

Iraq PM Reaffirms Ties With Iran in Talks With Pezeshkian
BAGHDAD (Dispatches) -- Iraq's Prime Minister Ali Faleh al-Zaidi on Wednesday offered condolences to Iran over the martyrdom of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei during a meeting with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian in the holy city of Najaf, according to Iraq's state news agency INA.
 Al-Zaidi said relations between Baghdad and Tehran remain strong and expressed his condolences to the Iranian government and people over the martyrdom of Ayatollah Khamenei. Pezeshkian is accompanied by Mohseni Qomi, deputy for international affairs at the Office of the Supreme Leader, as well as Iran's foreign and interior ministers and the deputy speaker of parliament.


Kayhan International

Leader's Aide Reaffirms Iran's Unwavering Support for Yemen's Ansarallah
TEHRAN -- Ali Akbar Velayati, the Leader's international adviser, reiterated Tehran's steadfast support for regional resistance movements during a meeting with a delegation from Yemen's Ansarallah movement on Tuesday.
 Velayati stated that Iran's position against colonial powers seeking to eliminate resistance is "strong, clear and unchangeable." He asserted that after a 40-day war, the U.S. has no place in West Asia and that the power balance has shifted in favor of resisting nations. He called for an immediate end to Yemen's siege. The delegation welcomed a proposal to establish an Islamic Azad University branch in Sanaa.

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Viewpoint
Massive Qom Rally Testifies the Nation's Iron Resolve

Part I: Culture as the Soul of Civilization



Children's Corner



U-18 Basketball Team Defeats Palestine in West Asia Opener



Greatest Funeral in History: 20 Million Demand Vengeance

TEHRAN -- Tens of millions of mourners filled the streets of Tehran and the holy city of Qom over three days to bid a final farewell to the martyred Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, and four members of his family assassinated alongside him in a February 28 U.S.-Israeli terrorist strike.

The weeklong funeral ceremonies, a referendum on the Islamic Republic, transformed the capital and the country's spiritual center into seas of black-clad mourners, waving blood-red flags of vengeance in scenes reminiscent of the 1989 funeral of Imam Khomeini.

The scale of the outpouring—with estimates suggesting up to 20 million participants across Tehran alone—sent a powerful message of resilience to Iran's adversaries at a time of profound national trauma.

The multi-day funeral began on Friday, July 3, with a formal memorial service in Tehran attended by high-level delegations from more than 30 countries, including Russia, China, Pakistan, India, and Cuba, as well as religious leaders from over 90 nations.

On Saturday and Sunday, the bodies lay in state at Tehran's Grand Mosalla prayer complex, where millions of ordinary Iranians filed past the coffins to pay their respects. Sunday's funeral prayer marked the formal religious farewell before the main procession.

But it was Monday's procession through the heart of Tehran and Tuesday's ceremonies in Qom that would come to define the historic nature of the farewell—a spectacle of collective grief compared to the legendary funeral of the revolution's



This combination of pictures shows mourning processions held in Tehran and Qom on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

founder in 1989.

On Monday, the main funeral procession began at approximately 6:00 a.m., with a truck carrying the coffins of the martyred Leader and his family members—including his daughter Seyyedeh Boshra Khamenei, his son-in-law Dr. Mesbah al-Hoda Bagheri,

his daughter-in-law Zahra Haddad Adel, and his 14-month-old granddaughter Zahra Muhammadi Golpayegani—inching its way along a 20-kilometer route through Tehran's main streets.

The route extended from eastern Tehran through Damavand Street, Imam Hus-

sein Square, and onto Enghelab Street—a thoroughfare steeped in revolutionary history—before passing through Enghelab Square and continuing on Azadi Street, culminating at the symbolic Azadi Square in the west of the city, and then heading to Shahid Lashkari Highway.

Tehran's airspace was completely

closed for the duration of the procession, a measure taken to ensure security for the unprecedented gathering.

National television showed a huge sea of mourners who had turned out for the event, despite sweltering heat that nudged 40 degrees Celsius. Trucks equipped with water hoses sprayed mourners along the route to provide relief from the scorching sun.

The atmosphere was charged with emotion and defiance. Mourners threw flower petals onto the coffins—including the tiny casket of the Leader's infant granddaughter—beat their chests in mourning, and chanted slogans calling for revenge, including "Kill Trump," while carrying blood-red flags symbolizing vengeance in Shia Islam alongside portraits of the new Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei.

"I came with honor and pride to show all the people of the world how much we loved him and how committed we are to the system, the people, and the Islamic republic," said Melika Nourian, a 22-year-old university student in Tehran.

In a striking display of collective fury, mourners were seen hurling stones at a billboard displaying Trump's face, with a sign reading: "The U.S. killed our father. We won't let you go!"

