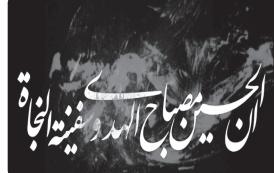
Condolences on the Start of Muharram

Leader Hails Para Athletes

TEHRAN (IRNA) -- Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei in a message on Saturday praised the endeavors and achievement of Iranian athletes at the 2014 Asian Para Games in Incheon, South Korea. 'Your honorable success and your significant achievements in the sports fields at the Asian Para Games have been praiseworthy and I would like to congratulate you one by one for the glories," said the Leader. Iran finished fourth in the 2014 Asian Para Games, also known as the Second Asian Para Games, with 120 medals, of which 37 are gold.





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Muharram, the Month of Life-Inspiring Mourning

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

"And think not of those who are slain in Allah's way as dead, nay they are alive (and) by their Lord well provided." (Holy Qur'an 3:169) "I do not wish a death for myself other than martyrdom, while life among the unjust would be unbearable." (Imam Husain)

It has once again arrived - the month of Muharram and its memories of the greatest tragedy that the world has ever seen, and will never see the like of it in future.

It is the month when blood, including that of a 6-month old boy, triumphed over sharpened swords. It is the month which each year, jolts human conscience and reminds mankind of its duties towards religion and society.

It is thus irreligious to indulge in outward modes of worship alone, leaving social, cultural, political and other issues which govern human life, in the hands of charlatans. Likewise, it is self-deception to ignore the Divine Law and give free rein to whimsical ideas of the fallible mind, thereby allowing the fate of the people to slip into a state of social injustice, which in turn provides breeding ground for would-be Yazids.

This is the message of the Muharram, the month of the life-inspiring mourning ceremonies.

In other words, the First of Muharram is not a day of celebration, as is unfortunately done in some Arab states, which seem oblivious to the great sacrifice of the Prophet's grandson. Such celebrations, on the pretext of the start of the so-called New Year are nothing but practices of the days of Jahiliyya, in view of the fact that the Prophet's auspicious migration from Mecca to Medina was not on the eve of Muharram, but on the eve of Rabi al-Awwal. So such frivolities are nothing but plots to distance Muslims from the essence of Islam, as preached by the Prophet's Ahl al-Bayt and guarded by their sacred blood.

Muharram is a time for reflection for Muslims, and the best way of pondering on facts are the mourning ceremonies for Imam Husain (AS) and the martyrs of Karbala that could indeed be part of the Prophet's "Sunnah" (practice) and "Seerah" (behaviour).

Islam does not permit Muslims to indulge in wild celebrations as dancing and drinking - as is done in Persian Gulf Arab states and Egypt.

Rendezvous With Terrorists in Turkey



Syrians walk to the Turkish border crossing of Oncupinar, Kilis.

ONCUPINAR, Turkey (Dispatches) -- The Turkish border crossing of Oncupinar, an hour's drive from the embattled Syrian city of Aleppo, is a chaotic buzz of people waiting to pass into one of the most violent regions in the world. Border guards stand by with machine guns to prevent militants from joining the flow, but within their sight smugglers offer to take travelers across for a surprisingly small fee. One of the men, who claimed to

\$20 – but was willing to bargain. Abdel-Rauf, who gave only his first name for fear of prosecution, said he could take clients within an hour and even help them carry their bags be a former officer for Syrian intela few hundred meters into Syria.

ligence, said he charged just over

A thin man in his 30s with a closecropped beard, Abdel-Rauf asked whether the travelers were headed for territory controlled by pro-Western militants or by ISIL.

Interviews with a half dozen smugglers at Oncupinar and other border crossings indicate that foreign militants approach them regularly – and that the border is porous, with areas near Oncupinar and the adjacent city of Kilis as the primary illegal crossing points. All spoke on condition of anonymity because they feared arrest or violence from criminals and militants they help cross.

Some of the smugglers said they avoid people they suspect might be foreign fighters, while others said they don't ask questions.

The smugglers told stories about being approached by foreigners they suspect to be militants. Some said they avoid helping people who are not Syrian or Turkish, for fear of attention by authorities watching for foreign fighters.

All of those interviewed said that they had seen foreigners, including Westerners, trying to cross; it was impossible to tell how many were trying to join ISIL and how many other militant groups.

One ex-smuggler, who now makes a living exchanging currency and (Continued on Page 7)

Italians Flood Streets to Protest Austerity

ROME (AFP) -- Protesters from premier to take note.

another protest on November 8.

megaphone.

