

IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE MOST
BENEFICENT, THE MOST MERCIFUL

GOD'S BLESS IS WITH THE ELDER
(Prophet Mohammad p.b.u.h.)

STATEMENT OF

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HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF THE
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
BEFORE THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF AGING
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I SEEK REFUGE IN ALLAH FROM SATAN
THE OUTCAST

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, THE BENEFICENT,
THE MERCIFUL

By the declining day,
Lo! Man is in a state of loss,
Save those who believe and do good
works and exhort one another to truth
exhort one another to endurance.

(Holy Qur'an - Sure asr)

Madame President,
Distinguished Delegates,
Peace be upon you!

Thanks to God, our express to all souls Martyres of history and especially all Martyrs of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. Thanks also are due to those who have been instrumental in organizing the humanistic meeting so as to overcome the problems afflicting the old people and relieve some of their hardships. It is hoped that such gathering which is directed divinely helps open the route towards Allah and the ultimate happiness in this world and in heaven.

The traditional Iranian values consider the old people as a blessing for the family, and in our country Islam brought about a drastic change to honour the elders even more.

The great instructions of Holy Qur'an were so enlightening that they penetrated in the depth of Moslem's hearts and as you remember, most Delegations from the Islamic countries addressed the verses of the Holy Qur'an regarding the old

people without any former consultations.

In these verses Allah emphasizes the most possible respect to the elder people. (Verses 23-24, Sure 17)

As the Holy Qur'an and Islamic Ideology teach us, the reality of human life is not limited between birth and death. In fact, the distance between birth and death is a proleeding period for the future life. In this period, the one who helps the others specially the elders with the belief that he is doing so because of his Islamic duty, will earn the fruit of his doing in the eternal world.

Madame President,

Distinguished Delegates,

Regarding these facts Iran's oppressed people, after centuries having been oppressed by cruel kings, followed the Message of a long suffering, virtuous, spiritually old man: Imam K h o m e i n i , which caused the overthrow of one of the most tyrannic, discriminative dynasties and created the Islamic Revolution upon I n d e p e n d e n c e , F r e e d o m , and governmental system was based on the Islamic laws according to the constructions of the Holy Qur'an. This system was voted yes by 98,7 % of the voters.

This changing of the system was not liked by the satanic Super Powers of West and East who were accustomed to colonize and to exploitation of natural resources of the oppressed people. So they tried to create different problems and difficulties through internal and external plots for the new and young Islamic Revolution of Iran.

Of course, they did not know that any kind of plots which they tried to bring before the Islamic Revolution would be eliminated by the help of God.

Qur'an promises that these kinds of problems will be returned to the superpowers themselves:

"And they (the disbelievers) schemed, and Allah schemed (against them): and Allah is the best of schemers."

(Sure 3/54)

Madame President,
Distinguished Delegates,

Some of the difficulties which they have plotted - and still are doing so - against our Islamic Revolution are as follows:

- 1.) Various conspiracies and complots in different states especially in bordering ones like Kurdistan and Khusistan
- 2.) Political and economical interference through spying by the so called "American Embassy"
- 3.) Economic sanctions and freezing the assets of our poor people in the American Banks.
- 4.) Direct military attacks by using the American Basis in territories of regimes dependent on U.S.

This direct attack in Tabas was removed, again, by the help of the almighty and merciful God, and some of the American attackers were burned during this action.

In eliminating this plot no hand of a human being was used - only Allah helped us and proved once again that

"Hast thou not seen how thy Lord dealt with the owners of the Elephant?"

Did he not bring their stratagem to naught,
And send against them swarms of flying creatures,
Which pelted them with stones of baked clay,
And made them like green crops devoured (by cattle)?"

(Sure 105/1-5)

- 5.) After not succeeding in the above mentioned plots including various attempts of coup d'etat, the Imperialism treated Saddam Hussein to go to war against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Saddam Hussein, who knew through Western and Eastern Super-Power-Advisers that we were at the beginning of a new governmental system and our army and the Islamic Guardians were not prepared to protect our national and Islamic integrity - and in reality we did not think that any of our neighbours would start a war against us - attacked us, captured various towns,

bombed and martyred many many innocents, old and kids, refuged more than 2 millions of our fellow citizens and left us thousands of handicaps, children without fathers, fathers and mothers without children and the old ones who have lost their youths which were their supporters.

Saddam did two other things which were unpredictable:

- 1 - Ousted and refuged a lot of elders and kids, barefeeted and hungry in the worse climatical regions with the argument that perhaps their ancestors had an Iranian birth certification.
- 2 - The worse one - bombardements on Moslems including many many elders who were attending their Friday Prayer and demonstrating their wishes for freedom of Palestine from the hands of Zionism.

The last Friday of the previous Holy Month of Ramadan, which is called "Day of Ghods" by our Leader, hundreds of fellow citizens have lost their lives in this barbarian action.

Madame President,
Distinguished Delegates,

Old-age problems in our country are similar to the other socalled "Third World Countries".

