action we can deduce

SL-1 Pain and distrust
SL-2 Anger turned outward later inward
SL-3 Closing eyes in a denial of the anger and then covering it with a disingenuous smile and intellectualized aggression

What reading of the NVL of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad provides:
- The ability to read the earlier unconscious database (NVL).
- The ability to profile his personality type.
- The ability to infer the basic response to major events.
- The ability to predict what will happen.
Ahmadinejad reveals his “steady state” many times during this interview (as do most interviewees). I define this state as the baseline to which he defaults throughout, prior to making any unconscious NVL or conscious expressions in response to the interviewer’s questions and statements. His visage here could be termed (colloquially) a “poker face” due to its lack of blatant, overt expressiveness.

Hunter, T. Sec.780 A; May 2009

**The Goodfield Personality Matrix and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad**

The same process of observable behavior used to determine the Non-Verbal Leak and the Symbolic meaning of the NVL is the basis for deducing the personality type of an individual. In the Goodfield Method there are twelve hypnotized personality types each unique reflecting various strategies used to meet the challenges of daily life. As they derive their origins from observable testable behavior it is possible to predict the unique response to factors in a person’s daily life.

For more information on this, and a look at other personalities characteristics of some of the Goodfield Twelve Personality Types, please see *So You Want To Be My President*, Goodfield, B.A, 2011.
Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is a Personality Type 2.0 or *The Prevailer* (the name of his Goodfield Personality Type). He is a master game player using the skill and power aspect of his personification to seduce, charm, influence around him who is something of need to him.

He is facile among people with influence and ideas. He is focused most clearly on the gratification of his needs and his goals and objectives. He is often successful in work situations as a result of his keen ability to perceive the needs of others. However, Ahmadinejad is often truly unsuccessful in gratifying his needs in interpersonal relationship requiring intimacy.

This is owing to the fundamental distrust he has to contact. He can be seen as a theoretical expert on people and their needs. He does, however, suffer from a lack of contact and emotional gratification on an unconscious level. It is a paradox that he facilitates contact between others and has a struggle within himself in this regard.

Ahmadinejad feels as if he lives his life behind glass, watching the world he helps to create go by in front of him. His profound religious beliefs provide consolation for the price he pays to campaign for the cause of the Mahdi "Guided One". Mahdi is the prophesied redeemer of Islam, who will remain on earth for some years before the coming of the day, Yawm al-Qiyamah literally "Day of the Resurrection". Wikipedia, 2009 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahdi](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahdi)

This charming and pleasant leader is alone and often lonely, a fact he skillfully hides from others as his life goes by. His failure to ultimately gratify his own needs often results in termination of interpersonal relationships. Conflict over intimacy with partners and a general feeling of frustration underly his own life.

As a Goodfield Personality Type 2.0 or *The Prevailer*, he is often a critical player in major decision-making situations and is often found at the center of policy decisions. His strong ego and his personality type often put him in the center of the fray where action is required. The 2.0 personalities know what is necessary to obtain their objectives, but often watch others’ actions rather than leading a group.

*The Prevailer* is a keen observer and is insightful about the dynamics of the situations in which he or she becomes involved. S/he will not hesitate to speak up when s/he feels the time is right, and will quickly notice who agrees and who does not. S/he is in that sense a “True Believer.”

Eric Hoffer, description of a “True Believer” also sheds light on Ahmadinejad's thinking when he said,

"Chaos is his (the fanatics) element. When the old order begins to crack he wades in with all his might and recklessness to blow the whole hated to high heaven. He glories in the sight of a world coming to a sudden end. To hell with reforms! All that already exists is rubbish, and there is no sense in reforming rubbish. He justifies his will to anarchy with the plausible assertion that there can be no new beginning so
long as the old clutters the landscape. --- Posterity is king; and woe to those, inside and outside the movement, who hug and hang on to the past.” Hoffer, E. p.131 1951.

It is my professional opinion that he will become more recalcitrant and provocative as time passes. The voice of the Iranian people with an average age of 26.8 and a population of 78,868,711 (July 2012 est.) is the West's best hope reining in Ahmadinejad. Before he and his theocratic government reverse, what is clearly a threat to world peace. I fear many more lives of brave Iranians will be fodder to his folly.

