

TEHRAN TIMES



Zarif: Terror rears its ugly head in our neighbor's airport **2**

12 Pages | Price 10,000 Rials | 38th year | No.12588 | Thursday | JUNE 30, 2016 | Tir 10, 1395 | Ramadan 24, 1437

Rouhani: Regional countries' security is intertwined

President says Iran not seeking tension with any neighboring country

POLITICAL TEHRAN — President Hassan Rouhani said on Tuesday that the Iranian Armed Forces will never violate other countries' rights, however they are "resolute" to "powerfully defend" the country.

"High motivation", "popularity among the people", "efficiency", and "spiritual leadership" are "unique characteristics" of the Iranian Armed Forces in the world, the president said during an Iftar party with military officials.

"The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic stand against the enemies powerfully and will always remain ready," he remarked.

The president also said the government supports promoting the defense capability of the Armed Forces.

"The government is duty bound to support the Armed Forces and the Armed Forces also has religious, national and revolutionary duty to protect the country and the system," Rouhani pointed out.

→2

Tehran sympathizes with Turkey

Iran calls for joint effort to uproot terrorism

POLITICAL TEHRAN — On Wednesday, Tehran strongly condemned a deadly terrorist attack on Ataturk Airport in Istanbul, offering condolences to the Turkish government and families of the

victims and wished speedy recovery for the wounded.

In the terror attack on the airport late on Tuesday at least 41 people were killed and 230 others injured.

At least 13 of the victims at the airport, the third busiest airport in Europe, were foreigners.

One Iranian has been reported dead and three others wounded in the attack, according to IRNA.



See page 2

© CNN

Calls rise for Quds Day rallies

POLITICAL TEHRAN — A number of grand ayatollahs including Javadi-Amoli, Naser Makarem Shirazi and Hosein Nuri-Hamedani, have called on the people to attend Quds Day rallies across the country.

Quds Day is an annual event held on the last Friday of Ramadan to express support for the Palestinians and oppose Zionism as well as Israel's control of Jerusalem.

The Assembly of Experts also issued a statement on Wednesday in which it condemned the crimes of the Zionist regime and the Saudi regimes and called on the people to attend Quds Day rallies enthusiastically.

"Quds Day is an international day. The day does not belong only to Quds, rather it is the day of resistance by the oppressed against the arrogant powers," the assembly stated.

On Wednesday, President Hassan Rouhani also called on people to turn out in large numbers in Quds Day rallies, predicting that Muslims across the world will mark the annual event with more unity this year.

"We will witness more fervent participation of the Iranians and people from other Islamic countries in the ceremony of defending the oppressed Palestinians and liberation of Quds," he said on the sidelines of a meeting with cabinet members on Wednesday.

→2

PERSPECTIVE
By Serge R. Nakouzi
The FAO Representative to Iran and to ECO

Climate-smart agriculture can safeguard natural resources in Iran

In today's world climate change, manifested in higher temperatures, changing rainfall patterns and increased incidence of extreme weather events such as droughts and floods, has endangered agricultural production in the Near East and North Africa (NENA), with effects particularly notable in Iran.

From now until 2050, the world's population will increase by one-third. Most of these additional 2 billion people will live in developing countries. At the same time, more people will be living in cities. If current income and consumption growth trends continue, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) estimates that agricultural production will have to increase by 60 percent by 2050 to satisfy the expected demands for food and feed.

Agriculture must therefore transform itself if it is to feed a growing global population and provide the basis for economic growth and poverty reduction.

Climate change will make this task more difficult under a business-as-usual scenario, due to adverse impacts on agriculture, requiring spiralling adaptation and related costs. To achieve food security and agricultural development goals, adaptation to climate change and lower emission intensities per output will be necessary.

This transformation must be accomplished without depletion of the natural resource base. Climate change is already having an impact on agriculture and food security as a result of increased prevalence of extreme events and increased unpredictability of weather patterns. This can lead to reductions in production and lower incomes in vulnerable areas. These changes can also affect global food prices.

→9

Iran allocates \$1.4b for creating jobs in tourism, handicraft industry

TOURISM TEHRAN — Iran has allocated 50 trillion rials (about \$1.4 billion) for creating jobs in the field of tourism and handicraft industry in the current Iranian calendar year, which ends in March 2017.

"We are planning to create 140,000 jobs in these two fields with this budget," the deputy director of Iran's Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicraft Organization (CHTO) Bahman Namvar-Motlaq said on Tuesday.

About 200 million rials (about

\$5,500) is needed for creating a single job in the field of handicraft and the figure is 700 million rials (about \$20,000) for job creation in the field of tourism, he said.

He named kilim weaving, pottery making, glassware making and ornament making as some of job opportunities with good markets in the handicraft industry.

Previously, CHTO Director Masoud Soltanifar announced that Iran will create some 140,000 job opportunities in the field of tourism by the end of the next Iranian



calendar year (March 2018).

He said that the organization submitted some plans to create jobs in these fields to the Ministry of Cooperatives, Labor, and Social Welfare.

CHTHO is already developing 1,752 projects in tourism sector

in different parts of Iran, including building hotels and residences.

Turkish investors will build ten hotels in Tehran, Isfahan, Shiraz, Tabriz and Mashhad, under the terms of an agreement with Iran signed during a Turkish delegation's visit to Tehran in mid May.

According to an agreement signed between CHTHO and German hospitality company, Steigenberger Hotel Group in late May, the company is set to build 10 hotels in different parts of Iran over the next ten years.

NATO and Russia have become strategic competitors in Eastern Europe: ELN research director

INTERVIEW
By Payman Yazdani

TEHRAN — Lukasz Kulesa, research director at the European Leadership Network (ELN), rejects the views that NATO and Russia are entering a new Cold War, however he believes that NATO and Russia have turned into strategic competitors in Eastern Europe.

"In this region, we have become more like strategic competitors than partners," Kulesa tells the Tehran Times.

Following is the text of the in-

terview:

Recently NATO held large scale war games in Eastern Europe, near the borders with Russia. Don't you think that these moves are pushing the West and Russia into a new Cold War?

A: We have been witnessing an end of a certain era in the relationship between Russia and the West. Before the Russian military intervention in Ukraine in early 2014 and annexation of part of Ukrainian territory, the Europeans thought that it would be possible for Europe and Russia to become



strategic partners. It is clear now that our and Russian interests are different when it comes to Ukraine and other countries in Eastern Eu-

rope. In this region, we have become more like strategic competitors than partners.

But this does not mean that the situation is turning into a new cold war. There are two main reasons: Firstly, there is a number of areas where Europeans and Russians still cooperate quite closely and will need to cooperate in future, for example on nuclear non-proliferation. Secondly, there is no similar ideological rivalry between West and Russia now as it was between communism and capitalism.

→9

Pakistan taking various initiatives to enhance trade with Iran

Pakistan's Commerce Minister Khurram Dastgir says Pakistan is taking various initiatives to enhance trade with Iran after lifting of sanctions against Tehran.

Chairing a meeting of State Bank and other scheduled banks in Islamabad on Tuesday, he

invited viable proposals for facilitation of banking transactions with Iran.

The Minister said the Commerce Ministry is extensively engaged with the Iranian Trade Ministry to operate the Preferential Trade Agreement and enhance trade facilitation on

the border.

The banks' representatives, who visited Iran few months ago, reported a great enthusiasm in Iran for trade with Pakistan.

(Source: Radio Pakistan)

"Starless Dreams" honored at Portuguese festival

ART TEHRAN — Iranian director Mehrdad Oskui's documentary "Starless Dreams" won the Cineuropa Audience Award at the 12th edition of FEST -- New Directors New Films Festival, which was held in the Portuguese city of Espinho from June 20 to 27.

The documentary also received an honorable mention in the doc-

umentary section. The Golden Lynx for best feature documentary was presented to "Iramaos" by Pedro Magano from Portugal.

"Starless Dreams", which has been acclaimed at several international events, shows young women in an Iranian juvenile detention center reflecting on the crimes they have committed and the

harsh circumstances that have shaped their lives.

In mid-June, Oskui canceled the Iranian premiere of "Starless Dreams" in order to conceal the identity of the juvenile offenders appearing in the film.

The decision was made to avoid any trouble that may arise for the juveniles after the screening of the documentary.



A poster for "Starless Dreams"

→9

EDITORIAL
By Hassan Lasjerdi
Tehran Times editor-in-chief

American-styled Human Rights Week and the post-revolution Iran

In post-revolution Iran, "June 26 to July 3" has earned a designation as the American-styled Human Rights Week.

With hindsight, it will be much easier to explain why Iranian non-governmental organizations have selected such a name for the time span.

After the 1979 Islamic revolution which led to the collapse of the U.S.-backed Shah, Americans have been either directly or indirectly behind incidences that happened between the years 1981 and 1988, all falling on June 26 to July 3.

Following is a list of incidences occurring during the American-styled Human Rights Week:

June 26, 1981: Current leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei survived an assassination attack claimed by the Forqan terrorist group

June 28, 1981: The Islamic Republic Party headquarters was blown up by the Mojahedin Khalq Organization (MKO)

June 28, 1981: Chemical bombing on Sardasht, northwestern Iran, by the Iraqi army under former dictator Saddam Hussein

June 28, 1981: Assassination of Mahmoud Kachooi, the first warden of Evin Prison by the MKO

July 1, 1981: Assassination of Ayatollah Sadooghi, Friday prayer of Yazd, by the MKO

July 3, 1988: U.S. warship Vincennes shot down an Iranian airliner over the Persian Gulf, killing all 290 people on board

With this notorious anti-human rights record of the U.S. in the Iranian modern history, it seems that Washington's human rights outcries are not more than talks.

→9

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



Iran's military more powerful than some 5+1 nations: Rafiqdoust

TEHRAN — The former IRGC minister has said Iran's military is more powerful than some 5+1 countries.

"We even rival America and Russia because we have young people that rely on themselves," Mohsen Rafiqdoust told Fars in an interview published on Wednesday.

Pointing to the terrorist grip over Syria and Iran's role in the fight against regional terrorism, the former military official said, "In Syria we are not fighting Daesh, but Israel and America."



Quds Day schedule announced

TEHRAN — The commander of the Intifada and Quds Central Headquarters has announced the schedule of Quds Day.

Ramazan Sharif on Wednesday said the rallies will begin on Friday at 10:30, ISNA reported.

In Tehran, he said, the marchers will start from a number of pre-defined locations and end on the University of Tehran campus.

The Friday prayer leader will be Ayatollah Ahmad Khatami, Sharif said, adding that before Khatami's sermon, IRGC Second-in-Command Hossein Salami will speak about the recent regional developments, those of Palestine in particular.



Larjani congratulates Firouzabadi on new position

TEHRAN — The Majlis speaker on Wednesday wrote a letter to Hassan Firouzabadi congratulating him on his new position as top military advisor to the Supreme Leader.

Ali Larjani also wrote a letter of congratulation to Mohammad Hossein Baqeri for succeeding Firouzabadi as the commander of the General Staff of Armed Forces, SepahNews reported.

Baqeri also received similar letters from Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and Secretary of Supreme National Security Council Ali Shamkhani.



One Iranian killed, five wounded in Istanbul terror attack

TEHRAN — An Iranian national lost his life in the recent terrorist attack in Istanbul's Ataturk International Airport, the Foreign Ministry announced on Wednesday.

Deputy Foreign Minister Hassan Qashqavi said five other Iranians sustained injuries in Tuesday's triple bombing and gun attacks, which killed 41 people and injured 239 others, Press TV reported.

Iran suspended all flights to Istanbul's main international airport on Wednesday morning, but resumed them in the afternoon.



Shamkhani to brief Majlis on Russia trip

TEHRAN — The secretary of the Supreme National Security Council will brief the Majlis of his recent trip to Russia.

Ali Shamkhani will visit the Majlis on July 5 to present his report of the trip, Majlis presiding board spokesman Behrooz Nemati told ICANA on Wednesday.



Pakistan does not extend IRIB representative's visa

TEHRAN — The Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting representative in Islamabad left Pakistan three weeks ago after his visa was expired.

However, Pakistan has not shown any sign of intent to extend Hassan Saraei's visa all the while, Tasnim news agency reported on Wednesday.

Tasnim quoted UrduPoint, a Pakistani website, as having claimed that Saraei had been involved in "sectarian programs and affected Pakistan's relations with other countries as well."

According to Tasnim, the IRIB's Pakistan office had in the recent past produced programs about Takfiri activities in Pakistan.

FARS

ISNA

SEPAHNEWS

PRESS TV

ICANA

TASNIM

Tehran sympathizes with Turkey, calls for joint effort to uproot terrorism



While no group has claimed responsibility for the attack yet, Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim pointed a finger at the ISIS, an extremely shadowy group whose crimes in Iraq and Syria have shocked the world.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi said, "Extremism and terrorism recognize no borders and, as stated by Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mohammad Javad Zarif, to counter the scourge of terrorism there is a need for collective and global will."

Zarif had said in a tweet hours after the attack that "terror rears its ugly head yet again in our friend and neighbor's airport. Extremist violence is a global threat; we must confront it together."

Qasemi also noted that Tehran won't hesitate to boost ties with countries in the Middle East region to uproot terrorism.

Turkey has been targeted by terrorist attacks over the past two years.

Analysts had predicted that the Erdogan government's support for militants fighting the Assad government in Syria would backfire.

It has been quite difficult to distinguish between the armed opposition groups and terrorists in Syria, especially as some militants have been changing sides since the war broke out in Syria in 2011.

President Erdogan said the attack should serve as a turning point in the global fight against militant groups. "The bombs that exploded in Istanbul today could have gone off at any airport in any city around the world," he said, according to BBC.

The U.S. called the attack "heinous," saying America remained "steadfast in our support for Turkey". German Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere called the attacks "cowardly and brutal". Charles Michel, the prime minister of Belgium whose capital city was targeted by bombers in March, tweeted from the EU summit in Brussels: "Our thoughts are with the victims of the attacks at Istanbul's



airport. We condemn these atrocious acts of violence."

According to BBC, the lack of any immediate claim for this attack by so-called Islamic State in Iraq and Syria is not surprising. ISIS rarely, if ever, claims responsibility for attacks against the Turkish state yet it is quick to advertise its assassinations of Syrian activists inside Turkey.

ISIL is also feeling the pressure as the Turkish authorities move to close down its networks inside Turkey.

Zarif: Terror rears its ugly head in our neighbor's airport



POLITICAL **TEHRAN** — Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif has censured terrorist attacks in neighboring Turkey, saying extremism is a "global threat" that must be countered globally.

"Terror rears its ugly head yet again in our friend and neighbor's airport. Extremist violence is a global threat; we must confront it together," he wrote on his twitter on Wednesday.

At least 36 people, including an Iranian, have been killed and 147 more injured in a terrorist attack in Istanbul's Ataturk international airport.

According to Independent, no terrorist groups have claimed responsibility for the massacre; however, Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said based on a preliminary investigation that "all signs point to ISIS."

Tehran will continue backing resistance front: official



POLITICAL **TEHRAN** — Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, an advisor to Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, has said Iran will continue supporting the "axis of resistance" against Israel, terrorists and hegemonic powers.

"Tehran will continue its strong support for the axis of resistance and considers it a vital issue for regional peace, stability and security and also for countering terrorism and Zionism," he told IRIB in an interview published on Wednesday.

He said that the axis of resistance in Palestine, Lebanon and other countries in the region have played the most important role in helping establish security in the region.

The former deputy foreign minister for Arab and African affairs also said Takfiri terrorism and the Zionist regime of Israel are "two edges of the same scissors" and serve the interests of the hegemonic system.

Amir-Abdollahian also said that Hezbollah did not let the terrorists to decide about the future of Syria and help realize the interests of the Zionist regime.

The veteran diplomat added, "The Zionists are enemy of the Islamic countries and it is wrong to establish ties with Tel Aviv. Some countries have hidden relations with Tel Aviv and will finally be victim of their strategic mistake."

Elsewhere, he said that Quds Day signifies the culmination of resistance against the Zionist regime.

Quds Day is an annual event held on the last Friday of Ramadan to express support for the Palestinians and oppose Zionism as well as Israel's control of Jerusalem.

