

Ayatollah Khamenei pledges vengeance for martyred Leader

Political Desk

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei expressed heartfelt appreciation for the "astonishing, enemy-breaking and historic" turnout at the funeral of the martyred Leader, vowing that vengeance on the "criminal and disgraced murderers" is certain.

In a message issued following the funeral ceremonies for martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, the Leader praised the massive public participation in Iran and Iraq, calling it an extraordinary display of support.

"We pledge to avenge the pure blood of the martyred Leader and all the martyrs of these two wars from the criminal and disgraced murderers," Ayatollah Khamenei noted.

"I sincerely appreciate the presence of tens of millions of people in the cities

and villages of Iran and Iraq, especially Tehran, Qom, Najaf, Karbala and Mashhad," he said, describing the turnout as "astonishing, enemy-breaking and historic."

Addressing the martyred Leader directly, Ayatollah Khamenei said, "With tearful eyes and broken hearts, as we bid farewell to your body, we pledge to preserve your school of thought and steadfastly follow the straight path you charted, fearing no hardship and placing our trust, as you did, in God's promises."

The Leader declared that avenging the blood of the martyred Leader and all the martyrs of these two US-Israeli wars of aggression against Iran was "the demand of our nation and must certainly be carried out."

Ayatollah Khamenei said those responsible "will take to their graves the dream of a peaceful death in bed," adding that the pledge "does not depend on

my presence or that of other officials."

"Whether we are here or not, this will be realized, and soon, free people across the world will each carry out part of this divine mission," he said.

Ayatollah Khamenei also paid tribute to those martyred alongside the martyred Leader, saying, "Blessed are you, who are now guests of the Master whom you served with devotion."

Addressing Ali ibn Musa al-Rida, the eighth Imam of Shia Muslims, the message described the martyred Leader as "a humble servant" who had dedicated everything to his faith and to serving the Imam.

It expressed hope that, in the future, he would be among the righteous who accompany Muhammad al-Mahdi, the awaited Imam in Shia belief.

The statement concluded by offering condolences to the Imam of the Age and praying for the elevation of all those killed.



Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei
● IRNA

"We ask God to grant all the martyrs the highest ranks, to bestow patience upon their families, and to grant the

oppressed Iranian nation a decisive and imminent victory, God willing," he noted.

Araghchi: Mutual compliance key to implementing Iran-US memo

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said Tehran has so far fulfilled all its commitments under a memorandum of understanding signed with the US, stressing that the deal can only succeed through "mutual compliance."

"Iran has so far kept its word, unlike the so-called US Treasury Secretary who is violating Paragraph 9 of the MoU," the Iranian foreign minister said in a post on X.

That refers to part of the memorandum of understanding that Iran will "maintain the current status quo of its nuclear program," and the United States "will not impose any new sanctions, and will not deploy additional forces in the region" pending a final deal.

"That violation follows other violations and missteps by the United States. Reality check: There can only be mutual compliance," Araghchi said hours before his departure for Oman for talks with the country's officials on arrangements for the administration of the Strait of Hormuz and regional developments.

Araghchi's comments came days after the US conducted fresh military strikes on Iran and issued new sanctions targeting 14 Iranian individuals and entities on Friday.

US President Donald Trump also declared on Friday that a ceasefire reached between the two countries was "over," even as he claimed that Iran had requested continued talks.

"We have agreed to do so, but the United States has stated to them, in no uncer-



Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi (R) greets his Iranian counterpart Abbas Araghchi as the Iranian diplomat visited Muscat on July 11, 2026 for talks with the Arab country's officials.
● IRNA

tain terms, that the Cease Fire is OVER!" Trump wrote on Truth Social.

The comments mark a new low in relations between the two countries, after an exchange of fire this week rocked the shaky agreement aimed at turning the months-long ceasefire into durable peace and threatened a return to full-scale regional war.

The US launched the strikes on the pretext of alleged Iran's attacks on ships in the strategic Strait of Hormuz, which is a major source of contention between the two countries.

