

Dr. Abouzar Ebrahimi Torkaman's* Views on Divine Love and Self Sacrifice



"Sacrifice is the manifestation of divine love and cannot be perceived by the intellect"

We must convey the message of the spirit of faith and struggle and the message of the invincibility of the Iranian nation to the world through the translation of written works, works of art, and producing films on the Sacred Defense.

(Ayatollah Khamenei, the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran)

The foundation of self-sacrifice is rooted in preferring others to oneself. That is, the person does not just see himself. When one

does not see oneself only, he can see others. Not just being concerned about oneself means preferring others to oneself and the absence of this culture is man's main problem. One can make sacrifice when he handles self-conceitedness and loves everyone and sees everyone in the universe.

Sacrifice is a matter of (divine) love and this is not within the realm of intellects. Intellect is utilitarian and looks for one's own interests. Intellect says that if something is beneficial for me, I will work hard for it. But love is not like that and it only works for

the beloved and sees the beauties. Just like the incident of Karbala, where after undergoing all the sufferings, Hazrat Zainab (sa) said: I saw nothing but beauty. We must use the capacity of the culture of self-sacrifice as much as we can and spread this culture in our lives at all times and use it to move forward being better human beings.

The history of the sacred defense is full of bravery shown by the combatants of Islam on the war fronts of truth against falsehood. Therefore, in order to strengthen the revolutionary spirit of the society, it is necessary to try and spread the culture and spiritual and moral values of the sacred defense in a coherent and comprehensive manner, by using every possible tool and technology, and to pass on this important culture to future generations. Being the headquarters and custodian of Iran's cultural relations with the world, the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO) has a special place and mission in the cultural diplomacy of the country and one of its duties is to introduce and present the culture and values of the sacred defense and promote high concepts such as self-sac-

rifice, patience, and resistance. Accordingly, using the capacity of the cultural centers of the Islamic Republic of Iran abroad, this organization plans and implements various programs, both for foreigners and Iranians living abroad, some of which include the introduction of translated works on the Sacred Defense in different languages, views of Imam Khomeini and the Supreme Leader on the Sacred Defense, organizing film weeks and exhibitions on Sacred Defense, organizing poetry nights, meetings and international webinars on Sacred Defense and the culture of self-sacrifice and resistance, and particularly organizing such programs the main theme of which is women and Sacred Defense.

Also, the Al-Huda International Cultural, Artistic and Publishing Institute as well as Center for Organizing Translation and Publication as the powerful arms of ICRO in the area of translation and publication have, through their continuous efforts, been able to produce valuable books in different languages on the phenomenon of Sacred Defense from among which mention may be made of such works as "Biography of Martyr Soelimani", "Memoires of Ms. Seyyedeh Zahra Hosseini on the Sacred Defense and Liberation of Khorramshahr" and two special issues of the Al-Wahdah and Echo of Islam periodicals in Arabic and English, respectively. Another measure taken by

the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization is the ToP Project, which was launched a few years ago with the aim of supporting the translation of Iranian works into other languages at the global level.

Some of the outcomes of this project have been the translation and publication of a large number of books on various topics, including the sacred defense, in different languages. It is important to introduce the martyrs and prominent people

who played a role during the course of the Islamic Revolution and the Sacred Defense; a task that has been one of the cultural objectives of the ICRO.

***. President of the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization**