Rouhani: Regional countries' security is intertwined



He also said while the security situation in the region is in a bad shape the Iranian people are well aware that security in the country is indebted to the vigilance of the Armed Forces.

"We are fighting the groups (Daesh and similar terrorist groups) that seek to undermine security in the region. (However), we do not seek to interfere in any countries' affairs and will not let others interfere in regional countries' affairs," the president noted.



The president reiterated the Islamic Republic's position that the Syrian people should decide on their future. "People in the region should be able to determine their own destiny."

Pointing to the fact that security of the regional countries is intertwined, Rouhani said, "The Islamic Republic of Iran seeks to have friendly relations with its neighboring countries and does not seek tension with any of the neighboring countries."

Iran 'helpful' in fight against Daesh in Iraq, Kerry says

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry praises the role Iran plays in the fight against Daesh Takfiris in Iraq, calling it "helpful."

Kerry made the remarks at the Aspen Ideas Festival in the US state of Colorado on Tuesday.

He was answering a question on whether Iran's role in Iraq is "more helpful or more harmful."

"Look, we have challenges with Iran as everybody knows and we are working on those challenges," Kerry was quoted as saying by CNN. "But I can tell you that Iran in Iraq has been in certain ways helpful, and they clearly are focused on ISIL-Daesh, and so we have a common interest, actually."

Kerry's remarks followed comments by Brent McGurk, the U.S. special envoy to oversee the so-called fight on Daesh terrorists.

"We think most of these popular mobilization forces do operate under the control of the Iraqi state, but about 15-20% of them actually do not," McGurk said. "And those groups are a fundamental problem."



"The presence of experts and advisers from Iran gave us a major boost. They provided us with (military) guidelines, and even prevented the fall of the capital of Iraqi Kurdistan, Erbil," he said.

Earlier this month, Iraqi Foreign Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari said Baghdad needed help from its friends, including Iran, to be able to take out the terrorists wreaking havoc in the Muslim country.

"There is coordination between Russia, Syria, Iran and Iraq. Iraq needs the experience and information provided by these countries," Jaafari told Lebanon's al-Mayadeen television in an interview.

Daesh terrorists, who were among militants initially trained by the CIA in Jordan in 2012 to destabilize the Syrian government, now control parts of Iraq and Syria, where they are engaged in crimes against humanity.

In recent months, the militants have been losing ground in both Syria and Iraq.

(Source: PRESS TV)

Calls rise for Quds Day rallies



He went on to say that the Zionist regime of Israel has been trying to provoke clash among the Islamic countries

in order to cover up its crimes against the Palestinian people.

The Zionist regime's crimes should not be ignored and the Palestinians should

not get disappointed, he pointed out.

"Our voice in Quds Day will be the voice of the Muslims' unity and support for the displaced Palestinian people," he

noted.

The president predicted that the Muslims will continue supporting the Palestinians and liberation of Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Iran to release book on U.S. human rights violations in 2015

Iran has compiled the 2015 edition of a book on the human rights violations in the United States, an Iranian official announced.

Speaking at a round-table discussion on the terrible record of US violation of human rights, held in Iran's northern city of Gorgan, deputy head of the Iranian Judiciary's Human Rights Council, Kazem Gharibabadi, said the 130-page book has been compiled

and is going to be released.

Enumerating the cases of Washington's violation of human rights, both inside the US and at the international level, the official underscored that the US lacks the competence to comment on the issue of human rights and accuse Iran, itself a victim of US hostile measures, of violating human rights.

Iran's International Human Rights

Center releases annual reports on human rights violations in the US.

In the 2014 edition, the Tehran-based rights group compiled a list, including the US violation of prisoners' rights, breach of privacy rights, violation of the rights of minorities, breaches of immigrants' rights, racial discrimination, violation of children's rights, violation of freedom of speech, and sexual violence against

women in the American society.

The United States, which has already been criticized for politicizing the issue of human rights, is one of the major self-proclaimed defenders of human rights.

Excessive use of force by the US police against protesters, people of color in particular, are among the thorny issues staining the country's rights record.

(Source: Tasnim)

41 killed, 239 injured in terrorist attack in Istanbul's Ataturk Airport

ISIL 'key suspect' in Istanbul's airport attack

By staff & agencies

At least 41 people have been killed and 239 more injured in a gun and bomb attack in Istanbul's Ataturk international airport.

Late on Tuesday night, three terrorists blew themselves up as security forces were trying to block their progress into the airport.

According to Turkish officials, police forces started firing at suspects when they tried to pass the international terminal's entry, before the security check.

A few hours after the attack, Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim announced that early signs suggested that the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Daesh) terrorist group was behind the bombings.

All flights at the airport have been canceled until further notice.

Commenting on the incident, Turkish Justice Minister Bekir Bozdogan said, "According to the information I was given, a terrorist at the international terminal entrance first opened fire with a Kalashnikov and then blew himself up."

Following an emergency meeting with Yildirim and security and military officials, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan released a statement, calling on the international community to show a "decisive stance" against terrorism.

"It is clear that this attack is not aimed at achieving any result but only to create propaganda material against our country using simply the blood and pain of innocent people," he said.

World unites in condemnation of attack

Meantime, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif also condemned the Istanbul's Ataturk Airport at attack and called for global unity in the war against terrorism.

"Terror rears its ugly head yet again in our friend & neighbor's airport. Extremist violence is a global threat; we must confront it together," he tweeted early on Wednesday.

Politicians around the world also have expressed shock and condemnation after three suicide bombers attacked Istanbul's largest airport.

British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond also released a statement saying he was "shocked by the attack in Istanbul," adding that "thoughts are with those affected. We stand ready to help."

The attack was also condemned by United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, who also called for stepped-up cooperation in the battle against terrorism.

"The secretary-general hopes that the perpetrators of this crime will be identified and brought to justice," read the statement released by Ban's office.

The secretary general "stands firmly by Turkey as it confronts this threat and stresses the need to intensify regional and international efforts to combat terrorism and violent extremism," Ban's statement added.

On Monday, a United States state department travel warning, originally published in March, was updated and urged U.S. citizens to "exercise heightened vigilance and caution when visiting public access areas, especially those heavily frequented by tourists."

ISIL is 'key suspect', a day of national mourning

Elsewhere, Turkey has declared a day of national mourning after three suicide bombers attacked Istanbul's Ataturk Airport, killing at least 41 people and wounding 239.

The Turkish government ordered flags flown at half-mast on Wednesday, as investigators pored over video footage and witness statements.

Turkish officials said that 23 of the dead were Turkish, and 13 were foreign, including five Saudis and two Iraqis. Citizens from China, Jordan, Tunisia, Uzbekistan, Iran and Ukraine were also among the 13 foreigners killed.

The Istanbul governor's office said 109 of the 239 people hospitalized had since



been discharged.

"This attack, targeting innocent people is a vile, planned terrorist act," Prime Minister Binali Yildirim told reporters at the scene in the early hours of Wednesday morning.

"The findings of our security forces point at the Daesh organization as the perpetrators of this terror attack," he said, using the Arabic acronym for ISIL.

Aim to maximize fear

The attack bore similarities to a suicide bombing by ISIL terrorists at Brussels airport in March that killed 16 people. A coordinated attack also targeted a rush-hour metro train, killing a further 16 people in the Belgian capital.

ISIL terrorists also claimed gun and bomb attacks that killed 129 people in French capital of Paris last November.

"In Istanbul they used a combination of the methods employed in Paris and Brussels. They planned a murder that would maximize fear and loss of life," said Suleyman Ozeren, a terrorism expert at the Ankara-based Global Policy and Strategy Institute.

Turkey needs to work harder on "preventative intelligence" to stop militants being radicalized in the first place, he said.

The two U.S. officials said the Istanbul bombing was more typical of ISIL than of Kurdish militant groups which have also carried out recent attacks in Turkey, but usually strike at official government targets.

Yildirim said it was significant that the attack took place when Turkey was having successes in fighting terrorist groups and mending ties with some of its international partners.

Turkey announced the restoration of diplomatic ties with Israel on Monday after a six-year rupture and has been trying to restore relations with Russia, a major backer of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

One of the U.S. officials said there had been a "marked increase" in encrypted ISIL propaganda and communications on the dark web, which some American officials interpret as an effort to direct or inspire more attacks outside its home turf to offset its recent losses on the ground.

Both officials spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the probe, which they said is being led by Turkish officials with what they called intelligence support from the United States and other NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) allies.

Iraq foils massive ISIL raid near Fallujah, gain ground in Mosul march

Iraqi security personnel, backed by pro-government fighters from Popular Mobilization Units (Al-Hashd Al-Sha'abi) and tribal fighters, have managed to repel a massive offensive by members of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Daesh) terrorist group in the country's beleaguered western province of al-Anbar.

Major General Hadi Razji, the provincial police chief, told al-Sumaria television network on Wednesday that security forces and Lawa al-Amiriyah al-Samoud tribesmen, receiving support by Iraqi fighter jets and artillery units, repelled a ISIL onslaught on the town of Amiriyah Fallujah, located about 30 kilometers (18.6 miles) south of Fallujah.

He added that 450 vehicles belonging to the terrorists were also destroyed in the process.

Separately, Khamis al-Issawi, a Lawa al-Amiriyah al-Samoud tribal leader, said his fighters and security forces had destroyed an ISIL base on the fringes of Amiriyah Fallujah, noting that three tribesmen had been killed and six others injured during the clashes with ISIL terrorists.

The northern and western parts of Iraq have been plagued by gruesome violence ever since ISIL terrorists

mounted an offensive in the country in June 2014.

Iraqi government forces, backed by fighters from allied Popular Mobilization Units, have been pushing the militants out of the country's territory.

Iraqi forces liberated Fallujah on June 17.

Mosul march

Iraqi security forces also have made new gains on the ground against the ISIL terrorist group as they are trying to recapture the country's second-largest city of Mosul from the terrorists.

On Tuesday, elite counter-terrorism forces and Popular Mobilization fighters retook control over Telol al-Baj area, which lies on the highway linking the town of al-Shirqat, situated about 250 kilometers (155 miles) north of the capital, Baghdad, to the southern part of Mosul, al-Forat news agency reported.

"Security personnel have liberated Telol al-Baj, and several units have been deployed four kilometers (2.4 miles) away from the area to prevent the infiltration of vehicles rigged with explosives into the region," said Lieutenant General Abdul Ghani al-Assadi, the commander of Iraq's counterterrorism forces.

He said the Iraqi forces had inflicted heavy losses on the ranks of ISIL terrorists in Telol al-Baj.

Iraqi pro-government forces also engaged ISIL extremists in other parts of the northern Nineveh Province, killing scores of the Takfiris.

Elsewhere, in the western province of al-Anbar, Iraqi security forces retook Halabisa and Albu Alwan areas on the outskirts of Fallujah, located roughly 69 kilometers (43 miles) west of Baghdad, and raised the national Iraqi flag in both regions.

On June 18, Iraqi forces launched an offensive against ISIL terrorists to retake the southern part of Mosul and the town of Qayyarah, one day after they retook Fallujah.

The forces aim to ultimately recapture the entire Mosul, which ISIL has proclaimed its headquarters in Iraq.

The northern and western parts of Iraq have been plagued by gruesome violence ever since ISIL terrorists mounted an offensive in the country in June 2014.

Iraqi government forces, backed by fighters from allied Popular Mobilization units, have been pushing the militants out of the country's territory.

(Source: agencies)

UN urges Britain to end xenophobic attacks after Brexit vote

The United Nations raised alarm as a series of racist incidents against minorities and foreigners were reported in Britain following the country's decision to leave the European Union.

Zeid Ra'ad al-Husseini, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, said on Tuesday that "racism and xenophobia are unacceptable in any circumstances" around the world.

"I urge the UK authorities to act to stop these xenophobic attacks and to ensure that all those suspected of racist and anti-foreigner attacks and abuses are prosecuted," Hussein said.

"All of us must refuse to tolerate discriminatory acts in our daily lives - to ensure that there is nothing 'everyday' about discrimination."

Violence, intimidation and calls of "Go home" directed at minorities - from Europeans in England to non-white Britons - have surged since the referendum last Friday.

The Muslim Council of Britain has compiled social media reports of more than 100 racist incidents since Thursday, when a majority of Britons voted for exiting the EU.

In the latest incident, widely reported on social media on Tuesday, three young British men in Manchester were caught on video shouting racist abuse against

an American tram passenger, calling him "little f**king immigrant" and demanding that he "get off the f**king tram now. Get back to Africa".

In another incident, a man was seen getting out of his car as he confronted another person, who apparently shouted racist words.

"Go back to your country"

The Polish Embassy in London earlier said it was "shocked and deeply concerned" by incidents of abuse directed at Poles and other Eastern Europeans living in England.

They reportedly include the posting of laminated cards reading "Leave the EU - no more Polish vermin" to members of the Polish community in Huntingdon, near the eastern city of Cambridge, on Saturday.

There were also reports of racist graffiti scrawled on a Polish community centre in Hammersmith, west London. The Metropolitan Police Service said it was investigating the claim.

Following the incidents, British Prime Minister David Cameron said that the government "will not tolerate intolerance".

Cameron said he had spoken to his Polish counterpart Beata Szydlo to express his concern and to reassure her that Poles in Britain would be protected.



Sadiq Khan, the newly elected mayor of London, said he had placed the city's police force on high alert for racially motivated attacks.

Politicians lobbying for the so-called Brexit had argued it would allow Britain to curb immigration.

Mutuma Ruteere, the independent UN investigator on racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia, said some of the abuse and comments reported since the vote "certainly are xenophobic and racist."

"I also note that the government and the prime minister have been very categorical in denouncing those practices as well as what has taken place," Ruteere told a news briefing.

He said the incidents would be a test to Britain's watchdog institutions that monitor racism.

"I'm quite confident and hopeful that actually the institutions that exist can address this problem and nip it in the bud before it becomes a bigger problem."

(Source: agencies)

NEWS

Putin, Erdogan talk on telephone: Kremlin

Putin lifts Turkey travel restrictions, orders trade

'normalized'

Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan have held their first phone conversation since Ankara downed one of Moscow's jets in Syria last year, the Kremlin said.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov confirmed the talks, with Erdogan's office saying both leaders expressed a determination to revive mutual relations and fight against terrorism.

The call was arranged after Erdogan expressed regret in a letter to Putin on Monday over Turkey's downing of a Russian warplane last year.



The two also agreed during their call to meet in person, Erdogan's office said, adding that "necessary steps" should be taken to revive relations.

Turkish presidential sources also said that Erdogan's conversation with the Russian leader was "very productive and positive."

The phone call came after Putin expressed sympathy for the victims of gun and bomb attacks at the Istanbul airport Ataturk international airport. Some 41 people were killed and 239 others injured in attacks on Tuesday night.

"We are sorry, and we sympathize with the victims of the terrorist attack that happened yesterday," Putin said earlier on Wednesday.

Moscow-Ankara ties strained last November after Turkey shot down a Russian Sukhoi Su-24 aircraft with two pilots aboard, claiming the fighter jet had repeatedly violated the Turkish airspace.

Putin lifts Turkey restrictions

Putin also on Wednesday lifted Moscow's travel restrictions to Turkey and ordered trade ties normalized after his first phone call with counterpart Erdogan.

In the wake of the November incident Moscow slapped a range of sanctions on Ankara, including an embargo on some Turkish food products, as well as a ban on charter flights and sales of package tours to the country and the reintroduction of visas for Turkish visitors.

"I want to start with the question of tourism ... we are lifting the administrative restrictions in this area," Putin told government ministers in televised comments.

"I ask that the Russian government begins the process of normalizing general trade and economic ties with Turkey," he said.

The breakthrough phone call by Putin to Erdogan came after the Turkish strongman on Monday sent a letter to the Kremlin leader that Moscow said contained an apology.

In a statement, the Kremlin said that Putin expressed "profound condolences" over the Monday bombing and shooting attack at Istanbul's main airport that killed at least 41 people and was pinned by Ankara on the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Daesh) terrorist group.

The Turkish presidency said in a statement that Erdogan and Putin "highlighted the importance of the normalization of bilateral relations between Turkey and Russia."

