

The Contemporary World and the Sublime Thoughts of Imam Khomeini

By: Hojjat al-Islam Dr. Ali Komsari

Chairman of the Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works



Discussing Imam Khomeini's personality and thoughts is not just talking about a historical issue that happened in the past and within the geographical boundaries of a country. The late Imam was not just someone who appeared at a particular point in history and then disappeared and now we want to remember him. Rather, the Imam was a history-making figure, and history-making figures such as theosophists and great reformers of history do not belong to a specific time and place, and the revival of their legacy, in any period of history, would lay the foundation for the re-formation of their brilliant and sublime contribution to human society.

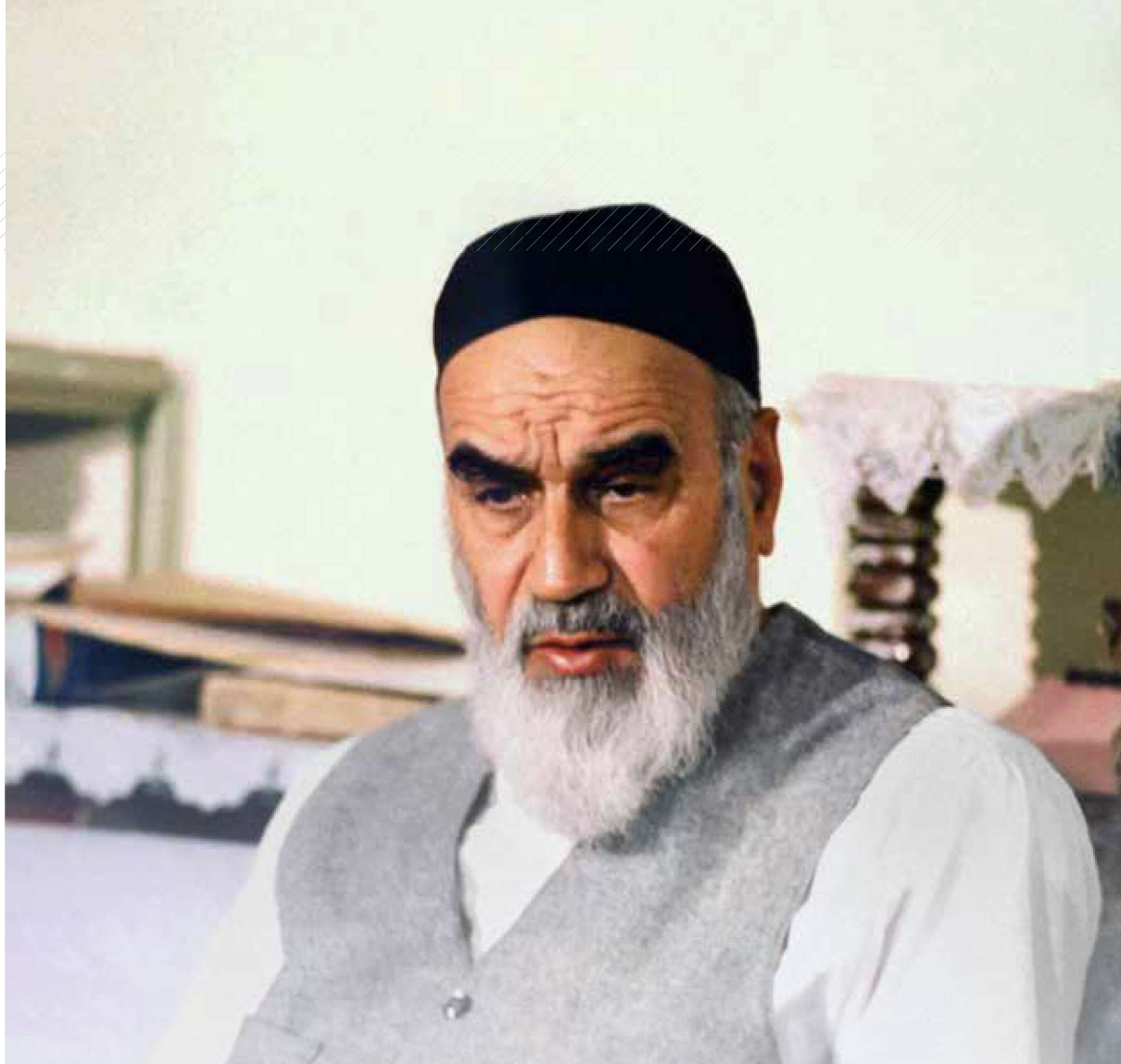
Our reference to history-making personalities can be done

