

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allah,
the Compassionate, the Merciful



Preface and Introduction

The issue of unity of Muslim Ummah has always been one of the most basic principles that has always been recommended based on Islamic teachings.

At a time when various internal and external challenges and threats have faced the Islamic Ummah, the need for unity and convergence among Muslims is felt more than ever.

The unity is essential and vital not only to confront common enemies but also to strengthen Islamic identity and progress in all social and cultural fields.

In such a context, Imam Khomeini, as one of the most important prominent heralds of Islamic unity, emphasized the importance of this issue and raised it as one of the basic principles and pillars of the Islamic Republic.

From Imam's viewpoint, unity among Muslims is based on common Islamic principles such as monotheism, prophethood, and the holy Qur'an. He strongly believed that jurisprudence and religious differences should not lead to division and enmity among Muslims.

Rather, by emphasizing commonalities, we can overcome these differences and take steps towards strengthening the Islamic community and Ummah.

Imam Khomeini used to maintain that unity does not mean giving up religious beliefs, but rather cooperation and common understanding based on common principles that are emphasized by all Islamic sects and schools of thought.

In the current era, when the Islamic world is facing many challenges, including the hostile policies of world powers to weaken and exploit Muslims, the need for unity is felt more than ever.

Therefore, Imam emphasized that preserving the unity of the Muslim Ummah is not only obligatory from a religious point of view, but also from a political and social point of perspectives.

In addition, it is considered as a strategic policy to protect the identity and interests of the Islamic Ummah in comp temporary era

In the current situation, referring to the teachings of Imam Khomeini and the wise leadership of his successor, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei regarding Islamic unity, can be proposed as a solution to many problems and challenges facing the Muslim world.

In this collection, we have briefly discussed the most important interpretations extracted from the words of Imam and Ayatollah Khamenei regarding Islamic unity.

وَلَا تَحْزَنْ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا تَكُوفُوا لَهُمْ

Islamic Unity





Excerpts from statements by Imam Khomeini

● I hope that brotherhood, an Islamic brotherhood as ordained by the Qur'an arises among the Muslim governments. If such Islamic brotherhood came into existence among the Muslim countries, it would be a magnificent power that none of the world powers would be able to match.

(Sahifeh-ye-Imam. Vol. 8. P 81)

● We are all brothers; we are all together. The only difference is that your 'ulamā'... issued their own particular decrees and you followed them. These divisions give no reason for conflict. There should be neither conflict nor differences among us. We are all brothers. Thus, Shī'ah and Sunnī brothers must refrain from any kind of discord. Our conflicts, at this time, will only benefit those who are neither Shī'ah, nor Hanafī, nor the followers of any of the other sects. They do not want any of the Islamic sects to exist. They have realized that the only way of achieving this goal is by fueling conflict among the (various) sects. We must bear in mind that we are all Muslims, and believers in the Holy Qur'an and tawhīd [monotheism]. We must, therefore, endeavor to struggle for the Qur'an and tawhid.

(Sahifeh-ye-Imam. Vol. 13. P 49)

● Muslims should know that after the Islamic Revolution, which gave rise to the tendency towards the wonderful power of Islam, the US has concocted plots to create division between Sunni and Shia Muslims, to attack Iran, as the center of gravity of Islamic Revolution, to storm Lebanon and commit those heinous crimes in an attempt to efface Islam and debilitate its divine power. You should know that the plots of the US implemented by the sinister Israel would not end in Beirut and Lebanon. They have targeted Islam everywhere in Islamic countries, particularly in the Persian Gulf region and Hijāz, the nucleus of divine revelation. The first and foremost aims are to make the rulers of the region to blindly obey the commands of the US and, more painfully, that of Israel and yield to the disgrace of servitude.

(Sahifeh-ye-Imam. Vol. 16. P 439)



Islamic Unity

● In Islam race, groups, factions, language, and things of that nature are of no relevance. Islam is for all and in the interest of all. And as decreed by the Qur'an and Islam, we are your brethren; we are not separated from Kurds, from Turks, from Balūchs; we are all brethren and should live together.

Now, here is a country that is delivered from the yoke of the foreigners, and the local criminals have either run away or are hiding in every nook and cranny. Of course, those foreigners—the ones who were plundering our resources, cannot stop doing it, but we will not give them the chance, God willing. One of the things that I did emphasize was this very point; our Sunni brethren should not be under the assumption that there is this question raised in Islam to imply any difference between you and us. Just as there are four schools of thought among the Sunnis in the same way that one school is different from the other yet they are all brethren and not enemies, this is another fifth school where there exists no enmity among them and they are all brethren, all Muslims, and all are the people of the Book—the Holy Qur'an, and all are followers of the Noble Messenger.

