

Islamic Iran's Manifest Victory and the Blessings of the Islamic State

تو را است معجزه در کف، ز ساحران مهراں
عصا بیفکن و از بیم اژدها مگریز

*The miracle is already in your hand; fear not
the magicians.*

*Cast down your staff, and do not flee for fear of
the dragon.*

Iran's recent success and steadfastness against the nuclear and military might of America and Israel has stunned Western circles. This is no less a source of astonishment for the Islamic world and for Iran's own friends. Everyone knew that Iran had the capacity to close the Strait of Hormuz and to mount a defensive resistance, but turning a theoretical possibility into a practical reality, and turning an assumption into an actual event, are two different matters.

Professor Robert Pape, an expert in international relations at the University of Chicago, wrote in the New York Times that after this engagement Iran is on its way to becoming the world's fourth major power, and that it has become almost impossible for America to stop it. Robert Kagan, a leading neoconservative thinker, likewise admitted that "America has lost this war." This admission sets the seal of confirmation on a changing global reality.

Civilisational Heritage or Religious System?

In debating the causes of this steadfastness, most

observers credit it to Iran's five-thousand-year civilisation. It is true that ancient civilisations endure, but this is the same civilisation that existed under the Qajar dynasty, when Iran's decisions were made by the world powers, and again under Muhammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, when Iran was in practice an American colony. It endured through both periods without halting the imperial advance in either, which is why civilisation alone cannot be the decisive factor.

Some analysts attribute the cause to Iran's religious structure, namely Shi'ism. The thought of Imam Khomeini (rahimahullah), the spirit of Karbala and the passion for martyrdom played a foundational role in the popular movement, but if religious thought alone were sufficient, Iraq's traditional religious and political leadership would equally not have bowed before imperial dominance in this way.

Some circles attribute this success merely to military and technical progress, that is, to the missile and drone programmes. But where did this technology itself come from? Under Muhammad Reza Shah too, American arms and training were available, yet that capacity was never Iran's own, nor was its control in Iran's hands. Military power in itself is not an autonomous cause, but the outcome of the state order that produces and sustains it.

The Islamic State: The True Source of Power

The decisive factor is neither Persian civilisation, nor Shi'ism alone, nor mere military technology, but the Islamic state, which alone has the capacity to concentrate social power under a single political and ideological system. This state came into being as a result of the Islamic Revolution of 1979.

Imperialism can tolerate reformist and proselytising Islamic movements, and has a long history of compromise with reformers, but once the power of the state falls into reformers' hands, that compromise cannot hold. This is why Pakistan, Turkey and Egypt, non-Islamic Muslim states, can become tributaries absorbed into the capitalist system, while the stability of an Islamic state like Iran becomes a fundamental threat to imperialism.

The Concentration of Power: The state alone is the unique collective institution capable of organising a group's political, military, economic, scientific and intellectual capacities into a single unity and subordinating them to a shared purpose.

The Limits of Capitalist and Nationalist Thought: Nation-states and nationalism are in truth part of capitalist thought. The spirit of sacrifice and endurance within them is possible only up to a point, for they possess no firm conception of the Hereafter. This is why nationalist movements ultimately kneel before the global capitalist system and imperial coercion.

Self-Reliance and Insight: Under a system established through the leadership of wilayat-e-faqih and the ulama, the greatest blessing has been that, under the insight and strategy of Imam Khamenei, Iran relied on its own developed technology, its missile programme and inventions such as the Shahed drone, rather than placing complete dependence on capitalist powers such as China or Russia. Iran knew that countries like Russia and China stand by their partners only insofar as it serves their own interests.

A Lesson for the Islamic World and Pakistan

Iran's experience proves that without a powerful, comprehensive Islamic state under the leadership of the ulama, neither can imperial coercion be resisted, nor can technological and scientific self-sufficiency be achieved.

Today, this lesson stands clearly before Pakistan and the wider Islamic world: Pakistan does possess nuclear weapons and military resources, but without an Islamic intellectual foundation, an independent economic and political system, and the structure of an Islamic state, it remains hostage to the IMF and to American pressure. Until the power of a strong Islamic state stands behind its military and natural resources, mobilising society's real capacities against empire will remain impossible.

Iran's manifest victory is a practical proof of this

reality: that Islam is not merely the name of individual worship, but becomes a source of truth, insight and collective power only when it takes the form of a state and a system.