

Nation must develop insight prior to ballot - 9 /Jan/ 2008

Islamic Revolution Leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei Wednesday recalled the perseverance and prudence of Imam Hussein (A.S.) and urged the nation to follow his model especially in the upcoming parliamentary elections.

Speaking to a large crowd of people who had come to capital from the central Qom province, Ayatollah Khamenei said that any elections must be handled with prudence, urging the Iranian nation to develop deep insight before taking to the field of the eighth parliamentary elections, set for March 14.

"The Iranian nation must pick a full insight before taking into the eighth parliamentary elections stage so as to make a due decision. This time again the people and the Islamic Republic system would be the virtual victors thanks to God's favor," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

In the meeting held to commemorate the anniversary of the January, 9 1968 uprising of the people in the province against the defunct Pahlavid regime, Ayatollah Khamenei said that the prudent movement proved very helpful to the overall revolutionary uprising against the scoundrel regime.

"Dey 19 (Jan 9) rests among the crucial junctures in the revolutionary history and should be marked forever. The people in the day demonstrated their vigilance and their allegiance to the honorable leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeini, may Allah confer mercy on him," Ayatollah Khamenei added.

"In the course of the years after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, some individuals broke their allegiance with Imam and revolution which ended up damaging themselves. However, the majority of the Iranian nation kept their allegiance and persevered until the Almighty God awarded them for their perseverance, namely in their victory in the Sacred Defense and their growing achievements in their national drives," Ayatollah Khamenei added.

Ayatollah Khamenei then recalled the January 7 anniversary of the tragic crackdown on the Iranian women's Hijab by the then despot Rezakhan, saying that the enemy drive was designed to ruin the women's faith.

"In a move they co-organized with Pahlavid-linked intellectuals, the enemies of Iran and Islam had decided to pull the Iranian woman from chastity and Hijab and annihilate the great power of faith which has always run the Muslim communities," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

The Islamic Revolution Leader noted that any Hijab removal would lead to the removal of chastity from society and the destruction of family, adding that the Iranian nation, especially the Muslim women at the time stood up to the pressure and averted the conspiracy.

Ayatollah Khamenei described Imam Hussein's uprising, called Ashura, as a decisive moment in the history, adding that despite many challenges, the event endured the test of time and left a precious legacy for all human being.

A few days ahead of Imam Hussein's martyrdom mourning ceremonies, the Islamic Revolution Leader noted that by the mourning services it is intended to preserve the spiritual and divine values.

Ayatollah Khamenei called on all the mourners, especially the lecturers, the preachers and the mourning songsters to live up to the endeared event and take care not to let some superstitious themes or implausible acts hurt the mourning functions.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the Imam Hussein mourning centers shall be the venues to express religious teachings and

the truths about Imam Hussein, adding that the centers must be employed against oppression, hegemony and the modern time opponents of Imam Hussein's thoughts and teachings.

Ayatollah Khamenei reaffirmed a recommendation by Imam Khomeini that the mourning ceremonies be staged by the people themselves.

The IR Leader recommended that the mourning ceremonies be employed to enhance the people's faith and their religious courage and avert any public indifference in a bid to live up to the goals of Imam Hussein's uprising.

Ayatollah Khamenei pointed out that the mourning ceremonies have twin goals, an emphatic one and a spiritual one, the former of which to affect the hearts and feelings of the people while the latter to raise awareness in those who exercise prudence.

"Imam Hussein was the manifestation of prudence and perseverance and his followers should be too," Ayatollah Khamenei urged.

Ayatollah Khamenei noted that the great movement of the Iranian nation in the Islamic Revolution which helped hoist the flag of human and religious values in an otherwise world of demerits showed the prudence of the nation and the due guidance of Imam Khomeini.

"The Islamic Revolution is the miracle of the present time because despite all different plots, the Iranian nation was the victor so that the revolution has stood stronger than ever and repelled the enemy," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

Ayatollah Khamenei then placed a premium on elections, saying that the index of democracy (elections) has been averagely staged in Iran once per year since 28 years ago.

"This is evidence that the Iranian nation has gained victory because it demonstrates the popular presence, the popular decision and the courage of the Islamic system to rely on the popular vote and opinion," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

Ayatollah Khamenei noted that the enemy brazenly denies the clear reality because it is a very great issue.

"The Islamic system has always issued an emphatic call for staging of elections. Even four years ago, some people tried to scrap elections through a show but failed thank to the favor of God and the popular perseverance," the IR Leader added.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the position of elections must be preserved so that the people go to ballot hopefully and trustfully.

The IR Leader expressed regrets that some people raise the possibility of fraud, adding that in the past 28 years, the elections have always been staged in healthy conditions.

The IR Leader deplored that why some people must be there who mar the image of elections by their remarks.

Ayatollah Khamenei also denounced the call for the presence of international, better say enemy observers in the elections as a disgrace.

"The authorities in charge of elections have always fulfilled their duty to preserve the trust of people. The case would be the same in the eighth parliamentary elections as well," the IR Leader added.

Ayatollah Khamenei reaffirmed his call on the political spectrum to observe electoral etiquette and avoid electoral

misconduct and defamation.

Ayatollah Khamenei then raised the US President's supportive remarks a few days ago about certain groups inside Iran, adding that it was a shame that the US supports any group inside Iran.

"Both people and the group to which the American President has expressed backing must deliberate why America seeks to support that group and which shortcomings in that group have triggered America to support it," Ayatollah Khamenei urged.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the elections belonged to the people, the Islamic Republic System and Islam, urging the nation to take care not to let the elections play into the hands of the aliens.

"The political groups and individuals must mark their borders with the enemy because if the borders remain unspecified or go off, it is likely that the enemy crosses the borders or some insiders inadvertently fall the enemy's trap," Ayatollah Khamenei alerted.

"The political groups and individuals must also fix their borders with the enemy's stooges," Ayatollah Khamenei called.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the elections appeals for prudence, adding that the Iranian people must carefully monitor the enemies so that they can take the due decision.

"This time again the Iranian nation and the Islamic Republic System would pass the test thank to God's favor," Ayatollah Khamenei assured.