The US Treasury Department also revoked a temporary sanctions waiver for Iranian oil, cancelling a license announced in June that had allowed Tehran to produce, sell and deliver crude oil

and related products through August 21. Iran's ambassador to the United Nations warned that Tehran will no longer consider itself bound by the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding if the US continues to violate its commitments under the agreement.

In a statement to reporters outside the UN Security Council on Friday, Ambassador Amir Saeed Iravani said the United States has repeatedly breached the MoU, including through large-scale military attacks on Iranian islands and southern cities on July 7 and 8.

These renewed attacks, he said, constitute a "flagrant violation" of the UN Charter and a material breach of the MoU's first clause, which commits the US to ceasing all military action against Iran.

Deputy FM: US export reward exposes UAE role in anti-Iran onslaught

International Desk

Iran said a US decision to ease export controls on the United Arab Emirates in recognition of the Arab country's support for a recent US's military operation against Iran is a "proof of Abu Dhabi's disgrace."

"The US Department of Commerce has published a new document under which it has eased export control regulations and upgraded the UAE's export status as a reward for the country's support for military aggression against Iran," Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi said in a post on X on Friday.

Gharibabadi said that the move amounted to "Washington's official admission and a document of Abu Dhabi's disgrace," adding that it carries "international responsibility and direct legal consequences."

"The UAE must be held accountable," he wrote.

Remarks by the Iranian official came after the US loosened export controls on the UAE, making it easier to export Nvidia AI chips, military equipment, commercial satellites and spacecraft in a boost to relations between the two allies.

"Today, the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) is announcing that it will significantly upgrade the status of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) (15

CFR parts 730-774) in recognition of the UAE's status as a US Major Defense Partner and its support in advancing US national security interests, including Operation Epic Fury", the department said in a statement, referring to the US-Israeli strikes on Iran that began in February.

In providing the more favorable treatment for certain exports to the UAE, the Commerce Department said the US had worked with the country for decades to counter Iran and what it called "its proxies, including Hamas, Hezbollah and the Houthis," according to Reuters.

Additionally, it noted, the UAE was the largest US trading partner in the Middle East, and that its foreign direct investment in the United States was valued at over \$1 trillion.

Under the new regulation, the Commerce Department moved the UAE into a country grouping that allows more license exceptions for military and dual-use items controlled by the department.

The UAE will be the only country in the group that is not a member of multilateral export control regimes. Other countries in the grouping include NATO countries and other allies.

Recent reports had already revealed that the UAE played a far more active role in the US-Israeli war of aggression against Iran by carrying out dozens of airstrikes on Iranian territory from the opening days of the war which began on February 28.

Food, not just oil ...

Iran sits at the geographic heart of this emerging north-south network.

Any serious attempt to build resilient regional food supply chains that completely bypass Iran is likely to be both costly and strategically incomplete.

Limited opening for cooperation

This does not mean political reconciliation is at hand. Sanctions, deep mistrust, and old rivalries remain major obstacles. Yet food security has a distinct advantage: when bread prices soar or supplies tighten, the pressure on governments becomes immediate and intensely domestic.

The Arab Persian Gulf states bring capital, advanced logistics, and modern agricultural expertise. Iran

brings geography, established overland routes, and proximity to major Eurasian grain producers. These complementary strengths combined with their shared climate and food challenges could open the door to limited, practical cooperation even without broader political trust.

Redefining security

The deeper lesson of the recent crisis may be conceptual. While experts have long warned how food can be weaponized, the current situation points to another possibility: food as a platform for pragmatic cooperation. Joint efforts on grain corridors, fertilizer networks, strategic reserves, and early-warning systems could gradually serve as confidence-building measures.

For generations, the Persian Gulf

built its security architecture around one goal: keeping oil flowing. In an era of climate disruption and fractured supply chains, the region's next great strategic challenge may be ensuring that its societies stay fed.

The map of the Persian Gulf is being redrawn. Alongside naval chokepoints, military bases, and oil terminals, the infrastructure that keeps millions fed is becoming a strategic asset in its own right.

In that sense, the strategic question facing the Persian Gulf is no longer only how to defend against common threats, but how to manage common vulnerabilities.

After decades focused on securing the flow of oil, the region may now need to devote equal attention to securing the systems that sustain life itself.



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