

Cultural Diplomacy in the Islamic Republic's Foreign Policy with Emphasis on Imam Khomeini's Viewpoints

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Abstract

In the foreign policy of each country diplomacy is defined as a means of communication and exchange of ideas between governments. However, under the advancement of technology both governments and nations use different types of diplomacy in their communications. A branch of general diplomacy which puts emphasis on the exchange of cultural ideas and elements between nations and provides them with mutual interests is cultural diplomacy. The Islamic revolution of Iran made a lot of changes in the cultural context of the society however a constructive communication with other nations and societies remained as one of its constant objectives. Imam Khomeini, the great founder of Islamic republic, highlighting the significance of such cultural activities made frequent references to those common values among the nations and called for universal unity and brotherhood. Following the recommendations made by the Imam, the Islamic republic has accomplished numerous cultural missions inside and outside the country such as standing against global arrogance, supporting the oppressed nations, establishing religious democracy and seeking to preserve independence in tough situations. Thus, cultural diplomacy as emphasized by Imam Khomeini is the best way in foreign policy to realize the revolution's objectives.