

No Iraqi Official Should Be Appointed by Occupying Forces

The world arrogance wants to commit the greatest crimes against Islamic nations and expects other Islamic nations to ignore and not protest to such crimes

Imam Khomeini [RA] addresses mankind and not only the people of Iran

Ayatollah al-Udhma Khamenei delivered a speech in southern Tehran yesterday [June 3, 2004] to mark the 15th anniversary of the demise of the late Imam Khomeini [RA]. Ayatollah al-Udhma Khamenei touched on different issues including the political school of Imam Khomeini [RA], the role of people in Islamic system, the rule of jurisprudence, and social justice. On the international front, Ayatollah al-Udhma Khamenei condemned the actions of the Zionist government in the Palestine and those of America in Iraq, adding that the occupiers must leave Iraq and have no right to exploit Iraq's oil. The following are excerpts from the speech:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
الحمد لله رب العالمين والصلوة والسلام على سيدنا و نبيّنا ابي القاسم المصطفى محمد و على
اله الاطيبين الاطهرين سيما بقية الله في الارضين. قال الله تعالى:
« و جعلنا منهم ائمة يهدون بأمرنا لما صبروا و كانوا باياتنا يوقنون.»

Twenty five years after the victory of the Islamic revolution and the foundation of the Islamic Republic and 15 years after the demise of the great leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic (Late Imam Khomeini [RA]), the hostile propaganda by the enemies of our revolution and nation still is focused on enmity towards our great Imam. Every month, they make thousands-of-hours-long programs for hundreds of global radio and television stations affiliated to Zionist and arrogant circles. Their most important aim even 25 years after the foundation of the Islamic establishment, is to undermine the late Imam's attractive and profound personality.

We have to acknowledge that the system's enemies have no other way of confronting the Islamic Republic establishment and the Iranian nation's movement. This is because a major factor behind the Iranian nation's refusal to surrender and resistance, is the Imam's political philosophy and ideology. Our nation believes in this wholeheartedly. The revolution's enemies have no option but to confront the Imam's philosophy, ideology and personality which still lives on. This is so they can, in their own interpretation, force this nation to surrender to them.

It was the late Imam and his political ideology which was able to cut off the hands of looters from this country. They were looters who joined dictators and transformed Iran into their safe home. They hoped that they would be able to keep Iran for themselves as a country which produced raw material and had an unending source of oil. Our great Imam's political ideology cut off their hands from this country. . .

Western civilization is based on confronting spirituality. This was the greatest mistake of those who began the scientific and industrial civilization and movement in Europe. They gave significance to science. This was good. However, they confronted spirituality. This was bad and they were misled. Therefore, western civilization is based on materialism and is devoid of spirituality. The more it progresses, the more it deviates. They (Westerners) themselves and the entire humanity will suffer from its poisonous effects as they have been suffering so far. The phenomena of colonialism is the result of separation between science and spirituality, politics and spirituality, and governments and ethics. This happened in Europe. . .



Today we are witnessing the zenith of being removed from spirituality in Iraq's Abu-Ghurayb prison and in other prisons of Iraq. Those who are running these prisons claim to have the most advanced civilization. . .

These are not the only tragedies which have taken place for the Iraqi and Afghan nations. A wedding ceremony was bombed two or three years ago in Afghanistan. One month ago a wedding ceremony was transformed into a mourning ceremony by British jets in Iraq. In Iraq, the youth are humiliated, men are tortured, Iraqi women are raped, the safety of Iraqi families are violated and a US hand picked government has been established for the Iraqi nation. This is what happens when spirituality become separated from politics.

In the past, Eastern and Western rulers, despots and dictators did such things. However, when the Europeans became familiar with sweet slogans such as human rights, the people's vote and started making scientific advances, lack of spirituality did not allow these slogans to bring the expected and anticipated good to mankind. They became a source of evil and corruption. The new thing which the Imam's political ideology brought for the world was politics along with spirituality and power along with morals. . .

At the start of the revolution, a mere two months after the revolution, the Imam put to vote the idea of a system based on the revolution. It was less than two months. Compare this with the behavior of military coup leaders around the world, the behavior of communist regimes and the behavior of America today.

