

## National Desk

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei extended his condolences to the Iranian nation over the martyrdom of President Ebrahim Raisi and his companions in a helicopter crash. In a message on Monday, the Leader announced five days of national mourning.

Ayatollah Khamenei said he received the bitter news of the martyrdom of the popular, competent and hardworking president and his companions with great sorrow.

The Leader noted that the tragic incident happened when Raisi and his team were making an attempt to serve the Iranian people.

The entire period of responsibility of this noble and devoted man, both during the short term of the presidency and before that, was completely spent in non-stop efforts to serve the people, the country and Islam, he emphasized.

"Dear Raisi did not know fatigue," Ayatollah Khamenei said, adding that the Iranian nation lost a sincere and valuable servant in this tragic incident.

He also noted that President Raisi preferred the satisfaction of people, which amounts to God's satisfaction, over everything else.

Therefore, ingratitude and jibes of some ill-wishers did not deter him from working day and night to achieve progress and improve the situation, Ayatollah Khamenei said.

The Leader noted that prominent figures including Friday Prayers leader of the city of Tabriz Seyyed Mohammad Ali Al-e Hashem, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and East Azarbaijan Governor Malek Rahmati as well as the crew also lost their lives in the sad incident.

According to Article 131 of the Constitution, Vice President Mohammad Mokhber assumes managing the executive branch, the Leader said.

Ayatollah Khamenei urged Mokh-

# Leader, officials grieve loss of president, FM



dent within a maximum of 50 days in cooperation with the other two heads of the three branches of the government.

## Parliament speaker, chief justice condole

Iran's Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf sympathized with Iranians over the incident.

"You had won the hearts of the Iranians," he addressed the late president, adding, "Your memory will last forever."

"Your dream came true by being martyred," he further noted, remi-

values of martyrdom school.

Chief Justice of Iran Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Eje'i has expressed his condolences over the passing of Raisi noting that he was widely-accepted by various parties in the Islamic Republic.

## Condolences by other senior officials

In this regard, the custodian of the mausoleum of Imam Khomeini (RA) Hassan Khomeini lauded the personality of the late president.

Raisi enjoyed an exemplary and modest personality, he said, add-

about serving the nation.

Senior Iranian Cleric Ayatollah Nasser Makarem Shirazi also sent a message on the sad occasion.

He was a quintessential example of a committed, loyal, and revolutionary official. His remarks in the international bodies were a source of pride for the Islamic Ummah and the noble people of Iran.

The oppressed people in the world will never forget this figure, he underlined.

Senior Shia cleric Ayatollah Jafar Sobhani said that Raisi spent all his time solving the economic and po-

Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Sistani, the Supreme Shia Marja of Iraq, in his message of condolence to the Iranian nation, stated that the news of the death of Raisi and his companions in the helicopter crash was regretful.

In his message, Ayatollah Sistani offered his condolences to the honorable nation and the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran for this painful loss, and prayed to God Almighty for mercy and divine grace for the deceased loved ones and for the survivors and grieving families for patience and great reward.

Iran's government spokesman Ali Bahadori Jahromi reacted to the incident on his X account.

Martyrdom is the reward for the valued president, he wrote.

Iranian Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Ezzatollah Zarghami said that Raisi's everlasting services will be recorded in history.

Mohsen Rezaei, the head of the Supreme Council of Economic Coordination for the three branches of the Iranian government, said that Raisi delivered services wholeheartedly. He made the utmost sacrifice on the path of serving the Islamic system, Rezaei said.

Iran's former vice president Eshaq Jahangiri highlighted the personality traits of the late president.

He described Raisi as extremely careful about observing social values and etiquette.

Ali Shamkhani, the political advisor of the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, termed Raisi as tireless, hard-working and popular. Saeed Jalili, a member of the Expediency Council and Supreme National Security Council (SNSC), said that the popular presidents was martyred after the years of making efforts.

Raisi tried his utmost to help realize the ideals of the Islamic Revolution, he underlined.

Interior Minister Ahmad Vahidi said that Raisi sincerely delivered service for Iranians.

The path of martyrs of the service will be continued, he further noted. A member of the Expediency Council, Ali Larijani, said that the news of martyrdom saddened every Iranian.

God willing, his priceless services will bring about prestigious states before Allah, he noted.

Former Iranian president, Seyyed Mohammad Khatami, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Hassan Rouhani also in separate messages extended their condolences over the passing of Raisi and his companions in the helicopter crash.

## World leaders condole Iran's tragedy

## International Desk

Leaders across the world have expressed their condolences after President Ebrahim Raisi and Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian died in a tragic helicopter crash on Sunday.

Many friendly countries also declared days of mourning to pay tribute to the Iranian president and his entourage onboard the aircraft.

The UN Security Council observed a minute of silence on Monday for late Iranian president.

Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev who jointly inaugurated a dam project with Raisi hours before the arial mishap, said on Monday that he was "deeply shocked by the heavy loss that befell the brotherly and friendly Islamic Republic of Iran and its people."

Russian President Vladimir Putin praised Raisi as an "outstanding politician."

"Raisi was an outstanding politician whose entire life was dedicated to serving his homeland," Putin said. "As a true friend of Russia, he made an invaluable personal contribution to the development of good-neighborly relations between our countries."

Chinese President Xi Jinping called Raisi's death "tragic" and said "the Chinese people have lost a good friend," a spokesman for China's foreign ministry said.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan called Raisi a "valuable colleague and brother."

