Leader: 'Ultimate objective of Iran's Islamic Revolution is progress' - 10 /Oct/ 2012

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, has stressed that the ultimate objective of Iran's Islamic revolution is "progress" -- progress from the point of view of Islam -- in the true Islamic sense of the word.

addressing a huge enthusiastic crowd of local people in North Khorassan province in North Eastern Iran, the Leader stressed that "progress" from the point of view of Islam, is very different to "progress" from the materialistic point of view of the West.

The Leader stressed that in the one dimensional Western logic, everything is viewed from a material point of view – and thus "progress" is seen as accruing wealth, economic progress, and progress in military power , science and technology.

But from an Islamic point of view, progress is defined in a much broader way.

Progress is multi-dimensional in Islam, and includes progress in science, in technology, in ethics, in morality, justice, progress in raising living standards, economic progress, and political independence. Progress in Islam also includes getting closer to God Almighty.

Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei pointedly added: "Progress in its broadest sense, which includes progress in this world as well as in the Hereafter , is the ultimate objective of Iran's Islamic revolution".

Turning to Western sanctions against Iran, the Leader said Western sanctions are nothing new and they have been in place for the past 33 years. The Leader pointedly added: "The United States and the Europeans claim the sanctions are directed at Iran's nuclear energy programme, but they are lying, since Western sanctions against Iran started at a time when Iran had no functioning nuclear energy programme of any kind to speak of.

The Leader said Western sanctions are illogical, and are rooted in hostility and vengeance. He said those who have imposed sanctions on Iran are lying when they say sanctions will be lifted if Iran halts its nuclear activities.

Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei pointedly added : "It is the resilience, steadfastness and independence of the Iranian nation – a blessing of Islam and the Holy Quran -- which has so angered and frustrated Westerners".

In further remarks, the Leader referred to "Western joy" because of economic difficulties in Iran . He said: "The Westerners, somewhat undiplomatically, didn't even try to hide their joy at Iran's economic difficulties, but of course, during the past year, we have all seen the peoples of Europe pour on to the streets of many European cities, and the Europeans are grappling with far more serious economic crises and problems of their own.

Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei pointedly added : "Iran will get through the current difficulties, because of the vigilance of the Iranian nation and Iranian officials , and Iran will bring changes to the region as well as to the wider world" .

The Leader said it is unwise of European countries to tow the US line, in America's hostilities towards Iran. The

Leader added: "The Iranian nation does not have bad memories of some European countries, but these countries , because they have chosen the US line , are now hated by the Iranian nation".