

# America Is Amidst Might Abroad and Domestic Erosion

(Translated)

[Al-Rayah Newspaper - Issue 595 - 15/04/2026](#)

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Nations are not entities that collapse with a sudden blow, nor do they usually fall solely due to an enemy lurking on their borders. Instead, they crumble when their foundations erode from within, and when they lose their ability for cohesion before they lose their deterrent power.

This truth, confirmed by historical experiences, from the fall of the Roman Empire to the disintegration of the Soviet Union, imposes itself urgently today when examining the reality of America. The nation that still leads the world in military and economic power appears, at the same time, to be the arena of deep domestic fissures, affecting its political, social, and economic structures.

The paradox for America lies not in the decline of its apparent might abroad, but in the widening gap between this power and its domestic reality.

Here, a fundamental question arises: Can a global power continue to lead the world order while suffering from escalating domestic exhaustion, and a profound contradiction of everything it has adopted as its ideology?

Let's examine some aspects of America's might abroad. The United States continues to maintain clear global influence, a result of accumulated military, economic, and cultural foundations laid since its inception. These include:

- Global military supremacy: It possesses the largest and most powerful army in the world, with the highest defense budget globally, estimated at approximately \$878.7 billion.
- International military presence: It maintains a vast network of military bases worldwide, granting it the capability for rapid intervention in any region. It also plays a pivotal role in security alliances, such as leading NATO, the world's most powerful military alliance.
- Dominance of the global financial order through the dollar, which is used in most international trade and reserves. Furthermore, central banks and multinational corporations dominate most technology sectors.
- Control over strategic waterways and balances of power: It is capable of protecting and securing global trade routes and maintains control over global energy security. Therefore, these manifestations reflect that America still possesses both traditional and modern tools of hegemony. Although this power is currently in decline, not growth, it remains the foremost. However, this might abroad may mask accumulated domestic challenges, reinforcing the central idea: might abroad does not necessarily equate to domestic strength.

Therefore, we will present some manifestations of America's domestic erosion:

Sharp political polarization, where the political order is experiencing an unprecedented division between the Republican and Democratic parties. This division reveals the depth of its strategic destruction day by day, evidenced by the declining ability to pass legislation, the recurring government shutdowns, the absence of constructive elites, and the decline in trust in institutions. Recent Pew Research Center polls show that confidence in Congress has fallen to historically low levels.

Not to mention the widening economic gap. Federal Reserve reports indicate that a large percentage of wealth is concentrated in the hands of 1% of the population. This weakens the

middle class, whose purchasing power is eroding. The economic stability of this class disappears, as real wages stagnate, compared to the rising costs of living, including housing, education, and healthcare. Recently, the spread of armed violence and crime rates have been escalating, all while the country grapples with problems such as national debt, high inflation, military and political expansion abroad, and the expenditure of vast sums of money in full view of the struggling American people. This situation is further exacerbated by the consequences of these wars, which have resulted in increased living costs and higher taxes. The American public rejects spending money on issues they deem irrelevant; they are indifferent to America's greatness, when it comes to hunger and the disappearance of much of their prosperity.

What makes this phenomenon even more dangerous is its simultaneous emergence as a powerful power abroad, creating a gap between the state's outward appearance and its actual state. Ultimately, major powers cannot be understood solely through displays of apparent strength, but also by analyzing their domestic structures and assessing their capacity for self-sufficiency.

America's current experience clearly illustrates this paradox: a might abroad that still holds the keys to the international order, while domestically, it groans under the weight of disintegration and a near-total collapse of trust.

The real question is not: Is America strong today? Instead: Is it capable of domestic renewal? In reality, it cannot renew itself from within due to the inherent failure of its capitalist ideology, which carries the seeds of its own demise within it, as well as the absence of constructive elites, and the emergence of destructive factions. Therefore, the world today does not see the ruling capitalist system as viable.

The world today needs a sound ideology based on justice, equality, and compassion, which it lacks in the capitalist system. Islam, as an ideology, is capable of governing the world, irrevocably displacing capitalism, establishing justice, giving everyone their due, spreading light and mercy, and restoring humanity to its lost humanity, which is forced upon it by utilitarianism and the tools of capitalism.

The Islamic ideology is a complete principle ready for implementation, but it needs someone to put it into practice. Hizb ut Tahrir works day and night to achieve this goal by establishing the Khilafah Rashidah (Rightly Guided Caliphate). It has prepared its men and women, whilst its methodology is taken from the Noble Book and the Prophetic Sunnah. It is following in the footsteps of our noble Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him, confident in the realization of his glad tidings, «ثُمَّ تَكُونُ خِلَافَةً عَلَىٰ مِنْهَاجِ النَّبُوءَةِ» **“Then there will be a Khilafah (Caliphate) on the Method of the Prophethood,”** and in the realization of the promise of Allah (swt) to His Messenger (saw) that Islam will rule the world. On the authority of Tamim al-Dari (ra), who said, I heard the Messenger of Allah (saw) say, «لَيَبْلُغَنَّ هَذَا الْأَمْرُ مَا بَلَغَ اللَّيْلُ وَالنَّهَارُ، وَلَا يَنْزُكُ اللَّهُ بَيْتَ مَدْرٍ وَلَا وَبَرٍ إِلَّا أَدْخَلَهُ اللَّهُ هَذَا الدِّينَ، بَعْرَ عَزِيزٍ أَوْ بَدَلٍ ذَلِيلٍ، عِزًّا يُعِزُّ اللَّهُ بِهِ الْإِسْلَامَ، وَذُلًّا يُذِلُّ اللَّهُ بِهِ الْكُفْرَ» **“This matter will reach as far as the night and day reach, and Allah will not leave a house of mud or hair except that Allah will bring this religion into it, with the might of the mighty or the humiliation of the humiliated, a might by which Allah will make Islam mighty, and a humiliation by which Allah will make disbelief humiliate.”**