Today, 15 months after the military occupation of Iraq, America still does not allow the people of Iraq to say what and who they want for their government. The representative of the United Nations, in his press conference yesterday, said Americans have a military presence in Iraq and therefore it is necessary to take the decision of the American administrator into consideration when choosing members of the government. This is their democracy.

The implementation of democracy, even in their own countries, is not the true rule of people. It is mere color and pretence, a colorful propaganda achieved by an endless amount of money that they spent for it. The vote of the people is lost. In the school of the Imam, the vote of the people is effective and determining in the real sense of the word. This is the value of the people's vote. The strength of people's vote.

Relying on the strength of people's vote and will, the Imam believed in, and acted on this belief that, with people's unshakable will it is possible to stand against all the aggressive powers of the world. And he did so. In the political school of the Imam, the rule of the people has its source in religion and Quranic verses. It comes from «امرهم شورى بينهم» it comes from «هو الذى ايدك بنصره و بالمؤمنين». We have not learnt these things from other people. Some people claim that we should learn from westerners how to involve people in the management of government. But westerners are stuck themselves. They support governments such as the government of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi who had absolute dictatorship in our country for 35 years. Before him, his father was the country's dictator for 20 years. These very Americans who claim to support democracy took them to their bosom and supported them. Do they support democracy? They are lying. If you want to see their form of democracy go to Iraq or go to Afghanistan and see how they are treating the innocent people.

American democracy is their unrestrained support for the criminal Sharon. This is their type of democracy. Are we going to learn democracy from these people? Do they value human beings? Do they value people? Look at the tragedies that are being committed in Palestine today. Are they not human beings? Are they not the owners of their own lands? Don't they have the right to have a vote and speak their mind?

Today we are witnessing the most appalling and barbaric behavior in Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan and before this in many parts of the world. Now the people who carry out these appalling actions are not even ashamed and claim to be proponents of democracy. The American president shamelessly claims that he is shouldering the responsibility for the propagation of democracy in the Middle East and the world. The people in the world can see their kind of democracy in places like Iraq's Abu-Ghurayb prison and Guantanamo. This is their kind of democracy and human rights.

In our society and among the Islamic ummah, one has to be naive to say that the Westerns must come and teach us the rule of the people. We expect from writers and scholars who are fair not to write or talk in a way to give the impression that they are familiarizing the people with the rule of the people. The rule of the people was propounded by Imam. The rule of the people was the result of the revolution. In a country like Iran that for centuries, save some short period, the people's votes and their will were not honored. Throughout our lives we never saw ballot boxes. No-one valued Iranians' votes. Dictators throughout their rule paid no attention at all to our people. In Iran, our Imam, revolution and the Islamic system introduced the rule of the people. Now some people give the impression that we are just entering the domain of the rule of the people. This is tantamount to ignoring facts.

Another characteristics of the Imam Khomeini political school is its international and global perspectives. In this connection, the Imam addresses mankind and not only the people of Iran. The people of Iran heard this message of Imam with all their being, honored it and struggled for its realization. As a result, they managed to secure their country's independence.

Imam Khomeini addressed the entire humanity. This principle stresses welfare, independence, honor and faith for the Islamic ummah and the entire humanity. This is the mission of all Muslims. This political school of Imam advocates and describes them. The difference between this school and those who perceive a mission on the global level is that the political school of Imam does not want to impose its principles on others with guns, tanks, arms and torture. Americans say that their mission is to spread democracy and human rights in the world. For them the way to spread democracy is to drop bombs in Hiroshima, use guns and tanks, start wars and stage coups in Latin America and Africa. All of these are lies, falsehood, treachery and crimes. . .

The people can benefit from the political school of Islam. In many countries, people have benefited from it. The Palestinians say that the Imam's message awakened and revived them. The Lebanese say that the Imam's ideology taught us how to defeat and expel the Zionist army. Muslims all across the world including Muslim youth, intellectuals and elite say that their political thinking is rooted in the Imam's ideology. The Islamic ummah feels dignified when the name of Islam is mentioned. This is the international outlook of the Imam's ideology . It is not restricted to the Islamic world either.

