



Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad announced a day of mourning and compared deceased Venezuelan President Chavez to a saint, saying he will “return on resurrection day.”

Chavez died this past week at the age of 58 after succumbing to cancer.

Ahmadinejad said he has “no doubt Chavez will return to Earth together with Jesus and the perfect” Imam Mahdi, the most revered figure of Shiite Muslims, and help “establish peace, justice and kindness” in the world. The Iranian leader said he believes something “suspicious” caused the cancer that killed Chavez.

This came after Venezuelan Vice President Nicolás Maduro kicked two U.S. diplomats out of the country and was promised to find “scientific proof” that the United States had poisoned Chavez with cancer, reported [Foreign&nbsp;Policy](#) . Maduro was Chavez’s pick to take over from him after his death.

A teary-eyed Bolivian President Evo Morales, one of Chavez’s closest allies and most loyal disciples, declared that “Chavez is more alive than ever.”