

In this thesis, the relationship between religion and democracy in the opinions of Imam Khomeini and Khatami was studied by using descriptive, analytical and comparative methods of research. And it was indicated that with regards to his recognition of religion, on one side Imam Khomeini distinguishes the universality of religion, its relationship with politics and rationality, negating the rigidity and stiffness and also believes in its dynamics and its relation with civilization and innovations and on the other side he combines the religion with democracy and creates a harmonious atmosphere among them with his belief in democracy and democratic components such as law, freedom in various areas, paying attention to people and the emphasis on their participation. In his opinion upon government also, with his belief in an Islamic republic as the most desirable form of government, he creates the best possible harmony among religion and democracy by the combination of republicanism and Islamism

Regarding Mr Khatami, It should be said that his opinions were similar to Imam Khomeini's; and he mainly emphasizes on the universality and Inclusiveness of the religion while believing in rejecting the rigidity and stiffness said to be present in it and he also believes in its coordination with civilization and new innovations. He also firmly believes in democracy and its components such as law and legislation, freedom in various areas, the people oriented nature of democracy, giving importance to the presence and participation of people, tolerance, lenience and dialogue while repudiating violence; through emphasizing on these concepts he wants to establish a compatible relationship between religion and democracy. In his administrative discussions, while accepting the administrative views of Imam Khomeini in most of the cases, and with his belief in Islamic republic in its continuation, he has proposed religious democracy in wider context, and creates a relation between religion and democracy in the best way possible. Therefore it should be said that religion and democracy are related and consistent in the views of Imam Khomeini and Khatami both, and also their perspective regarding these two topics are the same and both of them try to create compatibility between these two aspects while having similar views and considerations regarding religion and democracy. Thus their views and ideas are not too different and taking the timeline factor into consideration, and considering that Mr Khatami's view come after Imam Khomeini's views in terms of time, it can be said that they are somewhat a continuation of Imam Khomeini's views.