

Iran daily says 9/11 a 'White House conspiracy'

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TEHRAN: A hardline Iranian newspaper on Monday described the September 11 attacks as a "black conspiracy inside the White House", publishing what it said was evidence the strikes could have been staged by US officials.

The paper, whose editor-in-chief is appointed by Iran's supreme leader Ali Khamenei, compiled a full page of reports from foreign press sources which it said cast serious doubts on the official version of events.

The reports "show the involvement of the American officials in the event," it said.

One of its sub headlines read: "The American (government) staged the 11 September event to justify its attacks on Iraq and Afghanistan," while the main headline read, "Black conspiracy inside the White House".

"Many Americans completely believe that their country's officials have concealed their involvement in the September 11 tragedy," the paper said.

Iran's then reformist government of former president Mohammad Khatami was quick to condemn the airborne attacks of Sept 11, 2001 on New York and Washington carried out by Al-Qaeda militants which killed nearly 3,000 people.

Iran and the United States have had no diplomatic relations sine the seizure of the US embassy in Tehran in 1979 and remain at loggerheads over the Islamic republic's nuclear programme.

Fellow hardline daily Jomhuri Islami also raised questions about the official version of September 11, in a story headlined, "The Satanic project of September 11".

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