

ECHO

of Islam

The Martyrs
of Friendship
Diplomacy

Martyr Hossein
Amir-Abdollahian:
A True
Field Diplomat

Martyr Dr. Raisi
the Outstanding President
of the Revolution

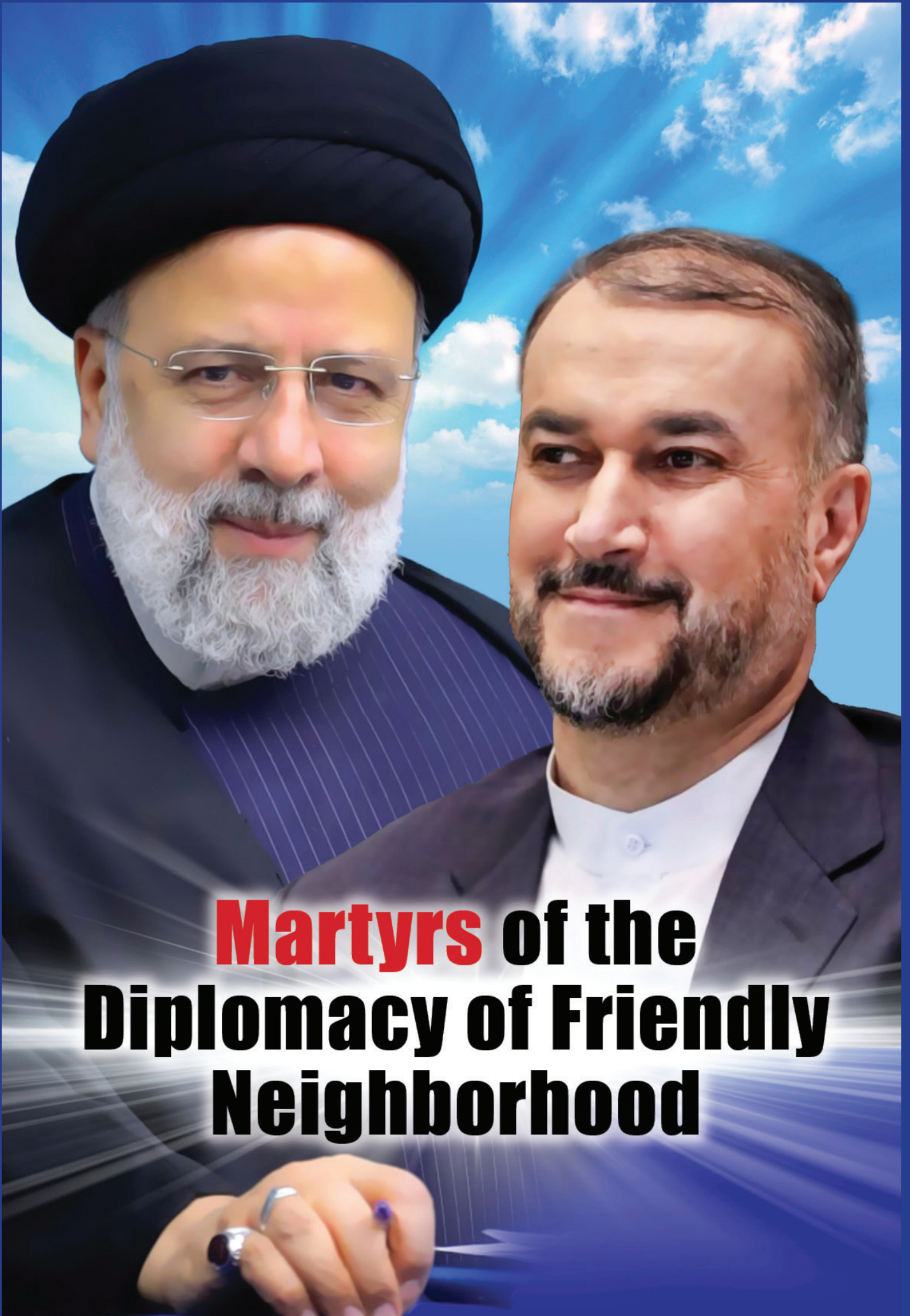
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Martyrs of the
**Diplomacy of Friendly
Neighborhood**



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**Editorial**

The Martyrs of Friendship Diplomacy

**By: Mahdi Fayyazi, Specialist of
International Affairs**

The government of the Martyr Ayatollah Dr. Raisi, the popular president of Iran, together with the minister of foreign affairs, Dr. Amir-Abdollahian, gave priority to active diplomacy in their foreign policy in order to create a different world order characterized by reciprocal and step-by-step interaction with the West, and strategic interaction with neighbors, the emerging powers and the Eastern-oriented resistance movements.

