

Some Excerpts from Imam Khomeini's Comments on the War

* Our leader is that 12-year-old child who with his small heart which is more valuable than hundreds of our tongues and pens, threw himself under an enemy tank with a grenade in his hand, destroying the tank and achieving martyrdom.

* You, the families of martyrs, have proved to the world that with the martyrdom of this land's valiant combatants, you will overlook the loss of all your dear ones in the way of Islam.

* Women participated with men in wars at the beginning of Islam and we witness right now that women are standing alongside, even ahead of men on the front line of battle.

* Khuzestan paid its debt to Islam; Khuzestan strove for Islam and for human values and for its honor and that of its country and is striving and has been courageously resisting.

* Today the U.S. is working through the Iraqi government.

* Our crime is that we are opposed to the U.S. This crime, which is unforgivable in the eyes of Saddam Hussein, is that we are against America.

* Right now Islam is confronted with Kufr [unbelief;] you should safeguard, protect and defend Islam.

* All these hardships which have been inflicted upon you and these murders which were carried out upon our brothers are observed by God and will not be wasted; He will give you your reward. You, praise be to God, are triumphant and honorable!

* Our country's struggles are ideological, and jihad [crusade] for belief cannot be defeated.

* Once again I stress to the Army, IRGC, Gendarmerie, Mobilization Corps and all military and disciplinary forces that they should attack the enemy with greater coordination and refrain from discord, which is among the temptations of the Devil.

* We are the defenders of Islam. A defender of Islam defends with his life, wealth and his dear ones and will never rest. May God, the Supreme and the Blessed give us this opportunity to be martyred in his way.

* Why doesn't the Islamic government understand that the superpowers' target is Islam, not Iran?

* There is no way we can compromise with them since our destination is one and that is Islam. All our nation wants is Islam, but the others' goal is anti-Islamic and Islam and anti-Islam can never come to any accord.

* We are a nation of combatants and we will fight back with full force. God is with you and you are victorious and this government [of Saddam] is about to fall.

* These are our youths, our people, our men and women who are following their goal and maktab [school of thought] and cannot be reconciled to any power or superpower.

* You have changed history; our nation made history, another history. It has changed the course of history. The superpowers had accounted for everything, except spirituality.

* Wherever the Iranian Army went or Army commanders of law stepped, they erected a masjid.

* O you the brave youth of Khuzistan, the western region and other fronts, be firm

In this arena of honor and defend your Islamic homeland with the utmost effort and self-sacrifice, so that, God willing, you will be victorious and will drive out the army of satan in disgrace.

* So many of us have been killed, so many of us disabled, so many of us have become homeless, so many of us refugees, in order that this country could achieve independence.

* Don't compromise with any power and I'm sure you won't.

* We consider martyrdom a great gift and our nation wholeheartedly accepts martyrdom and we do not fear war; we are men of war.

* You wish to save your country, you who had risen up and given almost a 100 thousand lives and more than a 100 thousand crippled until you succeeded and reached this point. Be steadfast and resist.

* Those are our brothers, these had become refugees in the way of Islam because of fighting for Islam; you should consider them like yourselves and like your own children.

* Efforts should be made to take care of these refugees and injured.

* Death to the treacherous Saddam, the hireling of Imperialism who makes the combatant Umma [community] refugees. Disgrace be upon you treacherous Saddam.

* Ramadhan: The month of purification and the month of preparing man for jihad in the way of God; the month of the victory of greater jihad over all worldly attachments.

* Muharram: The month of the victory of blood over sword.

* This Army is a popular army, not a satanic army which suppresses. It is an army which meets people in the spirit of equality.

* Mr. Carter had imagined that his majesty had given freedom to the people, but he didn't know that the people wrested freedom from him and took it as a trophy.

* Wake up and awaken those asleep; become alive and give life to the dead; sacrifice yourselves under the banner of monotheism in order to destroy black and red colonialism and worthless sellouts.

* Our relation with those countries like America is the relationship of an oppressed nation with a world oppressor. You, dear nation have overcome your enemies with shouts of Allahu Akbar, for the satisfaction of God and gained freedom and independence.

* Death to this kind of human rights which the United Nations calls as such. Disgrace be upon Carter-like human rights.

* Human Rights is rubbish; all this talk on the part of the big powers about creating societies for "human rights" and security is nothing for neither does their security resemble true security nor does their concept of "human right" resemble the truth.

* The peaceful demonstrations of the heroic Ummah of Iran.

* We and our nation gained freedom at a dear price.

* My dear brethren, you are my hope, take the Quran in one hand and a weapon in another, defend your reputation and honor and take the power of thinking and conspiring away from them.

* A basic revolution should be made in all the universities in Iran, so that the eastern and western affiliated professors are removed and the university becomes a healthy environment for teaching higher Islamic sciences.

* Culture is a human-making factory, just as the prophets (ع) have said.

* Is it essential for you to adopt the western style? You are weak, sir. As long as you are weak, you will be under the hegemony of the strong.

* The economy of Iran should be independent, so should her culture, her people and her thinking.

* You university teachers, you students go and fill the masjids. They are the strongholds, fill the strongholds.

* These students, academicians teachers, scholars, clergy, and all the intellectual strata should strengthen their coalition and be aware that some are intending to break this coalition.

It is upon the honorable nation of Iran of whatever group and whatever ideology, to stop making trouble and placing obstacles in each other's way and to crush their enemies with unified expression, thus fulfilling God's covenant,