

Revenge...

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Their presence, despite the long and arduous journey, highlighted the deep-rooted commitment to the principles of resistance and sacrifice.

The farewell ceremony also witnessed significant statements from state officials, reinforcing the nation's resolve in the face of this immense loss. The Ministry of Intelligence issued a statement declaring that the "hearts of the Iranian people will not find peace until the perpetrators of this crime are punished," and reaffirmed its commitment to "avenge the blood of the martyred leader".

Hassan Hasanzadeh, the head of the funeral committee, confirmed that the bodies of the martyred leader and his family members will be transferred from the Mosalla on Sunday evening. He also stated that the funeral procession would take place on Monday, emphasizing that the transportation of the bodies would be conducted via ground vehicles, allowing for maximum public participation.

The mourners, in turn, made it clear that their presence was not just an act of farewell but a testament to their unwavering loyalty. They pledged to follow the path laid out by the late leader, to safeguard the nation's sovereignty, and to carry the torch of resistance until the last drop of their blood.

A senior citizen, wiping away tears, told a reporter, "We have lost our father, but we will not let his legacy die. We will continue to stand up against the oppressors, just as he taught us." Another young woman, holding a portrait of the late leader, declared, "We are here to show the world that we are united and that we will never bow down to tyranny."

The ceremony also witnessed a clear demonstration of allegiance to the new Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei. The chants of "Labbaik Ya Syyed Mojtaba" reverberated through the Mosalla, signaling the people's acceptance of the new leadership and their commitment to continue the path of resistance.

The transition of leadership was marked by a sense of continuity and purpose. The mourners, in their grief, found solace in the knowledge that the principles of resistance, independence, and dignity that defined the late leader's tenure would remain intact under the new leadership.

The farewell ceremony marks the beginning of a week of mourning across Iran. The body of the martyred leader will be taken to Qom, Najaf, and Karbala before being laid to rest in Mashhad. A public holiday has been declared for Sunday to allow for maximum participation in the funeral rites. The government has also announced that a special session of parliament will be held to honor the late leader's legacy and to outline the path forward.

The funeral ceremonies, which have drawn participation from across the political spectrum and from diverse segments of society, serve as a powerful reminder of the deep-rooted unity and resilience of the Iranian people. In the face of adversity, they have stood firm, united by their shared values and their commitment to the principles of resistance and independence.

Foreign media outlets were compelled to acknowledge the scale and significance of the event. CNN described the funeral as an "epic display of mourning, national power, and social cohesion," noting that the spectacle unfolds on the 250th American Indepen-

dence Day — a convergence that turns an imperial milestone into a showcase of Washington's foreign policy failure.

Reuters reported that "mourners filed into the vast courtyard... beating their chests, wailing and waving banners," capturing the raw emotion of a populace that has transformed personal grief into a collective statement of resolve.

The Associated Press (AP) noted that "hundreds of thousands of mourners began a dayslong funeral... calling for revenge against Israel and the United States," rhythmically chanting, "Our word is one! Revenge! Revenge!"

The Guardian, despite its tendency to magnify Iran's challenges, conceded that "the scale of the six-day funeral has been conceived to relay political and religious messages of resistance to the rest of the world," admitting that the event has become one of the greatest in Iran's history since the 1979 revolution.

The presence of diplomatic delegations from nearly 100 countries — including senior officials from Russia, China, Pakistan, Armenia, Iraq, and other regional states — has been interpreted by analysts as a sign of a "global renewal of allegiance" to the ideals of the martyred leader.

Reuters and The New York Times emphasized that the long line of diplomats and religious leaders at Tehran's Mosalla displayed an image of the "spiritual and political influence" of the late leader on the international stage — influence that extends beyond geographic borders.

The Anadolu Agency described the event as "one of the most extensive diplomatic, media, and security operations of recent decades," noting the presence of 14,000 journalists and photographers from around the world.

Al Jazeera reported that "representatives from more than 100 countries" attended, transforming the capital into a hub of solidarity despite reported State Department pressure to deter dignitaries.

Hebrew-language media acknowledged that the events in Tehran amounted to "the consolidation of Iran's victory on the battlefield," noting that instead of fracturing the state, Western aggression permanently cemented coordination with the Resistance Front.

Israeli analysts observed that the arrival of foreign delegations, despite American attempts to sabotage the event, represents a severe political defeat for Washington.

Testimonies collected by international media underlined a deeply ingrained generational commitment to the path of resistance. "Imam Khamenei was our heart, our father, our everything," mourner Masoumeh Mohammadi told AP. "We will not rest until we avenge his death."

Mobina Razaaghi, an 18-year-old student from Isfahan, told Reuters that "only by avenging his blood, demanding justice for it, and ensuring that our Leader's blood is not left unavenged, can this sorrow be somewhat alleviated".

Arash Rahimi, 40, declared: "We will certainly avenge his blood... Everyone here has come to avenge the blood of their Leader. As our Leader has said, we have a blood feud with the United States."