Muhammad Rasouli, a poet addressing the hundreds of thousands gathered at Tehran's Grand Mosalla, drew thunderous chants of "Death to America" and "Death to Israel" when he asked: "Why is the most bastard man in the world still alive?"

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Iraqis Welcome Martyred Leader in Historic Funeral Processions

NAJAF/TEHRAN -- The aircraft carrying the body of the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and members of his family landed at Najaf International Airport Tuesday evening, as Iraq prepares for historic funeral ceremonies in the holy cities of Najaf and Karbala.

Iraqi Prime Minister Ali Faleh al-Zaydi was present at the airport to receive the body and the high-level Iranian delegation led by President Masoud Pezeshkian, who departed Tehran for Najaf on Tuesday evening to participate in the ceremonies.

Streets, intersections, and various areas of Najaf and Karbala have been adorned with images of the martyred Leader. One banner in particular has drawn attention, welcoming him with the words: "Welcome, O humiliator of America and normalization."

Iranian Consul General in Karbala Jafar Safari described

the funeral ceremonies in Iraq as not merely a religious and national ritual, but an event with strategic and political consequences that will have profound implications for the resistance front and regional actors. He stated that the funeral sends a clear and explicit message to the enemies of the resistance front, especially the United States and the Zionist regime.

IRGC Quds Force Commander Brigadier General Esmail Qaani issued a message stating that the unprecedented funeral of the martyred Leader in Iraq will strengthen the red line of blood vengeance.

"The unprecedented funeral of our martyred Leader in Iraq, like the magnificent funerals of martyrs Soleimani and Abu Mahdi, will strengthen the clenched fists of the two nations against American plots and make the red line of blood vengeance more prominent," Qaani declared.

Qais al-Khazali, Secretary-General of Iraq's Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq movement, called on all segments of the Iraqi nation to participate, emphasizing that all of Iraq—Muslims and Christians, Sabaeans and Yazidis, Arabs, Kurds, Turkmen and Shabaks, Shia and Sunni—will unite to bid farewell to the martyred Leader.

According to the schedule, the official ceremonies in Najaf will begin at 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, with the main funeral procession starting at 4:00 p.m. from Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis Street. The primary responsibility for implementing the ceremony falls on the Popular Mobilization Forces, with 11 Iraqi provinces declared closed on the day of the event.

The Iraqi government has declared a nationwide holiday, and Iranians have also traveled to Iraq in large numbers to bid farewell to their martyred Leader.

Officials Say Revenge Sovereign Duty as Millions Demand Justice

TEHRAN -- Iran's highest officials have declared that the assassination of the late Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei will be avenged, as the nation's leaders respond to the demands of millions of mourners who filled the streets of Tehran and Qom in the largest funeral ceremonies in Iran's modern history.

First Vice President Muhammad Reza Aref announced that the punishment of the assassins is a sovereign duty that will be fulfilled through strategic rationality.

"The rightful demand of the nation to punish the assassins, which was raised during the epic funeral procession, is a legitimate request and consistent with the international principles of self-defense," Aref stated on social media.

"The realization of the Islamic Republic of Iran's right to definitive punishment of the perpetrators of this crime is a sovereign duty that will be fulfilled through strategic rationality."

Iran's Secretary of the Supreme

National Security Council Muhammad Bagher Zolghadr delivered a firm response to U.S. President Donald Trump's latest threats, stressing that Tehran will not tolerate disrespectful language.

Speaking to reporters in the Oval Office on Monday, Trump declared: "We're either going to make a deal, or we're going to finish the job. It won't be tough to finish the job."

Zolghadr responded directly, describing Trump as "delusional" for threatening Iran's 91 million people.

"To the delusional President of America, who today threatened 91 million Iranians, I say: Previously, as the president of a rootless country with a mere 250-year history, you spoke in similar terms about erasing Iran's several-thousand-year-old civilization. The only result for you was defeat, helplessness, and desperate pleas for negotiations and ceasefire," Zolghadr said.

"Iranians are not familiar with the language of threats. There-

fore, speak to the Iranian people with respect; otherwise, we will respond to you in a different language," the senior official warned.

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi pointed to a clause in the U.S.-Iran memorandum of understanding (MoU) which prohibits the use of threat or force, particularly during ongoing technical negotiations.

"Millions of proud Iranians rallied in unity to honor Grand Ayatollah Khamenei and his legacy. Neither them nor our brave Armed Forces are moved by any threats," the foreign minister said on Tuesday.

"Paragraph 13 of the MoU is clear: Negotiations on final deal will not commence if threats continue. Honor your signature," Araghchi went on to say, addressing Washington.

Ebrahim Azizi, the chairman of the Iranian Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, delivered an equally forceful message to the world following

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