

Excerpts from Imam Khomeini's Last Will and Testament

In the Name of God, the Most
Beneficent, the Most Merciful



The Messenger of God has said: "Verily I am leaving with you the two most valuable and weighty objects: The Book of God and my household (the Thaḳalain). Indeed, these two shall not part with each other until they join up with me by the pond (of Kowthar in Paradise on the Day of Judgment)." (The Prophetic Tradition of Thaḳalain)

To Allah belongs all praise. Glorified is Thy Name, O God, bless Muhammed and his household who are manifestations of Your Beauty and Magnanimity and the secret treasures of Your Book, the Book that crystallizes Your Oneness in all Your Names and Divine Attributes, including the one that none but Yourself knows. And let there be curse on those who oppressed the Prophet (pbuh) and his household; those that belonged to the wretched pedigree.

I thought that I might make a passing remark about what has happened to these two most valuable treasures. Perhaps the phrase, "... which will never part with each other until they join me by the pond (Howz) implies that after the death of the Prophet (PBUH), the Book of God and the household of the Prophet (PBUH) shall receive similar treatment. Whatever is made of one, the other suffers the same until both descend on the Prophet (PBUH) and unite with him by the Pond. Does this union, this pond, indicate the merging of plurality with unity as the disappearance of drops in the sea? Or, does it mean something beyond the gamut of human intellect and cognition? Moreover, the cruelty to which these two di-

vine trusts, nay the entire humanity including the Islamic Ummah (nation), were subjected by the followers of the tyrants and their stooges defy description by pen.

It should be mentioned that the Thaḳalain Hadith, which is a mutawatir (an unbroken chain of recorded traditions) Tradition has been quoted, cited and adduced successively by Muslim 'ulema (foqaha, learned religious authorities or jurists), in both Shia and Sunni denominations as proof positive for all mankind, especially for Muslims in all sects and branches. References to this Prophetic tradition are frequently made in such highly reliable Sunni sources like the famous 'Six Authentic Texts' (The Sahah-e-Sitta) as well as in countless Shiite cogent texts.

Unfortunately, the Holy Qur'an, this divine book that is empowered to decide man's destiny, has found no place anywhere except in graveyards and at the gatherings for the dead. The instrument,

► **We are proud, and our dedicated nation is proud, that we adhere to a faith in which the Holy Qur'an speaks of the unity of all Muslims and the oneness of mankind.**

that was to unite Muslims and all mankind and serve as scripture for their lives and salvation, was turned into an instrument of division and dispute among men or left the arena entirely. We all witnessed that whoever spoke of Islamic rule or of politics, which is the major role of Islam and its Prophet (PBUH), or of the Quran and Islamic traditions, was regarded as one who had committed grave sins. The term akhund-a-siasi, which means a political clergyman, came to denote a profane canonist. These circumstances are still extant.

In recent years, major satanic powers have, through their puppet regimes that sham Islam, undertaken to reprint and publish the Holy Qur'an, distorting sacred verses to serve their devilish ends. Such Qur'ans are published with attractive calligraphy and binding and are distributed everywhere with the aim of eventually removing the Holy Book from all scenes. We all saw the Qur'an that Muhammad Reza Khan Pahlavi had printed. He succeeded in deceiving some people including a few Muslim akhunds or preachers who, unaware of the aims of Islam, praised him for it.

We are proud, and our dedicated nation is proud, that we adhere to a faith in which the Holy Qur'an speaks of the unity of all Muslims and the oneness of mankind. We are proud that our faith has retrieved the Qur'an from the cemeteries and has saved this Holy Book as man's prescription for freedom from all physical, mental and intellectual bonds that push him deeper into slavery

and nothingness. We are proud to be followers of a religion whose founder has been designated by divine commandment and in which 'Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS), this servant of God, free of all bonds and shackles of servitude and serfdom, has been appointed to deliver mankind from all the chains of slavery and thralldom. We are honored that the book Nahj al-Balagha, which is next to the Qur'an, is man's great manuscript for salvation, moral and material existence and the greatest instrument for just rule and government, has our Infallible Imam, Ali (AS) as its author.

We are proud to have had as our leaders the Infallible Imams, from Ali (AS) down to Hazrat Mahdi (AS) who, by the grace of God, lives in occultation, and watches our doings.

We are honored to have our Infallible Imams as authors of such exalted, superb and life-giving prayers of supplication, referred to as the Ascending Quran (Quran-e Sa'ed), as the Shabaniyah prayer, the Arafat Prayer of Imam Hussein (AS), the Sahifah Sajjadiah, these psalms of the Household of Muhammad (PBUH), and the Sahifah Fatimiah revealed by the Lord to Her Holiness Fatima Zahra (SA). We are honored to have had as our fifth Infallible Imam, Baqer al-Uloom (AS) (the title of the fifth Imam), this superlative world personality whose true station can be appreciated by none save Allah, His Prophet (PBUH) and the Infallible Imams (AS).