Erdogan is expected to meet with Putin in September on the sidelines of the forthcoming G20 summit in China for their first face-to-face talks since the start of the diplomatic row, a Turkish official told AFP on Wednesday speaking on condition of anonymity.

'Planned provocation'

The downing of the Russian warplane in Syria slammed the brakes on burgeoning relations between Russia and Turkey and sparked a bitter war of words between the leaders.

Putin called it a "stab in the back" and demanded an apology from Erdogan, who he also accused of being involved in the illegal oil trade with ISIL.

Ankara has said Erdogan expressed his "regret" over the incident in Monday's letter to Putin and asked the family of the pilot who died to "excuse us," but has not explicitly confirmed he apologized for shooting down the plane.

Turkey has argued that the Russian plane strayed into its airspace and ignored repeated warnings, but Russia insisted it did not cross the border and accused Turkey of a "planned provocation."

The countries are on opposing sides in the Syrian conflict, with Ankara backing rebels fighting to topple President Bashar Assad while Moscow is one of his allies.

The crisis in relations severely hit Turkey's tourism industry, with the number of Russian tourists drastically declining in holiday resorts along the Mediterranean coast.

(Source: agencies)

NEWS

Iran attending Codex Alimentarius Commission

ECONOMY TEHRAN — The 39th meeting of United Nations food standards body Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC39), participated by the Islamic Republic of Iran, is underway in Rome from June 27 to July 1 to examine food safety and quality standards. Charged with protecting consumer health and ensuring fair practices in the food trade, the Codex Alimentarius is a joint initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). It is a collection of internationally recognized standards, codes of practice, guidelines, and other recommendations relating to foods, food production, and food safety.

Bank of Japan urged to free up cash for Japanese companies in UK

Shinzo Abe has urged Japan's central bank to ensure ample funds are available to help Japanese companies operating in Britain and shore up business at home after the UK's shock vote to exit the European Union. "A sense of uncertainty and worry about risks remain in the markets," the prime minister told a meeting between the government and the Bank of Japan on Wednesday as Asian markets joined a rally but the Brexit vote continued to reverberate around global financial markets. It was the second meeting between Abe and the bank following the referendum. More are expected as Tokyo looks to put in place safeguards against potential instability in financial markets from Brexit. Abe worries Brexit could spread financial turmoil and trigger an unwelcome spike in the yen, hurting the export-reliant economy as a 10 July national election draws near. "I want the BOJ to support financial intermediary functioning by providing ample funds to help Japanese firms operating in Britain and other companies in need of funds," he said. Companies asked the central bank on Tuesday to loan them US\$1.47 billion in its regular dollar-supplying operation. That was far more than its last operation before Britain's vote, but far less than the tens of billions of dollars supplied in operations after the 2008 collapse of Lehman Brothers. The Bank of Japan governor, Haruhiko Kuroda, told reporters after the meeting that the dollar-supplying operation was a backstop and the central bank stood ready to provide dollars when necessary. "At the moment Japanese banks are equipped fully with dollars and foreign currencies. In that sense the scale [of the dollar-supplying operation] was small and I don't think there's any problems at all with Japanese banks' dollar funding." A rush of money to safe havens such as the yen has been stoked by fear Brexit would adversely affect Britain's economy and undermine already fragile growth in the EU, causing more disruption in global investment and trade. In Tokyo, Abe called on his finance minister, Taro Aso, to keep a close watch on currency and financial market moves, and respond flexibly to economic and market developments in close coordination with the G7 economies. The government was ready to mobilize all policy tools to support Japan's economy and small firms, Abe said. (Source: The Guardian)

Moody's sees Singapore's 2016 GDP growth at lower end of official estimates

Singapore's gross domestic product (GDP) growth for 2016 should average 1.6 percent, after expanding by 2.0 percent in 2015, Moody's Investors Service said on Wednesday. The credit rating agency said that its forecast is at the lower end of the Singapore government's estimated growth range of 1.0-3.0 percent. "Growth is expected to be significantly slower than it was between 2000 and 2010, when it averaged 6.2 percent annually. A slowdown in external demand will remain the key drag. Industries with high exposure to global conditions, such as engineering - including marine and offshore engineering - and oil and gas, will be most affected," Moody's said. It said that trade-dependent Singapore is especially vulnerable to the current lackluster global trade conditions. "In particular, Singapore's close trade and financial linkages with China (Aa3 negative), imply that the slowdown in China presents significant challenges for Singapore, particularly given the island state's role as an international financial centre in the Asia-Pacific region." It noted that China's transition towards a services and consumption-focused economy with a more market-driven and internationally-open financial sector is already underway. "Our baseline assessment is that the change will be gradual. However, reducing overcapacity in traditional industrial sectors and opening the capital account both involve economic and financial risks that will have spillover effects for the region," Moody's said. The most direct impact for Singapore will be through trade flows. In 2014, China was Singapore's largest trading partner, with bilateral trade in goods at \$512.15 billion, while Singapore is China's third-largest trading partner in Asean. At the end of 2015, China's share in Singapore's total non-oil domestic exports was 14.8 percent. In 2015, non-oil domestic exports from Singapore to China fell by 6.4 percent. This fall extended into a 14.6 percent decline in the first quarter of 2016. (Source: The Business Times)

Foreigners' purchase of Iranian shares near \$23m in a month

ECONOMY TEHRAN — "Overseas investors purchased 798 billion rials (about \$22.7 million) of shares in Iran's capital market during the third Iranian month of Khordad (May 21-June 20, 2016), a senior official in Central Securities Depository of Iran (CSDI) said. As IRNA quoted Fariba Akhavan, during the said period, 21 foreign investors from Switzerland, Italy, Japan, France, Lebanon, Oman, South Africa, Iraq, China, Pakistan, and Afghanistan obtained the necessary trade codes and licenses to enter the Iranian capital market. "Therefore, the number of active foreign individuals and entities in Iran's domestic capital market currently stands at 636 ones," she added, "of which the num-



ber of legal ones stands at 82." After the implementation of Iran's nuclear agreement with the six global powers in January and initial annulment of banking and financial embargo against Iran, foreign investors have shown tendency towards (re)commencing activities in Iranian capital market. In early May, Deputy Head of Iranian Privatization Organization (IPO) Davoud Khani announced that his organization is ready to transfer 100 percent of the shares of state-run firms to foreign investors without any limit, IRNA reported. "Now, it is possible for them to purchase shares in Iran's capital and exchange market after receiving a trade code," Khani said.

Iran looks to Iraq as a big market for trade

Iran finds neighboring Iraq its closest ally in the Arab world as well as a big market for its domestically produced goods. "Iraq needs everything, which makes it the best market for Iranian-made goods," boasts Yahya Ale Es'haq, head of the Iran-Iraq Chamber of Commerce. Iran's trade with the Arab world, however, has largely remained confined to Iraq while the United Arab Emirates, the top trade hub in the region, is Iran's first destination for its re-exports. Despite the obvious benefits of more regional trade, politics has stood in the way. Although officials and analysts in Tehran say that Iran's high levels of security, diverse economy and educated workforce could make it a new conduit in a crisis-hit region, hopes of better commercial ties will continue to be stymied by power struggles and political tensions. Last year Iran reached an agreement with major powers — the U.S., UK, France, Russia, China and Germany — to scale back its nuclear program in return for a lifting of economic sanctions, and now Iranian businessmen regularly host western and Asian trade delegations. Businesspeople in Tehran argue that Iran is no longer just a market of its 78m-strong population; it should be seen as a market of more than 300m people thanks to its location, allowing access to Arab states in the south and west; central Asia in the north; and Afghanistan and Pakistan in the east.



Mr. Ale Es'haq says that Iran can position itself as a conduit to Iraq. "We can work with European partners who are not familiar with the Iraqi market and are worried about security there. They can rely on us because thanks to our historical and cultural commonalities we can operate in Iraq better." From Iran's \$42.4 billion of non-oil exports during the last Iranian year (which ended on March 19), \$6.2 billion went to Iraq and about \$4.9 billion worth of non-oil goods were re-exported through the UAE. Iranian businessmen speak of a day when they can exploit their country's geostrategic position to export to many more Middle Eastern markets. For now, however, other than with Oman, to which Iran exported \$375 million of goods, trade with other Persian Gulf states, Lebanon, Syria and North African Arab states remains insignificant. Now that western sanctions are being lifted, Iranian companies are less dependent on the Dubai route for transportation. Imports from the UAE amounted to \$7.8 billion during the last Iranian year, down from \$12.1 billion the previous year. (Source: Financial Times)

Iran to invest in energy, pharmaceutical, other sectors in Nigeria

Morteza Rahimi, Iranian Ambassador to Nigeria yesterday said that his country was planning to invest in key areas of construction, Pharmaceuticals, power, oil and gas and agriculture sectors in Nigeria. Ambassador Rahimi disclosed this when he led a delegation on a visit to Abuja Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "The visit is predicated on development and fostering of Business relations between both countries. "The sectors that we believe that Nigeria and the Islamic Republic of Iran could have similarity and cooperation are pharmaceuticals, road construction, building constructions, oil, gas and energy," he said. The envoy said that the Islamic Republic of Iran and Nigeria had enormous resources which include oil and gas stressing that the country would want to invest in the oil and gas byproducts. He believed that collaborations in the key areas of the economy and opening up investment opportunities in the sector could spur further growth between the two oil producing countries. "It would be better that both countries produce other commodities through the crude materials, rather than exporting the crude and only getting petroleum product in return, he said. "Both countries are selling oil and gas in a very cheap price. We have to bring out our countries from this situation.

"We must add value to our oil resources now, and we have found in Nigeria a strategic partner in this venture. "Instead of us exporting only crude and getting petroleum in return, we could refine locally and also explore investment opportunities in other petroleum byproducts," he said. He said that he had recently discussed with Mohammed Barkindo, Nigerian representative in OPEC on this issue, adding that further progress would be made on it. The president ACCI, Tony Ejinkonye, said that the visit was in preparatory to the visit of the Iranian foreign Minister to Nigeria in July. Ejinkonye said that the ambassador would also lead a delegation of organized private sector from the country to Nigeria. "As the voice of the organized private sector in the country, the ambassador is engaging us to look at possible areas of business cooperation, as they come with business delegation" The foreign minister of Islamic Republic of Iran would be visiting Nigeria next month. Notably, since the U.S. and other countries lifted up the sanctions on Iran, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and key government officials from the country have been touring key countries, drumming up investment support for the country's sanctions-battered economy. (Source: peoplesdailyng.com)

Iran reappoints Hedayatzadeh as boss of Swiss-based oil trading firm

Iran on Tuesday reappointed a former managing director of its Swiss-based trading company as part of a broader reshuffle aimed at bolstering its oil exploration and exports. The appointment follows the naming this month of a new boss for the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) as Tehran looks to spur exports and long-awaited deals with international oil firms ahead of its 2017 presidential election. Majid Hedayatzadeh will return as managing director of Swiss-based Naftiran Intertrade Company (NICO), the oil ministry's Shana news agency reported. The former diplomat held the job from 2001 until 2008. "The assignment follows a decree issued by Minister of Petroleum Bijan Namdar Zanganeh," Shana said. "The decree orders Hedayatzadeh to embark on a reshuffle in, and revival of, the role of NICO internationally." The NIOC, of which NICO is a part, is looking to bet-



ter compete with regional state-run rivals such as Saudi Aramco, said Reza Mostafavi Tabatabaei, a London-based oil consultant who has worked on projects in Iran. "NIOC wants to get back its share in Europe. The plan for the next Iranian year is to focus more on marketing

and to get more organized," Tabatabaei said. Minister of Petroleum Bijan Namdar Zanganeh this month named ally Ali Kardor as managing director of the NIOC. On Tuesday, Kardor appointed Mohsen Paknejad as his deputy for production affairs, Shana reported. The oil ministry is working on rewording a contract aimed at attracting investment from international oil firms following January's lifting of sanctions on Tehran imposed over its nuclear program. Hedayatzadeh since March has served as NIOC's deputy for international affairs. In his new role, he will eventually oversee all of NIOC's international marketing and sales. Tehran's oil sales have nearly doubled since December, and energy firms such as Royal Dutch Shell and Total have resumed purchases. OPEC member Iran has the world's fourth largest oil reserves. (Source: Reuters)

NEWS IN BRIEF



Suzuki Motors says Brexit to have 'major' impact on earnings

Suzuki Motor Corp on Wednesday said currency market volatility after Britain voted to exit the European Union would likely have a "major" impact on earnings, and that it would offset the impact by cutting costs and local procurement. Suzuki Motors, which sells nearly half of its vehicles in India, said volatility in India's rupee and the euro would have a negative impact on the Japanese automaker. The yen surged after Britain's vote, and analysts expect the strengthening currency to pull down operating profit at Japan's automakers when they convert proceeds made overseas into yen. Many of the automakers also export vehicles from Japan.



Toyota recalls 2.86 million cars globally over emissions control unit

Toyota Motor Corp on Wednesday said it was recalling 2.87 million vehicles worldwide over a possible fault with their evaporative fuel emissions control unit. The recall covers vehicles produced between April 2006 and August 2015, and includes the Japanese automaker's gasoline hybrid Prius model, the Auris compact hatchback and Corolla compact models. Earlier in the day, the Japanese automaker said it was recalling 1.43 million Prius and Lexus models worldwide because of a separate issue involving a possible airbag inflator defect. The company said late on Tuesday it is recalling 482,000 U.S. hybrid Prius and Lexus CT200h cars because of a possible airbag inflator defect.



Oracle's cloud business takes lead in Latin America

Oracle Corp is selling more cloud-based business software than traditional licensed products in Latin America, executives said on Tuesday, underscoring how remote computing has spurred demand from smaller businesses in new markets. Chief Executive Officer Mark Hurd said the cloud business, which stores enterprise software and data on remote servers, lets Oracle sell to clients without the budget for hardware or qualified staff, which can be tough to find in emerging markets. Although Oracle's cloud business contributed just 8 percent of total revenue in the latest quarter, the segment's 49 percent growth from a year earlier helped to offset sales declines in its on-premise licensing business.

Huge \$100m life-size Noah's Ark to open as Kentucky's newest tourist attraction!

In the beginning, Ken Ham made the Creation Museum in northern Kentucky. And he saw that it was good at spreading his belief that the Bible is a book of history, the universe is only 6,000 years old, and evolution is wrong and is leading to our moral downfall.

And Ham said, let us build a gargantuan Noah's ark only 45 minutes away to draw millions more visitors. And let it be constructed by Amish woodworkers, and financed with donations, junk bonds and tax rebates from the state of Kentucky. And let it hold an animatronic Noah and lifelike models of some of the creatures that came on board two-by-two, such as bears, short-necked giraffes — and juvenile Tyrannosaurus rexes.

And it was so.

Ham's "Ark Encounter," built at a cost of more than \$102 million, is scheduled to open on July 7 in Williamstown, Ky. Ham and his crew have succeeded in erecting a colossal landmark and an ambitious promotional vehicle for their particular brand of Christian fundamentalism, known as "young earth" or "young universe" creationism.

But it was hardly smooth sailing. The state tried to revoke the tax rebates after learning that Ham would require employees to sign a "statement of faith" that would exclude people who were gay or did not accept his particular Christian creed. Mr. Ham went to court and in January, he won.

On a recent afternoon, the Australian-born Mr. Ham looked out on the workers in hard hats affixing pine planking to cover the Tyvek plastic wrap still visible on the stern. The ark stretches one-and-a-half football fields long, rises as high as a seven-story building and is said to be the largest timber-frame building in the world. Mr. Ham is betting it will become an international pilgrimage site, as well as a draw for the curious, the seculars and even the skeptics.

"The reason we are building the ark



is not as an entertainment center," Ham said in an interview in a cabin overlooking the construction site. "I mean it's not like a Disney or Universal, just for anyone to go and have fun. It's a religious purpose. It's because we're Christians and we want to get the Christian message out."

The ark is also intended to serve as a vivid warning that, according to the Bible, God sent a flood in Noah's time to wipe out a depraved people, and God will deliver a fiery end to those who reject the Bible and accept modern-day evils like abortion, atheism and same-sex marriage. "We're becoming more like the days of Noah in that we see increasing secularization in the culture," Ham said.

