

# Tehran bids final salute to beloved Leader

Martyred Khamenei viewed unity as Iran's greatest asset: **Pezeshkian**

## National Desk

An ocean of mourners packed the streets of the Iranian capital of Tehran on Monday to pay their last tributes as the coffin of martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei was carried in a historic funeral procession to Azadi Square.

The multi-million-strong procession began at 6:00 a.m. local time (0230 GMT) on Monday from Tehran's Grand Mosalla religious complex, where the body had lain in state for two days.

The procession, which drew millions of mourners from across the country, also carried the flag-draped coffins of several members of late Ayatollah Khamenei's family, who were all assassinated alongside the Leader on the first day of the recent US-Israeli war of aggression on February 28.

Attired in black and beating their chests in mourning, large crowds flooded the streets in Tehran as the funeral convoy made its way through the capital, chanting slogans that called for revenge for the Leader's blood and waving Iranian flags and carrying his portraits.

Mourners poured flowers on the coffin of the martyred Leader on its way toward Tehran's Azadi Square.

As the cortege reached Azadi Square, the vehicle carrying the sacred body of the martyred Leader was forced to stop because of the overwhelming outpouring of grief and affection from mourners gathered around it.

High-ranking officials, including President Masoud Pezeshkian, Judiciary Chief Gholam-Hossein Mohseni Ejei,

First Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref, IRGC Quds Force Commander Brigadier General Esmail Qa'ani, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, and Central Bank Governor Abdolnaser Hemmati were seen within the crowds of citizens.

The massive scale of the procession drew significant coverage from international media outlets, including Israeli press channels, which widely broadcasted the immense density of the public turnout in the capital.

Delegations from scores of countries, including heads of state, prime ministers, and senior officials from Russia, China, India, Pakistan, Iraq, Tajikistan, Turkey, and dozens of other nations, arrived in Tehran to pay their respects on Friday. According to organizers, funeral ceremonies for late Ayatollah Khamenei and his family will continue on Tuesday in the holy city of Qom. Additional farewell and funeral events are scheduled for Wednesday in the Iraqi cities of Najaf and Karbala.

The final funeral rites are set to take place on Thursday in the northeastern Iranian city of Mashhad, where Ayatollah Khamenei will be buried at the shrine of Imam Reza (AS), the eighth Shia Imam, in accordance with the martyred Leader's will.

In his social media X account on Monday, Pezeshkian underlined that the martyred Leader taught everyone that Iran's greatest asset is its people and their unyielding unity.

Reflected on the foundational principles left behind by the late Leader, Pezeshkian urged the Iranian nation to maintain cohesion during this transitional period.



Large crowds of mourners attend the funeral procession held for martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and several members of his family in Tehran on July 6, 2026.

● **TASNIM**

"The martyred Leader taught everyone that Iran's greatest asset is its people and their unity," the president wrote. Invoking spiritual and strategic resolve, Pezeshkian added, "Today, by acting upon the divine command to 'stand up for God, in pairs or individually,' we will continue the path of honor, progress, and pride for Iran through empathy, national consensus, and sincere service to the people."

## Pezeshkian heads delegation to Iraq's procession

Meanwhile, state media reports confirmed that Pezeshkian will travel to Iraq on Tuesday to attend the funeral ceremony for the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, scheduled to be held in the Iraqi holy cities of Najaf and Karbala on Wednesday.

The presidential visit underscores the profound religious and diplomatic coordination between Tehran and Baghdad for the security and logistics of the international funeral transits.

Prior to the official announcement, several regional media outlets had speculated regarding the composition of the Iranian delegation, claiming that Hujjat al-Islam Seyed Mostafa Khamenei — the eldest son of the martyred Leader — and Parliament Speaker Mohammad



Baqer Qalibaf would be heading the funeral mission to Iraq.

Officials in the Iraqi holy city of Najaf have announced full readiness to host the funeral procession of the martyred Leader.

The Iraqi media cited Yousef Makki Kanawi, the governor and head of the local government in Najaf, as saying on Monday that all security, logistical, and support preparations for the funeral of Ayatollah Khamenei had been completed.

Stating that the ceremony consists of both official and public segments, he said the first would be attended by the heads of Iraq's executive, legislative, and judicial branches, and leaders of different political factions, as well as lawmakers and other officials, at Najaf

International Airport on Tuesday.

The governor of Najaf underscored the holy city has hosted a delegation comprising representatives from the Prime Minister's Office, the Joint Operations Command, the Popular Mobilization Forces, and the Iranian ambassador.

The second event, he said, is a public procession beginning at 6:00 a.m. local time on Wednesday, from the Sadr Hospital Bridge on Airport Street, and would pass through the city's old quarter and would conclude at the holy shrine of Imam Ali (AS).

According to Kanawi, more than one hundred temporary service stations, called Mawkibs, have been set up along the funeral procession routes to help the mourners and provide services to them.

