

## **IR Leader initiates major greenery project - 8 /Mar/ 2011**

Islamic Revolution Leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei planted two saplings on Tuesday, initiating a major project to build a giant urban park south of Tehran, on a week called natural resources in the Iranian calendar. The ceremony was joined by several ministers, lawmakers, city councilors, Tehran Mayor and other urban managers. Ayatollah Khamenei in a speech to the urban managers following the sapling plantation ceremony thanked the managers and authorities for the growth of green areas in the country and called it a major duty for the authorities to conserve environment, forests and natural resources.

Ayatollah Khamenei said life would become sweet when industrial and scientific achievements are gained besides a healthy environment, adding that natural resources belong to different generations and nations, hence the significance of conservation efforts.

Ayatollah Khamenei urged the cabinet and parliament to treat environmental issues and natural resources as priorities in their agendas. In the same regard, Ayatollah Khamenei said garden city projects which have currently become popular in the country would prove detrimental to environment as they open the way for abuse of forests and natural resources by some individuals.

Ayatollah Khamenei also urged the relevant authorities to strictly prevent any expansion of Tehran mega city, especially across Alborz mountain hills.

Ayatollah Khamenei then reminded the urban authorities of shortage of green areas in Tehran and urged them to plan and implement major green areas for the city, especially in southern districts.

The IR Leader also called on urban authorities to join their hands with judicial authorities in their drive against land grabbers.

Ayatollah Khamenei then touched on the significant cultural side of urban management and described culture as soul in life. Ayatollah Khamenei said urban culture should take a religious and divine color so as to establish an Islam-desired life and society.

Ayatollah Khamenei concluded his remarks by hoping that the giant urban park is delivered to the public exactly on the promised date of May 24, 2011.