Yet his interpretation of what he calls "the Christian message" is derided by most scientists and educators, and resented even by some Christians who consider it indefensible and even embarrassing. Young earthers believe that God created the universe in six 24-hour days, and since all of history is only 6,000 years, humans coexisted with dinosaurs. An exhibit at the Creation Museum shows two smiling children playing in a lush garden

next to two petite Tyrannosaurus rexes.

Bill Nye, best known as "the science guy" on television and in books, said in a telephone interview, "Humans and ancient dinosaurs did not live at the same time. It's completely unreasonable." Science has established that the earth is billions of years old, and no worldwide flood occurred in the last 6,000 years.

"We're going to raise a generation of kids who are scientifically illiterate," said Mr. Nye, who debated Mr. Ham at the Creation Museum in 2014, a matchup watched online by millions.

A group of local atheist activists, the Tri-State Freethinkers, recently tried to put up billboards on the highway approaching the ark, calling it the "Genocide and Incest Park," but no billboard company would agree, said the Freethinker's founder and president, Jim G. Helton, so they plan to protest at the ark's grand opening. "The moral of the flood story is horrible," Mr. Helton said. "We're not saying he can't build his park. But we don't think it's appropriate for a family fun day."

Young earth creationism gained cur-

rency only about 60 years ago, and has remained a marginal creed within Christianity. Even many Bible-believers and evangelicals accept the science showing that the universe is billions of years old — some reasoning that each of the six "days" of creation in the Book of Genesis may have lasted millions of years, not 24 hours. And of course, many Christians accept evolution.

But now the young earthers are having a heyday, thanks largely to Mr. Ham and his supporters. Their ministry, Answers in Genesis, produces books, magazines, videos and curriculums used by thousands of churches and home schoolers. The Creation Museum — which sells these materials in its gift shops — claims 2.7 million visitors have come in the nine years since it opened.

But about half of those visitors came to the Creation Museum in the first three years, suggesting that interest may have dropped off. The ark could change that. Mr. Ham projects that the ark will attract 1.4 to 2.2 million visitors in the first year, and will double the attendance at the Creation Museum.

Inside a cavernous warehouse in an office park in Hebron, a few miles from the museum, about 50 artists, designers, carpenters, sculptors and volunteers have been working six-day weeks to prepare the exhibits for the ark.

A sculptor inserted stiff gray-brown hairs one at a time into the chin of what looked like a wild boar. Another wiped off the black dye on a bear's chest to make it look less like a contemporary black bear. A giraffe with a short neck was being baked in a large oven to set the dye on its fur.

Answers in Genesis chose a "medium-brown" for Noah and his family. Credit Kyle Grillo for The New York Times

Tim Chaffey, a content manager and writer for the Answers in Genesis ministry, explained that most of the models do not resemble animals the way they look today, but extinct species.

(Source: The New York Times)

NEWS

Turkey airport attack: Will ongoing terrorism drive down Turkish tourism?

Even before Tuesday's attacks by three terrorists at Istanbul's Ataturk International Airport, which killed dozens, Turkey was grappling with an immense drop in tourism for 2016. Thanks to the double whammy of crippling Russian sanctions and fear-inducing headlines amid a string of terrorist attacks in recent years, Turkey is rapidly becoming an unpopular leisure destination.

Though Istanbul will likely continue to be one of the most important transit hubs for air travel between East and West (the other being Dubai International Airport), the latest numbers show these travelers aren't passing through the airport's exit gates to experience Turkey's rich culture, landscapes and cuisine.

The number of foreign arrivals to Turkey plunged 28 percent in April and 35 percent in May, the lowest numbers since the late 1990s, according to figures pulled from the Turkey Tourism Ministry. June numbers aren't out yet, but Tuesday's attack won't bode well for them, or for summer travel to the country.

That's a marked difference from 2014, when a record of nearly 37 million foreigners visited the historically diverse gateway to Asia. Last year, traffic dropped for the first time in nine years.

In November, Russia announced travel sanctions against Turkey for the downing of a Russian Su-24 fighter jet near the Syria-Turkish border. Turkey says the jet was in its air space while Moscow contends it wasn't. The sanctions made the downturn in Turkish foreign visitors worse because Russians have made up the second-largest group of foreign visitors after Germans, according to official figures.

Tourism experts point out many travelers are surprisingly resilient to the occasional terrorist attack. The problem is repeated attacks lead travelers to shift their plans to safer, steadfast destinations.

The frequency of the events is what engraves in people's minds, Alan Fyall, professor of tourism marketing at Rosen College of Hospitality Management at the University of Central Florida, told International Business Times in January in a report on Mediterranean regional tourism. "When the attacks keep happening, people will say, 'We've been to Spain 20 times before, but let's go again because it's safe.'"

(Source: International Business Times)



Proudly introduces the First class luxurious hotel apartment located in the heart of the city Tehran. The newly constructed section has an enormous segments of rooms with all the amenities, Experience the TAJ MAHAL advantage & Hospitality 24/7

TAJ MAHAL INDIAN RESTAURANT

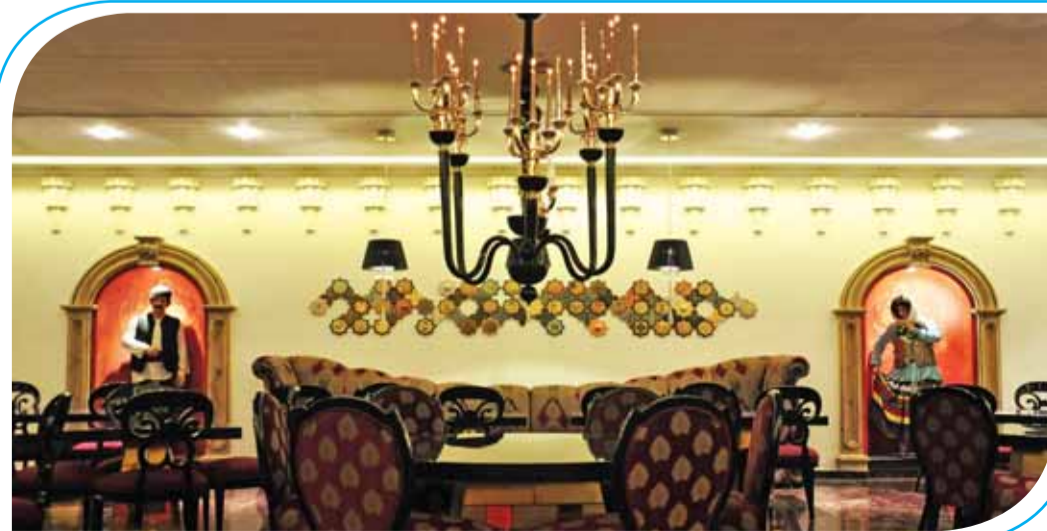


Enjoy the original taste of India !! The professional chef prepares the amazing varieties of kebabs, Tandoori nans, Biryani, veg or non-veg curries and the famous Indian desserts.

TAJ MAHAL HOTEL



Enjoy the authentic North Iranian unique culinary, Experience the home made country style recipes!!



TAJ MAHAL ANNOUNCES ITS SECOND RESTAURANT MAHI - MAHI

Address: No.29 South Sheikhabahaei Ave. Mollasadra Ave., Vanak Sq. Tehran - Iran

Http://www.tajmahalhotel.ir

E-mail: info@tajmahalhotel.ir

Tel: (+9821) 88035444(20) Fax: (+9821) 88057399 Cellphone: (+98910) 789 52 83

What the Brexit vote tells us about whether Trump can win

By Harold Meyerson

Despite all manner of apocalyptic predictions, the United Kingdom's vote to leave the European Union probably doesn't portend the election of Donald Trump come November. In one all-important particular, the United States is not Britain: Minority voters now constitute nearly a third of the electorate in America, while they're no more than one-tenth of the British voting public.

Nonetheless, the similarities between Britain's political moment and ours – and, for that matter, the fraught politics of most Western democracies – can't easily be dismissed.

Let's begin with the geography of the British vote, which should look all too familiar to students of American politics. Everywhere throughout Britain, the vote to stay in the European Union was strongest in cities – London, Edinburgh, Belfast, Cardiff, Glasgow – and even such cities in the otherwise pro-Brexit working-class post-industrial belt as Manchester and Liverpool.

Britain's bigger cities

Britain's bigger cities are far more racially and ethnically diverse than its small towns and rural communities. It's to the cities that millennials flock. In the United States, similarly, cities are far more diverse and politically progressive. Of the 30 largest U.S. cities, 28 have Democratic mayors, the greatest partisan imbalance since the advent of American political parties.

Conversely, the pushback against immigrants in both nations is often strongest in insular rural areas that have actually experienced little immigration. The worldview in these regions is generally premised on preserving their homogeneity.

Let's move on to the age gap. The one British exit poll found that 73 percent of voters under age 25 voted to stay in the European Union, and that percentage declined in each successively older age cohort. Only 40 percent of voters above age 64, by contrast, voted to stay.

The age gap in the Brexit referendum is virtually identical to the age gap in the Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton primary contest.



Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks during a news conference, as he is watched by a piper in front of the lighthouse, at his golf course. (file photo)

Roughly 71 percent of voters under age 30 cast their ballots for Sanders, a level of support that also then declined in each successively older cohort; 72 percent of voters 65 and older

backed Clinton.

All these numbers point not to one trans-Atlantic populist revolt, but several. There's the revolt of older white voters, who see their economic

prospects dimmed by globalization, which has subjected them to low-wage competition and over which they've had no control. Many fear and rage at immigrants and racial and religious minorities; they sense they've lost their place as the protagonists of their nation's story -- their national epic. This sense of economic, political and social displacement, often compounded by xenophobia and racism, has fueled the rise of Trumpism in the United States, as well as the nativist UK Independent Party in Britain.

But it's fueled far more than that: Years before anyone but Trump himself contemplated a Trump candidacy, much less a Trump nomination, Republicans had already morphed into a nationwide Dixiecrat Party. They campaigned against immigrants and minorities, and erected restrictions to voting that were intended to diminish minority participation.

Four years ago, writing not about Trump's campaign but Mitt Romney's, I concluded the GOP's credo could be reduced to: "We're old, we're white and we want our country back." Today, that's the credo of much of the populist right on both sides of the Atlantic. →9

Pars Diplomatic Real Estate

Apartment

Apt. in Elahieh
2nd Fl., 290 sq.m, 4 bdrs, furn & unfurn, SPJ, lobby, Pkg, \$4500
Diba: 09128103206

Apt. in Elahieh
160 sq.m, 3 bdrs, furn, \$3000
Mr.Niaki: 09128103207

Apt. in Velenjak
250 sq.m, 4 bdrs, furn, \$3600
Mr.Niaki: 09128103207

Apt. in Elahieh
3rd Fl., 170 sq.m, 3 bdrs, nice furn, Pkg, nice & cozy, \$2800
Diba: 09128103206

Apt. in Elahieh
300 sq.m, 4 bdrs, unfurn, \$3500
Mr.Niaki: 09128103207

Apt. in Jordan
140 sq.m, 2 bdrs, furn, \$2300
Mr.Niaki: 09128103207

New Apt. in Velenjak
6th Fl., 370 sq.m, 4 bdrs, furn & unfurn, City view, balcony, nice lobby, SPJ, nice design,
Good access to highway, Suitable for Residency, \$9000
Diba: 09128103206

Villa

Duplex Villa in Pasdaran
1800 sq.m built up in 2200 sq.m land, 5 bdrs, furn & unfurn, big salon, meeting room, Pkg, pool, renovated, garden, **Suitable for Embassy & Residency**
Diba: 09128103206

Duplex Villa in Elahieh
700 sq.m built up in 1800 sq.m land, 5 bdrs, large living room, nice garden, 9000 USD
Mr.Niaki: 09128103207

Duplex Villa in Farmanieh
500 sq.m built up in 600 sq.m land, 4 bdrs, semi furn, renovated, small garden, Pkg, outdoor pool, **Suitable for Residency, \$6000**
Diba: 09128103206

Duplex Villa in Elahieh
700 sq.m built up in 1800 sq.m land, 5 bdrs, large living room, nice garden, 9000 USD
Mr. Niaki: 09128103207

Duplex Villa in Farmanieh
900 sq.m built up in 2000 sq.m land, 6 bdrs, beautiful garden, extra apt in the end of garden
150 sq.m, Pkg
Diba: 09128103206



**Best Consultation,
Best Services, Best Result**

Section Manager "Tina 09128440154"
Tel: 22662452-8, Fax: 22667173

Hot Line: 28141
info@parsdiplomatic.com

Building & Office

New Whole Bldg. in Farmanieh
22 units, 66 rooms, 2 level Pkg, roof garden, each apt. around 180 sq.m, lobby, security, **Good access to highway, Suitable for Residency & Embassies**
Diba: 09128103206

Bldg. in Farmanieh
2400 sq.m, built up, 6 floor, Pkg lot, 15000 USD
Mr.Niaki: 09128103207

New Whole Bldg. in Mahmoudieh
3-Storey, each floor one apt., each apt. 160 sq.m with 3 rooms, one extra apt. with 2 rooms, equipped kitchen, Pkg spaces, **Suitable for Embassies & Companies, \$13000**
Diba: 09128103206

Administrative license Office in Vozara
300 sq.m built up, open office, Pkg lot, \$40 per sq.m
Mr.Niaki: 09128103207

Occasion

Apt. in Jordan
4th Fl., 125 sq.m, 2 bdrs, semi furn, **Good access, Suitable for guesthouse, \$1600**
Diba: 09128103206

Apt. in Farmanieh
160 sq.m, 2 bdrs, furn, **\$2300**
Mr.Niaki: 09128103207

Apt. in Elahieh
200 sq.m, 3 bdrs, fully furn, balcony, nice view, **\$2300**
Mr.Niaki: 09128103207

Apt. in Qeytarieh
120 sq.m, 2 bdrs, furn, View of park, nice & cozy, **International Bldg., 1200 USD**
Diba: 09128103206

Apt. in Shahrak-Qarb
2nd Fl., 120 sq.m, 2 bdrs, fully furn, renovated, **1300 USD**
Diba: 09128103206

Apt. in Jordan
130 sq.m, 2 bdrs, furn, **\$1700**
Mr.Niaki: 09128103207

Apt. in Qeytarieh
150 sq.m, 3 bdrs, fully furn, Pkg, **International Bld., 1700USD**
Diba: 09128103206

مالکین محترم
ویلاي شمارا جهت اجاره به منزل سفیر
و مدیران شرکت های بین المللی
در مناطق شمالی تهران نیاز مندیم

بهترین مشاوره، برترین سرویس، بالاترین رضایت
مالکین محترم املاک مبله و غیر مبله، مسکونی، لاری و تجاری، ویلا و مستغلات شمارا جهت اجاره به سفارتخانه ها و شرکت های خارجی نیاز مندیم

مالکین محترم
ساختمان در دست در مناطق شمال تهران
جهت اجاره به یک سفارتخانه
و کمپانی های خارجی نیاز مندیم

FIRST
CHOICE
REAL
ESTATE



Mr. Ghanizadeh
Nobody does it better

آژانس املاک انتخاب اول در خدمت شماست
TEL: 22041212 - 09121081212
APARTMENT - VILLA - OFFICE
PROPERTY@FIRSTCHOICECO.COM
WWW.FIRSTCHOICECO.COM

Don't Waste Your Time

Visit our website to choose your desired rental Properties

www.DeltaHOME.ir
The Most Specialized Website for Foreigners

HOME
Real Estate

Member of DELTA Real Estate Group
(021) 88888865

REAL ESTATE
PORSALEH

villa in reclusive area (Velenjak)

2500 sq.m with the beautiful old trees and lush courtyard,
swimming pool, gym and tennis court

Mede Shah 09372748090 - 021-22051919 - Mede78@yahoo.com

Soheil Neighborhood

170 sq.m, three bedrooms, Fully Furnished, Rent to Foreigner
Mr. Amir Ghasemi 0912-7610700

**Apt.-Villa
in Fereshteh**

Bossini St.