On behalf of the people of Iran, they gave all-round support to the oppressed people of Palestine and the formation of the Palestinian state, and they praised the awakening of free people in the world and the awakening of American and European university students, which was the outcome of the blood-shed and massacre of the oppressed martyrs of Gaza.



They promoted unity and the global spread of the resistance front against the acquisitiveness of modern colonialism and resumed blocked international relations through the diplomacy of friendship, including the re-establishment of relations between Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and the UAE.

Through their popular approach, Dr. Raisi and Dr. Amir-Abdollahian gave special importance to cultural and public diplomacy. They also paid attention to the diplomacy of promoting cultural and artistic elites, legends, celebrities, and civilized cities, and gave importance to preserving the family foundation in societies and nations. By the same token, they gave importance to the diplomacy of promoting books and knowledge and had adopted certain effective

initiatives to interact with the global network of non-resident Iranians.

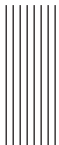
With their divine and innate sincerity, Martyr Ayatollah Dr. Raisi and Martyr Dr. Amir-Abdollahian sincerely believed in the diplomacy of respecting all divine prophets and holy books, especially the Holy Qur'an.

In order to create harmony among neighbors and block the conspiracies of those who intend to create regional dissidence, they left behind their brilliant legacy and were martyred - due to unfavorable weather conditions - while returning from the inaugural ceremony of the friendship dam on the border river between Iran and Azerbaijan.

**May God bless their souls
and they rest in peace.**



The Condolence Message of the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Martyrdom of the President and His Companions





In a message, Grand Ayatollah Khamenei condoled the martyrdom of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, Dr. Amirabdollahian, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hojjat al-Islam Ale-Hashem, the Representative of the Guardian of the Islamic Jurist in East Azarbaijan, Dr. Rahmati, the Governor General of East Azarbaijan Province, and their esteemed companions in the helicopter crash.



The message of the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution is as follows:

In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

(Indeed we belong to Allah and to Him do we indeed return)

It was with great sadness and regret that I received the bitter news of the martyrdom-like demise of the diligent scholar, the competent and hard-working President, Imam Reza's (AS)

servant, Mr. Haj Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi and his dear companions (may God bless them).

This unfortunate incident happened during a service attempt. The entire period of responsibility of this noble and selfless person, both during the short term of the presidency and before that, was completely spent in non-stop efforts to serve the

people, the country, and Islam.

Dear Raisi did not know what fatigue was. In this tragic incident, the Iranian nation lost a sincere and valuable servant. For him, the welfare and satisfaction of the people, which indicates God's satisfaction, was preferred over everything else, so his annoyances from the ungratefulness and taunts of some



ill-wishers did not prevent him from working day and night to improve affairs.

In this unbearable incident, prominent personalities such as Hojjat al-Islam Ale-Hashem, the popular and reliable Friday Imam of Tabriz, Mr. Amirabdollahian, the hard-working and active Foreign Minister, Mr. Malek Rahmati, the revolutionary and pious Governor General of East Azerbaijan, and the flight crew

and other companions also entered into God's rest.

I announce five days of public mourning and express my condolences to the dear people of Iran.

According to Article 131 of the Constitution, Mr. Mokhber is in the position of managing the executive branch (government) and is obliged to arrange for a new President to be elected within 50 days, together with the heads of the Parliament and

judiciary.

In the end, I offer my sincere condolences to the dear mother of Mr. Raisi and his honorable wife and other family members of the President and the respected families of his companions, especially the respected father of Mr. Ale-Hashem, and I pray for their patience and consolation and God's mercy for the departed.

2024/05/20



The Condolence Message of the President of ICRO

وَلَا تَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ قُتِلُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتًا، بَلْ أَحْيَاءُ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ يُرْزَقُونَ
(Do not suppose those who were slain in the way of Allah to be dead; no, they are living and provided for near their Lord)

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ.

(Indeed we belong to Allah and to Him do we indeed return.)



Mohammad Mahdi Imanipour

President of the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization

- The sad news of the martyrdom of Ayatollah Raisi, the popular, committed, and hardworking President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and his honorable companions immersed everyone in indescribable grief and sorrow. This true follower of the school of thought and discourse of the Islamic Revolution had, until the last moment of his blessed and honorable life, sincerely served his people, and never did he neglect this holy and divine responsibility for a moment. Our martyred President's admirable adherence to the ideals, principles, and foundations of the Islamic Revolu-



tion and his great efforts to rely on deep domestic abilities and capacities for the country's cultural, economic, and social growth and prosperity were always appreciated by everyone.

- Martyr Ayatollah Raisi's unreserved support for culture and cultural diplomacy has inscribed the name of his government as a group of concerned people who were in alignment with the advices of the wise Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution in this important field.

