

**MESSAGE OF THE SUPREME LEADER OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF
IRAN ON TRAGIC DISASTER IN QANA**

In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate

"The tragic disaster in Qana has made our hearts sated with pain and grief. It has made us and other Muslims as well as all freedom-loving peoples of the world grief-stricken and angry.

Why and for what reason the lives of those innocent children, those fragile and exhausted bodies, and the small and frightened hearts ended in such a cruel manner? Why were the distressed hearts of their mothers and fathers so cruelly wounded by the bloodthirsty Zionists and their bigheaded and arrogant American supporters?

What is the logic and rationale behind twenty days of relentless bombing of Lebanon, twenty days of atrocities on a massive scale, destruction of nation and killing of its civilian population, and the disaster such as the massacre in Qana, to make the world that claims to be civilized, the united nations, governments and organizations that profess to be advocates of human rights to remain callously cold and uninterested? How long should the Islamic world tolerate existence of the scheming and evil Zionist regime?

How long should the Islamic government allow aggressive and arrogant America to have a free hand in this sensitive part of the world?

The events in Lebanon have exposed the true nature of American human rights and have revealed the kind of Middle East the American government intends to have. Today it has become clear to all that attack on Lebanon was premeditated and part of a joint American-Zionist stratagem and is a major step toward domination over the Middle East and the Islamic world.

Bush and his American cohorts share the same degree of guilt in the disasters brought upon Lebanon as the evil and wicked Zionist regime. The silence of the United Nations and many of the western governments and above all the support by some governments, such as the notorious British government, make them accountable and partners in crime in varying degrees in contemporary and future judgment of humanity and in the day of reckoning and divine judgment day.

More than ever before the Muslim nations loathe America. Their governments, even those that are constrained because of political considerations, loathe and oppose the American government because of so much outrageous and arrogant aggressions.

The American regime must expect a hard slap on the face and the crushing fist of Muslim Ummah because of its support for the crimes and the Zionist criminals and its blatant violation of the rights of Muslim nations. The resistance of the people of Lebanon and the heroic struggles of Hizbollah and power arising from their faith, endurance and trust in god is another sign of awakening in the Islamic world and a mark of their firm resolve against animosities and hostilities. The iron fist of the faithful, brave and innocent youth of Lebanon has landed on the hideous face of the aggressors and has broken the glassy shield of their conceited and drunken vanity. The strategic policy of America in the Middle East is premised upon creating crisis, tension and wars. They must understand that as they expand the circle of insecurity in the region, the nations will become angrier at them and the world will be less safe for them.

The aggressive behavior of American and Israel will revitalize more than ever the spirit of resistance in the Islamic world and will make clearer the value of jihad. The Islamic world and the Muslim youth in all Islamic nations should also realize that the only way to stand against the savage wolf of Zionism and the aggressions of the great Satan is by dedicated resistance. Surrender and capitulation before the reckless and scheming American government will only add to their greed and blatant defiance and make things harder for the nations.

If Lebanon had caved in and surrendered to the aggressions of the Zionists, and if the combatant youth of Hizbollah and the innocent people of southern Lebanon had chosen not to put their lives on the line in this sacred defense, long-lasting humiliation and suffering would have threatened the entire nation of Lebanon and rest of the region would have been embroiled as part of the aftermath of these aggressive attacks. Today Hizbollah is on the frontline of the sacred defense of the Muslim Ummah and all nations of the region.

To the Zionist enemy, religion, faith, mosque, church, Shiite and Sunnis make no difference. It is a racist, aggressor and brutal regime. If it sees anything on its way, it will spare no crime and show no mercy toward any group or nations.

The nations of the region, all Islamic sects and followers of different faiths in Lebanon and in all Islamic countries must join hands and not allow their division to be a source of strength for the enemy. The Islamic Iran regards it its duty to stand against bullying and aggressions of America and the evil designs of the Zionist regime.

We will stand by all oppressed nations, especially the beloved people of Lebanon and the combatant nation of Palestine. "America is practically a partner in the heinous crimes committed in Lebanon by its open support for the killing of civilian population of Lebanon, opposition to ceasefire and by providing armaments, financial assistance and political support to the Zionist aggressors. It is now intending to impose added tyranny on the people and government of Lebanon by imposing its own conditions. Without any doubt, the resistant nations and those brave combatants will not succumb to this tyranny and will choose their way only on the basis of their interests.

I offer my condolences to the dear people, the tireless Mojaheds and the political leadership of Lebanon on the sufferings brought upon the people, specially the great disaster on Qana, and declare the sympathy of the great Iranian nation with them.

Greetings to the people of Lebanon, salutation to the victorious Hizbollah, and hail to the brave and faithful Arab leader, Seyed Hassan Nasrollah.

"So patiently preserve: for verily the promise of God is true: nor let those shake thy firmness, which have (themselves) no certainty of faith (Sura 30, verse 60)."