

Days of foreign domination gone forever: *Leader*

International Desk

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei said the days of foreign domination that Iran's enemies seek to bring back are over and will never return.

The Leader made the remark in a message on Monday on the occasion of the Sacred Defense Week, which marks the start of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein's 1980-88 war on the country, and the second anniversary of the assassination of late Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, Press TV reported.

Ayatollah Khamenei said that in those days, two seas in southern Iran were once like a "playground" for enemy forces, but they no longer venture beyond the Arabian Sea given the painful blows they have received from brave Iranian fighters and the defenders of the Strait of Hormuz.

The Leader added that whenever they took the risk of doing so, they suffered damage themselves, emphasizing that

it will not be long before the Arabian Sea, too, is cleared of their presence.

Iran's growing strength

During the Sacred Defense days, "the warm rays of the Revolution's sun shining across Iran spread a pleasant sense of national solidarity and loyalty to the school and path of revolutionary Islam," which began to melt the "ice of old and new forms of domination and colonialism."

"But the days before that were dark days," he said, saying that ambassadors of the arrogant powers would convey their orders to the Iranian monarch, who would implement them willingly or unwillingly.

The 1979 Islamic Revolution overturned that order, he highlighted.

"This was extremely difficult for the powers that sought domination and had set their sights on the wealth of this land, and which for years had committed various injustices against its people in an effort to make those resources their own," added Ayatollah

Khamenei.

Hence, the enemies "devoted all their efforts to turning the powerful current of the revolutionary nation back toward its previous course," and the war launched by Saddam Hussein was their "most important action" during the first decade of the life of the Islamic Republic.

The Baathist regime had this "illusion that it would be a war of only a few days and would bring an easy victory"; however, Iran "rose like a phoenix, more mature and stronger than before."

The Leader noted that at the beginning of the war, Iran had "inherited empty hands" of the Western-backed monarch and possessed little to defend the country against threats.

"But thanks to upholding the truth and divine assistance, we have now reached days when the aggressors themselves, rather than their proxies, seek shelter from the attacks of the Islamic military forces and plead for an end to the war," he said.



Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei
IRNA

Ayatollah Khamenei noted that enemies wish to "return our country were days of backwardness, humiliation and degradation, dependence, and Iran's disrepute in the Islamic world."

"The days we are living through now, however, are filled with progress, dignity, independence and the highest level of prestige in the Islamic world and, indeed, throughout the world," he added.

FM warns Iran to fight back any aggression, even an 'apocalyptic war'

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Sunday that Iranian delegation came to New York to forge peace but he stressed that "Iran nonetheless remains steadfast in the face of any aggression — even if it comes to an apocalyptic war".

"President Pezeshkian and I did not come to New York to sell a war. We came to forge peace. Iran nonetheless remains steadfast in the face of any aggression—even if it comes to an apocalyptic war. At the same time, we are ready for real diplomacy", he made the remarks in a post on X.

Iranian top diplomat, who has traveled to New York for 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly, also told NBC News' "Meet the Press" on Sunday that his country is prepared to resume fighting with the United States but has not yet abandoned diplomacy after President Donald Trump publicly rejected a proposal to reopen



The screen grab shows Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi speaking to NBC News' Meet the Press program on September 27, 2026.

the Strait of Hormuz.

"We are fully prepared for the time for the war to be resumed, and I repeat, we stand firm in the face of any new aggression, even if it comes to a doomsday war," Araghchi said when asked about a Wall Street Journal report that Trump could seek to resume bombing after the US midterm elections. "At the same time, we stand ready for diplomacy. It is up to President Trump to choose."

Iran had offered a deal last week to reopen the strait and resume normal maritime passage through the critical global oil chokepoint within seven days, as part of a plan conveyed to the US through mediator

Qatar on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Trump said Saturday that he had turned down that proposal, telling reporters: "I rejected their deal. They want to make a deal where they open the strait immediately because they're losing so badly."

Araghchi told moderator Kristen Welker on Sunday that despite Trump's public comments, the rejection had still not been officially communicated to Iran via mediators.

He reaffirmed that Iran was ready to reopen the strait as part of an agreement to end the conflict, adding that in return, "we want our monies, our assets, which are illegally frozen,

to be released. We want to be able to sell our oil."