When the *Prevailer* wants to, s/he can be the center of attention, showing power, skills, and outstanding organization abilities. The game that the *Prevailer* plays is played because deep intimacy is not really possible.

**DSM-IV-TR Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders**

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's behavior in the *60Minutes* interview (Sept. 20, 2007) suggests a 301.81 diagnosis. What are the criteria, regarding words and actions that led to this conclusion?

*301.81 Diagnostic criteria for Narcissistic Personality Disorder*

- A pervasive pattern of grandiosity (in fantasy or behavior), need for admiration, and lack of empathy, beginning by early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts, as indicated by five (or more) of the following:

- Has a grandiose sense of self-importance (e.g., exaggerates achievements and talents, expects to be recognized as superior without commensurate achievements). Shows arrogant, haughty behaviors or attitudes.

Example:

“Ahmadinejad is quoted as saying, "Anybody who recognizes Israel will burn in the fire of the Islamic nation's fury!" Bozorghmehr, Shirzad (CNN) Tehran, Iran, October 27, 2005

Believes that he is "special" and unique and can only be understood by, or should associate with, other special or high-status people (or institutions).

Ahmadinejad’s personal religious views reflected that of Hojjatieh Shi’ism. A radical interpretation of Shi’ism with messianic and apocalyptic overtones that predict a period of universal chaos before the return of the Mahdi, the 12th Imam, who went into occultation or hiding.

In that regard what to many may seem a holy wish could to others explore Ahmadinejad’s deeper unconscious motivations may find his remarks at the United Nations somewhat alarming when he said,
"From the beginning of time, humanity has longed for the day when justice, peace, equality and compassion envelop the world. All of us can contribute to the establishment of such a world. When that day comes, the ultimate promise of all Divine religions will be fulfilled with the emergence of a perfect human being who is heir to all prophets and pious men. He will lead the world to justice and absolute peace.

O mighty Lord, I pray to you to hasten the emergence of your last repository, the promised one, that perfect and pure human being, the one that will fill this world with justice and peace." Ahmadinejad, 2005, U.N. General Assembly.

Example:
Analysts put forth the interpretation that Ahmadinejad perceived his personal role to be the divine harbinger of the Mahdi's coming, to pave "the path for the glorious reappearance of Imam Mahdi."

Is preoccupied with fantasies of unlimited success, power, brilliance, beauty, or ideal love.

Example:
Ahmadinejad's remark to the United Nations after the Security Council Resolution 1747 passed in March 2007. He said, in response to the United Nations sanctions: "I want you to know that the Iranian nation has humiliated you many times, and it will humiliate you in the future."

As of March 2012 bona fide, attempts at negotiations with Iran remained at an impasse as they have for years.

Is interpersonally exploitative, i.e., takes advantage of others to achieve his or her own ends lacks empathy: is unwilling to recognize or identify with the feelings and needs of others.

Example:
Views the Holocaust as, “fabricated legend” that never happened.

Mr. Ahmadinejad made the comments while speaking on live TV in the Southeastern city of Zahedan. "They have created a myth today that they call the massacre of Jews and they consider it a principle above God, religions and the prophets," he said. BBC, 2005

Is often envious of others or believes that others are envious of him.

Perhaps the clearest explanation of, the Iranian President behavior is what Jerrold Post, MD, describes as Narcissistic Rage. He suggests four motivations for this behavior is a:

1. Thrust for revenge
2. Lack of empathy
3. Boundless rage
4. Fantasy of absolute control
Afkhami in a recent article said of the Iranian President; “Ahmadinejad's exaggerated sense of himself as being uniquely special, unusually talented, and better qualified than other leaders on the world stage is typical of individuals struggling with narcissistic". http://www.psychologytoday.com/basics/personality-disorders

“Like other narcissists, Ahmadnejad's inflated view of his importance and genius will distort his perception of the realities of global diplomatic forces. This will make it unlikely for him to show flexibility in response to pressures or incentives on limiting or ending Iran's uranium enrichment, even at the expense of his countrymen who are facing unprecedented international economic sanctions.” Afkhami, A. A., 2011

Bruce Hoffman (1998) writing about the role of religion and revolution in Iran observed, “After the Iranian revolution in 1979, religion as a motive began to increase and by the 1990s, the most serious terrorist acts was religiously motivated. Hoffman claims that religiously motivated terrorism differs from more secular terrorism in several respects:

• Violence is viewed as a sacramental act or divine duty.
• Terrorists and their organizations do not seek to appeal to broader constituency.
• The goal of the act is not reform but as alienated agents of radical change.
• Terrorist perpetrators often embrace martyrdom.

