

Tehran awash with sorrow in lachrymose adieu to martyred Leader

Delegations from nearly 100 countries pay last respects

National Desk

The farewell ceremony for the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, kicked off at Tehran's Grand Imam Khomeini Mosalla in the early hours of Saturday, drawing a deluge of tearful mourners in a historic display of national unity.

With the gates opening earlier than scheduled at 6 a.m. on Saturday, mourners who had been waiting around the Mosalla and its surrounding routes since Friday night entered the venue.

The event transformed the Mosalla into a sea of grief and devotion as millions -- from all over the country, from cities and villages, as well as people from many different countries around the world -- gathered to pay their last respects to the martyred Leader.

Images of the martyred Leader were installed along the entire entrance route to the Mosalla, with a particularly large image displayed on one of the tall buildings adjacent to the venue.

Attendees, dressed in mourning attire for Imam Hussein and the martyrdom of the Leader of the Islamic Republic, carried Iranian flags, images of the martyred Leader, the "clenched fist" symbol, and images of Ayatollah Seyed Mojtaba Khamenei. They chanted "Labbaik Ya Khamenei," and "All these armies have come for the love of the Leader," to bid farewell to the late Leader while pledg-

ing allegiance to the present Leader. Elderly attendees, some walking on foot and others in wheelchairs, could be seen among the crowds. Banners with messages such as "With a peaceful heart, O Master, he goes gracefully, Iran's soul departs", "The dignified oppressed one, I entrust you to God", "We have experienced grief, but we remain standing," and "Mount Damavand will remember your glory," were displayed along the mourners' route.

According to the headquarters for the commemoration of the martyred Leader's ascension, the farewell ceremony will continue through Sunday at the Grand Imam Khomeini Mosalla.

The main funeral procession in Tehran is scheduled for Monday. Funeral ceremonies will also be held in Qom on Tuesday, and in Mashhad on Thursday, where the Leader will be laid to rest at the Imam Reza Shrine.

Special farewell and funeral ceremonies for the martyred Leader will also take place in Iraq's holy cities of Najaf and Karbala on Wednesday, according to the organizers.

Some 14,000 journalists from domestic media and 900 foreign media outlets are covering the farewell ceremony. Foreign journalists have expressed astonishment at the unprecedented turnout and the deep devotion of the people to the martyred Leader.

Facilities for sending news, images, and



Some mourners, dressed in traditional mourning attire, soil their clothes with dust and mud in Tehran's Grand Imam Khomeini Mosalla on July 4, 2026.

● TASNIM

live video and radio broadcasts are fully prepared, with domestic and foreign journalists stationed among the crowds to cover the monumental event.

On Friday, a ceremony was held in Tehran for foreign delegations to pay tribute to the martyred Leader. The commemorative event brought together one of the largest gatherings of foreign dignitaries in Iran in recent decades, with representatives from across Asia, Africa, Europe, the Americas, and major international organizations attending the event.

The delegations included presidents, prime ministers, parliamentary speakers, foreign ministers, senior government officials, political leaders, and representatives of religious organizations and resistance movements, underscoring the broad international participation in the ceremony.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei said Friday that delegations from nearly 100 countries, along with public figures and civil society groups, would attend the farewell ceremony for the martyred Leader.

"We have high-level delegations from neighboring countries. At least eight



heads of government, including presidents or prime ministers, and parliamentary speakers from 12 countries will attend," Baqaei said. "Many other countries will be represented at the level of foreign ministers, other ministers, or special envoys."

He added that public groups and prominent figures from around 100 countries would also participate in the ceremony. Baqaei said official delegations, public figures and members of parliament from Eastern European countries would attend the farewell ceremony. However, he said countries in Europe that had officially supported the military ag-

gression by Israel and the United States against Iran had not been invited to attend the ceremony.

Ayatollah Khamenei was martyred following the launch of the latest bout of unprovoked American-Israeli aggression against Iran on February 28.

The aggression, which also claimed the lives of senior officials and countless ordinary civilians, prompted Iran to respond by staging at least 100 decisive and successful retaliatory strikes against sensitive and strategic American and Israeli targets. The reprisal prompted the United States to announce a unilateral ceasefire on April 7.

Pezeshkian vows Ayatollah Khamenei's flag 'will never fall'

International Desk

President Masoud Pezeshkian underscored on Saturday that the Iranian people would prove, through grief and resolve, that the ideals for which their martyred Leader gave his life would continue.

In a message on the social media platform X on Saturday, Pezeshkian reaffirmed the Iranian nation's enduring loyalty to the martyred Leader after massive crowds of mourners attended a farewell ceremony for late Ayatollah Khamenei at Tehran's Grand Imam Khomeini Mosalla in a historic display of national unity.