3 bedrooms, 1 study room,
swimming pool and sauna
Very Close to Bagh Moozeh Hesabi
For Yearly Renting

Pls. Call **09129307429**

全龍
**CHINESE
RESTAURANT
GOLDEN DRAGON**
SINCE 1968
(+9821) 22230292 - 22219036
Add: Shariati Ave., Pol-e-Roomi, Top of Qeytarieh, Tehran

Advertising Dept:
times1979@gmail.com
TEHRAN TIMES +9821 430 51 450
Iran's Leading International Daily
www.tehrantimes.com

**CHINESE
DRAGON
RESTAURANT**
Since: 1969
Address: No.52, Darya-Noorani Blv.Crossroad,
Farahzadi Blv, Shahrak-e-Gharb
Tel: **88562040 - 88562050**

EU leaders tell Britain to exit swiftly

European leaders told Britain on Tuesday to act quickly to resolve the political and economic confusion unleashed by its vote to leave the European Union last week, after the IMF said the uncertainty could put pressure on global economic growth.

Sterling and world stock markets recovered slightly on Tuesday but investor confidence remains fragile despite policymakers saying they will take all necessary measures to protect their economies.

Last week's referendum wiped a record \$3 trillion off the value of global shares and sterling fell to its lowest level in 31 years against the U.S. dollar.

British Finance Minister George Osborne, whose attempt to calm markets on Monday went unheard, said on Tuesday the government would have to cut spending and raise taxes to stabilize the economy after credit rating agency Fitch became the third agency to downgrade UK debt.

Businesses have announced hiring freezes and possible job cuts, despite voters' hopes the economy would thrive outside the EU.

Germany's financial market regulator delivered a double blow to the City of London, saying it could not host the headquarters of a planned European stock exchange after Britain leaves the EU and could not remain a center for trading in euros.

European countries are concerned about the impact of the political and regulatory uncertainty on the economies of the other 27 other EU members while the UK government works out how and when to begin withdrawal negotiations under Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty.

European Central Bank President Mario Draghi said on Tuesday that central banks around the world should aim to align monetary policies to mitigate "destabilizing spillovers" between economies.

Draghi had added that he agreed with private economists who predict euro zone growth will be reduced by up to 0.5 percent cumulatively over the next three years due to the "Brexit" vote.

UK warned EU access depends on four freedoms

At a summit meeting of the leaders of the EU in Brussels on Tuesday, Cameron said he hoped the UK would maintain as tight an economic and political relationship as possible with the EU.

"Britain will be leaving the European Union but we will not be turning our back on Europe," he told a news conference after a dinner at which he said many European partners expressed regret and voiced friendship for Britain.

In a veiled rebuke to UK "Leave" campaign leaders such as Boris Johnson, who is vying to succeed him, Cameron said Britons would have to understand they



could not keep all the benefits of EU membership without the costs.

Driving home that message, French President Francois Hollande said continued access to the EU's prized single market was dependent on accepting the so-called four freedoms of movement of goods, capital, workers and services.

"If they don't want free movement, they won't have access to the single market," he said, adding that the City of London would no longer be able to act as a clearing house in euros.

European countries are concerned about the impact of the political and regulatory uncertainty on the economies of the other 27 other EU members while the UK government works out how and when to begin withdrawal negotiations under Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty.

The European Parliament adopted a non-binding resolution on Tuesday demanding that London activate the EU treaty's voluntary exit clause as fast as possible and launch negotiations on withdrawal terms with a two-year countdown to departure.

But German Chancellor Angela Merkel said London should be allowed time to recover its balance after the political shockwave before formally notifying its partners of its plans.

The other 27 EU leaders will hold their own meeting on Wednesday to discuss how to deal with Britain on its way out of the bloc it joined in 1973, and how to take the Union forward without it.

Policymakers and companies around the world are scrambling to assess the impact Brexit will have.

Federal Reserve governor Jerome Powell said the decision had shifted global risks "to the downside", while Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe urged the Bank of Japan to provide ample funds to the market to keep the wheels of economy turning.

"A sense of uncertainty and worry about risks remain in the markets," Abe said.

Asian stock rallied 1 percent on Wednesday while bond prices also rose, reflecting expectations of fresh stimulus from global central banks. (Source: Reuters)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Paris steps up pitch to London bankers seeking to move

A leading French banker and a top Paris politician cranked up the French capital's campaign on Tuesday to attract London bankers shocked by the UK vote to leave the European Union, calling for tax incentives as competition with other financial centers heats up.

Big Wall Street banks and some European lenders are considering options for relocating staff now that London is on shaky ground as the region's pre-eminent financial hub.

SocGen's chief executive, Frederic Oudea, said Paris could benefit from the vote to leave the EU as financial institutions based in the UK would no longer be able to access European markets the way they used to before.

Meanwhile Gerard Mestrallet, the head of the Paris Euro-place lobby group, lost little time making the case for tax incentives to Finance Minister Michel Sapin, securing a meeting with him on Tuesday.

Mestrallet told Les Echos business newspaper that taxes for foreigners in France and French expatriates returning home should be made easier as should a special income tax on financial sector workers imposed because the sector does not pay value added tax. (Source: Reuters)

U.S. mixes signals on possible separate EU, UK trade talks

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry held out the possibility on Tuesday of negotiating separate trade deals with Britain and the European Union at the same time, but a spokesman later said he did not mean to suggest such a plan.

Speaking in Colorado, Kerry was asked about President Barack Obama's April comment that Britain would go to the "back of the queue" if it voted to quit the EU, as it did on Thursday, and Washington would focus on a wider trade deal with the EU called the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).

"The president, very clearly, he was talking about TTIP and the fact that we have 28, now 27, countries to negotiate with, to get that done," Kerry said. If Britain leaves the EU, the bloc will have 27 member states.

"But I think given what has happened, the president is going to try to do both at the same time. He knows how to multitask," Kerry added.

U.S. State Department spokesman John Kirby later said Kerry did not mean to suggest any plan for separate, simultaneous negotiations. (Source: Reuters)

مرکز خرید پالادیوم
PALLADIUM MALL

امیدواریم
سازگار
Happy Ramadan

Celebrate Ramadan at Palladium

During the holy Ramadan our Restaurants will be open from **19:30 to 24:00**

Palladium mall, Alef Sq., Moghadas Ardebili Ave., Zaferanieh Tel-Fax: (+9821) 22010600 Tel: (+9821) 26205720

Contact us: palladiummallfan • telegram.me/pldmmall • www.palladiummall.com

NEWS

Most modern brain imaging lab in ME to open in Tehran

MEDICAL TEHRAN — The most technologically advanced brain imaging laboratory in the Middle East is scheduled to open at the end of the holy month of Ramadan in Tehran, the head of national brain imaging laboratory announced on Tuesday.

Mohammad Reza I added that the groundbreaking project took off two years ago, aimed at not just rendering services to the public, but paving the way for scientists to undertake research into the science of brain stimulation and imagining, IRNA reported.

Cutting edge technology is employed in the lab such as 3-Tesla Magnetic Resonance Imaging Scanners (MRI), the first generation of its own in the country, which is also featured for research purposes.

Other high tech equipment, he said, is including but not limited to TMS, TDCS and EEG procedure machines.

He hoped the state of art laboratory prepares the ground for researchers to enthusiastically work on various projects in lesser time.

As the lab is considered "national", he explained, it has doors open to related scientists to take advantage of the facility and all that it has to offer.

The lab is located in the University of Tehran, he noted, although it stands independently of the educational institution.

Iran to partake in RoboCup 2016

SCIENCE TEHRAN — The RoboCup 2016, a contraction of Robot Soccer World Cup, will kick off today in Leipzig, Germany, while Iran is one of the participants out of the 45 countries in the competitions, IRNA reported on Tuesday.

The 5-day event will host over 200 teams from various universities and institutes worldwide.

This year Iran has introduced three teams in three different leagues: intelligent humanoid, soccer playing robots as well as rescue robot simulator.

RoboCup is an annual international robotics competition proposed and founded in 1997. The aim is to promote robotics and AI research, by offering a publicly appealing, but formidable challenge.

**3-D printing produces cartilage from strands of bioink**

Strands of cow cartilage substitute for ink in a 3D bioprinting process that may one day create cartilage patches for worn out joints, according to a team of engineers. "Our goal is to create tissue that can be used to replace large amounts of worn out tissue or design patches," said Ibrahim T. Ozbolat, associate professor of engineering science and mechanics. "Those who have osteoarthritis in their joints suffer a lot. We need a new alternative treatment for this."

Cartilage is a good tissue to target for scale-up bioprinting because it is made up of only one cell type and has no blood vessels within the tissue. It is also a tissue that cannot repair itself. Once cartilage is damaged, it remains damaged.

Previous attempts at growing cartilage began with cells embedded in a hydrogel -- a substance composed of polymer chains and about 90 percent water -- that is used as a scaffold to grow the tissue.

"Hydrogels don't allow cells to grow as normal," said Ozbolat, who is also a member of the Penn State Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences. "The hydrogel confines the cells and doesn't allow them to communicate as they do in native tissues."

Toxic compounds

This leads to tissues that do not have sufficient mechanical integrity. Degradation of the hydrogel also can produce toxic compounds that are detrimental to cell growth.

Ozbolat and his research team developed a method to produce larger scale tissues without using a scaffold. They create a tiny -- from 3 to 5 one hundredths of an

inch in diameter -- tube made of alginate, an algae extract. They inject cartilage cells into the tube and allow them to grow for about a week and adhere to each other.

Because cells do not stick to alginate, they can remove the tube and are left with a strand of cartilage. The researchers reported their results in the current issue of Scientific Reports. The cartilage strand substitutes for ink in the 3D printing process. Using a specially designed prototype nozzle that can hold and feed the cartilage strand, the 3D printer lays down rows of cartilage strands in any pattern the researchers choose.

(Source: sciencedaily.com)

**Vacancy Notice**

The Office of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Iran, intends to recruit a **"National Project Assistant"**

For further information, please consult the detailed job description posted on UNFPA Iran website <http://iran.unfpa.org/Vacancies.asp> or UN website: www.un.org.ir

All applicants should apply using above web-link no later than 15th July 2016. Applications received after that date will not be considered.

Notice:

- "There is no application, processing or other fee at any stage of the application process"
- "UNFPA does not solicit or screen for information in respect of HIV/AIDS or disabilities and does not discriminate on the basis of HIV/AIDS status and disabilities"

UNFPA is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

Isfahan Province Water and Wastewater Co. CEO: Water will not be rationed once 20% saved

Once people save consumption of water as much as 20%, water will not be rationed in Isfahan Province.

Announcing the above in an interview with our correspondent, Chief Executive of Isfahan Water and Wastewater Company Hashem Amini said: "Since Isfahan Province is facing burgeoning population, second phase of water-supply project should be commissioned in this province."

As long as second phase of water supply project dubbed "Golab 2" is not commissioned, this province will face water shortage problem in future, he maintained.

Speaking in a get-together meeting on the occasion of Water Consumption Saving Week, held at Andisheh Amphitheater of provincial Water and Wastewater Company, in the presence of more than 80 correspondents, he said: "Once people and subscribers practice saving water in summer days as much as 15-20 percent, the province will not face any water shortage problem, otherwise, water will be rationed in this province."

He recommended people of this province to save consumption of water especially in summer-time.

Water crisis has been turned into a serious and undeniable reality in world, he said, adding: "According to statistics, some provinces in the country face water shortage problem critically and effective steps should be taken in this regard."

Permanent River Turns into Seasonal River

Elsewhere in his remarks, the managing director of Isfahan Water and Wastewater Company pointed to the dryness of Zayandehroud River as an indicator of critical water condition in this province and said: "As a permanent river, Zayandehroud River has currently turned into a seasonal

river especially in the last few years due to critical water shortage problem."

Moreover, drought and water scarcity has placed negative impact on various agricultural and industrial sectors in this province dramatically."

Managing water consumption properly has been cited as the most important solution to deal with water crisis, he said, adding: "Water activists and experts are of the opinion that surface and underground resources should be used optimally."

He pointed to the key role of mass media in dissemination of accurate cultural services in the field of consumption of water optimally, he highlighted.

Optimal Water Consumption Should Be Turned into a Social Culture and Behavior

He further pointed out that optimal water consumption should be turned into a social culture and behavior.

Water consumption pattern should be practiced in whole seasons of a year, he said and urged noble people of this province to take a giant stride in this respect in order to materialize most objectives of provincial Water and Wastewater Company.

Turning to the activities taken by the company in the field of acculturation of optimal water consumption, he said: "Salient achievements taken in Isfahan Province Water and Wastewater Company were put at the focal attention of other provinces in the country to deal with water shortage problem."

Of the other salient measures taken by his company, he pointed to broadcasting 761 programs in radio and 145 programs in TV coupled with publishing a number of 5,000 news items in the press.

Moreover, the company embarked on holding National Film and Photo Festival in the field of "Water Consumption Management" in previous Iranian calendar year 1394 (ended March 19, 2016), he opined.

Isfahan Province Water and Wastewater Company embarked on setting up House of Water Consumption Culture for the first time in the country, tasked with focusing on various sectors of target society purposefully and scientifically.

The official revealed the compilation and approval of comprehensive water consumption, distribution and supply management document in provincial Crisis Management Headquarters and said: "Implementation of the document caused

Isfahan Province to be identified as pilot for implementation of this giant project."

Under the document, provincial departments, organizations, hotels and hospitals have been obliged to install strategic tanks for storing water during 24 hours, he said, adding: "It is a matter of regret to say that few departments and organizations have cooperated with us in this regard."

He called on responsible officials of organizations and noble people of this province to take effective steps in line with implementation of this national plan accurately.

Correcting and Leak Detecting Networks for Returning Water to the Distribution Cycle

In addition to disseminating cultural activities, the company has taken giant stride in the field of technical and engineering services, the most important of which can be referred to the correction of water network systems as long as 265 km pipeline.

For the first time in the country, the company managed to monitor visible and invisible leaks in water network system, he said, adding: "Approx. 700 lit./second water was returned to the distribution cycle through leak detection system in the past 3-4 years."

Water leakage detection system will be commissioned in other provinces in the country, he stated.

Water leakage detection system is equipped with Japanese advanced technology which can monitor and trace distribution of water via online system consecutively, he said, adding: "Telemetry and telemeter system has been commissioned in 56 cities of the province."

Advanced Hardware and Software Systems to Be Used to Reduce Water Consumption

With regard to the results of hardware and software measures taken in this regard, he put the water production rate in 2010 at 372 million/cubic meter, the rate of which expanded to 373 million/cubic meter in the last Iranian calendar year 1394 (ended March 19, 2016).

Turning to the measures taken in the field of reducing income-free water and said: "Volume of

income-free water in 2010 stood at 25 percent, the rate of which hit 17.5 percent in 2015. In general, we managed to win the first rank in terms of income-free water."

Per capita water consumption rate in household sector hit from 189 to 151 liters, he maintained.

Fortunately, per capital water consumption in residential sector reduced from 189 liters in 2007 to 151 liters in 2015 although more effective steps should be taken in this regard.

He pointed to the key role of private sector in

the country in the field of execution of quality wastewater projects, he said, adding: "Construction of wastewater networks in disadvantaged and less developed areas have been put atop agenda of the company."

He pointed to the programs followed up at the company in the field of resistance economy as follows: construction of 26 wastewater treatment plants across the province which will be put into operation before termination of the current Iranian calendar year 1395 (to end March 20, 2017).

155 billion tomans buyback contract will be put into operation in Barkhar and Najafabad for the construction of wastewater network project, he stressed.

In the end of his remarks, managing director of the company urged noble people of this province to take effective steps in line with observing water consumption pattern.

Income and Subscribers' Services deputy of Isfahan Province Water and Wastewater Company Reza Rezaei was the next speaker who put the number of subscribers in this province at 1,946,000.

Approx. 27-30,000 new subscribers were added in the current year (started March 19, 2016), he said, adding: "With the coordination made in this regard, highly-consumed water subscribers in industrial and non-industrial units will be identified."

Isfahan Province Water and Wastewater Co.'s Consumption Management Bureau Manager Seyyed Mohsen Saleh was the last speaker who put the income-free water volume of this province at 31 percent, the rate of which decline 17.6 percent in the last Iranian calendar year 1394 (ended March 19, 2016).