As our Islamic laws and regulations would tell us, we do have the programme for our elders, but the problems we have mentioned before plus the internal terrorism which is protected and supported by Foreign Powers have martyred many of our great thinkers who could have given perfect programmes about aging. To name, the Head of our Judicial System, Martyr Dr. Seyed Mohammad Beheshti and about more than 20 members of the Parliament and many ohter members of the Cabinet, e.g. Martyr Dr. Faiaz bakhsh, who was a knowledgeable man and the Head of the Organization for elders and disabled persons, and also our martyred President Rajai who had an efficient programme for elders especially for the farmers in the rural areas. With all of these problems still the programme of the martyred Rajai is a succeeding one.

Martyr Rajai believed that our country has the same problems as many other developing countries, and since there are living more old-aged in rural areas than in urban areas we should protect the life and social welfare of our elders in the rural areas at first.

Rajai believed that the old people who work all their life in the villages protect the people in the cities, and after they got old they have no more production so they would not have any income to make their living. For a country like ours which had been the battleground for the Super Powers for more than 50 years and our economy has become dependent upon oil - if we protect and follow the project of Martyr Rajai which is insuring social security and financial facility to the old people in the rural areas, after they are retired, we will get rid of dependency and our elders in the rural areas would have no problems any more.

This project will have two other benefits for us:

- 1 - The decrease of migration of the rural people to the towns.
- 2 - It encourages our rural people to be more productive, to give their experiences to the society and to the next generations and, also, by increasing their productivity they enable us to get independent as soon as possible.

To follow this kind of project we need natural resources, human resources and money. The present war which has been imposed on us by Iraqi's Baath Party has cost us thousands of people's life including the elders plus 150 billions of Dollars and millions of war-refugees.

All these problems made us difficulties in following the programmes for aging.

Now the question is what should we do?

Should we sit down and let the foreign aggressor capture thousands of kilometers of territories of our Islamic Republic?

Should we sit down and listen the news - maybe some day the socalled U.N. Security Council would pass a resolution condemning the aggressor which we have not heard about yet?

Even if it passes such a resolution - what happens? There have been passed so many resolutions by this Council to decrease the aggression of Zionism - did any of them have any effect?????

We are defending our belief.

We are fighting to get back and to protect our homeland from the foreign aggressor. If we sit down and do nothing what will our next generation tell about us?

This is a natural law that the man has been created free and he has to defend his rights. Our book, the Holy Qur'an, is telling us in different verses that this is our religious duty to protect our rights.

The Moslems are on the defensive side of the wars. This is true for Moslems in Palestine, Lebanon, Afghanistan and Iran.

Defending Islam has been practised by our Prophet Mohammad p.b.u.h. who is the last of the Prophet's line like Prophet Ibrahim p.b.u.h., Moses p.b.u.h. and Jesus p.b.u.h., and also, the tactic of defending our Islamic ideas was used once again by Martyr Imam Hossein (p.b.u.h.) Who was one of the real followers of Prophet Mohammad p.b.u.h.

Madame President,

Distinguished Delegates,

The problems of aging are getting worse. The old refugees from World War I and World War II are still problems in some countries. Since the creation of socalled "Israel" and various catastrophes in wars like 1948, 1956, 1967, 1970, 1973 and the ongoing war now have martyred and refuged thousands of elders.

We surely thank the majority Delegates who left the conference room when "Israel" spoke. But we say this is nothing. The Lebanies and the Palestinians are being massacred.

We have to do something! Our Leader, Imam Khomeini, noticed the danger of "Israel" more than t w e n t y years ago and then he became exiled.

Beside "Israel" our worse problems are those Powers and Super Powers which voted YES for the cr^éation of the state of Israel in 1948. We have to fight them too; we have to fight U.S. and the others who backed Israel.

Madame President,

Dear distinguished Delegates,

The last Message of the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which I am representing, is that the only solution for all of these problems is to make a revolution within the U.N. Security Council.

While they hold the right of veto in the centre of decision making of the U.N., the Super-Powers create all the problems for the poor nations and then they sit in the assemblies and conferences to 'solve' our problems.

We say this right of veto has to be taken away from them, otherwise Discrimination, Apartheid, Racism, Colonialism, Arm-races and the other subsequent problems like aging will be going on and on. Our question is: Are the problems of our youths solved by the U.N. that we are looking for solutions of problems of old-aged? We say that the oppressor can never decide on behalf of the oppressed; this is the message of Imam Ali p.b.u.h. who says, "Be the enemy of oppressor and the supporter of the oppressed!"

Finally, since we have found the solution of all problems in the Holy Qur'an, we will present one volume of this book to the Assembly as the way for solving all kinds of problems in the world.

Imam Khomeini, our beloved Leader, is a man who obeys Allah and follows the line of this book; he is more than 80 years old and is solving the most difficult problems.

We assure you that if the international community uses this book as a guide-liner there won't be any problems such as aging.

Peace be upon you.

The Delegation of the
Islamic Republic of Iran

Dr. Mohammad Yarigar Ravesh
Dr. Ahmad Vaezi