

Hamas Head Hails Iran's Support

GAZA CITY (Dispatches) – Hamas politburo chief Ismail Haniyeh on Sunday hailed the support extended by the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement to the Palestinian resistance. He also said the steadfastness of resistance fighters thwarted the enemy's attempt to impose new equations, whether by singling out the Al-Quds Brigades, the military wing of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad resistance movement, or driving a wedge between the resistance groups.

Kayhan

International



UN Envoy for Syria in Tehran

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian and UN Special Envoy for Syria Geir Pedersen her Sunday discussed the latest developments in Syria, especially a quadrilateral meeting of foreign ministers of Iran, Russia, Turkey and Syria held earlier this week in Moscow to work out a settlement to Turkish-Syrian disputes. Pedersen, who visited Iran within the framework of regional talks, briefed senior Iranian officials on measures taken by the UN regarding Syria

VOL NO: LV 11977 TEHRAN / Est.1959

Monday, May 15, 2023, Ordibehesht 25, 1402, Shawwal 24, 1444, Price 300,000 Rials

Viewpoint

Nakba Anniversary Heralds the Imminent End of Israel

Naval Flotilla Docks in Omani Port After Record Voyage



Iran Men's Saber Team Advances to Semis in Spain World Cup



Yemenis Hold Mass Rallies to Support Palestinians



Imam Sadeq (AS) – the Epitome of Truth

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

"O' you who have faith, be wary of Allah and be with the Truthful (Sadeqeen)!" (Holy Qur'an 9:119)

The commandment of the Almighty Creator is crystal clear. He exhorts us to be conscious of His Omnipresence and to follow the path of the Truthful. It is in the innate nature of human beings to seek the Truth and to follow the Truthful, except for those who have sold their souls to the Satan and as per the dictates of the devil, are determined to distort the truth.

"Sadeqeen" or the "Most Truthful", as defined by God and in the lexicon of His Revealed Word, the Holy Qur'an, is a term exclusively reserved for a group of Spotlessly Pure Persons born and raised as the firmest of monotheists, who never ever speak a wrong word (let alone lies), neither side for a single moment with anyone with even a speck of untruth, nor show the slightest tendency towards a cause devoid of truth.

The singular form of this Arabic word is **"Sadeq"**. It is the famous epithet of the Messenger of Mercy, Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), whom Almighty Allah had entrusted the truth of Islam in order to deliver humanity from the darkness of disbelief, the darkness of ignorance, the darkness of arrogance, the darkness of oppression, the darkness of atheism, the darkness of polytheism, and all other forms of untruth that darken minds, hearts, and souls.

As the Divine Emissary, he diligently discharged his duties in the face of heavy odds to the extent that the pagan Arabs, who had opposed his message of truth and resorted to armed plots against him, saw no other choice but to pay lip service to Islam and claim to be his companions (Sahaba in Arabic).

Does this mean anyone from among his Sahaba was worthy to carry on the mission of the Last Prophet after him?

The answer is a big "NO". The fact is that, none of the Sahaba, however hard and sincere they strove to be truthful on embracing the truth of Islam, were, unlike the **"Sadeq"**, products of the untruth of the days of ignorance, including idolatry and indulgence in sins – from which the representatives of Allah are free.

Thus, as per Divine Commandment, the person who never said anything by himself, but it was revelation revealed to him (Surah Najm) pronounced the famous **"Hadith Thaqalayn"** (the "Two Precious Things" he was leaving behind as means of salvation for mankind – the Holy Qur'an and his progeny the Ahl al-Bayt).

He then proclaimed as his Divinely-designated Vicegerent, to a huge gathering of Muslims at Ghadeer-Khom, his cousin and son-in-law, the Immaculate Imam Ali ibn Taleb (AS), regarding whom he explicitly said: **"Ali is with the Truth and Truth is with Ali."**

With the issue of Imamate of the **"Sadeqeen"** (Most Truthful) sealed by the Seal of Prophets, it was but natural for the emergence of another popularly known **"Sadeq"** from the offspring of the **"First Sadeq"**.

The advent of Shawwal 25 every year reminds us of the pivotal role of this **"Sadeq"** of the House of Divine Revelation in reviving the **"Sunnah"**, **"Seerah"** and **"Shari'ah"** of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) in its pure and pristine form, after it had been tainted by the forces of darkness which had usurped the political right of leadership of the Ahl al-Bayt by setting up the caliphate of untruth.

