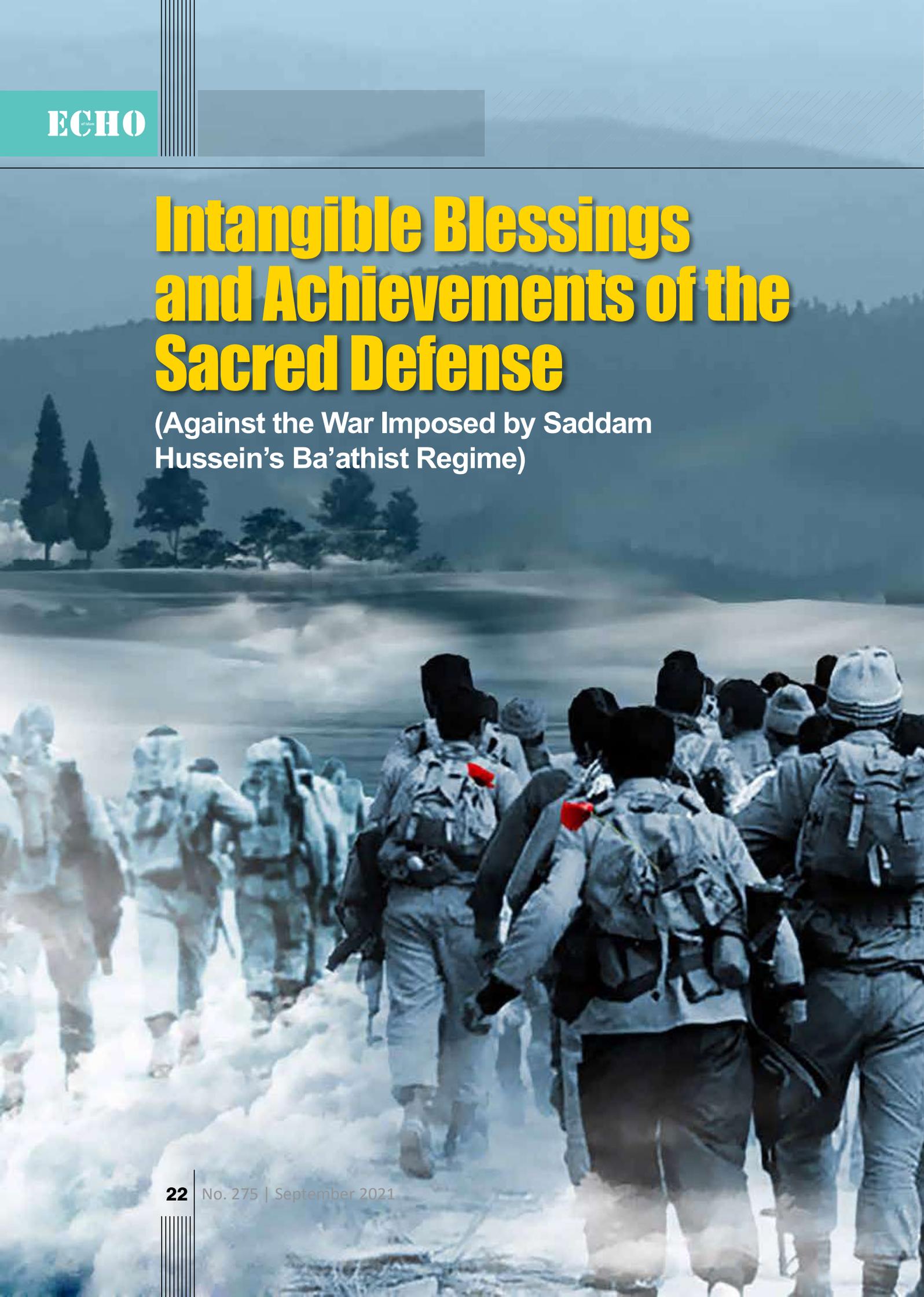


Intangible Blessings and Achievements of the Sacred Defense

(Against the War Imposed by Saddam
Hussein's Ba'athist Regime)



1- Confidence and Self-belief

One of the important blessings of Sacred Defense (imposed war) was the strengthening of self-confidence. In the sacred Defense, we came to the conclusion that we must believe in ourselves and run the country based on our own capabilities. The impact of this self-confidence was recognizable after the war in various economic, social, and new defense technologies. In the Sacred Defense, we concluded that we must rely on ourselves and achieve the belief that we can fight against all powers and superpowers for years, as Imam Khomeini

(ra) said: This war defeated the greatness of the two powers or the East and the West.

