

I N T E R V I E W
given by
PRESIDENT ANWAR EL SADAT
to the Irani Television

Teheran, June 20, 1976

Asked about the effects of his visit to Iran and the meanings it conveyed, President Sadat said : « It conveyed the most magnificent meanings. I can state that my meeting with the Shah was really very pleasant. . We reviewed all the circumstances surrounding our region, we dealt with the bilateral relations between our two countries, then we discussed the Arab-Israeli dispute. We also studied the problem of Lebanon in details and for a quite long time, and endeavoured to find the best means for its solution. We were both of the same opinion that bloodshed should be stopped at once whatever the price. »

The President added : « President d'Estaing contacted me, and I informed the Shah with what went on between us, and studied the whole matter thoroughly. . Then, I authorised Ismail Fahmy, our Deputy Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, to contact the American and French Ambassadors and inform them with our points of view. »

Answering a question on security and stability in the Gulf area President Sadat said : « Throughout history there were two deep-rooted civilisations, the Persian civilisation in this area and the

Egyptian Islamic civilisation, each of these two civilisations complemented the other.»

The President went on saying : « The Shahenshah had given the signal to initiate a new stage in which the two civilisations and two peoples would meet.. I want to tell the world that this area is our own area, and everyone should fully realise that nothing against its will should be imposed from outside on this area, particularly after the Shahenshah had placed Iran in its natural and logical position due to its glorious heritage. This is exactly what we are now doing in Egypt. The Shah had realised miracles in Iran, he is endeavouring hard to enter the 20th. Century with Iran, and we are making the same attempt.

The meeting of the two civilisations in our countries is an objective factor. We are telling the big powers and all the world states that whichever want to enter this area, they should enter from the right door and not from the window. »

Then President Sadat directed a word to the Irani people in which he said : « It gives me great pleasure to direct to the Irani people all the expressions of amity and brotherly love which emanated from Iran's attitude towards us in critical hours. The Shahenshah's attitude was a magnificent one and it embodied the attitude of all the Irani people.. We came here with a primary objective, namely to express our utmost thanks for this historic attitude. »

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