Araghchi said the conditions were "not new" and were things the US has already committed itself to previously, referring to the memorandum of understanding that the two countries signed in June that laid out plans for a temporary ceasefire. That agreement collapsed within days after fresh strikes were exchanged.

"If you ask us, there is no reason why we should go back to diplomacy," Araghchi said. "But I am still trying diplomacy because I think we shouldn't miss any chance for peace."

"We don't care about US midterm elections," the Iranian official added. "We care about our national interests."

Prior to Araghchi's interview, US Ambassador to the United Nations Mike Waltz told "Meet the Press" that the deal was rejected for "a number of reasons," suggesting the US could not permit Iran "to have access to billions in frozen funds."

Iran condemns US aviation sanctions as worrying move

International Desk

Iran's Human Rights Headquarters condemned US aviation sanctions against the country, saying restrictions on access to services, equipment, spare parts and technical capabilities needed for civil aviation raise concerns from a human rights and international law perspective. In a statement, the headquarters said civil aviation was not merely an economic or commercial activity, but an area directly linked to the safety, health and lives of people.

It said the measures were concerning from the perspective of human rights, international law and the principles governing the international civil aviation system.

Back on Sept. 8, the US Department of the Treasury announced that it had targeted a number of individuals, companies and networks linked to Iran's aviation sector as part of its sanctions measures. According to the US side, the scope of the action also includes foreign individuals and intermediaries, as well as networks involved in supplying aircraft, technology and services needed by Iran's aviation industry.

The United States has imposed restrictions on the entire aviation industry in Iran and vowed to take a hard line against companies that assist it.

As the sanctions took effect last Wednesday, major airlines were forced to cancel international flights after several coun-



tries implemented bans.

Iran has lodged a complaint with the United Nations over the US sanctions against its aviation sector.

"To defend the legitimate rights of the aviation industry and counter illegal restrictions imposed by America, Iran has drafted and submitted a formal protest to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)," said civil aviation chief Abouzar Shiroudi, according to IRNA. The ICAO is a UN agency based in Montreal, Canada that sets and regulates standards for civil aviation.

"In cooperation with the foreign ministry, we have also filed a complaint with the International Court of Justice at The Hague," Shiroudi added.

For Iranians wishing to enter or exit their country, destinations in neighboring Turkey are now the primary options for flights.

Routes also remain available to Afghanistan, Pakistan, China, Russia, Malaysia and Thailand, with flights to the United Arab Emirates suspended.

Tehran: Saudi strikes on Yemen violate principles of UN Charter

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry in a statement on Monday said Saudi Arabia's deadly attacks on various parts of Yemen violate fundamental principles of the United Nations' Charter.

The ministry strongly condemned the Saudi airstrikes on a market in Taiz Province on Sunday afternoon, which killed more than 50 people and wounded dozens, as well as airstrikes on the cities of Khab and Al-Shaaf.

It said the continued violation of Yemen's national sovereignty and territorial integrity, along with aggressive operations against the country's cities and villages as well as the continuation of economic blockade of the country violate fundamental principles of the

UN Charter and runs counter to Islamic principles and teachings.

The ministry reiterated Iran's principled position on the situation in Yemen and said Tehran is ready to help resolve the differences between the two Arab neighboring countries.

Yemeni Armed Forces spokesman Brigadier General Yahya Saree has announced that Saudi fighter jets carried out two attacks on the main market around noon local time in Taiz, killing and injuring approximately 50 civilians.

Saree also noted that the same jets carried out four additional attacks on the province of Jawf, as well as strikes on the Khab and Al-Shaaf districts.

Saree warned that the unjust shedding of civilian blood would carry "huge

costs" for the Saudi regime.

According to Yemeni military sources, the Saudi regime has carried out over 1,059 attacks on Yemen since July, following a Saudi strike on the main airport in the capital, Sana'a, which triggered a new round of intense conflict between the two countries.

In response to the relentless Saudi aggression, the Yemeni Armed Forces have launched a lightning offensive, seizing control of Yemen's entire Red Sea coast, including the strategic Bab al-Mandab Strait.

The Yemeni military has also imposed a blockade on Saudi energy exports, severely compounding the economic pressure already exerted by Iran's closure of the Strait of Hormuz to US-linked shipping.