An In-depth look at the Pelley, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad 60Minutes Interview

The following are a few examples of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's 55 times when he exhibited his Non-Verbal Leak (eyes open, tongue out, eyes closed, disingenuous smile) to the questions asked during his 7 minutes 55 seconds of an on camera interview with 60 Minute's Scott Pelley:

Q: Pelley: “Sir what where you thinking. You must have known your visit to ground Zero would be an insult to many Americans?”

A: Ahmadinejad's NVL, head up and down 4 times rapidly then within 1/20 sec.

Q: Pelley: “Are you saying that it is not the policy of this government (Iran) to send weapons into Iraq?”

A: Ahmadinejad: Immediate NVL to the question, tongue out, 1/10 second later both eyes closed, and disingenuous smile.
Scott Pelley’s, asked the critical question, “Does your country want to build a nuclear bomb?” A critical review of his response coupled with years of analyzing President Ahmadinejad lead to the following conclusions:

When only reading the verbatim transcript of the President’s response one could hardly conclude that Ahmadinejad was in any way capable of using his country’s nuclear capacities for anything other than peaceful purposes. His words where 100% contradictory to his nonverbally message (NVL).

It is only correct to read his response to Scott Pelley’s, relentless questioning on this subject:
PELLEY: “For the sake of clarity, because there is so much concern in the world about this next question, please give me the most direct answer you can. Is it your goal to build a nuclear bomb?”

AHMADINEJAD: “What are you driving at?”
PELLEY: “Simply that, sir. Is it the goal of your government, the goal of this nation to build a nuclear weapon?”

AHMADINEJAD: “Do you think that the nuclear technology is only limited in a bomb? You can only build a bomb with that?” (NVL here)

PELLEY: “No, I appreciate the differences, sir, but the question is limited to the bomb”.

AHMADINEJAD: “It has different uses. Well, you have to appreciate we don't need a nuclear bomb.” (NVL here) “We don’t need that.” (NVL here) “What needs do we have for a bomb?” (NVL here).

PELLEY: “May I take that as a NO, sir?”

AHMADINEJAD: “It is a firm no." (NVL here) “I'm going to be much firmer now, (NVL here) “a bomb is of no use.” (NVL here) “If it were useful, it would have prevented the downfall of the Soviet Union. If it were useful, it would have resolved the problems the Americans have in Iraq. The time of the bomb is past.”

Pelley, S., Sept. 20, 2007, transcript 60Minutes (CBS), interview President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in Tehran, Iran.

Unfortunately, there are major inconsistencies in his nonverbal behavior (his NVL) that bespeak a deeper unconscious motivation. Perhaps that powerful and more ominous behavior is what the West needs to acknowledge and prepare to address.

It is not that he has something to lose if negotiations with the West regarding nuclear power plants and weapons fail. It is that he has five unconscious reasons in which he would “gain” when negotiators walk away from the table.
If Dr. Ahmadinejad would use a nuclear bomb or missile he would “prove” the following five important points about himself:

One: the depths of his religious convictions.

Two: he is capable of damaging or destroying two of the planet’s biggest infidels – Israel and America.

Three: he could be instrumental in making the Mahdi’s prophecy a reality.

Four: perhaps the most important, he indeed would turn out to be the true “Prophet” of the Mahdi in the bargain.

Five: his ascendance to paradise would be assured.

What Can We Expect From His Specific Behavior?
Predictions & Expectations

His behavior suggests the following inferences and conclusions:

~ Ahmadinejad will maintain his recalcitrance for the moment, regardless of the increased sanctions from the international community and the statements made by the United States and Israel that all options remain on the table.

~ He is aware of the importance of the question and is playing with the interviewer. He is aware of his feelings on the subject. Underneath the game he plays is a man, who when pushed, could find the justification to loose the arrows of war.

~ His deep religious beliefs coupled with his psychological make up and the Goodfield Personality Type, the Prevailer, could provide the unconscious rationalization for major provocative act.