- Undoubtedly, it is difficult and strenuous for the lovers of Islamic Iran to bear this calamity, but since this day has coincided with the birth anniversary of Imam Reza (AS) - by seeking his blessings - we bow our heads in submission before the divine command of the Lord of the worlds.

- Undeniably, the unreserved and sincere efforts of our martyred President will be a valuable asset in his eternal life.

- We, hereby, express our congratulations and condolences about the martyrdom of this great servant of the Iranian nation to the Imam of the Time (AJ), the honorable Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khamenei, his honorable and bereaved family, especially Mrs. Dr. Alam Al-Hoda and Ayatollah Alam Al-Hoda, the honorable Friday prayer Imam of the Holy Mashhad, and all the esteemed members of the government and other survivors. The companionship of Martyr Ayatollah Raisi and his noble companions with the infallible Imams (AS), the late Imam Khomeini (RA), and Abrar (the righteous) and Salehin (the virtuous) is our heartfelt prayers for this martyr of the path of service.



Martyr Dr. Raisi, the Outstanding President of the Revolution

By: Hojjat al-Islam Mahdi Imanipour, President of the
Islamic Culture and Relations Organization

One of the fundamental principles of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which is referred to as the discourse of the Islamic Revolution is supporting and helping the oppressed people of the world irrespective of where they are. Martyr Dr. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi's government took over at a time when the world, and especially the West Asian region were involved in a tense situation. However, the doctrine of the Raisi Administration was to extend effective defense to the axis of resistance, equal and balanced interaction with the world, and the deepening of relations with all countries, especially the neighbors. Regardless of all odds, with the teachings received from the profound and deep-rooted Islamic culture, Martyred President Ebrahim Raisi knew very well how to take steps towards universal justice and peace in global political equations. The adoption of this political doctrine reflected the depth of Ayatollah Raisi's strategic thoughts, which originated from the foundations and principles of the discourse of the Islamic Revolution. His zealous and intelligent moves in the field of foreign policy and public diplomacy showed the forward approach of his government in the international arena; an approach that, in addition to taking into consideration national interests, also paid attention to the interests of the countries in the region.

Ayatollah Raisi very well knew that the diplomacy of the Revolution is the only justice-seeking discourse that could guarantee lasting peace and promote unity, friendship, and regional cohesion among nations. His valuable presence in several sessions of the United Nations General Assembly and the use of the discourse that is shared by the followers of all religions were signs of the understanding of this hard-working personality about the nature

and functionality of international civil institutions and the extent of their influence on the public opinion.

One of the most glorious efforts of the Raisi Administration in the field of foreign policy was the practical attention to the issue of Palestine and resistance and the effort to stop the crimes of the Zionist regime against the oppressed Palestinians, and, undoubtedly, the martyred diplomat Dr. Amir-Abdollahian, Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs, played a key role in awakening world public opinion about these crimes.

Dr. Raisi was a sincere man of service and a tireless and hardworking personality who was not only popular among the appreciative people of Iran but also among the neighboring nations. The messages of condolence by many world leaders and announcing days of public mourning in their countries were proof of Ayatollah Raisi's popularity in the region and the world.

As rightly mentioned by the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Grand Ayatollah Khamenei, "Dear Raisi did not know what fatigue was. In this tragic incident, the Iranian nation lost a sincere and valuable servant."

Even though the loss of President Raisi, who was a hardworking man of sincere service, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, is an unbearable tragedy for the people of Iran and other truth-seeking and justice-seeking nations, the Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly proved that it has political stability and under the wise leadership of its Supreme Leader can overcome any crisis.

May God's peace and mercy be upon this martyr of people and the martyr of peace and stability in the region, and his companions

President Raisi Was a Symbol of Religious Democratic Politics

Dr. Ms. Mariam Salame; Lebanese Research Scholar

Martyr Ayatollah Raisi was a symbol of religious democratic politics, and his economic policies were aimed at improving people's livelihood, especially favoring the satisfaction of the masses over the satisfaction of the elites. In his letter to Malik Ashtar, Imam Ali (as) states the economic and political criteria of religious democracy as follows:



“Maintain justice in administration and impose it on your own self and seek the consent of the people, for, the discontent of the masses sterilizes the contentment of the privileged few and the discontent of the few loses itself in the contentment of the many. Remember the privileged few will not rally round you in moments of difficulty: they will try to side-track justice, they will ask for more than what they deserve, and will show no gratitude for favors done to them.”