(Sahifeh-ye-Imam. Vol. 9. P 329-330)



● More dangerous and painful than nationalism is the creation of differences between Sunnīs and Shī'ahs, and making seditious and inimical propaganda among the brothers-in-Islam and the brothers-in-faith. Thank God that no differences exist between these two sects in Iran's Islamic Revolution. Both of them are living side by side in all friendship and fraternity. There are many Sunnīs living around the country, many of whom are scholars and shaykhs. There is brotherhood and equality between us. They are also against the discordant tunes being played by the criminals and those connected to America and Zionism. The Sunnī brothers in the Muslim countries ought to realize that these agents affiliated to the big satanic powers are not the well-wishers of Islam and the Muslims. It is necessary that the Muslims renounce them and pay no heed to their contentious propaganda. I extend the hand of brotherhood to all the committed Muslims of the world and request them to look upon the Shī'ahs with brotherly affection and thereby neutralize, as always, the sinister designs of the foreign powers.

(Sahifeh-ye-Imam. Vol. 13. P 181)



Islamic Unity

● Those who wish to create rifts among the Shī'ah and the Sunnis are neither Shī'ah and nor are they Sunni and they are not even concerned about Islam. Any person who believed in Islam would never try to aggravate existing differences at a time when our progress and victory are ensured only through the unity of all the Muslims. This is surely a foreign-motivated act. The big powers have realized that their doom came through Islam, the unity of the Muslims, and fraternity among all the Islamic groups and they are, thus, trying to cause rifts among them.

(Sahifeh-ye-Imam. Vol. 14. P 328)

● We are always ready to defend Islam, the Muslim countries and their independence. Our programs are the programs of Islam: unity of expression of the Muslims; unity of all Muslim countries; brotherhood with all Muslim schools of thought all around the world; alliance with all; all Muslim governments around the world, against Zionism, against Israel, against the imperialist governments.

(Sahifeh-ye-Imam. Vol. 1. P 343)

Islamic Unity





Excerpts from statements by the Supreme leader

● The birth of the seal of the Prophets is a very significant event and the beginning of a new era of divine favors in human life. Therefore, the birth of the honorable prophet is a very big event which's greatness is really not possible to describe with conventional language.

(October 23, 2021)

● The lowest level and first step toward unity in the Muslim world is “for the Islamic societies, governments, people, and sects to refrain from attacking and harming each other” and “to be united against the common enemy.” He emphasized, “At higher levels, the Muslim countries must collaborate and create solidarity in science, wealth, security and political strength in order to build a modern, Muslim civilization. The Islamic Republic has made this point its ultimate goal that is building a modern, Muslim civilization.”

(January 7, 2020)

● We are serious about pursuing the issue of unity and also fully understood the significance of Muslim Union. The unity of Muslims does not mean the withdrawal from various differences or theological and jurisprudential beliefs.

Rather, the Islamic unity has two other meanings, and these two concepts must be ensured: First, that the major Islamic sects -Sunni, Shia- which each have different theological and jurisprudential differences, are united in confronting the enemies of Islam.

Indeed, they should empathize, cooperate, think alike in confronting the enemies and foes of Islam; The second meaning is that different groups of Muslims should try to bring themselves closer to each other by creating understanding and comparing and harmonizing the schools of jurisprudence.

There are many fatwas and decrees of jurists and scholars, if it is discussed by scholarly; it is possible that with a brief change, the fatwas of two schools of thought will be close to each other and proximity will be accomplished.

(September 23, 1989)



Islamic Unity

● At present, extra and desperate efforts are being made so that Muslims do not unite and work against each other. These efforts are especially intensified at a juncture when Muslims need unity more than ever.

Thinking very close to the reality, the motivation of the enemies' efforts is to prevent the realization of the desire of Islamic sovereignty and rule - which is approaching the practical stages today.

It is natural that if Islam wants to gain sovereignty and Muslims in the Islamic world want to adhere to Islam.

It is not possible without patching and mending these differences. The most catastrophic obstacle in the way of Islamic sovereignty is that Muslims themselves within Islamic societies - whether in one country or in several Islamic countries; It doesn't matter – the enemies want them engage in conflict with each other.

(September 23, 1991)