These testimonies reflect a broader sentiment that the funeral is not merely a farewell but a mandate for continued resistance and retaliation.

The Wall Street Journal admitted the ceremonies constituted a "massive show of defiance by the Islamic Republic against the West," set to be "one of the largest gatherings in history".

A translator, Hussein Ansari, told the newspaper that the crowds would "show to those inside and outside the country that, unlike what is being portrayed in the West, the majority of the people respected him in the country even if they were not that religious".

An unnamed woman characterized the political legacy of Ayatollah Khamenei to the newspaper as "Iran-centrism and resistance against the world's major powers, in the sense that we should decide our own future ourselves".

Wang Jin, director of the Center for Strategic Studies at Northwest University in China, said Iran's ability to bring together millions of mourners reflected continued internal cohesion and strong mobilization capacity through religious and political networks.

He noted that the presence of non-Western states showed that efforts to isolate Iran had not achieved their intended effect, pointing to sustained engagement from countries outside the Western bloc and to Iran's ability to maintain ties through a more multipolar international environment.

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Yemenis...

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forces "will not accept the continuation of the unjust Saudi-American blockade indefinitely" and that all units are fully prepared to implement any decision made by the Ansarullah leadership.

Sanaa International Airport has been under a crippling Saudi-American blockade for nearly 11 years. The Iranian flight's successful landing marked a major breach of that siege.

Iran's initiative also enabled the transport of official and public delegations traveling to Tehran for the funeral ceremonies of the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

The Saudi-led coalition intervened in Yemen in 2015 after the Sanaa government ousted the Saudi-backed puppet regime, and the conflict has since caused widespread displacement and damage, with the UN describing the situation as one of the world's most severe humanitarian crises.

A UN-mediated truce first reached in April 2022 was renewed twice but expired after six months, though both sides have largely maintained a "de facto ceasefire" since then.

The renewed threats come months after the Saudi proxies and the Sanaa government agreed to their largest prisoner exchange, confirmed in May, which included seven Saudi prisoners of war.

Fighting has largely been frozen since the UN-negotiated truce in 2022, though Saudi Arabia continues to violate Yemeni sovereignty through its ongoing aerial bombardment and illegal blockade.

How...

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operational and live-fire testing

requirements written into law.

The consequences are now playing out on the battlefield. The terrorist war on Iran seriously depleted American missile stocks, according to multiple analyses.

CSIS found the U.S. expended roughly 45% of its Precision Strike Missiles, at least half of its THAAD interceptors, and nearly 50% of its Patriot air defense missiles during the 40-day war. Over 1,000 Tomahawk cruise missiles were also launched.

"The high munitions expenditures have created a window of increased vulnerability in the western Pacific," warned retired Marine Corps Colonel Mark Cancian.

While the Department of War awarded a \$4.76 billion contract in April to accelerate Patriot production, the effort only highlights the core problem. At the current build rate of 600 missiles per year, it will take three years to replace what was used in a little over a month. Every PAC-3 MSE interceptor carries a production lead time of 24 months for the missile and 30 months for the solid rocket motor.

The New York Times concluded the war represents a "singular strategic defeat" for the United States. After weeks of tough talk, the deaths of 13 Americans, and at least \$29 billion in taxpayer money — later revised to \$113.3 billion — the stated goals of the war have not been met.

Iran retained about 70 percent of its missile stockpiles. The Islamic Republic is much stronger. The war exposed fundamental shortcomings in the U.S. military-industrial base.

As one analysis concluded, "A one-time infusion of money does little to persuade suppliers to hire specialized labor or expand tooling."

Islamic ...

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agendas, hailing him as a wise leader whose decisions played a decisive role in Iran's military, logistical and political support for the Palestinian cause.

Islamic Jihad Secretary-General Ziyad al-Nakhalah, who attended the funeral ceremonies in Tehran, told reporters he had come on behalf of Palestinian resistance fighters to pay tribute to the late Leader.

Al-Nakhalah described Ayatollah Khamenei as a distinguished leader with a deep commitment to the Palestinian cause, adding that Palestinians held him in high regard. He also said the Islamic Republic had consistently supported the Palestinian people and would continue to do so.

Sharif...

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He was received at the airport by Iranian officials.

The Pakistani embassy in Tehran said in a statement that Sharif, at the invitation of Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, attended the funeral ceremony of Ayatollah Khamenei.

"On this solemn occasion, the prime minister recalled the lasting contributions of the late Supreme Leader to Islam. He paid rich tribute to the late Supreme Leader, who guided the Iranian nation for decades with remarkable wisdom and sagacity," the embassy said.

Sharif expressed full solidarity with new Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei, and President Pezeshkian.

Pakistan played a key role in brokering the ceasefire between Iran and the United States following

the U.S.-Israeli aggression against Iran on February 28. The Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding, signed by President Pezeshkian and U.S. President

In a meeting with Field Marshal Munir, Iran's acting Defense Minister Brigadier General Majid Ibn Reza warned that any violation of the Islamabad memorandum would trigger a "necessary and strong" response from Tehran.

