



**'Tough response' awaits abductors of Iranian forces** **2**



**Sanctions originate from U.S. 'blind hostility'** **2**



**Gelareh Nazemi, Iran's refereeing pioneer** **15**



**Iranian films scoop awards at Slemeni festival** **16**

# Enemy portraying false image of Iran



See page 2

## Guardian Council studying CFT at presence of Zarif, Jahangiri, Hemati

**POLITICS TEHRAN** — The Guardian Council has held a meeting regarding the CFT, a legislation to combat financing of terrorism with three figures defending the ratification, council's spokesman Abbasali Kadkhodaei said on Wednesday. Kadkhodaei said the meeting was attended by Vice President Es'haq Jahangiri, Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif

and Governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) Valiollah Seif. Al-Alam reported. "Questions were raised by members of the council, which were answered, and then it was decided to use other experts' comments in future meetings," he added. Earlier this month, Iranian lawmakers voted in favor of the CFT, passing it to the Guardian Council to vet the bill for compliance with the Constitution.

## U.S. 'zero Iranian oil' plan a political bluff: NIOC head

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — Head of National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) called the U.S.'s efforts for reducing Iranian oil exports to zero a "political bluff" saying, Trump had been trying to reduce Iran's oil exports for months. Speaking to Tasnim news agency on Wednesday, Ali Kardor noted that

Trump has done whatever he could to pressure Iran and he knows very well that getting Iran's oil exports to zero was a political bluff. The U.S. has been pressuring Iranian oil customers to cut their imports, encouraging Saudi Arabia, other OPEC states and Russia to pump more oil to meet any shortfall. **→4**

## Israel rains down bombs on Gaza again

Israeli warplanes have carried out fresh aerial assaults on Gaza in yet another act of aggression against the blockaded coastal enclave, killing a Palestinian youth. Gaza residents said Israeli jets targeted three locations throughout the Gaza Strip on Wednesday. The Health Ministry in Gaza identified the victim as Naji al-Za'aneen, 25.

Several Gazans were also wounded in the Israeli strikes, said the Gaza news website. Separately on Wednesday, Israel closed both border crossings with Gaza amid rising tensions. The Israeli army claimed in a statement that its fresh air raids came "in response to the rockets fired from Gaza" onto occupied territories overnight. **→13**



### ARTICLE

**Hanif Ghaffari**  
Political analyst

## Nikki Haley left the UN

Nikki Haley has resigned as the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and will leave her post in January. Since Trump's first weeks in office, the White House has been plagued with high-profile departures of people who are fired or resign, often after being stung by scandal or caught up in some controversy: National Security Adviser Mike Flynn, FBI Director James Comey and Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, to name a few.

Many critics believe that the presence of Nikki Haley besides people such as John Bolton and Mike Pompeo has led to the formation of the Subotage triangle in the U.S. foreign policy, and as a result expanded the costs of Washington's defeat in the international system. Haley stepped aside while her poor and dark performance in the UN Security Council is known to everyone.

The important point to be considered in this regard is the truth behind Nikki Haley's resignation from her post. Haley's unexpected resignation fueled rumors, and accordingly different sources came up with different ideas. The Iuvn Press, for example, writes;

"When Mike Pompeo came to the State Department, she (Haley) was virtually unable to act as an independent unit like the past, and was forced to carry on her activities within the framework of the Department of State and align with Mike Pompeo, and even to say that with the coming of Pompeo, her close relationship with the White House was narrowed over a year and no longer had the freedom of the past."

It continues; "Some speculation suggests that the pressures of Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and National Security Advisor John Bolton, after she failed at the recent General Assembly, led to her resignation. In a resignation speech, Haley did not mention to Mike Pompeo and John Bolton to reinforce this speculation that her resignation was the result of a sharp gap between Donald Trump's cabinet."

But it seems that this hypothesis can't be true. Given the violent and aggressive behavior of Nikki Haley, and her particular attachment to the Zionist regime, the truth is probably something else. **→7**

## U.S. has buried its moral compass in the Trump-Kushner-MBS disaster: Askari

**EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW**  
By Javad Heirannia

**TEHRAN** — Professor Hossein Askari, an expert on Saudi Arabia who also teaches international business at the George Washington University, believes that Jamal Khashoggi was tortured and murdered.

"U.S. intelligence services knew about the danger that Khashoggi faced, maybe not the details, but that MBS was trying to capture or even kill him," Hossein Askari, who served as special advisor to Saudi finance minister, tells the Tehran Times

Following is the text of the interview:  
■ Where are we in the Khashoggi-MBS-Salman-Trump-Kushner disaster gripping the world?

