

## English

### Message No. 70 – SHAMA

#### A 48-Hour Grace Ultimatum to the Armed Forces

#### Great People of Iran,

You have witnessed that for many years the spokesperson of this Council—who was active within another organization struggling for your freedom—repeatedly explained the invalidity of Ali Khamenei’s guardianship (velayat), his removal from office, and the extension of this invalidity and removal to all governing institutions deriving from him, and consequently the overall illegitimacy of the Islamic Republic. On many occasions, the armed forces were called upon to fulfill their national, moral, human, religious, and legal responsibilities by joining you, the great people of Iran.

From one year ago, with Donald Trump’s return to the White House and Benjamin Netanyahu’s urgent need to expand the war and draw the United States into a conflict with Iran—placing our great nation between two options, humiliating unconditional surrender or a devastating war—we recognized the necessity of forming the National Council of the Revolution and acted accordingly. We repeatedly stated that the only way to avert these two options was a **national uprising under conditions of necessity and urgency**, and we repeatedly called upon the armed forces to join you and help bring the national uprising to victory, thereby preventing humiliating surrender and devastating war; securing the freedom of the people and their own freedom and dignity from the domination of an illegitimate and unlawful government and petty clerical rule; preserving the country, Iran’s territorial integrity, and the nation’s defensive structure against Iran’s sworn enemies. These calls went unheeded. We now present the following points:

#### A)

1. Given the invalidity of Ali Khamenei’s guardianship, his removal, and the extension of this to all institutions of the Islamic Republic—including its armed forces—on the one hand, and the necessity of preserving and strengthening the country’s defensive structure on the other, this Council has **retained all commanders of the armed forces in their command positions**, so that, benefiting from national and popular endorsement, they may resolutely defend the country’s territorial integrity and independence.
2. In view of the country’s economic collapse, the “free fall” of the national currency, and the prediction of Iran’s **critical, warlike, and revolutionary** conditions—and having declared **pre-revolutionary conditions** in Message No. 29 dated 1404/09/30—while emphasizing the people’s right to **legitimate self-defense**, we directed the armed forces to join the people so that protesters would not become targets within the framework of legitimate self-defense. They did not comply.
3. By Message No. 31 dated 1404/10/08, addressed to the armed forces, while noting the **risk of foreign aggression**, reaffirming the **retention of commanders** in their posts, and citing constitutional principles (including Articles 144 and 150) as well as Articles 156 and 157 of the Islamic Penal Code, we reminded them of their legal duties and the invalidity of the Islamic Republic, warned them of risks that could expose them to the people’s **legitimate self-defense**, and repeated the **call and necessity** of joining the people.

4. In Message No. 37 dated 1404/12/19, while inviting the armed forces to join the people, we predicted that the **nature of the protests would change** and warned them accordingly.
5. Observing the armed forces' disregard of our warnings and calls, by Message No. 38 dated 1404/10/13, due to commanders' delay in joining the people, we **held them responsible for any ensuing events**, and in Message No. 40 dated 1404/10/14 we reiterated **their responsibility**.
6. In Message No. 41 dated 1404/10/16, addressed to the people and the armed forces, we declared the salvation of the country a **shared responsibility** of the nation and the armed forces, called upon them to join the people, and underscored the **foreign threat**.
7. In Message No. 46 dated 1404/10/19, setting a **72-hour deadline**, we asked the armed forces to join the people; they did not comply.
8. In Message No. 51 dated 1404/10/23, we asked the armed forces **on which side of history they stand**, and, citing the people's rights under Article 9 of the Constitution and the people's right to legitimate self-defense, stated that in the event of any harm to those forces in the course of the people's legitimate self-defense, **no privileges** would accrue to them or their families.

## B)

1. Regrettably, our words and calls—like Sa'di's saying that "*an iron nail does not go into stone*"—failed to penetrate the ears of the armed forces and security elements; and regrettably, all our analyses and predictions came true, and what should not have happened, happened.
2. During the protests, amid widely varying figures, the removed leader acknowledged several thousand dead and blamed the massacre on foreign agents. The government, in line with that narrative, announced **3,117** dead and designated **2,700—86.66%**—as martyrs; in other words, **86.66%** of those killed were armed forces and security elements. Reinforcing the removed leader's position, Araghchi described the three main days of the massacre as a continuation of the 12-day attack. Setting aside reports that sometimes reach figures many times higher, in any case, based on the government's own figures, more than **86%** of the dead were from armed and security forces. The question now is: if this number were killed by protesting people within the framework of legitimate self-defense, woe to an armed force so widely despised by its own people; and if foreign agents, after the surprise 12-day attack, were again able to carry out such a massacre of state forces inside Iran, by surprise, how can the **disgrace** be erased—apart from the material loss?
3. Given that it appears the removed leader—who boasted loudly—is now **drinking the poisoned chalice**, like a gambler who gradually wins but loses everything at the end, how do you accept the calamity and human and material losses of obeying an illegitimate, unlawful, and foolish leader—losing in one stroke everything you fought for and plunging your country and people into misery due to corruption and sanctions?
4. The armed forces know well that even in the event of unconditional surrender, Iran's fate resembling **Libya, Iraq, or Afghanistan** is not far-fetched.
5. The armed forces should know that conditions will **never return** to what they were before this massacre; whether their colleagues were targeted by protesting people in legitimate self-defense or were killed by Israeli and American agents due to incompetence, this does not diminish the responsibility of the armed forces or the removed leader.
6. This **anger and hatred** the people feel toward the armed forces and security elements is like **fire beneath ashes** and can flare up at any moment; then imagine what retaliation may

follow. From our perspective, Iran's national revolution continues, and soon the **balance of power** will shift in favor of the people, which the National Council of the Revolution will **manage**. Therefore, we announce a **48-hour grace ultimatum** for the armed forces to join the people and to declare support for and obedience to the National Council of the Revolution, in order to prevent the collapse of beloved Iran and to cut off the hands of enemies who threaten Iran's **territorial integrity and existence**.

Failure by the armed forces to **join the people and to support and obey the National Council of the Revolution** upon expiration of the grace period will place them **among the enemies of the nation**.

**Proud be the people of Iran**

**Long live Iran**

National Council of the Revolution of Iran

1404/11/14