Supreme Leader receives Rakhmonov - 18 /Jan/ 2006

Tehran, Jan 18 - Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei Wednesday told visiting Tajik President Imomali Rakhmonov and his accompanying delegation that the Iranian nation and Iranian officials have true affection for Tajik people.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran would spare no aid to Tajikistan's progress and welfare," he asserted.

Ayatollah Khamenei referred to the two countries' cultural, religious and historical commonalities, their common language in particular, saying that preservation and promotion of the Persian language will be a primary undertaking for the three Persian speaking countries of Iran, Tajikistan and Afghanistan, if boosted credibility and sovereignty in the globe is desired.

The Supreme Leader said that Iran-Tajikistan affective bonds, alongside other political and economic factors, will further deepen cooperation among the two countries in all arenas.

He said that in order to further expand relations, bilateral agreements and letters of understanding must be implemented and both sides remain confident about follow-up efforts to the end.

Touching upon IRI's scientific progress of the Islamic Republic in various fields, he said that Iran can capably absorb and train Tajik students and professionals.

"Iran's access to nuclear technology, though having behind a large amount of hue and cry, well confirms the advances of the Iranian scientists, " he said adding "Westerners' uproar mainly arises from viewing Iranian young scientists' indigenous capabilities in using the advanced technology."

"Officials of the International Atomic Energy Officials (IAEA) too have admitted that Iran is among the members of the world nuclear club," the Supreme Leader said, underlying that Iran "is not, and the westerners know it well, after nuclear weapon, because it stands contrary to the country's political and economic interests as well as Islam's statute."

"For that reason, the Islamic republic of Iran, relying on its principles and unfazed with uproars, will keep on path of scientific progress," he noted, adding "even the whole world could not influence the resolve of the Iranian people."

Rakhmonov for his part lauded "good cooperation" among Iran and Tajikistan in different areas and said that "Tajikistan, owing to common language of the two countries and deep cultural and historical bonds of the two nations, calls for further utilization of experiences of Iranian experts.

He touched on the his talks in Tehran and expressed hope that mutual agreements help rejuvenate Iran-Tajikistan bilateral ties.

President Mahmoud Ahamdinejad was also present in the meeting.

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