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US colonized war-torn Afghanistan: Analyst

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A political analyst says the approval by an American appeals court of the indefinite detention without trial of prisoners by the US military in Afghanistan is indicative of Washington’s colonization of the war-torn Asian country.

In an interview on Friday, Richard Becker, from the A.N.S.W.E.R. Coalition in the US, said the ruling shows that Washington does not respect the Afghan sovereignty.

The idea that the United States government views the Afghan government as a truly sovereign government and respects it as such is “a fiction,” he said.

“The United States has the upper hand. The United States is dominant. The United States has colonized Afghanistan. It has chosen and arrogated to itself the right to intervene in Afghanistan going back to 1979 and with some breaks continues right up until the present time,” he added.

“It really has no respect whatsoever for Afghan sovereignty and carries on with saying that it respects it for public relations purposes. But it is not true,” he added.

In a Christmas Eve ruling, the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruled that habeas corpus petitions filed by five prisoners who are held by the US military at the Bagram prison in Afghanistan are “beyond the reach” of the US Constitution.

The petitions invoked the prisoners' right to challenge unlawful detention. The right is recognized by the US Supreme Court for the notorious US-run Guantanamo Bay inmates though it is not fully implemented in practice.

The appeals court claimed that there are differences between Guantanamo and Bagram, which is also known as "Afghanistan's Guantanamo."

The US is reportedly holding non-Afghan detainees at Bagram. There have been numerous allegations of serious prisoner abuse by US forces at the notorious prison.