According to the Commander of the Faithful, prioritizing public satisfaction over the satisfaction of individuals in economic and social policymaking is crucial. During his presidency, Martyr President Raisi demonstrated that his policies were aligned with the public’s satisfaction, ultimately sacrificing his life in service of the people. Some of the measures implemented during his brief administration to ensure public satisfaction included the creation of an electronic product catalog plan, providing free healthcare and treatment for the poor and disadvantaged, implementing a plan to make bread and flour subsidies more efficient without directly increasing the

price of bread despite various pressures, issuing free business licenses, removing barriers to employment for young people, increasing marriage loans, implementing the Population Excellence Plan, raising subsidies for low-income individuals, and, most importantly, conducting provincial trips and directly addressing people’s concerns to resolve their problems.

Paying attention to infrastructure and long-term policies, rather than focusing on short-term benefits, is crucial.

It is important to disregard words of ingratitude, taunts, and sarcasm, and instead prioritize policies that will benefit the people in the long run. This involves prioritizing infrastructural development over policies that only offer short-term benefits but have long-term detrimental effects. Addressing issues such as unregulated money creation by banks and dealing with unhealthy banks to prevent the creation of unregulated liquidity is important. Additionally, increasing economic and trade interactions with neighboring countries and other regions in Asia, Europe, Africa, and even South America is beneficial. Iran’s membership in the Shanghai Treaty and the BRICS Group, and expanding economic and trade interactions with China and Russia have helped neutralize financial and trade sanctions and serve the long-term interests of the people.

Martyr Ayatollah Raisi faced numerous challenges during his tenure as president, including a depleted treasury, significant debts, unstable banks, and global crises such as the conflict between Ukraine and Russia, rising grain prices, internal unrest, and conflicts between Gaza and Israel. Despite these obstacles, Martyr Raisi focused on taking action and implementing policies to mitigate the impact of these crises on the country and its people.

President Raisi’s Fight Against Corruption

The Raisi Administration’s reliance on meritocracy and the prohibition of relatives from involvement in government affairs are key features in the fight against corruption. As stated in his letter to Malik Ashtar, Imam Ali (AS) emphasized the importance of





removing the interference of relatives and friends in government, as it often leads to corruption and the misappropriation of public resources. By following this advice, the government can effectively eliminate corruption at its root.

Martyr Dr. Raisi is seen as a symbol of religious, political, and economic democracy

In essence, just as General Soleimani led the resistance in the military arena, Martyr Dr. Raisi, too, led efforts to neutralize sanctions in order to

ensure the satisfaction of the general public. He remained unfazed by the criticisms from both insiders and outsiders, steadfastly carrying out his duties.

President Raisi symbolized religious, political, and economic democracy, and ultimately, he sealed his impactful legacy with his own dedication, ensuring that his words and actions would continue to shape Iran's political future and bring the country closer to establishing a powerful Islamic state.

May His Soul and That of His Companions Be Blessed By Almighty God



Martyr Hossein Amir-Abdollahian: A True Field Diplomat

Mohsen Asadi Movahed: Expert on International Law

In 1976, it all began with a phone call at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On one end was Martyr Soleimani, and the discussion revolved around Iraq issues. When the expert from the Iraq desk at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs answered the call, he realized that the IRGC Quds Force commander was on the line. This marked the beginning of a friendship between the diplomat of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the field commander.

Iran's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, tragically passed away in a helicopter crash along with Martyr President Ayatollah Raisi. The crash occurred in the mountains of Azarbaijan, where the soil was mixed with the blood of this respected diplomat.

Hossein Amir-Abdollahian was born in 1964 in Damghan city. He lost his father when he was 7 years old. He got married at the age of 30. He studied international relations at the University of Tehran and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and earned a doctorate. In his interviews, he emphasized his role as a "diplomat" and often shared interesting stories about General Soleimani or personal meetings with his international counterparts, saying "We diplomats".

He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the beginning of 1991, working as an expert in the Department of Arab and African Countries of the Ministry. According to his own words, if this department had not done him any good, he would have had the privilege of becoming a direct supporter of Martyr Sardar Soleimani. Later, when General Soleimani joined the Quds Corps, he had a close relationship with him. Amir-Abdollahian held such positions such as Deputy Director of the Arab and African Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2011 to 2016), Director General of the Persian Gulf and the Middle East (2010), Iran's Ambassador to Bahrain (2007 to 2010), and

deputy of the special representative of the foreign minister for Iraqi affairs (2013-2014).

He was elected as the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the government of Ayatollah Raisi and took up the "regional balance" strategy. He believed that Iran should have a good relationship with all of them by balancing the relationship between the countries of the region. Also, he did not hesitate to help the resistance groups and was a companion and friend of groups such as Hezbollah, Hashd al-Shaabi, Yemen's Ansarullah, Hamas, and Palestinian Islamic Jihad groups. The proof of this claim was the foreign minister's eight trips to Lebanon and Syria during his ministry. Most of the thinkers of the region and the Arab and African officials had a good relationship with him, and some of Iran's rivals in the region always looked at him with respect. In short, he was known as the "Diplomat of the Field"!