"As a colleague who personally witnessed his efforts for the peace

of the Iranian people and our region during his time in power, I remember Mr. Raisi with respect and gratitude," Erdogan said on social media.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said Turkey's relevant institutions, including the defense ministry and the disaster management authority, tried "their best but unfortunately, we weren't able to hear good news".

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad expressed solidarity with Iran, and said Syria worked with Raisi "to ensure that strategic relations between Syria and Iran flourish always."

Syrian government also announced three days of national mourning for the Iranian president and foreign minister.

Japan's government spokesperson, Yoshimasa Hayashi said that Japan expresses its deepest condolences to the government and people of Iran over the death of President Raisi and the foreign minister.

## Arab countries

Iran's Persian Gulf neighbors also mourned the deaths of Iranian officials.

Saudi Arabia, which mended ties with Tehran last year after a long-time rift, offered "condolences to his excellency, the acting head of the executive authority, Mohammad Mokhber, on the death of his excellency Ebrahim Raisi, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and his companions," said a statement carried by the official Saudi Press Agency.

Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al

Khalifa "expressed his sincere condolences and deep sympathy to Iran's Leader and the brotherly people of the Iranian Republic over this painful incident," according to a statement carried by the official Bahrain News Agency.

Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq al-Said and Kuwait's emir Sheikh Meshal al-Ahmad Al-Sabah separately sent cables of condolences to Iran's Leader.

In a short statement on X, UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan said he extends his deepest condolences to the Iranian government and the people of Iran over the passing of Iranian President and his foreign minister. Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani expressed "great sadness and great sorrow."

Nechirvan Barzani, president of the Iraqi Kurdistan Region said, "The passing of President Raisi is an immense tragedy and a profound loss for the Islamic Republic of Iran, its people, and its friends."

"Nevertheless, we have faith that the noble people of Iran and the Islamic Republic will overcome this immense loss. May God Almighty provide assistance and protection to all, and may the memory of the departed be blessed."

Jordan's King Abdullah also posted a message on X.

"My deepest condolences to the brothers, leadership, government and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the death of Brother President Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Brother Hossein Amir Abdollahian and those accompanying them, may God have mercy

on them all," Jordan's King said. Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sissi expressed Egypt's solidarity with "the leadership and people of Iran in this great loss."

## India and Pakistan

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif declared a day of mourning in Pakistan.

"May the martyred souls rest in heavenly peace. The great Iranian nation will overcome this tragedy with customary courage," Sharif wrote on X.

"Pakistan will observe a day of mourning and the flag will fly at half-mast as a mark of respect for President Raisi and his companions and in solidarity with Brotherly Iran," Shehbaz said.

India also announced a one-day state mourning on Tuesday.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he was shocked by the development and that "India stands with Iran in this time of sorrow."

"His contribution to strengthening the India-Iran bilateral relationship will always be remembered. My heartfelt condolences to his family and the people of Iran. India stands with Iran in this time of sorrow," Modi wrote on X.

## Messages from Europe

European Council President Charles Michel said the European Union "expresses its sincere condolences."

Josep Borrell, the bloc's foreign policy chief, also offered his condolences.

"The EU expresses its sympathies

to the families of all the victims and to the Iranian citizens affected," he said in a statement.

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, a close ally of Iran, said: "I am shocked by the death of the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran and his accompanying staff as a result of the helicopter crash."

## Resistance movements

Region's resistance movements also expressed their condolences for the death of Iranian president. Lebanon's Hezbollah group praised Raisi as "a strong supporter, and a staunch defender of our causes... and a protector of the resistance movements".

The Hamas resistance group praised Raisi and Amir-Abdollahian for supporting Palestine against Israel and expressed confidence that Iran's "deep-rooted institutions" will overcome "the repercussions of this great loss".

"Asking God Almighty for mercy and forgiveness for [those killed] and for their families with patience and solace. We belong to Allah and to Him we shall return," Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani wrote on X.

Mohammed Ali al-Houthi, head of the Houthi's Supreme Revolutionary Committee, expressed his "deepest condolences" to the Iranian people and the families of the officials who died in the crash.

Iraq's Popular Mobilisation Forces, or Hashed al-Shaabi, also expressed their sympathies, adding that Raisi had "always declared that Iraq and Iran are one people that cannot be separated".

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said he was "deeply saddened" by Raisi's death, calling him "an excellent human being, defender of the sovereignty of his people and unconditional friend of our country."

Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim said Raisi "exemplified a deep commitment to the welfare of his people and the dignity of his nation, which represents a proud and rich civilization rooted in the principles of Islam."

"In these difficult times, we stand alongside the people of Iran and pray for forgiveness for all the victims of this incident and for patience for their families," Afghanistan's Acting Prime Minister Mullah Mohammad Hassan Akhund said.

## International bodies

The NATO military alliance also on Monday expressed "condolences" to Iran over the death of Raisi.

"Our condolences to the people of Iran for the death of President Raisi, Foreign Minister Amir-Abdollahian, and others who perished in the helicopter crash," said NATO spokesperson Farah Daklallah on X. OPEC also conveyed its condolences on the tragic passing of Iranian President Raisi.

"In these difficult times, on behalf of myself and all the staff at the OPEC Secretariat, I extend my condolences and sympathy to the esteemed leadership and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the families of HE President Raisi and other officials," OPEC Secretary General He Haitham Al Ghais said.