Imam **"Ja'far as-Sadeq"** (AS) needs no introduction. Born in 83 AH on the 17th of Rabi al-Awwal (the 136th birth anniversary of his ancestor the Prophet), his life was cut short at the age of 65 in 148 AH, due to a fatal dose of poison given on the orders of Mansour Dawaniqi, the 2nd untruthful caliph of the usurper Abbasid regime. He who was a 12-year boy when his grandfather Imam Zain al-Abedin (AS) – son of Imam Husain (AS) the Immortal Martyr of Karbala – passed away. In 114 AH at the age of 31 he was entrusted with the Divine Trust of Imamate on the martyrdom of his father, Imam Muhammad Baqer (AS), during the rule of the Omayyad tyrant, Hisham ibn Abdul-Malek.

For the next 34 years he relentless strove in the manner of the Prophet to enlighten the Ummah in those crucial days when the forces of untruth – the Omayyads and the Abbasids – were battling with each for power of the Islamic state that belonged to neither of them.

His period of Imamate could be roughly divided equally between the two tyrannical regimes, and as the Prophet's 6th Infallible Successor and Heir to the Divine legacy of the Holy Qur'an, he fully utilized the crucial years of infighting to take the famous academy of Medina to its greatest height.

At one time, 4,000 scholars sat at the feet of the **"Sadeq of the Age"** to learn religious and rational sciences. These included the Father of Chemistry, Jaber Ibn Hayyan (Geber to medieval Europe), the Master of Rhetoric, Hisham ibn al-Hakam, the Theologian Aban ibn Thaghlab, the Jurist Abu Hanifa, and etc.

The Imam of Truthful, however, was not left undisturbed by the forces of untruth. If during the Omayyad era he had to endure the martyrdom of his uncle, Zayd ibn Ali, and first cousin Yahya ibn Zayd; with the coming to power of the equally oppressive Abbasids he had to suffer the martyrdom of his second cousins Mohammad Nafs-e Zakiyah, and Ibrahim.

In addition, Mansour, who martyred many male members of the line of Imam Hasan Mujtaba (AS) – burying most of them alive – committed the treason of calling the Shi'ites or devoted followers of the Ahl al-Bayt as **"rafidhoon"** or rejecters of the caliphate of the untruthful.

Yet Imam Sadeq (AS) spared no efforts to spread the true teachings of the Prophet in the society at a time when pseudo jurisprudents on the payroll of the regime were resorting to **"qiyas"** (guesswork) on the bases of spurious hadith.

Eventually, Mansour had the Prophet's 6th Infallible Heir martyred, little knowing that it is God's Will to keep the torch of Divine Guidance glowing forever, up to the advent of the Prophet's 12th and Last Successor, Imam Mahdi (AS), to establish the global government of peace, prosperity, and justice.

Today, the blessed tomb of Imam Sadeq (AS) in Medina lies in ruins, having been destroyed last century by the Wahhabi cult, but the faithful continue to salute his resting place from near and far, while promoting throughout the world the immortal legacy of the Imam of the Truthful.

Leader: Culture-Building Requires Books



Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei visits the Tehran International Book Fair and talks to publishers on Sunday.

TEHRAN -- Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei on Sunday toured the Tehran International Book Fair, highlighting the significance of books in Iranian culture.

After three years of coronavirus-related restrictions, the Leader visit-

ed for the first time the Tehran International Book Fair and underscored the importance of books in cultural development, despite the prevalence of digital media.

"Culture-building in the country requires books, and despite the ex-

pansion of virtual spaces, books still hold their high status," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

Books, the Leader said, are the foundation of all artistic, media, and cultural activities, including theater, cinema, painting, and audio-visual

work. "No one can produce good media and art work without being regularly in touch with books," the Leader said.

During the three-hour visit, the Leader expressed satisfaction with the large number of visitors and book purchases at the Tehran book fair.

The Tehran International Book Fair is an enormous cultural event for the public and plays a significant role in promoting all aspects of culture in the country, Ayatollah Khamenei said.

When asked about his personal interest in books, the Leader said he has a strong passion for reading and reads books of all genre.