A book about his professional life has been published called "Sobhe Sham". According to Martyr Amir-Abdollahian's testimony, this book was written at the request of General Martyr Soleimani. In a part of this book, interesting narratives of Sardar Soleimani can be seen stating: "Our intelligence departments have many documents that confirm that the main purpose of creating ISIS and the great crisis that was created for the region is the axis of resistance and Iran. The crisis was supposed to be transferred to our country. This was a plan drawn on a macro

level for the region and for us. Each of the countries of the region entered into the story based on their understanding of the issue."

In the field of regional diplomacy, after "Operation Al-Aqsa Storm", as well as the war in Gaza and Israeli crimes in this area, he was always looking for a way to end the crimes in Gaza and help the Palestinian people. He traveled many times to the countries of the region and during his last trip to Gambia, he gave an important speech at the summit of Islamic countries.

He was deeply passionate about "Palestine". All his efforts were dedicated to supporting the freedom of Palestine and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. In addition to his ministerial roles, he also led the Secretariat of the Palestinian Intifada Support Headquarters. This secretariat's primary responsibility was to advocate for Palestinian freedom and emphasize the significance of this issue on the global political stage.

Amir-Abdollahian's regional and international trips to different countries always brought good news. One of his most important activities during his ministry was to restore relations with Saudi Arabia. He also made significant progress in renewing the relationship with Egypt. In terms of the JCPOA and nuclear issues, he successfully navigated nuclear negotiations by following the nuclear strategic law.

Amir-Abdollahian was involved in negotiations for the exchange of prisoners and the return of 6

billion dollars from Iran's blocked money in South Korea. Additionally, he aimed to improve relations with Eastern countries, reduce tensions with regional nations, and foster positive connections with independent countries worldwide. Many of these initiatives were successfully implemented, contributing to a positive legacy for him.

Martyr Amir-Abdollahian's consultations before and after "Operation Wadeh Sadiq" (True Promise) were very prominent in the course of which he created political and diplomatic support for Iran. A clear example of this was his meeting with the UN Security Council in front of the representative of the Zionist regime. In the last 8 months, Hossein Amir-Abdollahian was one of the most productive foreign ministers in the region and the world, who consulted and talked with his counterparts to stop the war in Gaza and implement a ceasefire. He had a difficult time during this period, especially in relation to the Israeli regime's attack on the Iranian consulate in Damascus and Operation True Promise.

In order to enhance foreign policy capabilities and play an effective role in regional and global developments, the Raisi Administration had prioritized the doctrine of neighborhood and convergence. This aims to restore balance to the country's foreign policy. The diplomatic system focused on three main areas: neighbor-oriented policy, balanced foreign policy, and active economic diplomacy. Amir-

Abdollahian had been chosen as the key figure to pursue the goals set for these three areas. One of Amir-Abdollahian's significant achievements was Iran's membership in the Shanghai Pact, which aimed to strengthen ties with eastern countries.





The Messages of World Leaders on the Sad Demise of Martyr Raisi and His Companions





China

China's Leader Xi Jinping:

"Deep condolences to the Iranian government and people, Raisi's tragic death is a great loss to the Iranian people, and the Chinese people also lost a good friend,"

cian whose entire life was devoted to serving his Motherland. He enjoyed the well-deserved respect of his compatriots and high prestige beyond his country. As a true friend of Russia, he made an invaluable personal contribution to the development of good neighborly relations between our countries and made great efforts to advance them to the level of strategic partnership, I have had the privilege of meeting Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi on multiple occasions, and I will always cherish the fond memories of this wonderful man. Please convey my heartfelt condolences and support to the family and friends of the late President, as well as to all those affected by this tragic incident. I extend my wishes for strength to the Iranian people as they navigate through this challenging and irreparable loss,"



Russia

Russian President Vladimir Putin:

"Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi was an outstanding politi-



India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi:

"Deeply saddened and shocked by the tragic demise of Dr. Seyed Ebrahim Raisi, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran. His contribution to strengthening India-Iran bilateral relationship will always be remembered. My heartfelt condolences to his family and the people of Iran. India stands with Iran in this time of sorrow."



Pakistan

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif:

“Pakistan will observe a day of mourning and the flag will fly at half-mast as a mark of respect for President Raisi and his companions and in solidarity with Brotherly Iran.”



