Meeting the Iranian authorities and people in the birthday of the Last Messenger of Allah - 15 /Mar/ 2009

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Islamic Revolution Leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei described the birth of the Last Messenger of Allah as a fateful event for the path of humanity.

Ayatollah Khamenei made the remarks in a meeting attended by Iranian authorities and people as well as guests of the 22nd international conference of Islamic unity held in Tehran this week.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the primary undertaking of followers of the Messenger was to make diligent efforts to enhance Islamic unity and counter against agents of discord.

Ayatollah Khamenei touched on several meaningful events which coincided his birthday, adding that the events symbolically connoted that the birth ushered in the era of efforts to dismantle paganism, atheism, materialism and oppression in the world.

"Though the guidance of the noblest messenger (S.A.) has yet to be followed by all human beings however the ever lightening flame will gradually guide human being to headspring of light and would eventually reach out to the world over," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

The Islamic Revolution Leader said the mankind was blessed by the birth, adding that an undertaking for the Islamic Ummah especially taking into account the great blessing was to pursue unity and take practical actions in this regard.

The IR Leader said the unity would help resolve many of the problems of the Islamic world and bring it grandeur.

Touching on the current status of Muslims and Islamic countries as well as the ill intentions of superpowers to domineer the community, Ayatollah Khamenei said only by unity the Muslims could counter against the bully intentions.

Ayatollah Khamenei then outlined fanaticism regarding beliefs and thoughts as a source of Muslim discords, adding that holding faith in principles and fundamentals was appreciable but the faith must not deviate into denial of other Muslims followed by aggression and enmity.

Ayatollah Khamenei urged Shii and Sunni people to respect the thoughts and beliefs of one another, adding that scholarly debates about creed and denominations was allowed as long as they do not turn into slanders or slurs among the public opinion.

Ayatollah Khamenei then outlined the divisive efforts of enemies of Islam and domineering superpowers as another source of discord among the Muslims, urging Muslims to keep vigilance not to be entrapped with the malicious plots.

The Islamic Revolution Leader regretted that in some occasions, some Muslims or Islamic countries have played into the hand of enemies.

Ayatollah Khamenei then recalled the victory of regional resistance in the 33-day Lebanese war (2006) and the 22-day Gaza war (late 2008), calling the two events as highly instructive.

"Following the two great victories by the faithful Lebanese and Palestinian youths against the equipped and modernized Zionist regime's army, the enemy raised Shii-Sunni issue and pan-Arabism in Lebanon and Palestine respectively in order to remove the sweetness of a unanimity which led to the prideful victories," the IR Leader noted.

"The Palestinian issue is an Islamic issue, having nothing to do with Arab, non-Arab issues," Ayatollah Khamenei said, adding that a larger source of discord may come to being given sectarian issues are involved in the world of Islam.

"At this juncture, the undertaking is primarily for the politicians and authorities of the Islamic world to thwart enemy plots," the IR Leader said.

Ayatollah Khamenei said that the IRI would never mistake the prime source of discord in cases where some individual makes a divisive cry from among the Islamic community. "We reckon the call as coming from the arrogant superpowers," Ayatollah Khamenei said, adding that the Muslim authorities must keep guard, and that the alims and Muslim intellectuals must expose the prime culprits behind divisive efforts.

Ayatollah Khamenei concluded his speech with a word of commemoration for the exalted soul of Imam Khomeini "who raised the call for unity in our era."