Leader of the Revolution meets Thousands of People in Qom - 9 /Jan/ 2026

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution pointed to some destructive incidents in the country, saying, “There are people whose job is destruction. Just last night in Tehran and in a few other places, a bunch of vandals came and damaged buildings belonging to their own country just to please the President of the United States.”

Ayatollah Khamenei also added that Trump may feel pleased with himself, but if he can, he should go and manage his own country, which is embroiled in all kinds of crises. He said that in the Twelve-Day War, Trump’s hands were stained with the blood of more than a thousand Iranians because he himself admitted that he had given the order to attack and that he had been in command of this war. Yet he himself claimed to be in support of the people of Iran, and some ignorant, mindless people believed it, and, to please him, they set trash bins on fire and these sorts of things. Stressing that the Islamic Republic was born from the blood of several hundred thousand noble souls and will not back down in the face of vandals, he said, “The Islamic Republic will not tolerate serving as hirelings to foreigners, and the Iranian nation rejects anyone, whoever they may be, that serves as a mercenary of a foreign power.”

Regarding the President of the United States, the Leader of the Revolution said, “That fellow who arrogantly and conceitedly speaks and passes judgment about the entire world should know that the tyrants and arrogant powers throughout history, such as Nimrod, Pharaoh, Reza Khan, and Mohammad Reza Pahlavi were toppled when they were at the height of their pride, and he too, will fall.”

At the beginning of his remarks, Ayatollah Khamenei described the people of Qom’s uprising on 19 Dey as an inseparable page in the voluminous tome of Iran’s proud history. He said the pivotal event transformed the accumulated teachings of the Islamic movement into a powerful social mobilisation. Those teachings had been steadily building in the minds and spirits of the people since the start of the movement on 15 Khordad 1342 (June 5, 1963), shaped by the guidance of Imam Khomeini and the sustained efforts of committed intellectuals over the course of many formative years. “Like a bolt of lightning from the sky, it ignited the nation’s fury and hatred toward the dictatorial, American-backed Pahlavi regime, and by shaping successive uprisings, drove the corrupt regime toward collapse and annihilation.”

He described the tyrannical Pahlavi regime as the worst government of the contemporary era. He said, “When that corrupt and feeble regime collapsed, a popular government came to power, just as the Imam had promised. In place of a regime dependent on America, Zionism, and other scoundrels and thugs of the world of politics, an independent government was established in beloved Iran.”

The Leader of the Revolution outlined the flawed policies and miscalculations of the Pahlavi regime and those of the United States as paving the way for the crushing blow of the Qom uprising. He said, "Ten days before the uprising of the noble and revolutionary people of Qom, the U.S. President, while in Tehran, called Pahlavi-era Iran an 'island of stability' and commended the dependent regime, thereby showing that he did not know the Iranian nation at all."

In elaborating on the historical facts and truths, he pointed to the persistence of America’s profound miscalculations regarding the Iranian nation and the Islamic Republic system, saying, “It was these very miscalculations that led the United States to be defeated at that time, and today also they will bring it nothing but defeat again.”

Elaborating on the lessons and causes behind the victory of the Qom uprising and the Iranian nation's triumph in toppling the Pahlavi regime, the Leader said, "At that time, the Iranian nation did not possess military hardware like artillery and tanks, but it was equipped with soft power weaponry, which is the decisive factor in every arena."

He identified faith in Islam, religious and faith-based zeal, a sense of responsibility and duty, and love for Iran as elements of the Iranian nation's soft power in confronting the puppet Pahlavi regime. He said, "The people saw that Americans, their mercenaries and those affiliated with the Zionists were ruling their country, and these very realities made them infuriated, and deeply resentful."

Explaining the outcomes of the nation's steadfastness in the face of America's bullying, the Leader of the Revolution said, "Today, the proud Iranian nation is far stronger, more united, and better prepared in terms of soft power and spiritual strength than that earlier period, and in terms of its hard-power capabilities, they are not even comparable to those of that time."

He criticised those who are upset by the idea of the Iranian nation confronting and standing up to the United States as ignorant individuals, because "They fail to realise that it was America and its affiliates that started and continue this fight against our people. The Islamic Republic, backed by the nation, has wrested Iran's vast wealth and resources from their grip, and that is exactly why America has been so angry and embittered toward the Iranian nation."

The Leader of the Revolution cited events in Latin America as an example of America's efforts to seize the resources of other countries. He stated, "They blockade a country and shamelessly declare, 'We did this for the oil. Just like before the Revolution, when Iran's oil and resources were in the hands of the arrogant powers, the Zionists, and their agents."

Recalling the persistent hostility of the United States towards the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Khamenei added, "By God's grace, the Islamic system grows stronger every day, and their plots to destroy it have failed, to the extent that today, contrary to their wishes, the Islamic Republic stands powerful, dignified, and respected in the world."

He said that the rule of the Islamic Republic is the reason why the enemy has failed despite launching every kind of military, security, economic, and cultural aggression and even mercenary recruitment. Pointing out that, "If a liberal-democratic, monarchical, or otherwise dependent government had been in power in Iran, it could not have withstood these pressures. But this Islamic, people-based system has been able to bring Iran major advances in science and technology, international policy, and in many other areas."

The Leader of the Revolution categorically rejected claims that Iran is isolated, saying, "These claims, which foreigners have started and are echoed by some people in the country, are, in fact, a form of self-deception, because Iran today is recognised in the world as an independent, courageous country with a bright future."

He described young people as the source of many of the country's activities and advancements, adding, "Of course, the youth and the general public are not all at the same level, but overall, the younger generation, contrary to the enemy's lies, is one of Iran's most important assets."

Ayatollah Khamenei disparaged the enemy's effort to portray and depict Iranian youth as deviant, Western-dependent, alienated from religion, licentious, corrupt, and weak-spirited. He said, "This image is one hundred per cent false. He said Iranian youth are valiant in war and stand firm on the front lines; they are perceptive in politics and know America; they are committed in religious matters; and play a prominent role in all arenas, including the 22nd Bahman rallies, Quds Day, spiritual retreats (iʿtikāf), religious celebrations and mourning ceremonies, as well as the funerals and commemorations of martyrs."

He said that the central role of young people in the country's research and scientific advancements, from launching satellites into space, the nuclear industry, stem cells, nanotechnology, and pharmaceuticals, are further sign of the Iranian youth's readiness to play a pioneering role in any field where it is needed.

Addressing young people, Ayatollah Khamenei advised, "Dear youth! Preserve your faith, your political awareness, your active presence and readiness, your seriousness in the progress of the country, and your unity. For a united and cohesive nation prevails over every enemy, and God willing, soon the feeling of victory will soon surge in the hearts of all the Iranian people."