Türkiye

President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan

“I ask the Almighty God for mercy for my dear counterpart, my brother, and the honorable president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr. Ebrahim Raisi, who unfortunately passed away in a helicopter accident. I wish God’s mercy for the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran and others who lost their lives in the helicopter accident. I express my deepest condolences to the nation and the government of Iran, especially to (Grand) Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the leader of Iran, and the honorable Raisi family and other de-

ceased. As a counterpart who personally witnessed his efforts to calm to serve the people of Iran and the region during his tenure, I remember Mr. Raisi with respect and gratitude.



European Union

President of the European Council, Charles Michel:

“The European Union offers its condolences for the death of President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Hussein Amir Abdollahian, and other Iranian officials involved in the tragic helicopter crash on Sunday. The EU expresses its sympathies to the families of all the victims and to the Iranian citizens affected.”



Saudi Arabia

King Salman:

“We learnt of the news of the death of His Excel-

lency Dr. Ebrahim Raisi, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and his companions – may God have mercy on them – and we send you and the brotherly people of the Islamic Republic of Iran our deepest and sincere condolences.”



Egypt

President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi:

“The president of the Arab Republic of Egypt prays that the deceased Iranian President and the departed may rest in God Almighty’s mercy, and grant their families patience and solace, expressing the solidarity of the Arab Republic of Egypt with the Iranian leadership and people in this terrible incident.”



Iraq

Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' Al-Sudani

“We express our solidarity with the brotherly Ira-

nian people and the officials of the Islamic Republic during this painful tragedy.”



Japan

Spokesperson Yoshimasa Hayashi:

“The country expresses its deepest condolences to the government and people of Iran over the death of President Raisi and the foreign minister.”



Jordan

King Abdullah:

“Deepest condolences to the brothers, leadership, government and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the death of Brother President Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Brother Hossein Amir-Abdullahian and those accompanying them. May God have mercy on them all. We stand in solidarity with our brothers in Iran in this difficult circumstance.”



Malaysia

Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim:

“His (President Raisi’s) dedication to justice, peace, and the upliftment of the ummah [the Islamic community] was truly inspiring. In our meeting last November, we committed ourselves to bolstering Malaysia-Iran relations, working together for the betterment of our peoples and the Muslim world. Our pledge will be fulfilled.”



Pope Francis

The Pope sent condolences to Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Monday following the death of President Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash.

“I send condolences upon the deaths of President Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, and all who perished in yesterday’s helicopter crash, Entrusting the souls of the de-

ceased to the mercy of the Almighty, and with prayers for those who mourn their loss, especially their families, I send the assurance of spiritual closeness to the nation at this difficult time.”



Qatar

Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani:

“Asking God Almighty for mercy and forgiveness for [those killed] and for their families with patience and solace. We belong to Allah and to Him we shall return.”



Sudan

Sudan’s Sovereign Council Head, Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan:

“Our sincere condolences and sympathy to the friendly Iranian people. We pray to God Almighty that he may have mercy on the President and his companions, and grant their families patience and

solace, expressing the solidarity of the Government of Sudan and its people with the leadership and the Iranian people in this great loss,”

ways be, an excellent human being, defender of the sovereignty of his people, and unconditional friend of our country.”



Syria

Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad affirmed Syria’s solidarity with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the families of the dead. President Assad added that Syria had worked with the late president to ensure strategic ties between Syria and Iran remained prosperous, recalling Raisi’s important visit to Syria as part of enhancing ties for the benefit of both nations.



United Arab Emirates

Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan “I extend my deepest condolences to the Iranian government and people over the passing of President Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian and those accompanying them following a tragic accident.”



Venezuela

President Nicolas Maduro

“Deeply saddened to have to say goodbye to an exemplary person, an extraordinary leader of the world as our brother Ebrahim is, and will al-



Bangladesh

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

“I am deeply shocked and saddened to hear about the sad demise of President Dr. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, and members of the entourage in the tragic accident of the helicopter carrying them. In

this hour of grief, on behalf of the Government of Bangladesh and on my own behalf, I convey our deepest condolences to the Government and the brotherly people of Iran.”

Announcing a national day of mourning on Thursday (23 May), She added: “On the day, the national flag will be at half-mast in all government, semi-government, and autonomous institutions and educational institutions, including all government and private buildings and Bangladesh missions abroad.”



Nigeria

Presidential Spokesman Ajuri Ngelale:

“President Bola Tinubu extends his condolences to the government and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran over the passing of President Ebrahim Raisi; Iranian foreign minister, Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, and other officials in a helicopter crash. President Tinubu expresses profound grief over this disturbing tragedy, and describes President Raisi as a leader who was passionately committed to the development of Iran.”



Afghanistan

Prime Minister Mullah Mohammad Hassan Akhund:

“We share our grief with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the people of that country and offer our condolences to all the families of the victims, the nation and the government of Iran,”



Vietnam

“Acting State President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Vo Thi Anh Xuan, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh, and President of the National Assembly Tran Thanh Man, are grieved to learn about the passing of President Ebrahim Raisi, Minister of Foreign Affairs Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and other members of the entourage. They extended their deepest condolences to the interim President of Iran, Mohammad Mokhber, Parliament speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf, and through

them, to Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei; the government and people of Iran.”



