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US, a leading terrorist state in world: Chomsky

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American academic Noam Chomsky says the United States will be recognized as a leading terrorist state if international law is applied, Press TV reports.

“I took the official definitions of terrorism, which were very good, I took the definition that is given in US and British law, which is a fine definition but has a flaw; If you apply it, it turns out the United States is one of the leading terrorist states in the world,” Chomsky told Press TV in an interview on Tuesday.

The academic added that he had predicted the ongoing so-called war on terror by the US when Ronald Reagan was president in the 1980s.

“I’ve been writing about terrorism since 1981, since Ronald Reagan came into office and declared that a war on terror would be the centerpiece of the American policy,” Chomsky stated.

He called into question the legality of the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, saying, “The US and Britain tried to provide a kind of a thin legal cover for the invasion. The legal cover was, as you know, that Saddam had not ended his programs of weapons of mass destruction.”

US-led forces attacked Iraq in 2003 and toppled Saddam Hussein on the pretext of possessing weapons of mass destruction. But no WMD was ever discovered in Iraq.

At the peak of the US-led military operation in Iraq, there were 170,000 US troops and more than 500 bases in Iraq.

More than one million Iraqis were killed as the result of the US-led invasion and subsequent occupation of the country.