Islam also does not allow Muslims to shed the blood of fellow Muslims, as the Takfiris and other deviated groups practice today by massacring Muslims. This is surely not what was taught to us by the Messenger of Mercy.

With the start of Muharram the blood of Imam Husain (AS) becomes fresh, as the hearts of the faithful turn towards Karbala in Iraq, the rendezvous of martyrs, where the hypocrisy of the Godless Omayyads was unmasked to show them in their true pagan Arab colours.

Muharram is thus the month that jolts human conscience to expose the roots of terrorism which in our days is trying to tarnish the humanitarian image of Islam. This is evident by the bestial ways of the Salafis and similar groups that shamelessly call themselves Muslims, while in practice they have nothing to do with the egalitarian laws of Islam. The eating raw of the bodily organs of human beings, as the Takfiris do in the occupied parts of Syria and Iraq, are certainly not Islamic acts, even if they are mischievously called "Jihadis" and "puritanical Muslims" by the Zionist-supported western media. Islam teaches us the highest form of humanitarian values.

Islam means adherence to the letter and spirit of the holy Qur'an, coupled with love, affection and obedience to the Prophet's Ahl al-Bayt. Islam means resistance against oppressors and readiness to court martyrdom for the defence of humanitarian values as taught by Imam Husain (AS).

This is the message of Imam Husain (AS). This is what the grandson of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) stood for and drank the cup of martyrdom so that humanity could have a worthy model in every age and clime against the forces of oppression and exploitation.

across Italy descended on Rome Saturday for a vast rally against Prime Minister Matteo Renzi's plans to overhaul the job market, in a sign of growing resistance to an ambitious reform drive.

Hundreds of thousands of Italians snaked through the capital calling for Renzi to do more to boost employment and protect the rights of new entries to the job market. Organizers put the number of protesters at one million and called on the

Iranian negotiator said on Saturday the Islamic Republic will not accept

to shut down or even suspend the ac-

tivities of any of its nuclear facilities

"All nuclear capabilities of Iran

will be preserved and no facility

will be shut down or even suspend-

ed and no device or equipment will

be dismantled," Abbas Aragchi,

who is also Iran's deputy foreign

minister for legal and international

in its talks with six world powers.

"We want work for everyone, and work with rights. This is a demonstration for those without work. without rights, those who suffer, who have no certainties for the future," Susanna Camusso, head of the CGIL union which called for the demonstration, told the crowds.

"We are here and we're not going away. We will strike, and use all our strength to fight to change this government's policies," she said, announcing the unions would hold

Iran's Top Negotiator:

Renzi's measures "are not sufficient to change the path Italy is on", she added.

Thousands of young people from all over the country waved the red flags of the CGIL, singing the national anthem and letting off flares in front of the Colosseum to oppose to Renzi's "Jobs Act".

"He said he wanted to see us and count us. Here we are Renzi, count us!" a protester in Rome's San Giovanni Square yelled into a

Youth unemployment in the eurozone's third largest economy stands at a record 44.2%. Those who do manage to find work are often hired on temporary contracts which offer little in the way of security or benefits.

"We want investments in the future," one young person shouted Another held up a banner with a sarcastic "thanks for the 'solution" to our problems Renzi", and a picture of someone vomiting.

(Continued on Page 7)

Prospects for Nuclear Deal Not Good

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – A senior affairs, said.

> "We will not retreat one iota from the country's nuclear rights, but we are fully ready for transparency and confidence-building," he said, adding that Iran will push ahead with "industrial-scale enrichment" of uranium to meet the country's civilian needs.

Araqchi also repeated Iran's call for the removal of all sanctions against the country, saying: "All sanctions should be lifted and the

Islamic Republic of Iran will not accept even a single instance of sanctions to remain in place under a final comprehensive nuclear deal." The Iranian official's remarks came in response to repeated demands from the West that Iran shut down the Fordo nuclear facility in central Iran.

Meanwhile, U.S. Undersecretary of State Wendy Sherman said on Thursday that the P5+1 group, which is negotiating with Iran over

Tehran's nuclear program, has offered the country ideas that are "equitable, enforceable and consistent' with Tehran's desire for a civilian nuclear program, claiming that Iran would be responsible for any failure to reach a permanent accord over its nuclear work.

Iran and the P5+1 group of countries - Russia, China, France, Britain, the U.S. and Germany – are in talks to work out a final deal aimed (Continued on Page 7)