A: We have a pile of lies. Let's face facts. Jamal Khashoggi was tortured and murdered. U.S. intelligence services knew about the danger that Khashoggi faced, maybe not the details, but that MBS was trying to capture or even kill him. Given this fact, the U.S. was complicit in his murder. This is a black mark on America's credentials. The U.S. should have warned Khashoggi. The Saudis have lied and lied with Trump as their agent. He has suggested that 'rogue killers' are to blame! What a lie. Fifteen Saudis come on two private planes to Istanbul; they are welcomed in the embassy; they torture and kill Khashoggi inside the consulate; the Saudi Consul and the staff say nothing; and the fifteen assailants leave Turkey on their two planes. Rogue agents do

not get away with murder in Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia has always been micro-managed from the top—today by MBS. Now the Saudis are caught naked and they will go along with a Trumpian fairy tale. A fairy tale that no one outside of Trump's magical base will believe. For some reason Trump is trying to protect MBS and Saudi Arabia but unfortunately, when you lie, you need a bigger lie to cover the first lie and on it goes. After each lie, they became less believable. This situation will have repercussions in the Muslim World, in the Middle East and in how the United States will be viewed in the world for years to come.  
■ What are the facts behind Trump's support for Saudi Arabia—military sales, oil, regional policies in the Middle East? **→7**

## 'India may be willing to decide in a more strategic manner on oil purchases from Iran'

By Syed Zafar Mehdi

**TEHRAN** — Iran and India have shared age-old historical, commercial and cultural ties. The two countries have inked many bilateral agreements in recent years. Iran has been the main supplier of crude oil to India even at the peak of Western sanctions between 2012 and 2016. Now, with sanctions imposed against Iran by the Trump administration, it remains to be seen which course of action New Delhi takes.

Rezaul Hasan Laskar is a New Delhi-based journalist and foreign editor at Hindustan Times. In an interview to Tehran Times, he talks about India-Iran ties in the light of recent developments, and says it is unlikely that energy hungry countries such as China and India will totally cut off oil purchases from Iran.

Excerpts from the interview:  
■ India and Iran share deep historical, cultural and economic ties. What makes their relationship so enduring and why is Iran important for India?  
A. The deep historic ties in terms of culture, language, food, trade and people-to-people exchanges is something that has underpinned the relationship between the two sides. In more modern times, Iran has been an important source of energy — it has been among the top three suppliers of crude to India in recent years — and cooperation on Chabahar port with an eye on markets in Afghanistan and Central Asia has given impetus to the bilateral relationship.

■ India has been one of the biggest importers of Iranian crude oil. But, lately New Delhi has been under pressure to cut Iranian oil imports. Do you

think it is because of the fear of U.S. sanctions?  
A. If the Indian government's decision to buy the S-400 air defense system from Russia despite threats of U.S. sanctions is any indication, India may be willing to decide in a more strategic manner on oil purchases from Iran.  
As things stand, it is hard to replace a key supplier which provides millions of barrels of crude within a space of weeks and months. It is true that the total number of barrels that India buys from Iran has fallen in recent months but New Delhi could use this to argue with Washington that it has reduced its dependence on Tehran for energy. However, it seems unlikely to me that energy hungry countries such as China and India will totally cut off oil purchases from Iran. **→6**



### REPORT

**Syed Zafar Mehdi**  
Journalist  
from New Delhi

## Journalists in war-ravaged Afghanistan continue to walk a tightrope

As violence against journalists surges in Afghanistan and government faces the heat for failing to safeguard their rights, President Ashraf Ghani says his government is not at odds with the media and that government and the media should work together and be committed to implementing the law.

President Ghani made the remarks on Tuesday in Kabul at the re-launch of the Journalists Support Fund in Kabul — a fund that will help members of the Afghan media fraternity including families of those killed while covering war. He announced the donation of five million Afs from his personal end to the fund and the Ministry of Finance pledged to donate 10 million Afs.

He said government and the media needs to work together, because they have "shared goals" -- which is the strengthening of peoples' rights. He urged media companies to introduce insurance policies for journalists. "Now is the time to take an active part in establishing insurance (policies) for journalists. It is not acceptable that media steps on the law. When you do not pay tax, it is another issue, but when the rights of journalists are not respected, the law should be implemented against media owners," said Ghani.

Journalists in the war-ravaged country continue to walk a tightrope, reporting daily incidents of violence under dangerous and life-threatening conditions. Over the years, many journalists have suffered casualties in the war that has now stretched into its 18th year. But, despite ominous threats and heavy odds, they have upheld the highest ideals of journalism under extremely trying conditions.

