

# YEAR OF DIALOGUE AMONG THE CIVILISATIONS



The President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Hujjatul Islam Syed Muhammed Khatami, while delivering his speech in the recent UN General Assembly Session, made a proposal that year 2001 should be declared as the year of dialogue among the civilisations by the United Nations Organisation. This proposal was finally approved by the member nations of this organisation.

While making this proposal, President Khatami said as a first step towards the establishment of justice and freedom throughout the world the United Nations should declare the year 2001 as the year of dialogue among various civilisations of the world. Following President Khatami's speech, the Iranian delegation tabled a resolution on the subject, which was fully supported by the member nations namely Italy, Greece, Egypt and India. Later, the UN General Assembly Committee on September 30,

98, accepted to include President Khatami's proposal as article No.98 of the draft resolution of the UN General Assembly Session, which was finally approved by the member nations on October 7, 1998.

Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations Mr. Husainian, while commenting upon the proposal of President Khatami said that President Khatami's proposal was based on solid political and cultural footings and

also by according due respect to the fundamental rights of mankind.

On the otherhand, the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran declared in the UN General Assembly Session that steps for having dialogue among the civilisations do exist in this world. President Khatami's initiative to strengthen dialogue among various civilisations can play a pivotal role in the expansion of constructive cooperation

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the approval of this proposal by the UN General Assembly has proved that contrary to the baseless allegations against the Islamic Republic of Iran made by some of the foreign mass media network, Iran is the champion of world peace and it sincerely strives for the promotion of friendly relations among the worlds nations through dialogue and constructive cooperation and

in various fields of life and also in promoting friendly relations among them. The main aim of this proposal is to draw the attention of the people of the world towards the fact that the present clash of different civilisation should not be regarded as a source of contention but should always be treated as a source of promotion and development of the nations of the world.