The World Health Organization

“We express our condolences to the people of Iran and the families of the late President Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, and all those who lost their lives in the helicopter crash yesterday,”



United Nations

Spokesman for UN Secretary-General António Guterres:

“The Secretary-General is saddened by the death of Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, President of Iran, Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and their colleagues in a helicopter accident on 19 May. The Secretary-General expresses his sincere

condolences to the families of the deceased and to the Government and people of Iran.”

The United Nations office in Geneva also raised the flag of our country at half-mast in the headquarters of this organization as a sign of sympathy with the Iranian nation.





The Role Model of Service in the Era of the Discourse of Global Spirituality

By: Dr. Mahmoud Vaezi, Associate Professor and Head of the Faculty of Theology and Islamic Studies, Tehran University

Today's world, which in the opinion of prominent scholars of future studies, is preparing to enter the paradigm of spirituality, lost one of its most noble spiritual role models, who was

the full manifestation of selfless service to society. Service and benevolence have been and are respected in all religions and this is what Dr. John Boyer Noss, in his book "Man's Religions" re-

fers to as the golden rule of all divine and non-divine religions and praises it.¹

The school of Islam not only accepts this golden rule of serving society, but it also has certain lofty

values that are very important and need to be pondered upon. There are several Qur’anic verses as well as hadiths about the principle of accepting this rule which say: “If you do good, you will do good to your [own] souls...”² “When you are greeted with a salute, greet with a better one than it, or return it...;”³ “For the love of Him (God), they feed the needy, the orphan and the prisoner.”¹; and “...prefer (the Immigrants) to themselves, though poverty may afflict them...”⁴

In addition to the luminous verses of the Holy Qur’an, many traditions from the Ahl al-Bayt of the Holy Prophet of Islam (PBUH) also confirm this golden rule of religions. For instance, one of the most beautiful statements in this regard is Imam Ali’s (AS) letter to his son Imam Hasan (AS)⁵.

The purpose of this short note is to point out that the themes of the divine words were truly embodied in the personality of the great Ayatollah Ibrahim Raisi, who can be an exemplar and role model for all managers and those who intend to sincerely serve their people.

- Staying away from pride and arrogance, living a simple life, and considering yourself the only servant of God.⁶
- Serving the society not for the



sake of name, but to obtain the divine approval and pleasure of God Almighty.⁷

- - Serving the society and human beings, but with the belief that the more unknown one is, the more valuable would be his services.
- - Believing that to help others, not only in case of wealth and need but also when one is not wealthy.⁸
- - Believing that in order to do good and serve the people, one should make people feel obliged.⁹

The honorable President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Martyr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, truly spent his life on the path of realizing these values and carved his name in history, especially in the era of global spirituality. May his soul rest in peace, and may many people follow his path.

Endnotes

1. Surah Al- Isra’, Verse 7
2. Surah Al- Nisa’, Verse 86
3. Surah Al- Insan, Verse 8
4. Surah Al- Hashr, Verse 9
5. Nahj a-Balaghah, Letter No. 31
6. See Surah Al- Baqarah, Verse 112
7. See Surah Al- Baqarah, Verse 77
8. See Surah Al- Insan, Verse 8
9. See Surah Al- Baqarah, Verse 264

Service Diplomacy; Lasting Legacy of the Martyred President

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مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ رِجَالٌ صَدَقُوا مَا عَاهَدُوا اللَّهَ عَلَيْهِ فَمِنْهُمْ مَن قَضَىٰ نَحْبَهُ وَمِنْهُمْ مَن يَنْتَظِرُ وَمَا بَدَّلُوا تَبْدِيلًا

“Among the faithful are men who fulfill what they have pledged to Allah: there are some among them who have fulfilled their pledge, and some of them who still wait, and they have not changed in the least” (Holy Qur’an, Surah Al-Ahzab, Verse 23)

The Martyr of the masses and the caretaker of the underprivileged (Ayatollah Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi) had, with a divine intention, undertaken the path of serving his society and uplifting

the honor of the country with unparalleled determination. He lit the spark of hope in the hearts of the oppressed.

Like Martyr Haj Qasem Soleimani, Ayatollah Dr. Raisi

was a manifestation of faith, sincerity, and hope and he was distinguished in piety and being a revolutionary like Martyr Beheshti.

From the point of view of the Supreme Leader, he was a mujahid scholar and a president of the masses who was an efficient, hardworking, sincere, and value-oriented servant of his people.

