

## **Ayatollah Khamenei told a committee to commemorate the 19th anniversary of the sad departure of Imam Khomeini - 21 /May/ 2008**

Imam Khomeini demarked the main diplomatic and ideological boundaries of the Islamic Republic by pen and tongue and was sedulous to protect those boundaries," the Islamic Revolution Leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei said Wednesday.

Ayatollah Khamenei told a committee to commemorate the 19th anniversary of the sad departure of Imam Khomeini that the perfect personality of the departed was an inspirational model for treading the path of the Islamic Revolution.

"The honorable Imam tried in different revolutionary stages to protect the premises of the Islamic Revolution from diversion or infiltration of alien agents," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

"His attitude teaches us a great lesson," the IR Leader added.

The IR Leader noted that the departed Imam even banned any use of borrowed words like 'democratic republic' and instead coined new words through an Islamic, revolutionary prism.

"The departed Imam coined the terms 'Islamic Republic' and 'Welayah' (custodianship) in place of 'democratic republic' and 'government or monarchy' respectively in an innovative measure to demark the boundaries of the Islamic Republic System," the IR Leader added.

Contrasting Welayah and its equivalences in the current international politics (government, monarchy), Ayatollah Khamenei said that Welayah stood for a combination of sovereignty and intimacy.

"The coinage connotes that the Islamic System pursues sovereignty under Islamic beliefs. It points to Imam's foresight and sedulity to demark the Islamic System's boundaries with other political systems," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

"Political and ideological boundaries function in the same manner as geographical boundaries," the IR Leader noted.

"Unfortunately the IR boundaries were not preserved at some point to the extent that even some individuals who had love for the Revolution and Imam Khomeini moved to cross the boundaries in negligence," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

"The Islamic Republic System is fed by a spontaneous source of energy like the Sun," Ayatollah Khamenei said, adding that a clear sign of the reality was its endurance against all sorts of conspiracies hatched by the enemies.

"A similar and substantive example of the endurance took place early in Islam, during the ten-year government of the Messenger (S.A.)," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

Ayatollah Khamenei said even the alien bloc had acknowledged the progressive trend of the Islamic Republic, adding that the status quo had come by through use of a part of revolutionary capacities and that the nation had yet to exhaust all revolutionary deposits.



In another regard, Ayatollah Khamenei attached high significance to the annual commemoration ceremonies of Imam Khomeini's departure. The IR Leader said the interest of people worldwide in the departed leader was exceptional.

"Notable in the ceremonies is the presence of the young generation which could not see the time of Imam. This shows that the youths keep an abundant source of affection for Imam in their hearts," Ayatollah Khamenei said.