from at least two perspectives. Sometimes we look at these personalities from the perspective of their scholarly and research activities in order to get acquainted with their lives and characters. But at times the purpose of making such a reference is to benefit from their views and ideas and to find out about the impact that their wisdom and way of life could have on our lives. If our reference to them is based on the first perspective, we have engaged in research work, but if it is by keeping in mind the second perspective, the situation would be different.

Looking at it from the second perspective, the person we are referring to is not just a historical figure but is rather a history-maker personality whose views worked like medicine and ultimate solutions. In our opinion, making reference to a personality like Imam Khomeini (RA) is to review his wisdom, thoughts, rational behavior, leadership model, and his lifestyle from different aspects in order to find a perfect role model and implement them in the present age. The model that was presented by the late Imam in the years 1962 and 1963 was the medicine for

the pains of the oppressed people of that time. In fact, the Imam has provided a strategic and practical answer to the historical demands and needs of the people of different times, and for this reason, people turned to him during the course of the Islamic Revolution and sacrificed their lives for his ideals.

Now we have to see what kind of treatment the Imam had offered for the historical pains of that period that people welcomed him in that way. The main pain of the people at that time was being caught in tyranny, dependency, backwardness, and isolation of their religion. Accordingly, Imam's first move was to introduce and implement true Islam (pure Islam) and outline its role in all dimensions of human life, which opposed all kinds of evasive, secularist, and liberalist approaches to religion and petrified interpretations of religion. In this view, the religion of Islam is a comprehensive school of thought that pays attention to all aspects of man's existence and needs, and its practical programs are not limited to any particular time, place, class, or specific group of people.



This comprehensive and foundational presentation of Islam by the Imam came to be manifested in the form of a “republic” with the presence of people in all areas of determining their own destiny, and on the other hand, extending support to all the oppressed people of the world.

As mentioned earlier, this comprehensive and wise plan of the Imam was widely welcomed by the people of Iran and received the all-round support of the masses. Now, the main point is that if these pains, which are not limited to a specific period of human history and continue to rage in the world in new forms, and if Iranian people found the right medicine in the dynamic Islamic ideas outlined by the late Imam, the same could have the right answer to human sufferings of all times.

Therefore, in our view and that of the oppressed nations of the world, Imam Khomeini can be considered among those personalities and reformers who - after the Noble Prophet of Islam (PBUH), the greatest reformist of human history, and Imam Hussein (AS) who said: “I revolted to reform the religion of my grandfather” - took on reviving Islam and awakening people. The Imam was a wise revivalist whose surviving ideas and especially his practical way of managing the Islamic state of Iran, has the capacity to rebuild human society both domestically and internationally. It is from this perspective that if we look at the Imam from the viewpoint of the Supreme Leader of the Revolution, Grand Ayatollah Khamenei, we find the Imam was an exceptional personality

and beyond the temporal dimensions of his life history. From the Supreme Leader’s point of view, the Imam was a healer and doctor the teachings of whose school of thought should be understood and implemented by the present young and influential generation. In a function commemorating the 33rd anniversary of Imam Khomeini’s demise in his holy shrine, the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution emphasized: “The Imam is not the Imam of yesterday, but the Imam of today and tomorrow.”

Therefore, the theoretical and practical version of pure Islam introduced by the Imam is the way to save the Islamic countries today, as well as the oppressed colonized nations, and the modern world, which has been deprived of spirituality and rationality.