

# Iran Involved in 9/11: The Links Courtcase

*An Interview with Ken Timmerman*

by [Jerry Gordon](#) and Rod Reuven Dovid Bryant (January 2020)



Alireza Soleimanpak and Giorgi Gakharia

Rod Reuven Bryant and Jerry Gordon interview Ken Timmerman, veteran Iran watcher, intrepid investigative journalist, and *New York Times* best-selling author fresh back from Tbilisi, Georgia with a tale of Iran's Islamic regime brutality and deception facilitated by the Prime Minister of Georgia. Timmerman reveals in this interview the latest brutal attempt by Iran to cover up its role in the 9/11 attacks.

Georgian Prime Minister Giorgi Gakharia admitted on national television that, when he was Interior Minister, he launched in February, 2018, a sting operation, at the request of Iran, against Iran Intelligence defector Alireza Soleimanpak. Soleimanpak provided an “earth shattering” affidavit in the US Federal Court Case in 2011 on 9/11 Al Qaeda-Iran links. Soleimanpak revealed “direct contact between Iran and Al Qaeda; an act of state-sponsored terrorism.” Timmerman also cited recent Iranian terror operations against defectors foiled in the Netherlands, Germany, and Sweden.

Soleimanpak left Germany in 2018, where he had lived since 2002, trying to free his brother imprisoned in the notorious Evin prison in Tehran, following the imprisonment, torture, and death after release of Soleimanpak’s sister in 2016. Soleimanpak was arrested in 2018, imprisoned and tortured by Georgian internal security personnel under trumped up charges that he was planning to murder two Iranians. The Iranian Ambassador in Georgia sent a letter describing the alleged conspiracy to the Georgian Foreign Ministry—one week before it even allegedly began. Before that, he offered Soleimanpak \$5 million and a Georgian passport if he would recant his testimony in the 9/11-Iran Links case. Soleimanpak refused. Soleimanpak’s brother was subsequently murdered by Iranian security personnel.

Timmerman notes that Soleimanpak has been detained for 18 months, seven of which were in solitary confinement. Timmerman called Moscow-educated Georgian PM Gakharia, an Iranian “stooge” on Georgian media, following the Prime Minister’s admission that he had ordered Soleimanpak’s arrest.

[Read more in \*New English Review\*:](#)

- [Politicizing Language](#)
- [The Demise of Jeremy Corbyn](#)
- [Tony Blair: A Reckoning](#)

Timmerman was the lead investigator for plaintiffs in the 2011 New York Southern District Federal Court landmark “9/11-Iran links” case: [Fiona Havlish et al., v. Sheik Usamah bin-Muhammad bin-Laden et al.](#) The lead plaintiff lost her husband on the 101st floor of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Other 9/11 victims’ surviving families and loved ones were included as co-plaintiffs.

The New York Southern District Federal Court judge in the 9/11-Links case handed down upwards of \$10 billion in two awards made to the certified class of 9/11 claimants in 2012 and 2015.

According to Timmerman, testimony from Soleimanpak and other defector witnesses in the 9/11 Links case showed that Iran gave direct material assistance to the 9/11 Saudi perpetrators. Iran provided a flight simulator for training of the 9/11 pilots on Boeing 747, 757, 767 aircraft. Timmerman noted that the 9/11 Commission only reported that the 9/11 pilots received flight training on small aircraft in the US but left vague the issue of training on jumbo jets.

Soleimanpak defected in July 2001. In his meeting with the CIA station chief and translator in Baku, Azerbaijan, Soleimanpak revealed there was going to be a major attack in the US using aircraft as bombs. He also stated that no Iranians were involved in the attack. The 9/11 perpetrators were all Sunni

Jihadi; 15 from Saudi Arabia, the balance from Egypt, Lebanon, and the UAE. Soleimanpak's warning on July 26th to the CIA team in Baku was that the attack would occur on 20th of Shahrivar, which was misread by the CIA translator as the 10th of September, when in fact it was 9/11. His warning wasn't heeded. 3,000 lives were lost in the Al Qaeda jihadi attacks on the Twin Towers in lower Manhattan, the Pentagon, and southwestern Pennsylvania.

Timmerman argues that Soleimanpak "was framed—not given a fair trial and no evidence presented." He noted that the Republic of Georgia has both the strategic interest of the US and the West. It has applied for entry to the EU and NATO. Notwithstanding, as evidenced by the Soleimanpak case, the country needs to reform its legal system to conform to Western and international norms. Timmerman has reached out to both the US State Department and the US House "Georgia Caucus" co-chaired by Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) and Gerry Connolly (D-VA).