It should be noted that 63 million cubic meters water was saved by the provincial Water and Wastewater Company since 2007 to 2015, he said, adding: "People in this province also saved 56 million cubic meter water in the same period."

In the end, he called on all people residing in this province to cooperate with the provincial Water and Wastewater Company in line with materializing most of its objectives.



*We have not inherited the water from our ancestors,
but it is borrowed from our children as trust.*

Public Relations and Public
Training Dept. of Isfahan Province
Water and Wastewater Company



A suspected petrol bomb was detonated outside an Islamic centre in the city of Perth, Australia, as hundreds of worshippers attended an evening prayer service inside.

The explosion outside the Thornlie Mosque on Tuesday night caused no injuries but damaged four vehicles, one of which was completely gutted by the fire, police said.

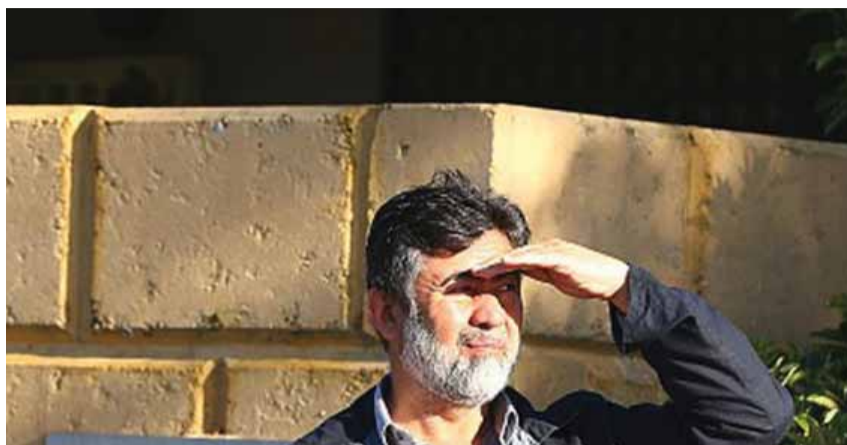
Anti-Islamic graffiti was later found spray-painted on a wall associated with an Islamic college that was part of the centre.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull condemned the attack, saying Australia had a fundamental foundation of mutual respect.

"I deplore and I cannot condemn strongly enough any attacks of that kind," he told radio station 6PR.

"It is believed an accelerant was used to start the fire," Western Australia police

Australia mosque targeted in firebomb attack



(Source: agencies)

Climate-smart agriculture can safeguard natural resources in Iran

Developing countries and smallholder farmers and pastoralists in particular are being especially hard hit by these changes. Many of these small-scale producers are already coping with a degraded natural resource base. They often lack knowledge about potential options for adapting their production systems and have limited assets and risk-taking capacity to access and use technologies and financial services.

Enhancing food security while contributing to mitigate climate change and preserving the natural resource base and vital ecosystem services requires the transition to agricultural production systems that are more productive, use inputs more efficiently, have less variability and greater stability in their outputs, and are more resilient to risks, shocks and long-term climate variability.

This is why our global message for World Food Day 2016 is "Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too."

Addressing these challenges, exacerbating global pressure on natural resources, especially water, will require radical changes in our food systems. To address

these three intertwined challenges, food systems have to become, at the same time, more efficient and resilient, at every scale from the farm to the global level. They have to become more efficient in resource use (use less land, water, and inputs to produce more food sustainably) and become more resilient to changes and shocks.

It is precisely to articulate these changes that FAO has forged the concept of Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) as a way forward for food security in a changing climate. CSA aims to improve food security, help communities adapt to climate change and contribute to climate change mitigation by adopting appropriate practices, developing enabling policies and institutions and mobilizing needed finances.

CSA is an approach to developing the technical, policy and investment conditions to achieve sustainable agricultural development for food security under climate change. The magnitude, immediacy and broad scope of the effects of climate change on agricultural systems create a compelling need to ensure comprehensive integration of these effects into national agricultural plan-

ning, investments and programs.

In carrying out this work, the FAO Representation in the Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to assist the government of Iran in providing guidance about the practices, technologies, policies and financing that are required to achieve a productive, resilient and sustainable agriculture sector.

This approach also aims to strengthen livelihoods and food security, especially of smallholders, by improving the management and use of natural resources and adopting appropriate methods and technologies for the production, processing and marketing of agricultural goods.

Therefore we should not forget that the scaling up of climate-smart practices will require appropriate institutional and governance mechanisms to disseminate information, ensure broad participation and harmonize policies. It may not be possible to achieve all the CSA objectives at once but by working hard together we can achieve a considerable number of its objectives while safeguarding the natural resource of the country.

said in a statement, adding that an investigation was under way.

"The Perth community was visited this evening by hate," Yahya Adel Ibrahim, a teacher at the Islamic college, wrote on Facebook.

"This, undoubtedly, is a criminal act of hate, but it is the act of a person or group, not the greater whole," he said, noting that worshippers remained at the mosque to finish their prayers.

Chris Tallentine, the area's local Member of Parliament, visited the site and said: "I feel sick that you have to endure attacks like this. The truth is that this was an attack on all of us."

At the last national census in 2011, Muslims made up less fewer than three percent of the overall Australian population of 24 million, with the overwhelming majority of the country identifying as Christian.

NATO and Russia have become strategic competitors in Eastern Europe: ELN research director

In addition, the rest of the world will not let itself to be divided into a 'Western' and 'Russian' camp: a lot of countries, including Iran, are pursuing their own independent policy.

What could be the possible response of Russia to the recent NATO activities in Eastern Europe?

A: Russia is very critical of NATO's actions and calls them 'escalatory'. At the same time, Russia forgets or ignores the fact that its own actions in Ukraine started the current crisis. Also, if you look at Russian military exercises during the last years, they have been bigger and more frequent than anything NATO has done. Later this year, I expect a heavy condemnation of NATO actions from Russia, and some symbolic gestures such as moving some modern military equipment closer to NATO territory. But Russia does not really want this crisis to turn into a war.

The German foreign minister

has called NATO war games in Poland "warmongering" against Russia that can worsen the security situation in Europe. What is your opinion?

A: First of all, this interview shows that there are different views on policy towards Russia inside NATO countries, and we discuss this policy among us. As I understand, the minister is worried that NATO focuses too much on military issues and ignores diplomacy. I think he's got a point: we should make sure that NATO has an offer of dialogue with Russia in parallel with strengthening our defense.

Still, I think it is strange for a German minister to talk in such a negative way about the exercises in which the German army participated very actively. The ac-

I'm sure after he (Trump) learns more about NATO, he won't repeat some of the stupid statements from his campaign about "useless" NATO.

tions of NATO, including the exercises in Eastern Europe, serve to demonstrate to Russia that it should not even think about using similar methods against any member of NATO. They are not a preparation for offensive war, and I would not call them warmongering.

Considering the existing differences within NATO, Turkey's differences with the alliance regarding its presence in the Black Sea to stop the flow of refugees to Europe, and NATO's role in Syria, what is your prediction of the future shape of the alliance?

A: NATO has a very long history. Since 1949 it has managed to adopt itself to many changes of security environment, including the end of the Cold War. Most importantly, NATO

brings together the countries which still have similar security interests and which value the cooperation with one another. If you look at security situation in our neighborhood --- Russia to the East, Syrian war to the South, Daesh and Al-Qaida threats --- it's clear that no country can defend against these threats alone. So I am optimistic about the future of NATO as an instrument of collective defense for the members.

Will there be any changes in NATO especially if Donald Trump takes power in the White House?

A: With Mr. Trump, I'm sure if he becomes the president, he will get a good, long briefing about the benefits of the Alliance for the security of the United States. The members of NATO have always been good partners and allies of the United States. I'm sure after he learns more about NATO, he won't repeat some of the stupid statements from his campaign about "useless" NATO.

Nicola Sturgeon in Brussels bid to keep Scotland in EU

Scotland is intent on remaining in the European Union despite Britain voting to leave the bloc, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has told EU officials in Brussels.

Sturgeon's short-notice visit to the Belgian capital on Wednesday came a day after the outgoing British Prime Minister David Cameron told European leaders that his country would be leaving the union following last week's referendum.

"Scotland is determined to stay in the EU," Sturgeon said after a morning meeting with European Parliament President Martin Schulz.

Scotland overwhelmingly voted to stay in the European Union in last Thursday's vote, and Sturgeon has previously threatened to veto a British exit, or Brexit, hinting that her government may use legal means to try to block Britain's departure from the EU.

That may also require a second referendum on Scottish independence after a previous one failed in 2014 - a prospect that throws the future of Britain into question.

Sturgeon is expected to meet Jean-Claude Juncker, the European Commission president, later on Wednesday afternoon.

But Donald Tusk, the president of the European Council who chairs EU summits, turned down a request for a meeting, his spokesman said.

Diplomats said there was a risk that the high-profile welcome for the Scottish National Party leader could be seen in London as encouragement for secession, al-



though EU officials denied any such intention.

Later on Wednesday, EU leaders will meet for a second day in Brussels to discuss the fallout from Brexit, in a session that will not be attended by a British representative for the first time.

Cameron flew back to Britain after his last EU summit, where he told EU leaders that Britain's future relations with the union could hinge on the bloc's willingness to rethink free movement of workers, which he blamed for the "Leave" vote in the referendum.

"People recognized the economic case for staying, but there was a very great concern about movement of people and that was coupled with concern about issues of sovereignty," Cameron, a "Remain" backer, said.

Britain's "Leave" leaders hope that the nation can still enjoy many perks of the EU internal market for business, while being able to deny EU citizens entry to Britain to

address concerns about immigration.

But German Chancellor Angela Merkel warned that London could not "cherry pick" the parts of EU membership that it liked - a view echoed by French President Francois Hollande and other European leaders.

"If they don't want free movement, they won't have access to the single market," Hollande said.

At a tense summit, the 27 remaining EU members agreed on Tuesday to give Britain some breathing space, accepting that it needs time to absorb the shock of the Brexit vote before triggering Article 50 - an EU treaty clause that begins a two-year withdrawal process.

Yet, Juncker warned that Britain did not have "months to meditate" and set a clear timetable for triggering Article 50 after Cameron's successor takes office in early September.

"If someone from the 'Remain' camp will become British PM, this has to be done in two weeks after his appointment," he said. If they are from the Brexit camp, then it should be "the day after."

Officials in Brussels are concerned that giving Britain favorable divorce terms will spark a domino effect of others leaving.

"Some think that Britain needs more time. I hear this, yes, but I think it strange. It's a type of surrealism," said Belgium's Prime Minister Charles Michel.

(Source: agencies)

Bank Maskan launches telegram robot to meet customer demand

ECONOMY In an innovative move and for the first time in the country, Bank Maskan launched telegram robot in order to offer quality banking services to its users.

According to the Public Relations Dept. of Bank Maskan, customers of the bank can enter telegram robot of the

bank through searching http://telegram.me/bankmaskanbot and/or through referring to the following address in the form of message @bankmaskanbot, tablet, personal computer (PC) and/or receive from one of its audience.

Accordingly, after entering telegram robot of the bank, customers will take ad-

vantage of services such as consultation with regard to receiving facilities, searching bank branches, calculating related to Tamin Atiyeh Talai Account, introducing bank services and facilities, etc.

It should be noted that telegram robot is an applied account in telegram application which is used for sending

and receiving the relevant message. Unlike channels in telegram which there is one-way relation between managers of channel and audience, Telegram Robot is equipped with a two-way interaction system. To do this, a message should be sent to the telegram robot, so that you will be responded instantly.

JUMP

American-styled Human Rights Week and the post-revolution Iran

Moreover, while the U.S. is involved in most of human crises in the Middle East, in one way or another, it introduces herself to the world as human rights sympathizers.

More importantly is Washington's passive approach to the Middle East crisis which is fueled by weapons coming from global powers, including the U.S.

Paradoxes of this theme can go on.

Therefore, Iranian NGOs have rightly named the week as the American-styled Human Rights Week, showing how sensitive they are to historical clues as well as how well they have come to know the U.S.

What the Brexit vote tells us about whether Trump can win

Politics of millennials

But the politics of millennials - metropolitan millennials in particular - are quite different, even when their own discontents are also labeled populist by establishment commentators. The Bernie Brigades in the United States and the young supporters of such far-left European parties as Podemos in Spain or Syriza in Greece are even more scathing than the right-wing populists in their assessments of financial elites and the governments in their sway.

Unlike the UKIPs and the Trumpians, however, the left champions a range of policies - fiscal stimulus, worker rights, progressive taxation - that could actually address their nation's plights. (Though Syriza, once it came to power in Greece, was blocked from implementing its program by creditor nations and banks.)

Moreover, these parties and tendencies - disproportionately of the young - are not merely racially and ethnically tolerant but racially and ethnically diverse. That's why the appeals to nativism never stood a chance among Britain's younger voters. That's also why the most effective Democratic message to (largely white) young Sanders stalwarts, who can't yet see themselves voting for Clinton, would be to have young immigrants, Latinos, blacks and Asians tell them just how a Trump presidency would impact -- and in many cases ruin -- their lives.

The far-right populism and talk of bigoted xenophobia from many non-big-city whites, who have been left behind by globalized capitalism, by the economic policies of Western governments and by the growing cosmopolitanism of urbanites and the young, has become a force in almost every Western democracy. It fuels Trump's candidacy. Yet it probably lacks sufficient adherents to put him in the White House.

Nonetheless, the crash of 2008 and its rocky aftermath, like that of 1929 and its aftermath, has shaken the politics of the West. Brexit almost surely won't be the last such shock.

(Source: Reuters)

No change in Turkish Airlines' flights after airport blast

ECONOMY TEHRAN — Turkish Airlines has announced its flights to different destinations around the world will not be delayed by the terrorist blast in Istanbul's Ataturk International Airport, saying things are getting back to normal situation.

According to the public relations office of Turkish Airlines, passengers bound for Istanbul or other destination can visit www.turkishairlines.com or contact 00902124440849 or 02123546 to get latest flight updates.

Sanctions imposed on BMI's branch office in Hong Kong lifted

ECONOMY Sanctions imposed on branch office of Bank Mellat (BMI) in Hong Kong was removed.

Member of Board of Directors and Deputy Managing Director of BMI for Currency and Intl. Affairs Gholam-Reza Panahi announced the above statement and said: "According to the announcement of senior officials of the bank in London (PLC) branch, monetary authorities of Hong Kong lifted its supervisory restrictions from BMI branch office in Hong Kong on June 24, 2016, the issue of which will bring about a suitable ground for the resumption of activities of the mentioned branch in offering quality banking services."

Outset of banking activities requires adopting some systemic and structural changes in the relevant bank branch which is underway by the management of BMI's branch office (London-PLC), he maintained.

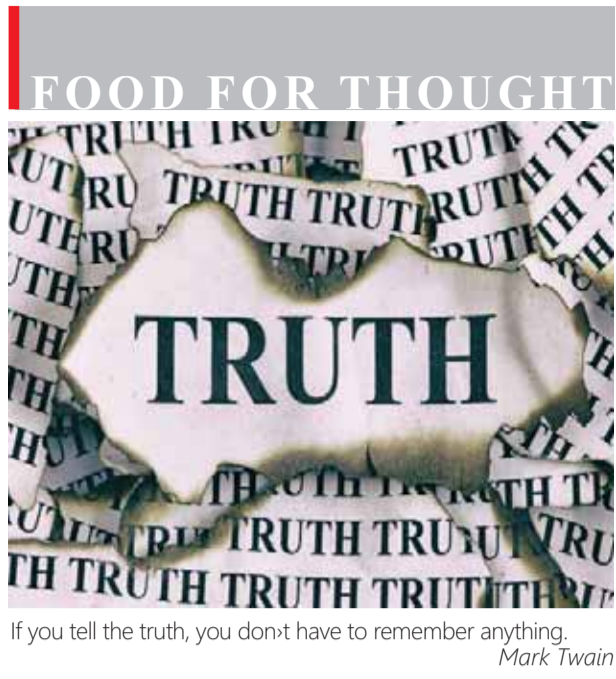
For further information, dear customers of the bank may log on the following website at: www.mellibank.com

BSI, leader bank to pay marriage loan worth 100m rials

ECONOMY Bank Saderat Iran (BSI) is the first Iranian bank which is pioneer in the field of granting marriage loan worth 100 million rials to young couples.