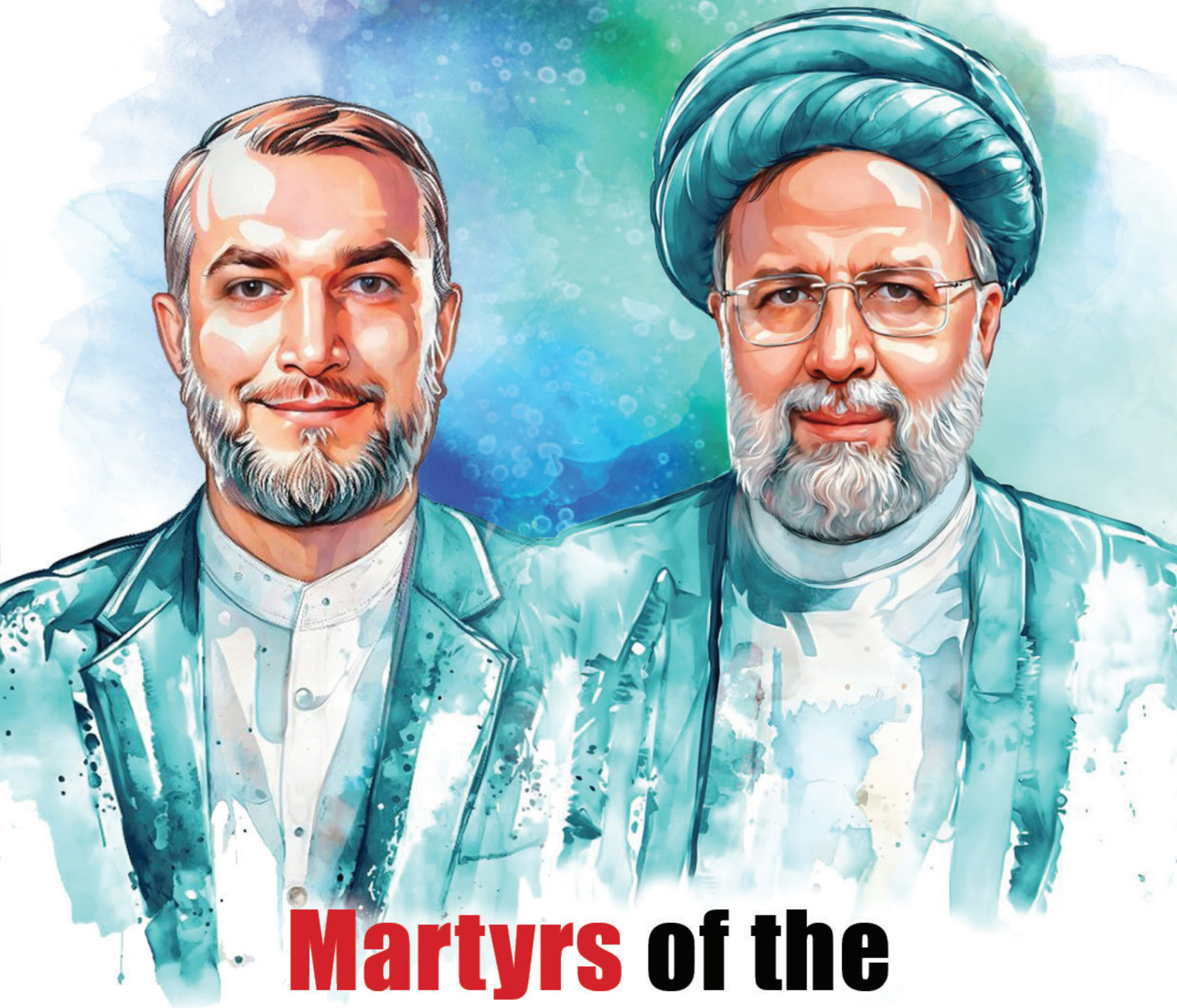
The “Martyr of the Masses” considered compassion towards people and their trust in him as his capital and strength in the path of serving them, and in his consecutive trips to the different provinces of the country, he always was concerned about the people, and his slogan was that “people trusted us and we should be the trustees of their trust.”

He would not order anything unless he made sure that it was in the interest of the people, and he believed that a task that would ensure the benefit of the future of people should be implemented as soon as possible. Justice was his slogan, and he paid attention to this important issue in the distribution of resources, and eventually, martyrdom was the reward for his efforts in the path of “Service Diplomacy.”

Of course, martyrdom is a gift that God Almighty only bestows on His sincere servants, and blessed are the Martyred President and his companions who received this divine gift, which was the reward for their honest services.

It is hoped that we will be able to continue the path of that martyred Seyyed.





Martyrs of the
**Diplomacy of Friendly
Neighborhood**