"The great nation of Iran, with hearts brimming with grief and wills filled with hope, will prove that the flag for which the martyred Leader strived to keep raised will never fall to the ground," Pezeshkian wrote on X. Closing his post with a Quranic



verse from Surah Al-Qasas, the president stated, "And We wanted to confer favor upon those who were oppressed in the land and make them leaders and make them inheritors."

Farewell ceremonies for the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali

Khamenei and his family began on Saturday morning, with the presence of grieving people at Tehran's Mosalla.

The martyred Leader attained the lofty rank of martyrdom on February 28 during a savage and terrorist attack by the US-Zionist enemies.

Iran warns of consequences for any military adventurism in Hormuz

International Desk

Iran's deputy foreign minister for legal and international affairs has warned that any military adventurism in the Strait of Hormuz will have consequences, saying that the responsibility of ensuring the security of the waterway lies with its coastal states, as reported by Press TV.

"The Strait of Hormuz is not a theater for military display by extra-regional powers," Kazem Gharibabadi wrote on his X social media account on Saturday, reacting to a joint statement by France and Britain on the Strait of Hormuz.

"Iran, as the responsible power and guarantor of the strait's security, warns against any military movement in this sensitive waterway," he said. Gharibabadi emphasized that "the security of Hormuz lies with the coastal states," adding, "Crisis-mongers will be responsible for the consequences of their adventurism; this is a serious warning." The British Prime Minister's office released a joint statement on Friday by Keir Starmer and French President Em-



manuel Macron, in which the two leaders described the Strait of Hormuz as a "vital artery for the global economy".

The statement claimed that Oman has agreed to cooperate with Britain and France to secure its territorial waters against shipping risks.

London and Paris also announced their readiness to deploy what they called a "broader multinational military mission" to support freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran closed the Strait of Hormuz to hostile states and their allies in response to the US-Israeli aggression and then began asserting more control in retaliation for the US sustaining an illegal naval blockade of Iranian ports and vessels despite a standing ceasefire.

'Mind your malnutrition rates': Qalibaf shreds Trump

International Desk

Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf hit back at Donald Trump, calling on the US president to "mind your malnutrition rates" after he claimed Iran needed American food exports. Ghalibaf stressed that Iran makes decisions about its own assets and noted that US officials should focus on the malnutrition rates in their own country

"Imagine having forty-something million of



Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf
● IRNA

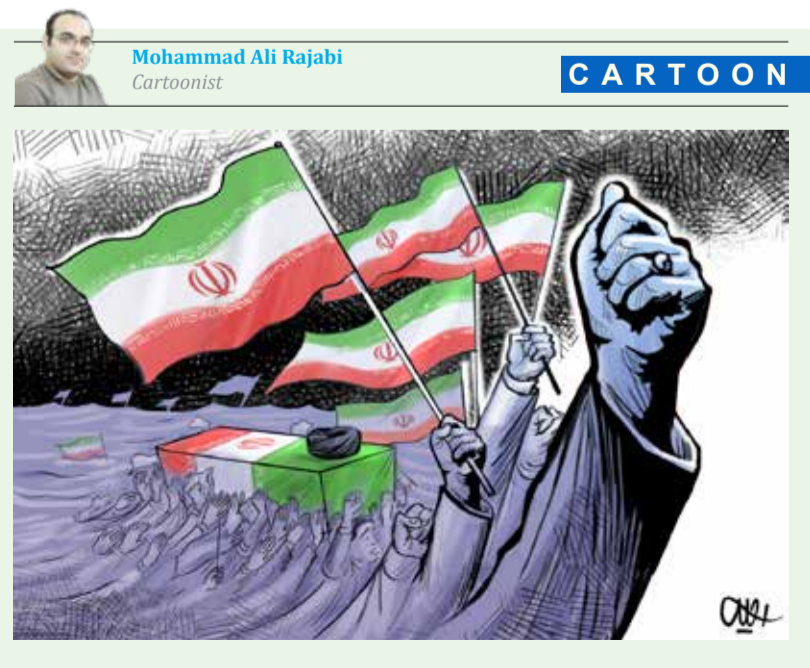
your own citizens on food stamps and calling another

nation hungry," Qalibaf wrote in a post on X.

"This is not a proclamation. This is a projection. Keep your SNAP advice. Our assets, our choices. Mind your malnutrition rates."

Trump claimed in an interview with CNBC that Iran was struggling with "300 percent inflation" and was "making no money."

"They need food. They need corn, wheat, and soybeans, and we're going to have exclusively our American farmers provide that," Trump claimed.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

CARTOON