The bank has started granting the loan since the beginning of Iranian month of Tir (June 21) in a way that a number of 318 marriage loan have thus far been paid by the bank to applicants.

It should be noted that Bank Saderat Iran started granting marriage loan to young couples in order to materialize its social commitments and objectives, solving problems facing people in society as well as disseminating culture of interest-free loan tradition in society, etc.



LEARN ENGLISH

Cooking a Meal

Emeril: Can you hand me that pan?
 Rachel: This **pot**?
 Emeril: No, that pan over there. I need to **pan-fry** these vegetables.
 Rachel: Wouldn't be healthier if we **steamed** the vegetables or **grilled** them?
 Emeril: Maybe, but for this meal, I'm frying them in this pan.
 Rachel: Okay, do you want me to **heat** this sauce in this **saucepan**?
 Emeril: No, I'm going to **microwave** that right before I serve it.
 Rachel: Have you considered **simmering** it in a saucepan to get a better **consistency**?
 Emeril: We don't have time for that. Slice this meat and **marinate** it before I **broil** it.
 Rachel: Maybe we could **bake** it at a lower temperature so that the meat won't get **dried out**.
 Emeril: We'll try that another time. Can you get that **cutting board** and **chop** these carrots and **dice** these onions?
 Rachel: Sure, but don't you think...?
 Emeril: What I think is that there will be six hungry children coming through that door in an hour and I need to finish dinner. You're here to help, right?
 Rachel: Yes, of course. That's exactly what I was trying to do.
 (Source: *eslpod.com*)

- Words & phrases**
- pan:** a round metal container that you use for cooking, usually with one long handle and a lid
- pot:** a container used for cooking which is round, deep, and usually made of metal
- pan-fry:** fry in a pan in shallow fat
- steam:** to cook something in steam
- grill:** if you grill something, or if it grills, you cook it by putting it on a flat metal frame with bars across it, above or below strong direct heat
- heat:** to make something become warm or hot
- saucepan:** a deep round metal container with a handle that is used for cooking
- microwave:** to cook something in a microwave oven
- simmer:** to boil gently, or to cook something slowly by boiling it gently
- consistency:** how thick, smooth etc. a substance is
- slice:** to cut meat, bread, vegetables etc. into thin flat pieces
- marinate:** to put fish or meat in a mixture of oil and spices for a time before cooking
- broil:** to cook something under direct heat, or over a flame on a barbecue
- bake:** to cook something using dry heat, in an oven
- dry out:** to become completely dry or to make something completely dry
- cutting board:** a piece of wood or plastic that you cut meat or vegetables on
- chop:** to cut something into smaller pieces
- dice:** to cut food into small square pieces

QUIZ OF THE DAY

176) I wasn't aware ____ what had happened.
 a) at
 b) of
 c) off
 d) upon
 (Quiz No. 175 answer: a)

PHRASAL VERB

Toy with

Meaning: think about, without serious intent
For example: I've been toying with the idea of starting to walk to work.

ENGLISH PROVERB

Grief divided is made lighter

Explanation: if you share your grief, it will be easier to bear

72% of Iran's population struggling with long-term drought: official

SOCIETY TEHRAN — 72 percent of people in Iran are withstanding prolonged drought, the director for drought and crisis management department of Iran's Meteorological Organization said.
 Since the beginning of the current crop year in Iran and based on the indices of the past nine months (September 23, 2015-June 20, 2016) periods of drought have affected parts of Isfahan, Yazd, Chaharmahal-Bakhtiari, South Khorasan, Khorasan Razavi, Fars, Kerman, Semnan, Sistan-Baluchestan, Qom, Markazi, Gilan, and Mazandaran to different extents, Shahrokh Fateh said.
 According to statistics, 31 percent of

the country's total land area is suffering mild drought, 29 percent is facing moderate drought, 12 percent is being plagued by severe drought, and one percent is struggling with extreme drought, Fateh told ISNA news agency.
 He went on to say that 27 percent of Iran's population is facing mild drought, 32 percent with moderate drought, 12 percent with severe drought and one percent with extreme drought.
 Water stress is an issue Iran is facing for some years now and stems from various reasons ranging from old farming patterns and mismanagement of water resources and to the climate change.



Feds urge consumers to act quickly on Ikea dresser recall

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ikea is recalling 29 million chests and dressers that can easily tip over and trap children underneath. Six children have been killed and three dozen others injured in the past 27 years, and federal safety officials on Tuesday urged consumers to take immediate action.
 The Swedish retailer announced the recall Tuesday, saying the furniture can pose "a tip-over and entrapment hazard that can result in death or injuries to children" if it is not properly anchored to a wall.



"We are announcing this U.S. recall today given the recent tragic death of a third child," Ikea said in a statement Tuesday. "It is clear that there are still unsecured products in customers' homes, and we believe that taking further action is the right thing to do."
 At a news conference, the Consumer Product Safety Commission underscored the risk with a live demonstration of chests tipping over.
 "Consumers need to act immediately because it's a very present hazard, especially if you have kids in your home," CPSC Chairman Elliot Kaye said in an interview.
 Kaye said consumers "need to either get their anchor kit from Ikea for free and install it on their furniture, take it back to the store for a full refund or have Ikea come and pick it up from their homes for free."
 The recall, which only applies to customers in the U.S. and Canada, is for several types of Ikea chests and dressers, including the Malm line. Ikea said the units under the recall are children's chests and drawers

taller than 23.5 inches and adult chests and dressers taller than 29.5 inches.
 The recalled units were sold at Ikea stores "at various times through June 2016," the company said.
 All of the children killed were 3 years old or younger, the CPSC said. One child was killed about 27 years ago. The other deaths were more recent, between 2002 and 2016. The CPSC said it received 36 reports of children who were injured.
 Customers who don't want to keep the recalled furniture can ask for a refund. Ikea said it will give a full refund to owners of recalled chests and dressers made between 2002 and 2016. For recalled units made before 2002, customers can receive a store credit for half the original price.
 Kaye said IKEA is now working with CPSC to bring safer designs to the markets so that furniture is more stable.
 "I expect the rest of the furniture industry to do the same," said Kaye.
 (Source: *KCBD*)

Red Cross apologizes for 'racist' safety poster

The Red Cross is apologizing after a poster depicting pool safety rules was circulated on Twitter and flamed for being "super racist."
 The poster, which shows a crowd of cartoon children committing an array of poolside do's and don'ts, was spotted at the Salida Pool and Recreation Department in Salida, Colorado.
 A Twitter user put a picture of the poster online, where people debated whether it was, in fact, offensive or not. "Be Cool, Follow the Rules," the poster in question advises.
 Below that, a number of children are swimming in the pool or at the edge of the pool.



Arrows point to certain children, indicating "not cool" behavior with a red arrow and "cool" behavior with a green arrow.
 It just so happens that the two children exhibiting "cool" behavior are white. A blonde girl in a blue bathing suit smiles as she is about to step onto the diving board.
 The majority of the kids being "not cool" are children of color. One is pushing another child into the water, another is running and a third seemingly diving into the pool.
 Those who found the poster questionable took issue with the fact that children of color were doing dangerous activities, while all of the acceptable, "cool" activities were depicted with lighter-skinned people.
 "Seriously, @RedCross? Behaving white kids are 'cool'; children of color depicted as misbehaving/'not cool' #racism" wrote one critic.
 Another woman tweeted at the Red Cross, saying the poster was an example of institutional racism.
 And one man didn't understand what the fuss was all about.
 Though there were those that

thought the interpretation was a bit of an overreach, the Red Cross swiftly apologized, replying to the original tweet and later issuing a statement.
 "We deeply apologize for any misunderstanding, as it was absolutely not our intent to offend anyone. As one of the nation's oldest and largest humanitarian organizations, we are committed to diversity and inclusion in all that we do, every day," it wrote on its website.
 The organization also said it has removed the image from its website and app, and has requested the poster be removed from aquatic facilities. The Salida Rec Center also tweeted that it had removed the poster and "didn't scrutinize it like we should have."
 The poster was originally part of the Red Cross' 2014 "Aquatics Centennial Campaign."
 "We are focusing on areas with higher-than-average drowning rates and participants who otherwise wouldn't have the opportunity to take swim lessons," the Red Cross wrote.
 (Source: *CNN*)

IN FOCUS IRIB/Masoud Sepehrinia



On Tuesday People in the city of Tabriz donated blood on the occasion of Shab-e-Qadr, a night in the month of Ramadan.

German court restarts trial after judge repeatedly nods off

BERLIN (AP) — A German court had to restart the trial of two men suspected of robbing a grocery store because a judge kept nodding off during the proceedings.
 The Muenster state court told the dpa news agency on Tuesday that the presiding judge decided it was better to start things over than provide immediate grounds for an appeal.
 German trials are typically heard by a panel of five judges — three professionals and two lay judges. In this case, it was one of the lay judges who couldn't stay awake on Monday.
 Fortunately, it was the first day of the trial and it was able to start again from scratch after an alternate judge took his place.

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

فانی: یک سوم مدارس ایران در مقابل زلزله مقاوم نیستند
 به گزارش خبرگزاری فارس علی اصغر فانی وزیر آموزش و پرورش روز سه شنبه در جشنواره خیران مدرسه ساز استان تهران با اشاره به اینکه یک سوم مدارس کشور نایمن هستند گفت یک سوم مدارس با زلزله پنج ریشتری تخریب می شوند.
 وزیر آموزش و پرورش توضیح داد: ما باید به سمت مقاوم سازی مدارس حرکت کنیم و در این مهم باید با همراهی خیران و دولت اتفاق بیفتد.
 وی تصریح کرد: گفت: تا پایان برنامه پنج ساله ی ششم توسعه تمام مدارس نا ایمن حذف می شوند.

One third of schools in Iran not earthquake resistant: minister
 One third of the schools in Iran are not earthquake resistant and would easily collapse by an earthquake of magnitude 5, Education Minister Ali-Asghar Fani said on Tuesday. Fani made the remarks in a festival for the philanthropists who donate money for school construction here on Tuesday, Fars news agency reported.
 "We need to make a move towards retrofitting schools' buildings. The government and philanthropist can help in doing so," the minister explained.
 He stated that the current condition of the schools is scheduled to be improved by the end of the 6th five-year development plan (2021).

Iranian duo join Turkey's Caykur Rizespor

Iranian international players Ramin Rezaeian and Mehdi Taremi joined Turkish club Caykur Rizespor Tuesday night.

Rezaeian, 26, has joined Caykur Rizespor on a two-year contract.

The Persepolis right-back started his playing career with Saba and has also played for Rah Ahan in the Iranian Professional League.

Rezaeian has made 10 appearances for the Iranian national football team.

Rezaeian's teammate Mehdi Taremi, who finished as top scorer of Iran Professional League last season with 16 goals, has also signed a two-year contract with the Turkish football team.

Taremi has played 11 matches for Iran football team, scoring six goals.

Taremi who had stated he will not extend his contract with Persepolis in order to continue his career in Europe has linked with Spanish and Greek sides but ended up in Rizespor.

The details of their contracts have not been revealed.

(Source: Staff & Agencies)



Iran's Tasisat Daryaei comes 8th at Futsal Int'l Cup



Iran's Tasisat Daryaei lost to Portuguese champion Benfica 2-1 on Tuesday and finished in eighth place at the 2016 Futsal Intercontinental Cup.

Tasisat Daryaei lost to FC Barcelona Lassa 4-2 and Carlos Barbosa 4-3 in Group A and was held to a 2-2 draw against Dinamo Moscow in Doha, Qatar.

Carlos Barbosa and Magnus Futsal

will play in the final match on Wednesday. The Intercontinental Futsal Cup is considered to be one of the best club tournaments in the world.

The inaugural edition of the tournament was held at Porto Alegre in Brazil in 1997 when Sport Club Internacional of Brazil won the title beating FC Barcelona 4-2 in the final.

(Source: Tasnim)

Esteghlal striker linked with Turkish move



The Sports Desk Esteghlal football club Sajjad Shahbazzadeh has been linked with a move to newly promoted club Alanyaspor according to the local media.

The 26-year old striker who joined Esteghlal in the summer of 2014 was one of his team's key players as he scored 10 goals in 22

matches. "Shahbazzadeh had a meeting with the head coach on Monday; we will try our best to keep him as he is one of our best players," Esteghlal spokesman told reporters.

Alanyaspor won the promotion to the Super Lig (Turkish Premier League) in 2015-16 season for the first time in its history.

Luis Suarez expects Lionel Messi to change mind on Argentina retirement

Luis Suarez is confident his Barcelona teammate Lionel Messi will reconsider his early retirement from Argentina duty.

Messi, 29, unexpectedly announced that he was planning to end his international career after the Copa America Centenario defeat to Chile, which represented a third consecutive loss in three years in a major final for Argentina.

Uruguay star Suarez, though, said he was hopeful that Messi, who had served as Argentina's captain, would reconsider.

"Knowing Leo, for sure he will have said something in a moment of sadness and powerlessness," Suarez



told Tenfield.com. "It would be a pity for football if he took this decision, but I am sure he will think about it again and change his mind.

"It is a difficult moment. Everyone has the right to make their own decisions. Whatever they say, he will be the best player in the history of football."

Former Uruguay striker Diego Forlan also spoke to Tenfield, saying: "In my opinion it would be a shame if a player like Messi retired liked this from the national team, as he is one of the best players in history.

"I hope he thinks about it and changes his mind." (Source: ESPN)

Manchester United to pay €42.5m for Henrikh Mkhitaryan - reports



Manchester United are set to pay €42.5 million for Borussia Dortmund midfielder Henrikh Mkhitaryan, according to multiple reports in Germany.

Dortmund CEO Hans-Joachim Watzke confirmed on Tuesday that United had "significantly improved their offer" and kicker, Ruhr Nachrichten and Bild all report that the Premier League side have nearly doubled their initial €24m (£19.9m) bid to €42.5m (£35.2m).

The reports said Dortmund are set to accept the offer -- which would be the biggest transfer fee ever paid for a player entering the final year of his contract in Europe -- and the deal will be completed in the coming days.

Kicker said that minor details in the contract are yet to be negotiated and Dortmund want the approval of all bodies of the club before accepting, while Mkhitaryan will have to pass a medical, but a deal appears imminent.

Mkhitaryan, 27, joined Dortmund from Shakhtar Donetsk in 2013 for a club record €27.5m fee, but the player's agent, Mino Raiola, said last week that United are his "dream club" and "he wants to join them by any means."

The Armenia international, who registered 23 goals and 32 assists for BVB last term, would become United's second signing under Jose Mourinho after defender Eric Bailly.

(Source: ESPN)

Hulk in China ahead of Shanghai SIPG move from Zenit St Petersburg



Hulk was welcomed by more than 1,000 fans at Shanghai's international airport on Wednesday ahead of his expected move from Zenit St Petersburg to Shanghai SIPG.

The Chinese Super League (CSL) club are set to pay around €56 million to sign the Brazil international, which would represent the league's most expensive ever deal.

SIPG have confirmed Hulk will undergo a medical before signing a contract with the club, with Zenit disclosing details of the deal.

"Zenit have reached a preliminary agreement with Shanghai SIPG concerning the transfer of Hulk, and on Wednesday the player will undergo a medical," Zenit press officer Dmitri Zimmerman is quoted

by Reuters as telling Sport Express. "Zenit will receive around €56m, while a further €2m could be added to the total price."

The forward, who joined Zenit from Porto in 2012, is reported to have agreed an annual salary of €20m, which would make him the CSL's best-paid player, though SIPG spokeswoman Yu Chen refused to confirm details of the contract.

CSL clubs are restricted to five foreign players in their squad, with one of the five having to hold a passport belonging to an Asian Football Confederation (AFC) nation. They are permitted to field three foreigners and one AFC player on the pitch at any one time.

(Source: Soccernet)



Poland v Portugal background

Poland have reached their maiden EURO quarter-final and are now intent on gracing a major tournament semi-final for the first time since 1982 – a goal that Portugal hope to deny them.

Through to their first EURO quarter-final, Poland are targeting a first semi-final at a major tournament since 1982, but have their work cut out against Fernando Santos's resilient Portugal side.

