Leader of the Islamic Revolution, in a meeting with a group of poets and Persian language and literature professors - 5 /Apr/ 2023

On the auspicious night of the birth anniversary of the noble of Ahl al-Bayt, the honourable Imam Hasan Mujtaba (a.s), a group of Persian language and literature professors, as well as young and seasoned poets, met with the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution.

During this meeting, Ayatollah Khamenei expressed his satisfaction with the expansion of poetry in the country and considered poetry to be an influential and lasting medium. Referring to the widespread and unparalleled importance of poetry in certain periods of Islamic history, he said: "The distinguished feature of Persian poetry is the production of spiritual and intellectual capital, which is reflected in the peaks of Persian poetry and the wisdom-filled and insightful poems of prominent poets such as Ferdowsi, Nizami, Rumi, Saadi, and Hafez."

The Leader of the Revolution also underscored the preservation of the capital and essence of Persian poetry even in the most challenging periods of Iranian history, such as the invasion and pillage of the Mongols. He said: "Of course, today's invaders, that is, Westerners, have a different appearance and methods that, in addition to the dark history of their crimes during the colonial period, in our time they are also busy with being a menace by equipping rabid dogs like Saddam with various weapons, especially chemical weapons, to attack Iran, or after that by sanctions."

He also mentioned the medicine embargo and preventing the delivery of vaccines on various pretexts as another example of the Westerners' attacks against Iran. He stated: "If they could, they would not hesitate to deprive the Islamic Republic of Iran and its people of even food."

Ayatollah Khamenei considered the media onslaught and the use of thousands of media outlets by Iran's adversaries to disseminate lies, rumours, and for diversion as another aspect of their diverse attacks on Iran, and added: "The enemy's goal in this invasion is to deprive Iran of its intellectual and ideological strengths and weaken the spirit of national independence, resilience, unity, and Islamic action.

He mentioned the weakening of women's religious beliefs as another example of the onslaught against Iran, and by referring to the influential role of women in the victory of the Islamic Revolution and its subsequent stages, he said: "Westerners have no mercy towards Iranian women and their rights, but rather have animosity towards them and falsely introduce themselves as advocates of freedom and women's rights."

Leader of the Revolution emphasized that advocating for human rights does not suit the Westerners at all, saying: "Westerners are fundamentally against human rights, and everyone has seen what they mean by human rights in ISIS and all the burning or drowning of human beings and in supporting hypocrites and Saddam or committing crimes against Gaza and Palestine."

He referred to the West's support for terrorism and the killing of young believers in the streets of Tehran as another example of their false claim to support human rights. He added: "Our purest youth, such as Arman Alivardi and Ruhollah Ajamian, were killed by torture, provocation, and Westerners' media incitement and training."

Ayatollah Khamenei emphasized the importance of understanding the enemy, their goals, methods, and purpose, saying: "Understanding the dimensions of the enemy's soft war is necessary for everyone, but more so for cultural and artistic activists so that they do not remain passive and can make others aware of the enemy's attacking schemes."

Expressing his satisfaction with the presence of numerous kind-hearted, faithful, and revolutionary poets in the country, Ayatollah Khamenei said: "The spirit of a poet is an emotional and passionate one, but when facing issues, they should not act emotionally; instead, by using their intellect and identifying the situation correctly they should fulfil their duty by using art."

In this meeting, dozens of young and veteran poets recited their poems in the presence of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution.

Maghrib and Isha's prayers were set up and led by the Islamic Revolution's Leader at the beginning of this meeting.