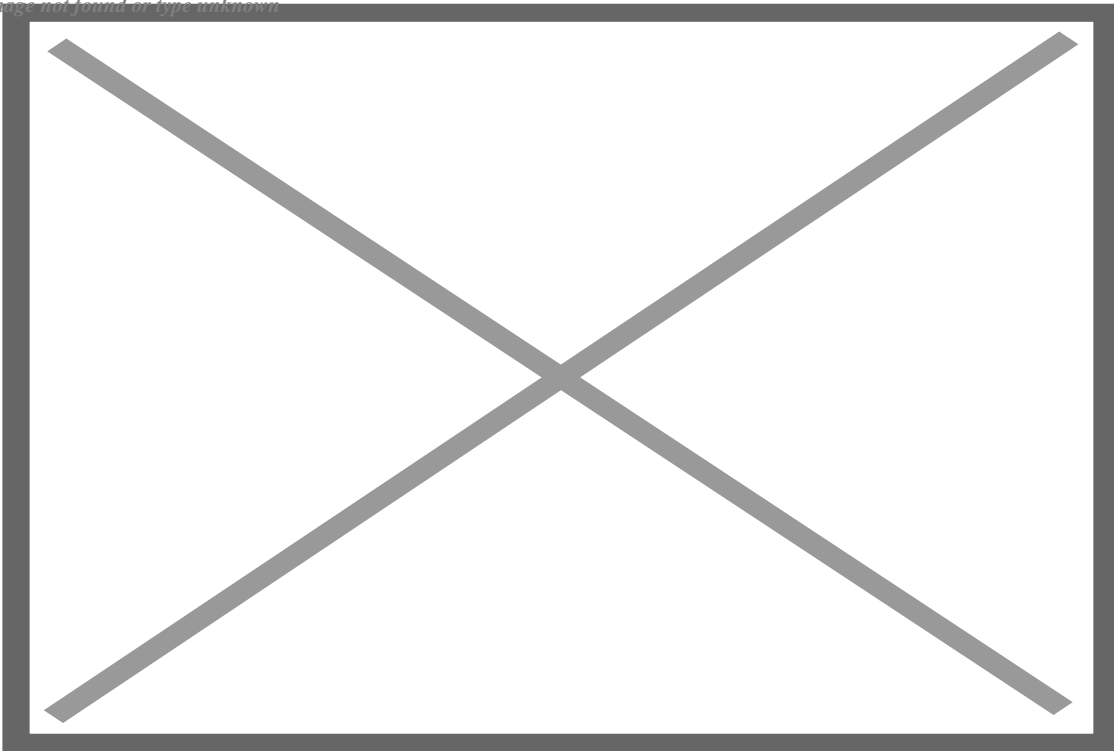


Cuban president pays tribute to Ayatollah Khomeini

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The Cuban president's visit to Iran concluded with this tribute. Photo: Revolution Studios.

Tehran, December 6 (RHC) -- "For the Cuban delegation visiting the sister Islamic Republic of Iran it is an exciting moment to visit this endearing place where homage is paid to the leader of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini".

So wrote the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Republic, Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez, in the book reserved for high dignitaries in the mausoleum that houses the tomb of Ayatollah Ruhollah Moosavi Khomeini.

The stay in the Behesht Zahra cemetery, where the humble Shiite cleric who became the spiritual leader of the Iranian people in the struggle that ended with the triumph of the Islamic Revolution receives permanent homage, was the last activity carried out by the Cuban delegation that paid an official visit to Iran, where it arrived this Sunday headed by the Head of State.

"The influence of his leadership in the world revolutionary movement is undeniable" and his "legacy is highly appreciated by the Cuban people," Díaz-Canel also stressed.

This tribute concluded the Cuban president's visit to Iran. Photo: Revolution Studios.

"On behalf of the Cuban people and government we pay the most heartfelt tribute to his example," wrote the President, for whom strengthening "relations between our nations will be the best tribute we can pay him."

Díaz-Canel was received in the rooms of the Mausoleum by Ayatollah Hasan Khomeini, grandson of the founder of the Islamic Revolution and head of the mausoleum's management.

In 2001, when he was a young man, Hasan received there the Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, a stay of which a film material is preserved that captured the sensitivity and admiration of the Cuban revolutionary leader for Imam Khomeini.

This tribute concluded the Cuban president's visit to Iran. Photo: Revolution Studios.

Fidel was, then, the focus of Díaz-Canel's conversation with Khomeini's grandson: "For our generation -the also now Ayatollah told him-, Fidel Castro is a very respected and admired person and is a symbol of the struggle for freedom.

"President Castro had a very outstanding and special characteristic, he had a very high power and attraction, he had a great ability to communicate and connect with young people," the scholar reflected while talking with Díaz-Canel.

After the meeting with Hasan Khomeini and accompanied by him at all times, the Cuban head of state and the official delegation laid a wreath at Khomeini's tomb.

The shrine dedicated to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini began to be built after his death on June 3, 1989. It is located south of Tehran, in the surroundings of the Behesht Zahra Martyrs' Garden.

The emblematic construction, inspired by the ancient Persian mosques, stands out in the distance for its domes, a main one, golden, under which is the tomb that holds the remains of the Imam, and four other domes adorned by turquoise mosaics.

The complex, which has a large entrance portico and is protected by four minarets 91 meters high, is a splendid mausoleum built according to the precepts of Iranian art, culture and belief. (Source: Cubadebate).

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