Today for us, the Palestinian issue is a principle problem. The Islamic ummah's hardships are very distressing for us. The events which take place in the Islamic world are one of the main issues for the Iranian nation and those who have pinned their hopes on the name and memory of the great Imam. They cannot be indifferent towards these issues. This is why the world arrogance wants to commit the greatest crimes against Islamic nations and expects other Islamic nations to ignore and not protest to such crimes. The Iranian nation witnesses and understands this. It protests to it and adopts a stance. The Iranian nation does not remain indifferent towards issues related to the Islamic world. This is one of the other characteristics of the Imam's ideology.

Another important characteristic of our Imam's political ideology is that it protects the values which our great Imam manifested in outlining the role of Wilayat-e Faqih. Since the victory of the Islamic revolution and the formation of the Islamic system, some tried to present the Wilayat-e Faqih as something bad and unreal. These things that you hear today and are spread by the propagandists who

are mesmerized by the enemy are not new. These groups, who were trained by outsiders and their propaganda, have been raising these issues from the very start. Some are trying to describe the Wilayat-e Faqih as an unconditional rule of a person. This is a lie.

Based on our constitution, Wilayat-e Faqih does not negate the responsibilities of other branches of the government. Responsibilities of different organizations in this country cannot be negated. The role of the Wilayat-e Faqih is to engineer the system, maintain its directions and prevent it from being deviated to the left or right. This is the most crucial and important description for the Wilayat-e Faqih. Therefore, the Wilayat-e Faqih is not a ceremonial issue, as some wished it to be and tried to make it so from the very beginning of the Revolution. They wanted an absolute ceremonial and symbolic icon with an advising role at some points, to advice different people. That is not so.

On the other hand, there is definitely no dominant position for the Wilayat-e Faqih either. It has no such executive ruling power over different parts of the government. The country has its own officials. Executive, judicial and legislative officials, they are all in charge and have to fulfill their duties and be accountable for them. The role of the Wilayat-e Faqih is to keep the system moving in line with values and objectives of the system in this complicated and intertwined combination of efforts made by officials.

There should be no deviation to the left or the right. The most important role Wilayat-e Faqih is to guard and defend the general direction of the system towards its lofty ideals. The noble Imam understood and interpreted these things from the heart of jurisprudence, the political jurisprudence of Islam, and from the heart of religion. Throughout the history of Shi'ism and the history of its jurisprudence, throughout the ages, our theologians have understood and explained this but they never had the chance to implement it. Wilayat-e Faqih has been among the definite principles of Islamic jurisprudence. And this is correct. This important and sensitive responsibility relies both on religious measures as well as the vote and the will of the people. . .

Our people are pious, the political school of the Imam is alive and shining, the world is aware of our situation, our enemies understand the strength of our people and have confessed to it. In the domain of other various global and international issues our policies are independent. We are not going to be influenced by anyone. We don't seek tension or commotion but we condemn injustice. We are opposed to injustice.

We condemn the crimes of the Zionist regime in Palestine. We condemn the ugly and ruthless actions of the usurping Zionist regime in the country of Palestine against the people, i.e. the destruction of homes, the killing of children, the killing of a crippled old man such as Shaykh Ahmad Yasin, the forcing out of thousands of people from their homes. We condemn these unprecedented tragic crimes. We curse those who have committed these crimes and America which has been supporting these culprits.

Despite the claims of the enemy we don't interfere in the affairs of Iraq. Iraq belongs to the people of Iraq. We believe that Iraq belongs to the people of Iraq. The Iraqi people must be able to determine the destiny of their country. In Iraq there are many people among the ranks of the religious leadership, the political leadership, the political elite and the cultural-religious elite. It is our belief that the occupiers should not remain a single day in Iraq, that they don't own a single drop of the Iraqi oil, that they should not appoint a single official in Iraq. The occupiers have no rights.

We believe that today the situation for America in Iraq is relatively more difficult than what it was last year and it is going to get worse by the day. Whether they want to believe it or not, whether they accept it or not, the Americans have been defeated in Iraq. They have been defeated until now. . .