~ He believes what he says, regardless of previous inconsistencies.

~ He has no problem being disingenuous especially when dealing with “infidels.”

~ His unconscious early programming about telling the truth triggers his NVL when he lies.

~ He sees the world in a two valued way things are right or wrong, good or evil and he knows the “truth”.

~ He will not be deterred from his objectives nor convinced of their inaccuracy.
He is on a messianic mission as the divine harbinger of the Mahdi’s coming, to pave "the path for the glorious reappearance of Imam Mahdi."

The above comments suggest that he is ridged, driven and dangerous to those he sees as obstacles to that divine quest.

He is capable therefore, of rationalizing virtually any action that serves his “cause.” He brings to any situation the logic of a Ph.D in engineering, the intelligence of a scientifically trained mind and the openness of a 12th century “True Believer.”

He is an apocalyptic person with a 12th century mentality seeking a 21st century solutions - namely some believe, a nuclear bomb.

He has the self- concept of a quiet, modest man destined to achieve his modest goal of converting the world to Islam.

He sees the resistance and implied threats of those who appose him as a “kind of proof” that he is going in the right direction and doing the right thing. This unconscious reality makes negotiations and subsequent confrontation(s) not just problematic but outright dangerous for those who challenge him.

He has great difficulty hearing divergent ideas.

He sees those who do not translate the world his way as simply ignorant and needing to be converted to the truth, “His Truth.”

CLOSING COMMENTS AND REACTION

After “living with him in my head” for a week in my initial review in 2007 my concerns not only remain, but also have deepened. I am convinced that entrance into his world requires a willingness to suspend critical thinking. There is a necessity indeed, a requirement, to accept his viewpoint as the unquestionable, conclusive and indisputable truth.

Few in the Western world are willing to subjugate their freedom of speech and thought for a person, although very intelligent, who sees things in black and white as he does. My biggest concern about the President of Iran is, that as time goes on and the more he becomes convinced of the folly and futility of trying to succeed at his objective, the more dangerous he will become. I see President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad as one of the most dangerous leaders on the world stage today.
I want to reiterate my position. These remarks are made about one man. That man happens to be the current President of Iran. It is not about the marvelous Iranian people, their religion or the magnificent country of Iran in which they reside.

External pressures from the West, particularly from America, will close a closed mind even further. A deft foreign policy must incorporate these clinical dimensions. Attempts to “open” his closed mind with western logic will simply not work. He will not hear it.

Dr. Ahmadinejad is a deeply religious person. This is a fact about which he is rightly proud. Some however, are concerns with remarks that are a denial of the Holocaust, and other provocative utterances about the destruction of Israel. At best they are not very diplomatic remarks particularly coming from the President of a country. At worst they add fuel to the fire for those who see President Ahmadinejad as an unstable and unpredictable force in the Middle East.

If these remarks reflect his true thought process and deliberative judgment and not some sort of “taquia” (lie to the infidels for the sake of promoting Islam) then there may be justifiable cause for concern. What is clear is that these remarks coming from a leader who has the capacity, perhaps not the intent, to produce a nuclear weapon. What is sure is that he has caused consternation in the international community, and will for the foreseeable future.

There is a basic principle in psychology that says with stress goes regression. When a person feels he or she is "pushed" too far, it can become possible, for them to act out in such a way that it justifies violent actions when normally that would be unacceptable behavior.

All religions have people who hold extremist views some even actively advocate violence or jihadi attacks, to get attention for their cause or react to perceived injustice through martyrdom.

An argument can be made based upon Ahmadinejad’s remarks cited earlier, and the subsequent analysis presented here, that he is an Islamist militant. He is no less committed to his beliefs than the individual who strapping on a suicide vest and boards a bus of finds an open market place filled with unsuspected innocent victims.

Dealing with President Ahmadinejad can be likened to a person finding themselves trapped in the midst of “quick sand.” Too much violent action, more than likely, will produce the exact opposite desired result. However, no action will guarantee disaster. As a person twice trapped in this unfortunate situation, I can suggest two things to survive: one a quickly thoughtful pragmatic plan made in concert with others and two, a lot of “good luck” or as they say in Farsi, “Movæfægh ba:shi.”
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