(2/3/2012) The supreme leader of Iran, the Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, issued a warning to the United States Friday stating that war with Iran will be detrimental to the U.S. and that Iran will support anyone that will confront the “cancerous” Israeli, as reported by CNN.(<http://news.blogs.cnn.com/?hpt=hp_t2>) Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, on the possibility of U.S. intervention in Iran, said, "You see every now and then in this way they say that all options are on the table. That means even the option of war. This is how they make these threats against us. Well, these kinds of threats are detrimental to the U.S. The war itself will be 10 times as detrimental to the U.S." Khamenei has stated that Iran will offer support to any organization that fights against Israel. These comments came after comments from Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak, "Today, unlike in the past, there is a broad global understanding that it is crucial to stop Iran becoming nuclearized and that no options should be taken off the table.” Barak iterated that allowing Iran to continue on its path toward becoming a nuclear power would be more difficult and painful than if Iran was stopped now.

The United States fear that Israel could attack Iran as early as spring in an attempt to destroy Iran’s reported nuclear program. Iran has insisted that their nuclear program is for civilian purposes only.

Iran has supported combatant groups Hamas and Hezbollah in conflicts in Lebanon and Gaza.

Khamenei have blamed the Western powers for Iran’s troubles. "So far we have overcome all these challenges and none of them managed to bring (Iran) to its knees," Khamenei stated. "We have stood firm and strongly treaded our course." Among the charges Khamenei placed on the West are the eight-year Iraqi war in the 1980s (Saddam Hussein assumed power in Iraq with U.S intervention and money as a foil to Iran) and the latest round of international sanctions. The most damning charge, however, is the West’s involvement in the establishment of Israel and the continual alliance with the state.

Modern Israel was formed during the Zionist movement of Ottoman and British controlled Palestine, stating with the First Aliyah in 1881 and continuing through World War I. The flood of Jewish immigrants caused strife among the native Palestinians; this would be compounded by British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour, who saw the Palestinian as a “mixed-race” from surrounding nations with no real claim to the land. This racist attitude and his resulting Balfour Declaration(<http://www.mideastweb.org/mebalfour.htm>) cleared the way for more Jewish immigration, which ultimately resulted in the Israeli Civil War in 1947 when the Israeli and the Palestinians failed to mutually accept the United Nation’s Partition Plan for Palestine(http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/un/res181.htm). The Jewish conquest of Palestine and declaration of Israeli independence triggered the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, with Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq as combatants against the newly formed Israel. The perceived racism and conquest of Islamic land by non-Islamic people is the primary rationale behind the animosity shown to Israel.