

Iran's Weapons of Deterrence



The US and Iran last clashed with each other in a major incident in 1988 when the US Navy initiated an one day strike operation against the Iranian Navy. The situation has further worsened ever since Major General Qasem Soleimani, Commander of Quds Force, IRGC was recently killed by a US drone strike just outside Baghdad International Airport. In April 2020, the US President Donald Trump tweeted that he had instructed the US Navy to “shoot down and destroy any and all Iranian gunboats” that harass US ships.

Earlier in 2019 during a speech, the President of Iran commented, “War with Iran is the mother of all wars”. If Iran does get into a conflict, here are some of the weapons an adversary must watch out for:

Ghadr-110 ballistic missile: The Ghadr-110 is an improved version of the Shahab-3A missile. It is believed to have a liquid fuel first stage and a solid fuel second stage, which allows it to have a range of 1500 km and according to some sources it can reach up to 2000 km. When in 2015, the missile was tested, it was seen by West as a violation of UN resolution.

Sejjil 3: If Ghadr-110 is seen as a threat against American interests in the region, Sejjil 3 is rumoured to be even more

potent. It is reported to have three stages, a maximum range of 4000 km.

Fateh-110: A 300 km-range guided missile Fateh-110 is road mobile single stage solid fueled surface to surface missile. It is developed from Zelzal-2 unguided artillery. The weapon has been exported to Syria and Iranian allies. They are used extensively in the Syrian Civil War both by the Syrian Government and Iran's regional proxies.

A modified version of it, Zolfaghar, which can have a range of 700 km itself has been used by Iran against Daesh in 2017.

Khalij-e-Fars: Khalij-e-Fars is an anti-ship quasi ballistic missile with a range of 300 km. It has been developed from the road mobile Fateh 110 missile which itself a guided modified version of Zelzal long range rocket artillery. This system can be a “game-changer” if used



Ghadr Class submarine