■ Previous meetings

Portugal have had marginally the better of the teams' ten previous meetings: W4 D3 L3. The two most recent ended in draws: a 2-2 in Lisbon in UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying and a 0-0 in Warsaw in February 2012 – the first game, a friendly, at Warsaw's new National Stadium.

■ EURO facts: Poland

Poland are appearing at their third straight EURO final tournament; prior to UEFA EURO 2016 they had never won a finals match (D3 L3), but here they have advanced to the last eight for the first time with a record of W2 D2, conceding just once in the process.

Poland have won both of their games in Marseille without conceding, a 1-0 victory against Ukraine at these finals preceded by a 4-0 friendly success against the United Arab Emirates at the Stade Velodrome in a 1990 friendly.

Poland's greatest moment on the international stage was taking bronze at the 1974 and 1982 FIFA World Cups.

Robert Lewandowski was the top Polish scorer in qualifying with 13 goals, equalling the competition record set by Northern Ireland's David Healy in UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying; he has yet to score at these finals.

Poland netted 33 goals during qualification – two more than the next most prolific country, England.

■ EURO facts: Portugal

Portugal's last five EURO finals fixtures have ended in draws after 90 minutes; four at this competition, plus a 0-0 draw with Spain – preceding a shoot-out defeat – in the UEFA EURO 2012 semi-finals.

Portugal have yet to win in Marseille; at EURO '84 – Portugal's first – they drew 1-1 with Spain at the Stade Velodrome then lost 3-2 to France after extra time in the semis.

Portugal are competing at their sixth consecutive EURO and their seventh in total. They have never failed to make it through the group stage.

Portugal's greatest feat is getting to the final of UEFA EURO 2004 on home soil, where they unexpectedly lost 1-0 to Greece.

■ Coach and player links

Portugal's Raphaël Guerreiro and Poland's Kamil Grosicki scored for their respective teams when Lorient drew 1-1 with Rennes in Ligue 1 in 2015/16.

■ Former team-mates:

Éder and ?ukasz Fabia?ski (Swansea City AFC, 2015) Renato Sanches and Robert Lewandowski will be team-mates next season at FC Bayern München, following the Portuguese youngster's move from SL Benfica.

Portugal boss Santos posted two draws against Poland during his time as Greece coach; 0-0 in a March 2011 friendly and 1-1 at UEFA EURO 2012, Lewandowski scoring for the tournament co-hosts.

■ Penalty shoot-outs

Poland's 5-4 success over Switzerland in the round of 16 was their first competitive shoot-out; they had earlier prevailed by the same margin against New Zealand following a 0-0 draw in a friendly tournament in Bangkok in June 1999.

Portugal have been involved in three finals shoot-outs, winning two and losing one. At UEFA EURO 2012, they succumbed to Spain after a goalless draw, having won their previous two against England at the 2006 World Cup and UEFA EURO 2004.

(Source: Euro2016)

Southgate set to be England temporary manager, media say

England under-21 coach Gareth Southgate looks likely to be put in temporary charge of the national team after the resignation of Roy Hodgson following the side's Euro 2016 exit, British media reported on Wednesday.

"Southgate is believed to have already been asked whether he is prepared to take over on a temporary basis and has indicated that he is," the Daily Telegraph said.

A three-man Football Association (FA) panel has begun the job of finding a successor to Hodgson, who resigned in the wake of England's humiliating 2-1 defeat by Iceland in the last 16 of the European Championship on Monday.

FA chief executive Martin Glenn has suggested that England might wait to fill the post because it is "such an important decision", meaning it is unlikely they will have a new man permanently in place before their first World Cup qualifier away to Slovakia on Sept. 4.

British media said that opened the way for former England centre-half Southgate.

"The Football Association is prepared to make Gareth Southgate interim England manager for the start of their World Cup qualifying campaign," the BBC reported.

The prospect of a delay has intensified speculation that Frenchman Arsene Wenger could take the post in the long term.

Wenger is the final year of his contract with Arsenal and was reported to be open to the idea of talking to England's football authorities about the job, but the FA may be unwilling to wait a year for the 66-year-old who has always maintained that he would never break a contract.

(Source: Reuters)



Poem of the day

O soul! whose lot it is to bleed with pain,
And daily change of fortune to sustain,
Into this body wherefore didst thou come,
Seeing thou must at last go forth again?

Khayyam

Prayer Times

Noon:13:08 Evening: 20:45 Dawn: 4:06 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 5:52 (tomorrow)

■ Managing Director: Ali Asgari
■ Editor-in-Chief: Hassan Lasjerdi
■ Editorial Dept.: Fax: (+98(21) 88808214 editor@tehrantimes.com
■ Switchboard Operator: Tel: (+98 21) 43051000
■ Advertisements Dept.: Tel: (+98 21) 43051450 ads@tehrantimes.com
■ Public Relations Office: Tel: (+98 21) 88805807
■ Subscription & Distribution Dept.: Tel: (+98 21) 43051603
■ www.eshterak.ir Distributor: Padideh Novin Co. Tel: 88911433
■ Webmaster: webmaster@tehrantimes.com
■ Printed at: Kayhan - ISSN: 1017-94

NEWS

Iranian designers cancel visit to Turkish game lab over Istanbul suicide bombing

T A R T TEHRAN — A team of Iranian designers cancelled their visit to the Bahcesehir University Game Lab on Wednesday due to the recent suicide bombing at Istanbul's main international airport, Iran's National Foundation for Computer Games (NFCG) announced.



The team, which was aboard a plane headed to Ataturk Airport in Istanbul, returned back home safe and sound on Wednesday after the pilot was informed of the attack just before reaching the airport, the foundation said.

The organizers of the Bahcesehir University Game Lab, which was scheduled to be held from June 29 to July 3, have also canceled the event on account of the terrorist attack.

Three suicide bombers opened fire then blew themselves up in Istanbul's main international airport on Tuesday night, killing 36 people and wounding close to 150.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Austrian-Iranian Symphonic Orchestra to perform in Tehran

T A R T TEHRAN — The Austrian-Iranian d e s k Symphonic Orchestra (AISO) under the baton of Maziar Yunesi will perform concerts at Tehran's Rudaki Hall on July 7 and 8.

Pieces from Iranian composers Hossein Alizadeh, Peyman Yazdani and Siavash Lotfi have been selected for the concerts, the Rudaki Hall announced in a press release on Wednesday.

The AISO was established in 2006 at the Austrian Cultural Forum in Tehran. The members are mostly young Iranian musicians and its artistic director is Christian Schulz of the Vienna Mozart Academy.

Actor Johnny Depp's Basquiat art to go under the hammer

LONDON (Reuters) — Eight works by American artist Jean-Michel Basquiat collected by actor Johnny Depp over 25 years go under the hammer this month at auction house Christie's in London.

Almost all the paintings and drawings, which go on sale on June 29 and 30, date from 1981 and illustrate the post-punk New York scene of the time. The auction comes after the sale of the artist's Untitled piece from 1982 that fetched \$57.3 million - a Basquiat record - in May.

"The Basquiat market is really high. He just thought it was the right moment to take advantage of the world record we broke ... last month," Edmond Francey, head of Post War and Contemporary Art at Christie's in London, told Reuters.

One of the paintings in Depp's collection - Pork from 1981 - is estimated to sell for between 2.5-3.5 million pounds (\$3.35-\$4.68 million). The Basquiat works will be offered alongside pieces by Gerhard Richter, Andy Warhol and Lucian Freud as part of Christie's 250th anniversary sale.

Suge Knight sues Chris Brown over 2014 Los Angeles club shooting

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) — Former rap music producer Marion "Suge" Knight sued singer Chris Brown on Monday in connection with a shooting at a West Hollywood nightclub in 2014 that left him with seven gunshot wounds.

The civil lawsuit filed in Los Angeles County Superior Court accused Brown, who was hosting the event with musician Pia Mia Perez at the 1 OAK club on August 23, 2014, and the club's owners of being negligent in providing a safe environment.

The lawsuit accused Brown of being a "known gang associate" and said he had hosted events in the past at which violence erupted so the club should have had stricter security.

"Aware of this documented past and the high likelihood of violence including the possession and or use of firearms by those attending the event the defendants, and each of them, had a duty to provide adequate security," the 10-page lawsuit said.

Representatives for Brown and Perez could not be immediately reached for comment on Monday.

A person who answered the phone for 1 OAK said, "We have no comment on anything."

Keyhan Kalhor's collaboration with fusion musicians comes in "Hawniyaz"

T T CULTURE TEHRAN — Iranian kamancheh virtuoso Keyhan Kalhor's collaboration with three other international fusion musicians has recently been released by the French label Harmonia Mundi.

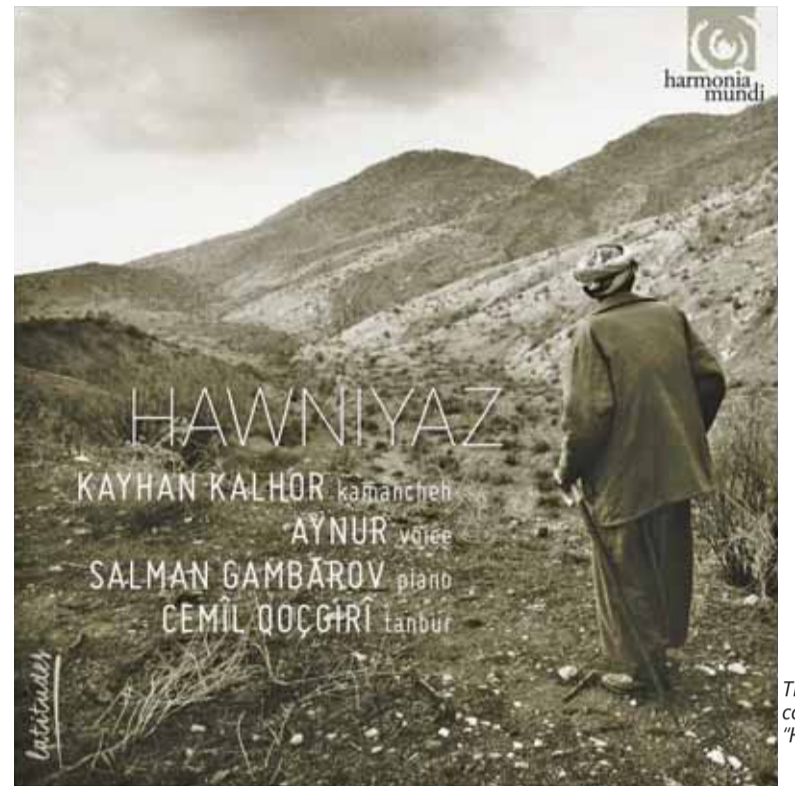
Aynur Dogan, a Turkish vocalist of Kurdish origin, Cemil Qocgiri, a German-born tanbur virtuoso from a Turkish immigrant family, and jazz pianist Salman Huseyn Oglu Gambarov

from Azerbaijan have also collaborated on the album.

Kalhor is renowned for his collaborations with many prominent Iranian and international musicians.

He is a member of the Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble and the Persian-Kurdish folk ensemble Ghazal.

The 56-minut album features the tracks "Delale", "Rewend", "Xidire min", "Malan Barkir-Berivane" and "Ehmedo-Ez reben Im".



The cover of "Hawniyaz"

Iranian filmmakers' project on Turkish revolutionary Börklüce Mustafa completed

T T A R T TEHRAN — Iranian filmmakers Saeid d e s k Nejadi and Alireza Ravadeh have recently completed their project on Börklüce Mustafa, the Turkish revolutionary in the early fifteenth century who advocated common use of property.

His film entitled "It's Raining Lightly" is part of a large special program arranged by Izmir Metropolitan Municipality to mark the six-hundredth anniversary of Börklüce's uprising, Nejadi said in a press release on Wednesday.

The story of the short film is set in the 1960s at a village school, in which students help their teacher with social issues.

The program aimed to turn the spotlight on Börklüce Mustafa and his uprising through films produced by directors from different cultures.

The filmmakers from Turkey, Greece, Macedonia and



A scene from "It's Raining Lightly"

Palestine also made four other short films about the issue.

Izmir Metropolitan Municipality also organized the International Börklüce Mustafa Symposium from June 2 to 5.

Börklüce Mustafa was a follower of Sheikh Bedreddin, an Ottoman theologian, jurist and mystic whose social doctrines of communal ownership of property led to a large-scale popular uprising.

In 1416, Börklüce founded a religious sect advocating community ownership, social and judicial equality and pacifism.

The peasants of Karaburun/Stylarion (Izmir) rose up under the leadership of Börklüce Mustafa, but the Ottoman armies under the command of Royal Prince

Murad crushed the uprising, killed Börklüce Mustafa and later hung Sheikh Bedreddin.

PICTURE OF THE DAY Honaronline/Bahareh Asadi



A couple visits an exhibition displaying sets of installation art by Elham Haj-Dai, Shabnam Qafqazi and Farid Jafari Samarqandi at O Gallery in Tehran on June 26, 2016. The exhibition runs until July 5 at the gallery located at 44 Khosro Alley, off Ostad Nejatollahi St.

Novel on author Jalal Al-e-Ahmad published

T T CULTURE TEHRAN — A novel d e s k entitled "Paternal House" has recently been published about author Jalal Al-e-Ahmad (1923-1969), who was a prominent political critic.

Novelist Shahriar Zamani gives a new image of Jalal and his life story to the younger generation, the Office of Islamic Culture Publications, which is the publisher of the book, said in a press release on Wednesday.

Jalal is the author of the acclaimed essay "Plagued by the West" (also known as "Westoxification"), in which the West is portrayed as the source of all major problems confronting Islamic countries.

He wrote many novels and short stories such as "The School Principal", "By the Pen", "The Setar", "Of Our Suffering" and "Someone Else's Child".

"The Tale of Beehives", "The Cursing of the Land" and "A Stone upon a Grave" are among other works by Al-e Ahmad.

Woody Allen's romantic comedy "Play It Again, Sam" coming to Tehran theater

T T A R T TEHRAN — An d e s k Iranian troupe is scheduled to perform Woody Allen's romantic comedy "Play It Again, Sam" in Tehran.

The play will open at Tehran's Hafez Hall on July 12 and will run for twenty nights.

Davud Bani-Ardalan will direct the play translated into Persian by Mohammadreza Avzar.

Elnaz Habibi, Bahareh Rahnama, Amir-Mehdi Juleh and Pejman Jamshidi are the main members of the cast.

"Play It Again, Sam" is about a recently divorced film magazine writer, Allan Felix, who adores the star of classic American cinema, Humphrey Bogart. He tries to restart his romantic life and consults with the spirit of Bogart who begins to appear



This photo shows members of the Iranian cast for "Play It Again, Sam".

to him. Allen premiered the play on Broadway on February 12, 1969, and it ran for 453 performances before closing on March 14, 1970.

A screen adaptation of the play, directed by Herbert Ross, was released in 1972.

Both the film and the play starred Woody Allen as the leading character.

Elvis Presley guitarist Scotty Moore dies at 84

HOLLYWOOD (Reuters) — Scotty Moore, a pioneering rock guitarist best known for backing Elvis Presley as a member of his original band and into superstardom, died on Tuesday at the age of 84, the Memphis Commercial-Appeal reported.

Moore, who played on Presley's first hit, "That's All Right" ("Mama"), as well as such singles as "Heartbreak Hotel" and "Hound Dog," died in Nashville after several months of poor health, the newspaper said.

"We lost one of the finest people I have ever met today," Matt Ross-Sprang, an engineer at the Sun Studio in Memphis said on Instagram. "The guitarist that changed the world ... especially mine; I hope you don't mind if I

keep stealing your licks."

Moore, who was born in Gadsden, Tennessee, and began playing the guitar at age eight, was recruited for Presley's band by legendary producer Sam Phillips in 1954, according to Rolling Stone magazine.

It was that band, which was dubbed the Blue Moon Boys and also included bassist Bill Black and drummer D.J. Fontana, that backed Presley over much of the next decade on the songs that earned him the title of the King of Rock 'n' Roll.

Services were scheduled for Thursday in Humboldt, Tennessee, for Moore, who was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2000, the Commercial-Appeal reported.