

Gov't pays solemn tribute to Ayatollah Khamenei's lofty ideals

Iran's nuclear progress owes to martyred Leader's support: **AEOI chief**

Economy Desk

Mohammad Eslami, the head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), said the Islamic Republic's nuclear industry gained current achievements through the guidance and support of the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

Eslami announced in a televised interview on Tuesday that long-term strategic policies devised under the martyred Leader laid the foundation for the development of nuclear technology and power generation in the country.

Pointing to the country's scientific and technological development, Eslami said the martyred Leader had consistently backed strategic sectors, including nuclear technology, from the outset.

"In both the defense sector and strategic fields that contribute to national strength, such as nuclear technology, the martyred Leader stood firmly from the very beginning with remarkable perseverance."

Eslami said Ayatollah Khamenei first emphasized the need to reach 20,000 megawatts of nuclear electricity generation capacity in 2007, describing the target as a continuing national priority.

He said the first unit of the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant in southern Iran is currently in operation, while construction of the plant's second and third units is underway.

He added that engineering contracts have already been signed for a planned 5,000-megawatt nuclear power plant in the southern Iranian Hormozgan Province.

Eslami said that under Iran's long-term development plan, additional nuclear power plants are expected

to begin entering service around 2030 and 2031 to help supply electricity for industry and households. Concluding the interview, Eslami pointed to the extensive farewell and funeral ceremonies that have gone underway to honor the martyred Leader, saying the turnout demonstrated that Iranians are a well-informed nation.

"The massive public turnout and the slogans chanted by participants sent a clear message to Iran's enemies, enemies whose actions have shown that they have no commitment to humanitarian or ethical principles and pursue only their own interests," he stated. "With this awareness, they (the nation) have chosen a path that brings dignity to themselves and their country, while continuously enhancing the nation's strength."

Ayatollah Khamenei gave his life for Iran's progress: Paknejad

Speaking on Monday on the sidelines of the funeral ceremony for the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad said Ayatollah Khamenei stood steadfast for the advancement of Iran until his final breath, sacrificing his life for the dignity of Islam and the nation's progress.

"We, the people of Iran, lost a wise and visionary leader who deeply believed in his ideals and principles and stood by them until his final breath," he said.

Paknejad emphasized that the martyred Leader was not only admired by the Iranian nation and Muslims around the world but also inspired freedom-seeking people of other faiths across the globe.

The oil minister described the loss

as a profound tragedy for the Islamic Revolution, saying the passing of such an extraordinary figure would remain an enduring sorrow in the hearts of the Iranian people.

He added that the massive public turnout represented not only a farewell to the martyred leader but also a renewed pledge of allegiance to his successor, Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei, reaffirming the ideals of the Islamic Revolution and demonstrating the continuity of its path.

Aliabadi: Martyred Leader stressed self-reliance, domestic expertise

Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi hailed the late Leader's legacy, saying his emphasis on self-reliance, domestic expertise and confidence in Iran's capabilities had driven decades of development.

Speaking on the sidelines of funeral ceremony, Aliabadi said electricity generation capacity had increased from about 13,000 megawatts at the start of the Leader's tenure to more than 100,000 MW.

The minister added that drinking water treatment plants had grown from around 40 to more than 280, while the number of major national dams had risen from 29 to over 290, attributing the progress to policies pursued under the martyred Leader's guidance.

Agriculture min. lauds Ayatollah Khamenei's focus on food security

Agriculture Minister Gholamreza Nouri-Qezelgeh said the late Leader's guidance had reinforced the government's commitment to supporting domestic production, self-sufficiency and food security.

Nouri-Qezelgeh said the leader had

consistently described food security as a pillar of national strength and had advocated support for rural communities and agricultural producers. The minister said the government's strategy would continue to prioritize domestic production and farmers, adding that the Leader's directives had provided officials with a framework for pursuing agricultural development and self-sufficiency.

Roads minister highlights late Leader's path of honor, dignity

Roads and Urban Development Minister Farzaneh Sadeq Malvajerd praised the martyred Leader's legacy, saying he had shown the country the path to national strength and that his close connection with the public would be remembered in history.

Speaking on the sidelines of the funeral ceremony in Tehran, Sadeq Malvajerd said the large turnout reflected continued public support for the Islamic Republic.

The minister said the late Leader had consistently emphasized public participation and national unity, adding that some social analysts had underestimated public sentiment and that Iran would continue its development with popular backing.

Ayatollah Khamenei prioritized workers' welfare: Meydari

Minister of Cooperatives, Labor and Social Welfare Ahmad Meydari said support for workers had been a key priority of the late Leader, recalling what he described as their final meeting before the Leader's martyrdom on February 28, 2026.

Meydari said Ayatollah Khamenei



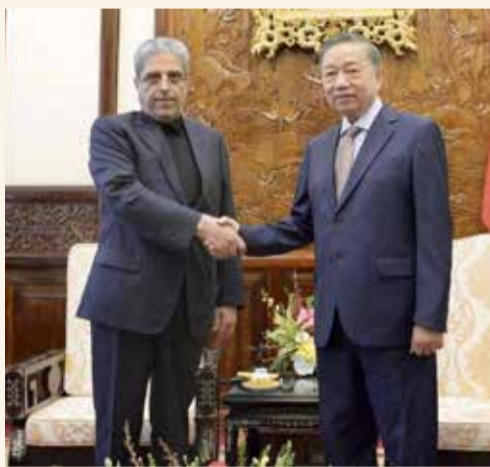
Late Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei (R) visits Iran's nuclear achievements as the head of the Iranian nuclear organization, Mohammad Eslami (L), accompanies him in his visit in June 2023.