Cracking the greatness of the two powers, East and West was achieved not only in the field of battle and war but in all fields. With the self-confidence created in the people, we made progress and initiatives that aroused the admiration of friend and foe.

In the economic sanctions, we patiently resisted with the spirit of frugality and thrift and proceeded to manufacture various tools and parts, to the point of self-sufficiency in basic goods and products, and in one

sentence, our nation proved that, if we want, We can and all this was one of the blessings of the imposed war and various sanctions, which in the words of Imam Khomeini (ra): “This war and economic sanctions and expulsion of foreign experts was a divine gift that we were unaware of” and in the testament of the self-confident leader of society is that: “Do not expect anyone from outside to help you achieve the goal, which is [Islam] and to implement the rules of Islam. You must stand up for this vital thing that brings freedom and independence.





2- Growth of Religious Beliefs

The growth of religious beliefs during the time of the Sacred Defense was very significant. Everything on the front and behind the front had taken on a divine color. Even the indifference of the society in this spiritual atmosphere came to a deep internal transformation.

3- Growth of Moral and Spiritual Virtues

One of the blessings and benefits of war was the growth of moral and spiritual virtues in individuals and the strengthen-

ing of social values. In that spiritual atmosphere, many people cultivated their souls, and their hearts were purified with the light of truth, so that, according to Imam Khomeini (ra), they walked the hundred-year-old path overnight.

4- Cultural Experiences

The most important cultural experiences during the time of the imposed war were curbing the culture of capitalism and welfare and promoting the culture of asceticism and simplicity; Because the cultural context of fighting the enemy is based on

the teachings of Islam is asceticism and contentment and simple living. The late Imam was also very careful about the influence of capitalism in the system and the Sacred Defense.

5- A Test of Intellectualism

Intellectuals in Iran have never been original and rooted. Intellectualism in Iran has been contemporaneous with Westernization; because it was born in the context of Western thought. Intellectualism in Iran is more of an imitative stream than a genuine and rooted one. The intellectual considers blind imi-

tation, misanthropy, and anti-traditionalism as an inherent feature of intellectualism. The concerns, worries, and aspirations of the intellectual are also different from others. The Westernized intellectual is far from the realities and is accustomed to his illusions. He never found his way among the masses, and the masses never followed the vicious intellectual. The (imposed) war was the manifestation of the values of the revolution and therefore proved well that the concerns of the intellectuals in the revolution were different and the path of the intellectuals from the very beginning was separate. The vicious intellectual has founded his method on enmity with the religion, traditions, and beliefs of the people.

6- Strengthening of the National Unity

One of the important blessings and benefits of the Sacred Defense was the strengthening of national unity among the individuals of the nation, especially the groups and political parties of the country; In a way that everyone had placed their party and union interests in the service of the interests of the system and the security of the country.

7- Testing the Efficiency of the Islamic Republic

As an all-encompassing phenomenon, the impact of the imposed war on the Iranian society encompassed a wide range

of political, cultural, and social aspects and provided a difficult test for the efficiency of the young system of the Islamic Republic. Challenging the system of the Islamic Republic from the beginning of the victory of the Revolution has always been the goal of the arrogant powers. This is because the revolution in Iran and its possible spread in the region could endanger their interests, and they had high hopes for the destructive effect of the war in pursuing this sinister goal. The war began at the time when Iran was focusing on dealing with inherited economic problems, sabotage and assassinations by anti-revolutionary elements, lack of skilled revolutionary manpower, and foreign provocation of ethnic groups. In spite of the imposed war the Iranian nations proved that through faith in Islam it can overcome the existing difficulties and bring about unity in diversity. By introducing a

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new model of leadership in the management of society, the late Imam Khomeini (ra) had a great role in creating unity and empathy among the Iranian people.

8- Impact on Art and Literature

Epic teachings, especially the ethics and manners of the warriors, have had a direct impact on the field of art and literature of the country. It can be boldly said that epic-mystical literature was reborn in this period and even influenced and captured the minds of artists and screenwriters. Although classical and academic art moved very slowly in harmony with the Sacred Defense literature, artists shone brightly in creating literary and artistic subjects beyond the classical standards. Resistance literature is a branch of war culture and art. War cinema also complemented the war literature in our country, which became known as the cinema and art of the Sacred Defense. In the cinema and music during the war, the values espoused by the war were defended and upheld; the values that formed the theme of the war. About 50 feature films with the concept of Sacred Defense were made. During the years of the imposed war (1980-1988).