## Qalibaf: Peace in Lebanon impossible without Iran



Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf (l) meets with a delegation of senior Hezbollah officials in Tehran on July 5, 2026.  
● **JIRNA**

## International Desk

Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf underlined that peace would not be possible in Lebanon without Iran playing its role as a stabilizing force.

Qalibaf made the remarks in a Sunday meeting with Muhammad Fneish, a senior member of the Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah, who was in Tehran to attend funeral ceremonies for the late Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

Qalibaf said in the meeting that the recent US-Israeli aggression against Iran, which caused conflicts in the wider West Asia region, including in Lebanon, proved that peace in the region can only be achieved through Iran.

The senior official said the memorandum of understanding reached between Iran and the United States last month has set clear conditions for cessation of aggression against Iranian-allied resistance forces in the region, including on Hezbollah.

"We had a special emphasis on Lebanon's territorial integrity and sovereignty," Qalibaf said of the negotiations that led to the signing of the Iran-US agreement, in which he led the Iranian negotiation team. He also appreciated Hezbollah's brave fighting against the Israeli re-

gime in support of Iran during the recent US-Israeli aggression on Iran, saying that the fight was a "turning point in history" which showed the "unbreakable bond" between resistance groups and Iran.

Fneish, for his part, said that Hezbollah considers itself a part of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, saying relations between the Lebanese group and the Islamic Republic of Iran have always been brotherly and based on religious and revolutionary bonds. He said that it was Iran's intervention that forced a ceasefire to the recent war in Lebanon.

"We believe that the war in Lebanon has been halted through the intervention of the Islamic Republic of Iran and by compelling the United States and the Zionist regime to comply with the terms outlined in the memorandum of understanding, and that the end of the war may also be achieved through this same path," said Fneish.

## US 'defeated' as Iran MoU empowers resistance

During a meeting with Yemen's Vice President Mohammed Al-Nuaimi on Sunday, Qalibaf declared that the United States and Israel were compelled to "practically" acknowledge Iran's regional allies under the terms of a recent memorandum of understanding, describing the agreement

as a "defeat" for Washington and a victory for the Axis of Resistance.

"In the recent memorandum, the United States and Israel were forced to practically recognize Iran's allies in the Axis of Resistance, and this is one of the achievements of this memorandum," he said.

The meeting took place on the sidelines of farewell ceremonies for the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

"Iran and the Axis of Resistance stood together against the United States and Israel," Qalibaf said, adding that the memorandum "represents a defeat for the United States and an achievement for the Axis of Resistance, both militarily and politically." Qalibaf stressed that strong diplomacy depends on full military preparedness.

"If the Americans and the Zionist regime sense even a moment of weakness or a decline in our spirit of struggle, they will resort to war," he said.

He noted that at the start of the Ramadan War, the enemy had set nine specific objectives against the Islamic Republic, expecting to achieve them within days.

"By the end of the 40 days, they had achieved none of them, and after mediators intervened, they requested a ceasefire," he said.

The Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding, signed on June 18, 2026, brought an end to the US-Israeli war of aggression against Iran, which had begun on February 28.

The 14-point agreement, brokered by Pakistan, committed both sides to an immediate and permanent cessation of military operations on all fronts, including Lebanon, and provided for the lifting of the US naval blockade, the release of frozen Iranian assets, and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz.

Qalibaf also praised Yemen's role in the Axis of Resistance, stating that "Ansarullah and the Yemeni people have always stood with the resistance and defended Gaza, Lebanon and Palestine in all hardships."

## Leader reappoints Mohseni-Ejei as Iran's Judiciary chief

### National Desk

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei reappointed Gholam Hossein Mohseni-Ejei as head of the country's Judiciary, urging continued efforts to advance reforms within the judicial system.

In a decree, the Leader renewed Mohseni-Ejei's term pursuant to Article 157 of the Constitution, expressing appreciation for the judiciary chief's "valuable and sincere efforts." The decree states that the objectives outlined by the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei as well as the guidance contained in the Leader's message of June 28, 2026, provide a roadmap for transformation, institutional development, and the realization of a more effective judiciary. Ayatollah Khamenei expressed hope that, through the judiciary chief's continued dedication, alongside the efforts of judges and judicial personnel across the country, the Iranian people would benefit from further improvements in the administration of justice.

The decree concludes with prayers for the



Gholam Hossein Mohseni-Ejei

success of Mohseni-Ejei and members of the judiciary in carrying out their responsibilities.

During the funeral procession for late Ayatollah Khamenei in Tehran on Monday, Mohseni-Ejei said the ultimate goal envisioned by the martyred Leader was the eradication of corruption and the forces of global arrogance.

"The peak that our martyred Leader envisioned and set as a goal for the great Iranian nation was the eradication of corruption and the currents of global arrogance," he emphasized. The Judiciary chief reiterated that calls for revenge voiced by the grieving people during late Ayatollah Khamenei's farewell and funeral ceremonies were aimed at "preventing the enemy from repeating criminal acts."



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

## CARTOON

