Friday prayers - 20 /Sep/ 2008

Islamic Revolution Leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei underlined Friday that the Palestinian issue remains to be the prime regional problem at present, calling for the Muslim people across the globe to take to streets in droves to mark the World Qods Day (Sept 26).

Ayatollah Khamenei told worshippers in Tehran university campus, the venue of Tehran's weekly Friday prayers that the upcoming World Qod Day ceremonies prove more significant as the Zionist regime had tightened the grip on the Palestinian people.

"The usurper regime has heightened pressure over the Palestinians after facing back-to-back defeats. They could not keep their fake dreadful image in the hearts of the Arab nations due to the valiant resistance of Lebanese and Palestinian warriors," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

Ayatollah Khamenei denounced the west over its refusal to recognize the elected Hamas government. "The Gaza-based government of Hamas is the very legal authority which the world is expected to recognize. However, those who profess to cherish civilization but otherwise show no trace of humanity witness how the Zionist regime treats the Palestinians and keep silence and even supports it," the IR Leader deplored.

Ayatollah Khamenei then urged the world of Islam to voice its stance over the issue. "The day of Qods is a favorable chance for the world of Islam. May God confer mercy on Imam Khomeini who designated the day as a day of solidarity with the Palestinian nation," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

Ayatollah Khamenei expressed hope the world of Islam would see a substantial part of its population out of homes and in streets voicing their support to the Palestinian people. "God willing the world of Islam would grab the opportunity to live up to the right of the Palestinian people."

Ayatollah Khamenei also urged the Islamic states to fulfill their great assignment of helping the Hamas government.

In another part of his speech, Ayatollah Khamenei described Imam Ali (A.S.), the first Shii Imam as the most eminent model of God servants.

"Imam Ali in time of authority used to promote moral traits in society as he blamed social problems on unbecoming conduct of members of the society," the IR Leader said.

Ayatollah Khamenei said obsession with worldly matters would lead to deterioration of societies, adding that in the world today, human rights were trampled because the globe was run by several worldly individuals who embark on fake propaganda and unfair policies to realize their goals.

Ayatollah Khamenei then recommended the worshippers to cherish the three most blessed nights of the holy months of Ramadan, known as Qadr Nights which fall on Sept 19, 21 and 23 this year and make company with God. "Company with God would have miracle effects for human heart. It downgrades worldly obsessions and helps human being pay utmost attention to God."

The IR Leader in another regard, appreciated the Iranian nation for its perseverance in following the revolutionary platform in the past thirsty years, adding that the nation would turn the fourth decade of the revolution to time of progress and justice.

Ayatollah Khamenei however noted that the enemies would never spare the nation. "Those who have received slap from Islam and revolution would keep enmity. The nation must opt for the best course in the face of enemy to safeguard national interests."

Ayatollah Khamenei singled out unity as the direst requirement for the present situation, adding that the society must feel secured in terms of political and mental concerns.

"The enemy tries to degrade social tranquility by fanning tensions. Unfortunately, some individuals inside the country inadvertently help heighten such tensions," the IR Leader cautioned, urging the statesmen to quit several minor political debates currently plaguing the political sphere.

The IR Leader then touched on some remarks recently made by a presidential aide that Iran was friend of Israeli people, adding "the Iranian nation has no problem with Jews, Christians or faithful of other religions, but to say that we are friends of the Israeli people like all the other people of the world is inaccurate. They are accomplices of the Zionist regime in usurping the land and properties of the Palestinian people. This is the official stance of the system."

Ayatollah Khamenei then urged for fair judgment regarding the government performance, adding that any opinion about the future of the country or financial problems including inflation must be debated in expert circles free from any political mud slinging which usually takes place in western countries.

"The society is open for making political arguments however everyone must avoid unfair judgments which aim to ruin the character of other individuals," the IR Leader advised.

Ayatollah Khamenei noted that people were not happy with mud slinging remarks of certain individuals, adding that they would make their own opinion free from those political arguments.