Timmerman noted, Germany provided dual use equipment to both Saddam Hussein's Iraq and Iran. One contemporary example is Siemens supplying equipment to the Mlad Tower in Tehran capable of intercepting wireless email and text messages by protesting Iranian dissidents.

Timmerman noted that the late Soviet tyrant Joseph Stalin was a Georgian though he is not popular in Georgia, according to Timmerman. Timmerman drew attention to Russia's Putin seizing both Abkhazia and South Ossetia amounting to 20 percent of Georgia during the 2008 war.

What follows is the Israel News Talk Radio – Beyond the Matrix interview with Ken Timmerman.

Rod: On this program with Ken Timmerman we are discussing his extraordinary investigation in the Republic of Georgia endeavoring to free an Iranian defector who provided “earth shattering” information as a witness in the Iran 9/11 Al Qaeda Links case in Federal Court in New York in 2011.

Jerry: Ken, you just returned from Tbilisi in the Republic of Georgia, with a story of betrayal of Alireza Soleimanpak, an Iranian defector and star witness in the U.S. 9/11 Iran links federal court case exposing Iran’s support for the Al Qaeda perpetrators. He was caught in a sting operation by the current Prime Minister and Former Interior Minister “Moscow man” Giorgi Gakharia working with the Iranian Ambassador to the Republic of Georgia. Why were you in Tbilisi?

Ken: I was in Tbilisi paying back a moral debt that I owe and that I think all of us who were involved in this US court case owe to this individual, Alireza Soleimanpak, also known as Hamid Reza Zakeri, for his courage in coming forth and telling the truth about 9/11. He told the truth about Iran’s direct material involvement in the 9/11 conspiracy with Al Qaeda, in a videotaped deposition in front of a U.S. Court and now he’s paying the price for it. The Iranians have been trying to get him for several years. Americans might not be aware of his testimony because the lawyers had not been trumpeting it from the rooftops in the hopes that we can preserve the life of our witnesses. We are trying to protect our witnesses. In this case the Iranians have been tracking this man for several years asking him to recant his testimony and offered him all kinds of things—money, passports and the rest. In 2016 he

said, "no I'm not going to do it," they arrested his sister. His sister was thrown in jail, she was beaten terribly and released from jail but then died a few weeks later. In 2017 they arrested his brother. They took him to Evin Prison. Soleimanpak said "I'm not going to let the same thing happen that has happened to my sister. I'm going to the Republic of Georgia which is close to Iran." It is just across Azerbaijan. He said, "if I could get my brother out on a prison furlough, I am going to get him out of the country and bring him to Georgia." That was his plan. Unfortunately, as soon as he arrived, an Iranian Intelligence Officer—who also happened to be the Iranian Ambassador to Tbilisi—showed up in his restaurant and made him a final offer. The officer offered him five million dollars, a Georgian Passport, and his brother's release if he recanted. Alireza said, "you bring my brother here face to face in this restaurant. Then maybe we can talk." Well, it ended badly. A couple of months later, the Iranian Ambassador wrote a letter to the Georgian Foreign Ministry saying that Alireza was going to murder two Iranians in Tbilisi and they should investigate it. They sent a letter to the Interior Minister, who is now Prime Minister Gakharia, and he got their intelligence services all over it. They set up a sting operation and a conspiracy. He was arrested, charged with conspiring to murder two people—who he had never had anything to do with in his life—and thrown in jail where he has been for the past eighteen months. He was falsely accused of being a notorious terrorist in Europe. He spent over seven months in solitary confinement, 150 days on a hunger strike; was beaten by his Georgian jailers. When I was there in December 2019 for a court hearing, I gave an interview to a Georgian television network where I told the story, especially the part about a Georgian passport. I said, "How could the Iranian Ambassador offer a Georgian passport unless there is complicity by the Georgian Interior Ministry—and at the time the Interior Minister was Georgi Gakharia—who is now Prime Minister! While I was there, I gave a TV interview. The television people then got Gakharia on tape saying "yes, I was

the one who was behind this case.” Not only is Gakharia—as you said, Jerry—a “Moscow man,” but he is also a stooge of Tehran. I have been saying this on social media, on radio, and on the front pages of certain Georgian newspapers. I was very pleased once I got the country behind me.

Rod: That was a brave move to confront Georgian PM Gakharia and the only way to deal with this type of corruption. For many people in English-speaking countries in our listener audience, this will connect the dots as to why this Iranian defector was there and what he did was so important and what testimony he provided. This is really a big story.

Ken: It is a big story. The attorneys involved in the US Federal court case have not played it up because they wanted to protect the witnesses. Now, all pretense in “protecting the witnesses,” frankly, is over. This is earth-shattering information. What we showed in this court case—and your listeners can go to