9- Creating Beauties

Although the war is nasty and frightening, people were found during the eight years of Sacred Defense who created beautiful scenes and like Hazrat Zainab (sa)

in Karbala who said in response to Ubaydullah ibn Ziyad” I saw nothing but beauty” created beauty from death and blood and turned the field of death into a scene of prayer and supplication with God, and opened the secrets of the Qur’an and the infallibles (pbut) to the pure and truthful hearts. Prior to the Sacred Defense, both the imperialist and communist camps had left the people of the world with “religion, the opium of the masses,” but one of the beauties of the imposed war was that it showed the power of “religion” in strengthening the public determination to defend the homeland to the world and the world understood that miracles can be done with Allah-o Akbar or Ya Zahra (sa) or Ya Hussain (as).

At the beginning of the war, a Parisian newspaper wrote sarcastically: “Iranians believe in miracles; “Unless a miracle comes to the Iranians and saves them from this catastrophe.” another European newspaper wrote. “As the sun moves, so do the Iraqi forces, and nothing is stopping them,”

10- Revival of the Spirit of Ashura and Manifestation of Martyrdom

According to Imam Khomeini (ra), our war was a repetition of Ashura. “Martyrdom” in addition to the great cultural, spiritual, political impact and... has valuable social effects.

Martyr Morteza Motahhari wrote:

“Martyr has a special logic which cannot be compared with the logic of ordinary people It is a

logic mixed with love and reform which made him scarify himself for his society and the spiritual logic loves to meet its own Lord. Yes; the logic of a martyr is another logic.

Imam Khomeini (ra) considered the greatest achievement of the Sacred Defense as a spiritual transformation in society. Righteousness, self-sacrifice, contentment and simple living, donation, and finally martyrdom, were among the values that can be attributed to the legacy of the Islamic Revolution.

11- Noble Ambassadors

One of the results of the Sacred Defense is the proof of faith and devotion of self-sacrificing perdue of Islamic Iran, which was shown in the dungeons of captivity. Our heroic men, under severe torture and in the midst of life and death, refused to insult their sanctities even verbally. This pure belief and faith, which is, in fact, the stage of the reality of certainty of the faith,

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astonished the Ba’athist torturers.

12- The Impact on Strengthening Social Relations and the Spirit of Brotherhood

Another blessing of the Sacred Defense was the spiritual strengthening of societies and fostering the social relations; So that intimacy and brotherhood were strengthened among the people. The sending-off the warriors and the participation in the funerals of the martyrs and [visiting the families of the martyrs and welcoming the freedmen from Iraqi prisons] are the only examples of this sympathetic interaction that was the result of eight years of Sacred Defense.

13- Influence on Public Culture

Another blessing of the Sacred Defense was the change in the country’s public culture; such that everyone was interested in defending the country and chasing and punishing the aggressor Ba’athist enemy. When Imam Khomeini (ra) said: “War is at the top of affairs”, in fact, everyone had made war the priority of actions and decisions, and personal and individual interests had all been sacrificed for the war. The culture of defense and struggle had dominated public opinion to such an extent that everyone defined his social and political value and influence with his defense capabilities, and attributing all successes to the Sacred Defense formed the basis of social and political relations. “



14- Exposing the Liberals and the Hypocrites

One of the perils that seriously threatened the Islamic Revolution was that of the Revolution falling into the trap of the liberals. As stated by the late Imam Khomeini (Ra): "Today, ten years after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, I confess, as in the past, that some of the decisions made in the early days of the Revolution, with regard to entrusting important positions and affairs of the country to a group which did not have a sincere and true belief in the pure Islam, were wrong the consequences of which will not be easily erased... And even now I firmly believe that they are not satisfied with anything less than the deviation of the Revolution from all its principles and mov-

ing towards the world-devouring United States.... And we are still paying the price for trusting these groups and liberals.

Another blessing of the (imposed) war was to expose the true face of the hypocrites; such that with the withdrawal of leftist political groups from the battle, that too, with baseless reasons and excuses, the people realized the deviant nature of these groups.

15-The Defense Capacity of the People

In every culture, there is a special mentality in people to defend the homeland. Most countries try to mobilize forces to defend the country by arousing nationalist sentiments. Trying to exist and be alive and concepts such as confronting the devil and

darkness are other ways to counter the enemy's aggression. But in the imposed war, certain cultures of Sacred Defense emerged that were derived from Islamic values. Values such as jihad, martyrdom, exercising divine sovereignty, and denying the domination of infidels over the affairs of Muslims, guardianship, and oppression were among the building blocks of this culture. A culture that according to the words of the Holy Prophet (pbuh): The love of homeland is a part of faith, found a special emersion and created a unique epic. An epic that, despite the support of world powers for the Ba'athist forces and 2800 days of proud defense recorded a successful experience in the country's record with pride and victory.