Office of the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Imam Murtada Menashi

Imam Murtada Menashi, who heads the Afghanistan Peace Foundation, said that people's mentality and official revolutionary mindset is the decisive factor in achieving a broad peace in Afghanistan.

"The mujahideen are to blame for the lack of peace in the country," he said. "There are people who refuse to accept and respect the Islamic system."

Menashi, who is also the chairman of the Foundation for the Promotion of Peace in Afghanistan, said that the mujahideen have not stopped fighting and that peace cannot be achieved until the Taliban reject military methods.

"I believe that the Taliban, as a result of their persistent efforts, will eventually find a way to achieve peace in Afghanistan and will settle down in their country," he added.

Menashi's statement comes as the Taliban have been negotiating with the Afghan government to bring a lasting end to the 18-year conflict.

In a statement released last week, the Taliban said they are committed to bringing an end to the conflict and that they are ready to engage in talks with the Afghan government.

However, Menashi said that the mujahideen's violent methods must be rejected and that they must accept the Islamic system and settle down in their country.

"The mujahideen must accept the Islamic system, which is the only way to achieve peace in Afghanistan," he said.

Menashi also called on the Afghan government to accelerate its efforts to bring a lasting end to the conflict and to work towards a peaceful solution.

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