"I read technical and specialized books, as well as scientific and fiction books," he said.

Ayatollah Khamenei further urged young Iranians to read widely and develop a deep interest in books to enrich their lives.

The 34th edition of Tehran's International Book Fair kicked off on May 10 and will be running for ten days. The event is held at the Imam Khomeini Mosalla, a grand mosque in north-central Tehran.

All Eyes on Turkey's Elections

ANKARA, Turkey (Dispatches) — Election polls closed Sunday in Turkey, where President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's 20-year leadership of the country hung in the balance after a strong challenge from an opposition candidate.

The election could grant Erdogan, 69, a new five-year term or unseat him in favor of the head of an invigorated opposition, Kemal Kilicdaroglu, who has promised to return Turkey to a more pro-West path. If no candidate receives more than 50% of the vote, the race will be determined in a May 28 run-off.

Voters also elected lawmakers to fill Turkey's 600-seat parliament. If his political alliance wins, Erdogan could continue governing without much restriction. The opposition has promised to return Turkey's governance system to a parliamentary system of governance if it wins both the presidential and parliamentary ballots.

Pre-election polls gave a slight lead to Kilicdaroglu, 74, the joint candidate of a six-party opposition alliance who leads the center-left, pro-secular Republican People's Party, or CHP.

Voting began at 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) and polls closed at 5 p.m. (1400 GMT). Under Turkey's election custom, news organizations are barred from reporting

partial results until an embargo lifts at 9 p.m. (1800 GMT). There are no exit polls.

More than 64 million people, including 3.4 million overseas voters, were eligible to vote in the elections, which come the year the country will mark the centenary of its establishment as a republic. Voter turnout in Turkey is traditionally strong, reflecting citizens' continued belief in democratic balloting.

Turkey is wracked by a steep cost-of-living crisis and is reeling from the effects of a powerful earthquake that caused devastation in 11 southern provinces in February, killing more than 50,000 people.

Internationally, the elections were being watched closely as a test of a united opposition's ability to dislodge Erdogan who has accused the opposition of colluding with "terrorists".

In a bid to secure support from citizens hit hard by inflation, he has increased wages and pensions and subsidized electricity and gas bills, while showcasing Turkey's homegrown defense and infrastructure projects.

He also extended the political alliance of his ruling Justice and Development Party, or AKP, with two nationalist parties to include

Thousands in London, New York Rally to Mark 'Nakba'

LONDON (Dispatches) -- Thousands of people marched in London commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Nakba, or catastrophe, which refers to the mass forced expulsion of Palestinians by Zionist militias to make way for the creation of Israel in 1948.

The demonstration, titled "Nakba 75 – End Apartheid, End the Occupation", gathered in the heart of London outside the BBC headquarters before participants made their way to Downing Street, where the office of the British prime minister is located.

"The Nakba was not just a singular event, today we are still living the effect of the Nakba," Leanne Muhammad, a British Palestinian activist attending the rally, told Middle East Eye.

"Seventy-five years ago my family was expelled from their home in Haifa, Palestine, by Zionist militias. They ended up as refugees in Lebanon. Three-quarters of a century later they are still living in that same refugee camp," she said.

The London event was organized by the Palestinian Forum in Britain, Friends of Al-Aqsa, the Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC) and the Muslim Association of Britain.

"We mark the Nakba not just as a historical event but as a continuing

process of oppression enacted over the past 75 years through ongoing colonisation of land, enforcement of apartheid and military occupation," said the PSC on its website.

The march was attended by the former leader of the Labor Party, Jeremy Corbyn, who has been a lifelong campaigner against the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

"Today we marched through London to mark the 75th anniversary of the Nakba and speak out against the ongoing dispossession of the Palestinian people. End the occupation. Free Palestine," said Corbyn in a message on Twitter.

Between 1947 and 1949, Zionist forces seized more than 78 percent of historic Palestine and expelled at least 750,000 Palestinians from their lands and homes.

Many of those joining the rally were young Palestinians who spoke of the need to continue to remember the Nakba.

"They say 'the old will die, the young will forget', and for my generation of Palestinians we have proven that no one has forgotten and, if anything, our existence is our resistance," one demonstrator told MEE.

More than 80 percent of the Palestinian population was expelled from their homeland in 1948 after

(Continued on Page 7)

(Continued on Page 7)