We are proud to be followers of the Ja'fari School of Thought whose fiqh (religious legislation

and jurisprudence) is a boundless ocean. We are proud of all our Infallible Imams (AS) and we are committed to follow them. We are honored that our Infallible Imams (AS) suffered imprisonment, banishment and finally attained martyrdom in their efforts to advance Islam; to implement the teachings and commandments of the Holy Qur'an-of which the establishment of the sovereignty of justice is but one dimension - and; to overthrow the rule of the oppressors and of the arrogant. Today, we feel proud that we seek to re-institute the objectives of the Holy Qur'an and Tradition and that the various layers of our nation sacrifice their lives, properties and loved ones for this holy cause.

We are proud that our women, young and old, regardless of their status, are present and active, side by side with the men, often more active than men, in all scenes including cultural, economic and military areas. They strive, sometimes more effectively than the men, for the propagation of Islamic teachings. Women who are capable of fighting take military training, which is a major prerequisite for the defense of Islam and the Islamic state. Our women have extricated themselves from the deprivations imposed on them by the enemies of Islam and by the inadequate knowledge of friends of Islamic tenets. They have bravely discarded the superstitions created by enemies through some ignorant preachers. Those women who are unable to fight in the war fronts serve behind the front-lines with such

ardor and courage that makes the hearts of their men tremble with delight and it throws fear in the heart of enemies and makes ignorant individuals who are worse than foes shake with anger and fear. Often we hear our women, in a manner like that of Hazrat Zainab (SA), cry out loud saying that they have given children in the path of God and Islam and are proud of it. They realize that what they get in return is far above the blessings of Heaven, let alone the material things of this world.

Our nation, indeed all Islamic nations as well as the meek and oppressed are pleased to see that their enemies, who are the enemies of Almighty God, of Islam and of the Holy Qur'an, are indeed savages who do not desist from committing any criminal acts to promote their mean purposes and who are unable to tell a friend from a foe in achieving treacherous goals. The USA is the foremost enemy of Islam. It is a terrorist state by nature that has set fire to everything everywhere and its ally, the international Zionism does not stop short of any crime to achieve its base and greedy desires, crimes that the tongue and pen are ashamed to utter or write. The stupid idea of a Greater Israel urges them to commit any shameful crime.

I now take this opportunity to advise the oppressed and noble nations, including our own, to stay firmly on this divine straight path that leads neither to the atheistic (Mulhid) East nor to the oppressive, pagan West, but to the path which the Almighty God has decreed for us. I further advise not

to be negligent, even for a single moment, in being grateful for this blessing. Let no polluted hand of a superpower, or its agents, whether domestic or foreign, affect your determination and will. Know that the rowdier the Eastern or Western satanic power gets, the more proof it is for your divine support and God shall reward and punish the deserving ones in the best fashion in this and in the other worlds. "Truly, He is the Lord of all blessing and in His hand lies the dominion over all things". (The Quran, Sura 23, Al-Muminun, the Believers, verse 88).

I earnestly ask all Muslim nations to follow the practices and traditions of the Infallible Imams (AS) in respect of political, social, economic and military affairs and to sacrifice for their sake whatever may be required. Also, I would like to enjoin on all of you to safeguard and observe the Fiqh sunnati (Traditional fiqh) or religious canons for these set forth the schools of prophetic mission and Imamate and guarantee the growth and development of the nations through their primary and secondary decrees both of which are schools of Islamic jurisprudence. My advice is that you do not deviate an iota from the teachings of both schools of Islamic fiqh and not listen to the whisperings of the slinking (Satan) who are the enemies of religion and truth. Be sure that even a minor step toward deviation may be a prelude to the fall of the religion, of the tenets of Islam and of the divine rule of justice. Do not ever miss the Friday mass prayers and the daily congrega-



tional prayers (Salaat-al-Jumah and Salaat-al-Jamaat.). The Friday Congregational Prayer is one of the greatest divine blessings for the Islamic Republic of Iran; it reflects the political dimension of prayers. Also, never neglect the mourning ceremonies commemorating the martyrdom of the Innocent Imams particularly that of the Master of All Martyrs, Imam Husain (AS); May God, His Angels and the prophets bless his great and valiant soul!

Let all know that the decrees of the Imams (AS) regarding the observance of this great epic event of Islam and all the curses levied against the enemies of Ahl al-Bayt (the Household of the Prophet) are, in fact, the heroic cries of nations against agents of tyranny throughout history. You should know that the damnation and curses against the then injustices of the Umayyad, who were annihilated and cast into the Hell, reflect the cries of protest by the people against the oppressors of the world and it is the perpetuation of such

cries of protest that shatters oppression. It is necessary that the crimes of the tyrants in each age and era be regularly condemned in the cries of lamentation and in the recitals of elegies held for the Infallible Imams.

Let me say at this point that this politico-religious testament of mine is not made to the noble people of Iran only. Rather, it is recommended for all Islamic nations and the oppressed peoples of the world regardless of religion or nationality. I humbly pray that Almighty God does not leave us and our nations to us even for a moment. May He not withhold His blessings from the children of Islam and the cherished Muslim combatants.

We all know that the great revolution which severed the tentacles of the tyrannical world-mongers from Iran was made possible by divine grace only. Otherwise, it would have been impossible for the people of Iran to achieve this great feat.

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