

## **The Leader's sermons on the occasion of Eid-al-Fitr - 16 /Jun/ 2018**

On the auspicious occasion of the blessed Eid-al-Fitr and in gratitude to one month of fasting and servitude to God Almighty, the faithful and monotheistic people of Islamic Iran held glorious ceremonies for the Eid prayers across the country and asked for the best from benevolent God. The focal point of this enthusiastic and faithful presence was Imam Khomeini Prayer Grounds in Tehran where Eid-al-Fitr prayers were led by Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

In the first sermon of the Eid al-Fitr prayers, Ayatollah Khamenei congratulated the Iranian nation and Muslim Ummah (community) on this great Eid and described Eid al-Fitr as a reward day and the auspicious month of Ramadan as a racecourse for the faithful for obeying God and drawing closer to divine satisfaction. He said, "By the grace of God, the Iranian nation wins more points compared to the previous years in this spiritual contest and [race for] carrying out virtuous deeds."

Ayatollah Khamenei said the promotion of Quran recitation meetings, the increase in people's presence and enthusiasm in prayers, supplication and preaching ceremonies, and the boom in giving out simple Iftar meals in mosques and public places are examples of the advance of the Iranian nations in the spiritual race in the month of Ramadan this year. He added, "The height of the resplendence of the auspicious month of Ramadan was in Laylat al-Qadr (Nights of Destiny), when peace from all walks of life, particularly the youth held huge gatherings across the country and raised their hands in prayer and while praying to their God, boosted the tenderness and purity of their spirits."

He described the Quds Day rallies this year as another glowing point in the auspicious month of Ramadan, reiterating, "The Quds Day march is a truly unique phenomenon and the people took to the streets with such vigour and enthusiasm under the scorching sun and according to report, the turnout was higher and warmer in most of the cities of country compared to previous years."

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution stressed, "The Iranian nation is wide awake and highly motivated; this nation that pours onto the streets with such thrill and fervor after an all-night vigil is not fatigued and dismayed. Those people who, in line with enemies propaganda, claim that the people are worn-out and apathetic, are in fact extending their own condition to all of the people and are weary and tepid themselves."

Ayatollah Khamenei pointed to the yearly-increasing spirituality and internal purity of the people in the auspicious month of Ramadan, reiterating, "The message of this reality is that, despite the policies that seek to distance the people from spirituality, the Iranian nation and youth insist on spirituality and opposition to corruption and this unique spiritual asset is the protector of the country's identity, independence, honor and greatness."

In the first sermon of the Eid al-Fitr prayers, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution pointed to the extensive and fervid nature of Quds Day rallies in other countries, saying, "The message of the greater prevalence and prosperity of Quds Day rallies in various countries is that despite the foreigners' propaganda, the congruity and alignment of Muslim countries with the Iranian nation has increased."

He said the reason behind the ceaseless plots by satanic powers against the Iranian nation is their apprehension about the steadfastness, might, independence and the enlightened and innovative mind of the Iranian nation, stressing, "Of course, these powers do what they can, but will also always fail."

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution said US President Donald Trump's acknowledgement of the unproductiveness of this country's seven-trillion-dollar expenses in the West Asia region is tantamount to their defeat in the region,

saying, “This admission shows that despite all its efforts, the Great Satan has not succeeded in achieving its goals, and neither will it succeed in its objectives henceforth however much it spends in the region.”

Ayatollah Khamenei stressed that the Iranian nation should be vigilant and attentive and identify the plots, adding, “Today, the enemies' main plot is [exerting] ‘economic pressure’ on the masses of the people to exhaust and dishearten them.”

He urged all state institutions and officials to make relentless efforts to counter this plot, reiterating, “A central committee has been formed with the presence of the heads and key authorities of the three branches [of the government] to address economic issues and this center should, step by step, follow up on economic issues, make resolute decisions and implement them.”

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution stressed that all people also bear responsibilities in foiling this plot, adding, “One of the issues that should be taken seriously by the people is ‘avoidance of profligacy and extravagance.’”

Ayatollah Khamenei pointed to the high cash flow in the country, adding, “The owners of this cash flow should direct it toward production, so that the wheels of people’s livelihood will begin turning.”

He also strongly urged those involved in foreign trade and commerce to refrain from importing non-essential goods and products which are also produced inside the country, saying, “One of the habits common among some of the people, which should be set aside, is recreational and non-urgent trips abroad.”

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution pointed to some decisions by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance to enhance the business climate and remove the obstacles and assessed the decisions as positive and underscored the need to seriously follow through on them.”

Ayatollah Khamenei also called for seriously following up on the issue of fighting corruption and pointed to the presence of youth in various production and development sectors, highlighting the need to encourage them and support production units.

He described as important the issue of the unity of all the people and national and social unity and pointed to the prevalence of the unpleasant phenomena of libel and insult in cyberspace, reiterating, “These kinds of measures, which are a mortal sin, harm the general atmosphere of the country and national unity.”

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution added, “Everyone should feel concern for unity in the society and avoid slandering.”

Ayatollah Khamenei pointed to enemies' propaganda policies to wage a war of nerves in the society and criticized some media and individuals that repeat the remarks of the enemies, urging them to refrain from this measure.

At the end of the second sermon of the Eid al-Fitr prayers, he said, “By God’s grace and with such a nation and the existence of these spirits, mobilization, spirituality and independence, the future of the country will be much better than today.”