

We want to live our life independently



The leader of the Revolution and Founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran said Thursday that among the things that again all of us and all the gentlemen are duty-bound to invite the people towards and is the upcoming elections for the Assembly of Experts.

The Imam's remarks came in a speech he delivered to a large crowd of visitors who called on their leader at the Jamaran Mosque here.

The visitors comprised the Friday prayer leaders and the ulema of Hamedan Province, a group of ulema from Abadan, Khorramshahr Shelled Isfahan, a group of the members of various executive foundations, a group of Muslim people from Kharq Island, a number of the members of the planning councils of various provinces and ministries of the country, a group of the employees of the Centre of the Documents of the Islamic Revolution, and a group of the employees of the Planning and Budget Organization together with the minister of state and the head of this organization.

In this meeting, first Ayatollah Hussein Nuri, the Friday prayer leader of Hamedan made a short speech on the establishment of the Islamic government in Iran under the leadership of Imam Khomeini. Then the hope of the oppressed peoples of the world delivered the following speech.

"In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful"

After thanking the people who were present he said :

I want to say one word in common to all the gentlemen, to the whole nation, all the ulema of the country, all the warriors and other people wherever they are, either those who are busy rendering governmental, parliamentary, or national service or those who are carrying out Jihad at the front or behind the fronts and in short to all the sisters and brothers of the Islamic country of Iran. What the word is is that as the honourable speaker said, the Exalted God bestowed a grace and favour upon us that we cannot thank Him for. It was a grace in a that praise be given

to God, our nation succeeded with God's help in getting rid of a corrupt regime which was going to make the whole of Iran and all the Iranian youth corrupt. Owing to Islam and owing to these great people, we got rid of the claws of the cruelty of that regime and the tyrannical domination of the super-powers.

And it was a grace to the effect that such a transformation appeared in Iran that you cannot find the like of it in history. This transformation converted all classes from their previous moral, material and spiritual plight into such humans who endeavour together for the sake of God, Islam, independence and freedom. One cannot imagine what incentive appeared all over this country that from two, three-year-old children to ailing old men in hospitals, all developed a divine attitude. At present, wherever you go in this country, you see that the general attention of the masses of people is towards Islam and any difficulty that may appear for the government, for the organs that are in the government, for the Army, for the IRGC, for the (Revolutionary) Committees and for other warriors, the people are ready to support them and they act.

Had there not been this divine transformation and this manifestation of faith, never could anyone believe that those wolves which had gained control over this country and which had taken everything of this country under their domination would be expelled. And it could not be imagined that all the big powers and those who follow them both in and out of the region would join their hands in propaganda and unite their military forces and all endeavour against this innocent nation which has risen for the sake of God.

Nevertheless the Exalted God has bestowed such power upon this nation that all their plots have been and will be foiled, Insha Allah. And it is because of these issues that we cannot offer our thanks Him

enough. But as much as it is possible for us to appreciate this great blessing we should first be pious and see the Exalted God present and observing all affairs. In private and public, at the time of war and at the time of peace, in poverty and in wealth we should see the Exalted Lord present.

God is Omnipresent in the whole world. Whatever occurs is in the presence of God. Whatever goes on in our hearts is in the presence of God. In order to appreciate the infinite blessings that the Exalted God has bestowed upon us and to give thanks for this blessing that He has recently given us, we should remember Him and profess piety and ask God Almighty not to leave us to ourselves and not to deprive us of His grace.

And (I have) one word for the ulema of Islam.

*Never could
anyone believe
that those wolves
which had gained
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Invite the people towards piety. It incumbent on you to call the people towards piety in the first tba of the Friday prayer. Call upon the people to be pious both in Arabic and Persian. In the second Khutba, too, it is necessary to invite people towards piety. God's grace towards piety is higher than other graces.

You honourable ulema who are mosque prayer Imams and Friday prayers leaders and missionaries

wherever you are, invite the people towards piety and remembering the Exalted God. This calling towards piety and remembering Allah which will be effective for everybody, Insha Allah, will cause this divine grace to be perpetuated upon us and God will keep this blessing for us.

In order to offer thanks for the blessing of victory, call upon the people to keep their alertness in the country's affairs and not sit and observe but attend to the nation's business and work when a problem appears for the government, Majlis, or army. It is owing to your activities that this republic has remained alive and, God willing, will stay alive and blooming with your activities.

Among the things that again all of us and all the gentlemen are duty-bound to invite the people towards and is the upcoming elections for the Assembly of Experts. It should not be so you gentlemen and others keep aloof and act sluggishly. But they should invite the nation go to the ballot boxes themselves and cast votes and invite the people to go, too.

Nevertheless the people, you, and everybody are as free as always and will vote for anybody they want, not only those introduced by the gentlemen and ulema of the theological centre of Tehran or Qom. You are not obliged to vote for whoever they introduce. Of course they have examined the issues, have expertise in this matter and have introduced the candidates after study. But it does not mean that a person wants to oblige another person, "You must vote for so and so." You are free. Keep in mind God's contentment and go to the ballot boxes when it is announced and cast your votes. This is a vote for Islam. As you went out and voted for the Islamic Republic, at the rate of almost a hundred per cent, it is hoped that it will be like this here (in the upcoming elections), too.

And one word for some groups who are present. I should thank those who have come from Kharq Island very much. As their honourable Friday prayer leader told me before I came here, the people of

Kharq, children, women and men endeavoured enthusiastically to protect those targets that saboteurs wanted to destroy on that island. This is from the very changes that I said have appeared in our nation.

Do not imagine that if the whole of Kharq Island had been destroyed in the time of the previous evil regime, one person would have appeared to say "why?". Maybe the people would even become happy and said "Let this Kingdom be destroyed." Today the Exalted God bestows His grace upon the people due to their attention towards Islam. It is for the sake of Islam that the young and old are on the scene and protect all the probable targets of the enemy. I thank them very much and pray God to protect them and make them successful. May God not turn His graces from us and give us the success to serve His cause.

Next Imam addressed the groups concerned with planning, the excerpts of which are as follows :

— I hope, God willing, you will endeavour seriously to do this work and the major point as I mentioned first is that you should be pious. Piety is necessary for everyone and more necessary for those who are in charge of the affairs of the country.

For those who are not in charge of the affairs, piety is an issue effective for themselves and probably for a number of persons who are in contact with them. Piety affects their person and sometimes those who associate with them. But if, Heaven forbid, the officials of the country do not have piety, you will see that their ill deeds will affect the whole country and the entire country will be lost. Therefore the importance of piety is much more for them than for other persons. Piety is good both for them and their friends and for the whole country.

— If everywhere actions are taken with good will and piety, no discord will come about. All the discords that you see appear, sometimes as discords appear in the big governments, are due to the fact that they do not have piety, neither

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