● khamenei.ir

had endorsed government plans to expand workers' housing and vocational skills training, urging officials to pursue both initiatives. Meydari said the Leader's annual meetings with workers throughout

his tenure reflected his concern for their welfare and pledged that the government would remain committed to advancing policies aimed at improving workers' living conditions.

Vietnam bills economic cooperation as cornerstone of ties with Iran



Economy Desk

Vietnamese President To Lam said economic cooperation should become the main pillar of relations with Iran, calling for expanded collaboration in culture, education and tourism sectors between Hanoi and Tehran.

The remark was made as Iran's newly appointed Ambassador to Vietnam



Akbar Qassemi (L), Iran's newly appointed ambassador to Vietnam, shakes hands with Vietnamese President To Lam in the capital Hanoi on July 6, 2026.

● IRNA

Akbar Qassemi presented his credentials to Lam at the presidential palace in the capital on Monday.

During the meeting, Lam proposed measures to strengthen bilateral ties, saying economic cooperation should take priority while broader exchanges in cultural, educational and tourism fields should also be expanded. According to IRNA, Lam described his 2023 visit to Iran as productive and said it had opened a new phase in bilateral relations. He added that Hanoi was ready to deepen cooperation with Tehran in areas including trade, technology, science and nanotechnology.

The Iranian ambassador, for his part,

said Tehran was prepared to expand consultations and establish expert working groups to promote political, economic, parliamentary, commercial, technological, cultural and tourism cooperation.

Qassemi also said Iran's geopolitical and strategic position had been significantly strengthened since March 2026, creating new opportunities for cooperation between Tehran and Hanoi across multiple sectors.

As reported by IRNA, Lam offered condolences over the martyrdom of Iran's Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and expressed sympathy with the Iranian government and people.

Lam praised Iran's ancient civilization and historical heritage, and noted that both countries shared experiences of resisting foreign domination and valued national resilience.

Qassemi said Iran's martyred Leader held a favorable view of Vietnam's history and people, often citing the country's struggle for independence and its emphasis on self-reliance as an example of national perseverance. Lam also welcomed the Islamabad memorandum of understanding between Iran and the United States, expressing hope that the process would produce more comprehensive results and contribute to greater regional and global stability.

Foreign policy doctrine ...

Engaging world without compromising main values

Ayatollah Khamenei did not oppose diplomacy itself. Rather, he argued that diplomacy should serve the broader ideals of the Islamic Revolution.

This meant pursuing what he described as proactive diplomacy. In the face of international pressure, he favored active engagement and presenting Iran's case rather than remaining silent or adopting a passive posture.

He also emphasized public diplomacy, arguing that global public opinion, particularly across the Islamic world, could influence government policies and therefore deserved sustained attention.

Enduring external, internal challenges

Despite these strategic principles, the Leader consistently acknowledged that

Iran's foreign policy faced significant obstacles.

Externally, the greatest challenge came from pressure within the international system.

Economic sanctions and what he described as economic warfare represented the most powerful instruments used to weaken Iran's diplomatic influence and broader national capabilities. In his view, the objective was to raise the costs of Iran's regional policies until the country abandoned its principles or retreated from its commitment to national dignity.

At the same time, efforts by major powers, particularly the United States, to limit Iran's regional influence were aimed at complicating Tehran's neighborhood diplomacy by creating persistent security challenges.

He also argued that international actors often applied double standards, using one set of rules when discussing diplo-

macy and another when addressing deterrence, thereby placing Iran in a position of chronic international distrust.

Domestic challenges, however, were equally important.

Perhaps the most difficult task was coordinating military and security institutions with the country's diplomatic apparatus. Without close coordination, contradictory signals could emerge, with diplomats advocating negotiations while military actions suggested escalation, or vice versa. Managing public expectations also remained a persistent challenge. Under the strain of economic pressure, many Iranians sought both the preservation of national dignity and independence and the lifting of sanctions to improve living standards. Reconciling these competing expectations posed a difficult test for policymakers.

Finally, limited resources constrained implementation. Pursuing a strategy of

regional resistance while simultaneously advancing domestic economic development required substantial financial and human capital, making effective resource management increasingly difficult under sanctions.

Overall, the late Leader's foreign policy record can be summarized through several key initiatives and strategic priorities:

1. Engagement with international organizations: He consistently called for an active Iranian presence in regional and international institutions, including the United Nations and the SCO, as part of his broader Look to the East strategy.

2. Expanding ties with non-Western countries: He repeatedly emphasized strengthening strategic partnerships with Asian powers, particularly China and Russia, while deepening relations with neighboring states across the region.

3. Support for Axis of Resistance: Under his leadership, Iran maintained consistent

political and strategic backing for allied political and armed groups across the region, including those in Palestine, Lebanon and Syria, in opposition to Israeli and US policies.

4. Responding to sanctions: He directed policymakers to employ economic and diplomatic tools to counter international sanctions and reduce their impact by expanding trade through alternative markets and financial channels.

5. Playing role in resolving regional disputes: He advocated regional dialogue among the Persian Gulf states and encouraged efforts to ease tensions through regional diplomacy rather than intervention by extra-regional powers.

In the final analysis, Ayatollah Khamenei elevated Iran's position to that of a regional power during his years in office, to the point where few major developments in the Middle East could be addressed without Iranian participation.