

An examination of the new political concepts according to Imam Khomeini with an emphasis on republicanism of the Islamic system and elections

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Abstract

His Eminence Imam Khomeini undoubtedly is one of the greatest Muslim political thinkers in today's age and is one of the men of the Islamic world who has made history and he led and guided a great revolution and in a dark period like a bright and brilliant sun he appeared in the horizon of the sky of Iranian-Islamic civilization; and while there was no practical model concerning the kind of rule for the great revolution of the people of Iran he founded the Islamic republic that was divine and that was while in the whole world political systems leaned on democratic political concepts and they belonged to the West's civilization or socialism and that belonged to the Eastern bloc.

In this thesis new political concept of Imam Khomeini's thoughts with an emphasis on the republicanism of the Islamic system and the most important practical implementation pillar of that meaning elections is examined.

One of the main bases of that new system is people's vote. His Eminence Imam Khomeini as the main and the one who has theorized and has been the ideologue of the Islamic republic system has had a taintless and from all aspects has supported the pillar of republicanism of the system emphasizing the views of the people and that subject is seen vividly in different cross sections of the 33 years of the Islamic revolution during the time of his leadership and even his rightful successor. And that is one of the decisive answers to those who claim and they have to do with the world new democratic systems and they have consistently accused the Islamic republic system of being one dimensional and they call it reactionary, petrified or dictatorial.

The reason behind choosing that subject is to give a clear and practical answer to accusations and to exploit the current procedure of that system and reaching a strength point of that political thinking and that has a feature of original and pure Islamic teachings. Meanwhile the model of Iran's Islamic revolution thinking and that has been founded by his Eminence Imam Khomeini and that has been strengthened and continued by the great leader Ayatollah Khamenei in today's global rules has been the forerunner of the

new move aiming at Islamic awakening. Thus conducting similar researches in that direction will help all of the new Religious-Islamic and those wanting freedom moves.

In order to reach the aims that are in mind in this research kinds of policy, form and the essence of the rule and also two basic pillars of that system meaning Islamism and republicanism according to Imam Khomeini has been examined and after examining those proceedings and explaining his Imam's thought with respect to Islamic ruler and guardianship of religious jurisprudence during the absence of the innocent Imam (leader) I proceed with discussing the role of the people regarding that subject and the acceptance that comes from that. Meanwhile referring to his Eminence Imam Khomeini's views and we see the crystallization of much of that in the Islamic revolution's constitution new political concepts of that such as freedom, headship of the people and the rights that are results of that, identity, national unity, nationalism and the place of the people in the model that has been created of the divine system of the Islamic republic are also examined.

According to the interpretation of the position of the great leadership that new model can be named religious headship of the people and that on one hand is affected by the bases of Shia thought and Imam at thoughts and on the other hand it springs from the abilities of Shia religious jurisprudence with respect to acceptance of organizations and logical affairs in the domain of politics. Really Imam Khomeini believed that democracy is a tool for making the political system efficient so that through that the Islamic goals of the rule may come true.

Therefore, democracy as an ideology and a political philosophy and an end of the political system has not been in his mind and the Islamic obligation has consistently been with that and he has believed that that is a superior model.

Key words: *Imam Khomeini, political concepts, Islamic republic, elections, West, socialist, political thought*