Meeting a huge gathering of nurses, teachers and workers - 29 /Apr/ 2009

Islamic Revolution Leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei said that in spite of enemy efforts to dent the upcoming presidential elections, the great Iranian nation will produce such a huge turnout that leaves enemy in fury.

In a speech to a huge gathering of nurses, teachers and workers from across the country, Ayatollah Khamenei said the despotic kings of Qajar and Pahlavi used to consider the country and people as their property and in absence of people, only what they wished would turn from ceremonial ballot boxes however the Islamic Revolution turned the page and handed the power to people.

The IR Leader said in the course of the thirty-year-old Islamic Revolution, people's vote directly or indirectly has had key role in the choosing of all the country's authorities however the enemies cut out of their illegitimate interests have kept to ignore or deny the blessing public role and instead tried to question the Iranian elections.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the Iranian elections were freer and more enthusiastic than many of the so-called democratic countries. He regretted that while healthy elections have always been staged in Iran, some unfair compatriots who suppose people to heed their call are making shabby comments against the nation and by repeating the enemy lies question the health of elections.

Ayatollah Khamenei said all authorities and people helped secure the health of previous elections, adding that in one or two elections before, there were questions for some individuals over the elections but more investigations proved they were healthy.

Ayatollah Khamenei then said "many a time elections results have run counter to a ruling party so how one can move to question the elections."

Ayatollah Khamenei expressed hope that God-willing the nation as a whole would go to presidential ballot and would create a vote which infuriates the enemy.

Ayatollah Khamenei in another part of his speech called teachers, nurses and workers as key strata in society. The IR Leader said teachers are entrusted with children and play a key role in building their personality, hence their invaluable role.

Ayatollah Khamenei urged the society and government to value the role of teachers, adding that teachers too must value their occupation.

Ayatollah Khamenei then said the structure of the education ministry must undergo a dramatic change so that it could respond to traditions and needs of the country. He said the experiences of other countries, including the west should be used in this regard but no imitation should take place.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the situation was opportune to push the change through the ministry with respect to the stable status of the country, adding that the government must innovatively and bravely put to action a package of studies it has already carried out in this regard.

Ayatollah Khamenei also underlined the issue of nurturing in education, adding that the mind of children could also needs nurture and the issue must be considered in textbooks, selection of teachers, and the education system.

The IR Leader also urged the ministry to consider quality matters in expansion of educational services.

Ayatollah Khamenei then praised the status and role of nurses and urged people to appreciate the individuals whom he described as angle-like.

He said nurses and midwives have a key role in the country's health system and urged them to appreciate their occupation and value their services.

Ayatollah Khamenei also called workers as a pivot of society and urged promotion of domestic production through appreciation of role workers, employers and managers of labor units.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the real price of using foreign made commodities was continued work of Iranian laborers in other countries and job loss inside the country. Ayatollah Khamenei said the Iranian workers enjoy ability to design and implement most complicated plans and produce quality goods.

The IR Leader then urged provision of job security for workers and underlined how it may affect the quality of production.

"Consumption of domestic products must be considered as a value inside society and in order to materialize the issue, domestic products must improve, foreign goods must not be advertised, employers must be appreciated, and all elements of production and imports must cooperate with each other," Ayatollah Khamenei said.