Despite Iran's long experience with U.S. lack of commitments, Ibn Reza said Tehran signed the memorandum at the request of friendly countries to prove its goodwill, adding that "any violation of the ceasefire will be met with the necessary and strong response of the Islamic Republic of Iran".

Ibn Reza emphasized that Israel remains the root cause of insecurity in the region and urged Muslim countries to adopt a coordinated approach to counter the common threat.

"The recent war once again proved the ineffectiveness of the security system reliant on foreign powers and showed that sustainable security can only be achieved through understanding, cooperation, and synergy among regional countries," he said.

The acting minister expressed Iran's readiness to "open a new chapter of defense, security, and strategic cooperation" with Pakistan.

Field Marshal Munir, for his part, described defense cooperation between Tehran and Islamabad as steadily expanding and said both sides were determined to further strengthen military ties.

The funeral ceremonies in Tehran drew one of the largest gatherings of foreign dignitaries in Iran in recent decades, with representatives from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas attending. Iranian officials estimate that between 15 and 20 million mourners will take part in the week-long funeral processions.

President...

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Pezeshkian referred to Israel's destructive role in the region, stating that the regime has played a direct role in numerous regional crises over the past decades "yet simultaneously attempts to portray others as the source of insecurity."

"The primary objective of this approach is to stoke discord among Islamic nations and undermine the capabilities of the Islamic world in order to advance its own illegitimate interests," Pezeshkian said.

He emphasized that greater cohesion and cooperation among Muslim countries would diminish the potential for interference by destructive actors in the region.

Yilmaz conveyed a message of condolence from Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and noted that ties between Tehran and Ankara have consequences for the region.

"The stronger and closer the relations between Iran and Turkey, the more the scope for extra-regional interference and the creation of rifts among regional countries will diminish," Yilmaz said.

"Regional security and stability hinge on cooperation, dialogue, and mutual trust among the countries of the region."

He requested that Pezeshkian convey Erdogan's greetings and condolences to the new Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei.

Iran...

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allies in response to the U.S.-Israeli aggression and then began asserting more control in retaliation for the U.S. sustaining an illegal naval blockade of Iranian ports and vessels despite a standing ceasefire.

The Strait of Hormuz, a narrow

chokepoint linking the Persian Gulf to open seas, is one of the world's most strategically important maritime corridors, handling around one-fifth of global oil and liquefied natural gas shipments.

Under the MoU, Iran's sovereign role in managing the Strait of Hormuz which lies within the territorial waters of Iran and Oman is affirmed as a recognition of strategic reality and the sovereign rights of coastal states under international law to regulate maritime traffic.

Gharibabadi's warning came days after he rejected a U.S.-led regional security dialogue in Bahrain, stating that "Hormuz is defined under Iran's command, not CENTCOM".

He stressed that regional security would be achieved through an end to foreign interference and U.S. withdrawal from the region, "not under the military patronage of the U.S."

Ghalibaf...

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your malnutrition rates," Ghalibaf retorted.

In televised remarks, the speaker noted that Washington had previously maintained it would not release funds belonging to Iran but later agreed, following mediation efforts by Qatar and travel by Iranian officials to Doha, to release \$6 billion in Iranian assets and commit to the release of an additional \$6 billion.

American officials have made repeated claims about how these funds would be released, only to prompt pushback from Iranian authorities, Ghalibaf said.

Bilingual...

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documented account of humanitarian solidarity and mutual respect between the Iranian and Italian peoples. It argues that the collection illustrates the role of cultural diplomacy in fostering dialogue across national boundaries during periods of crisis.

According to the publication, the messages were submitted by a broad cross-section of Italian society, including government officials, political party representatives, religious leaders, university professors, intellectuals, cultural activists, media professionals, and private citizens.

Many individuals visited the Iranian Embassy in Rome to sign the official book of condolences, while others conveyed their messages electronically.

The embassy says the compilation preserves a significant chapter in the contemporary history of Iran-Italy relations, reflecting what it describes as widespread expressions of sympathy and respect from Italy during a period of national mourning.

The Epic of Solidarity is available for purchase in bookstores across Italy and through the official website of Anteo Edizioni at a retail price of €20.

Archaeological...

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a decorated pre-Mongol water structure, a pottery kiln, architectural remains dating to the late Islamic period, stone walls, brick-paved surfaces believed to date to the Seljuk era, and part of a historic thoroughfare.

A second excavation season, conducted opposite Kamar Zarrin Mosque last year, revealed additional architectural remains along with artifacts including lustreware tiles from the Islamic period, distinctive ceramics and historic coins.

Local authorities say the third phase has been made possible following the municipal acquisition of properties within the project area, allowing archaeologists to continue investigations while advancing plans to develop the expanded site museum.