No more justified to retain Iran's nuclear case in UNSC - 12 /Jan/ 2008

Islamic Revolution Leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei urged the visiting IAEA Secretary General Mohammad ElBaradei that the agency must remain an independent international body, adding that in light of the ongoing positive climate over the Iranian nuclear activities, it would be a crucial test and a great achievement for the IAEA to properly resolve the issue.

Ayatollah Khamenei pointed out that the Islamic Republic of Iran principally considered the international conventions as mandatory and that it had followed the key platform regarding the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The IR Leader noted that the domineering superpowers did not like to see the IAEA keeping its independence and hence their anger at the agency's position that there was no deviation in Iran's nuclear activities.

Ayatollah Khamenei pointed out that America's dispute with the Islamic Republic System was graver than the nuclear issue, adding however that the Americans were wrongly assuming they could break down the Islamic Republic of Iran by pressing the country over the nuclear issue and that they could not bring the Iranian nation to knee by that or any other issues.

Ayatollah Khamenei reaffirmed the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this regard, saying that it was no more justified to retain Iran's case in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

"The Islamic Republic of Iran has oft declared it is not approve of manufacturing or application of nuclear weapons in light of the Divine statute and its principles," Ayatollah Khamenei underlined.

The IR Leader expressed hope for the early resolution of the remaining matters concerning Iran's nuclear issue.

Mohammad ElBaradei for his part expressed deep pleasure at his meeting with the Islamic Revolution Leader and described IRI as an invaluable and important partner for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The IAEA Secretary General affirmed that the agency and Iran had engaged in good cooperation in recent months in order to render the Iranian nuclear issue transparent.

ElBaradei underlined Iran's right to utilize nuclear energy to develop the country and considered dialogue as the sole option to resolve Iran's nuclear issue.

The Secretary General expressed hope that Iran's nuclear case would be repatriated to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) from the Security Council.

Meanwhile, Qolam-Reza Aqazadeh, chief of IRI's Atomic Energy Organization was also present in the meeting.