Security is the biggest challenge for journalists who have to report from highly volatile areas. They face threats from armed rebels, government officials, power lords and criminals. With 14 journalists and two media workers killed since January, 2018 has been the deadliest year for the Afghan media since 2001, when the U.S.-led alliance invaded Afghanistan. **→6**



© Tehran Times/Asghar Khanmeh

## 1st national conference on importance of family opens in Tehran

**TEHRAN** — The first national conference on importance of family kicked off in Tehran on Wednesday with representatives of 700 non-governmental groups in Attendance. Hojjatoleslam Sheikh Mohammad Qomi, the chief of the Islamic Ideology Dissemination Organization, also attended the event. According to Mehr news agency the conference is aiming to increase knowledge exchange among NGOs active in such fields in order to investigate and assess vulnerabilities in families. Hassan Mousavi Chelak, head of Iran's Association of Social Workers, also said on Tuesday that the event opens up an ample opportunity to exchange views on the status of families in the country from various aspects. "In one of the panels we will assess the responsible organizations accomplishment as well as failures in managing family affairs," he concluded.













# Pars Diplomatic Real Estate

## Apartment

Apt in Elahieh  
400 sq.m, 5 Bdrs., fully furn  
2 kitchens, servant  
swimming pool, parking spot  
Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

New Apt in Doulat  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 100 sq.m, 2 Bdrs.  
fully furn, parking spot, \$1200  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Apt in Darous  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 240 sq.m, 3 Bdrs.  
unfurn, equipped kitchen  
renovated, storage  
parking spot  
Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

Apt in Zafaranih  
14<sup>th</sup> floor, 146 sq.m, 3 Bdrs.  
furn & unfurn  
equipped kitchen, laundry  
3 parking spots with security  
shopping center and restaurants  
in ground floor play ground,  
panoramic view CCTV camera  
good access  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Apt in Aghdasieh  
187 sq.m, 3 Bdrs., furn  
Jacuzzi, parking spot, storage  
\$2500  
Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

Duplex Penthouse in Jordan  
600 sq.m, fully furn, equipped  
kitchen, modern balcony, spj 3  
parking spots, \$6000  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

## Villa

Duplex Villa in  
Shariti-Mirdamad  
290 sq.m, 4 Bdrs., unfurn balcony  
renovated, fire place  
Storage, parking spot  
Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

Villa in Aqdasieh  
duplex, 700 sq.m built up  
5 Bdrs., nice garden, outdoor  
pool, parking spot, completely  
renovated, servant quarter  
\$13000  
Suitable for  
Residency or Embassy  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Duplex Villa in Qeytarieh  
1250 sq.m land, 950 sq.m  
5 Bdrs., indoor swimming pool 2  
balconies, semi furn, green garden  
3 sides entrances  
parking spot  
Price Negotiable  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Villa in Shahrak Qarb  
duplex, 300 sq.m, 4 Bdrs.  
semi furnished/unfurnished  
green yard, parking spot  
storage, large terrace  
backyard with good privacy  
outdoor swimming pool  
Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

Duplex Villa in Jordan  
1200 sq.m built up, 3700 sq.m  
land, 6 Bdrs., servant quarter  
2-side entrances  
Mr.Shayan: 09128440156



Holder of

ISO 9001:2008

ISO 10004:2012

ISO 10002:2014

From Oxford Cert Universal

**Best Consultation  
Best Services, Best Result**

Intl. Department Manager "Tina 09128103205"

Tel: 22662452-8, Fax: 22667173

**Hot Line: 28141**

info@parsdiplomatic.com

www.parsdiplomatic.com

## Building & Office

Nice Office in Mirdamad  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 90 sq.m, 1 Bdr.  
Storage, parking spot  
\$700

Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

Whole Building in Kamranieh  
10 unit Apt, 60 Bdrs., each Apt  
around 210 sq.m, with 3 Bdrs.  
lobby, 37 parking spots, spj, too  
many storage rooms, completely  
renovated, good access to highway

Ready for Renting to foreign  
Companies & Residency  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Whole Building in Jordan  
3 floors, 900 sq.m totally  
outdoor pool, parking spot, yard  
\$11000

Suitable for  
Residency & Embassy  
Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

Whole Building in Mahmoodieh  
5 floors, each floor one apt each  
apt 170 sq.m with 3 Bdrs.  
unfurn, spj, 8 parking spots  
storage, elevator  
Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

Whole Building in Zafaranih  
19 apt & each apt 200 sq.m with  
3 Bdrs., one penthouse with 5  
rooms, parking spot, 4900 sq.m  
built up, 6900 sq.m land, semi furn

Suitable for  
Residency & Embassy  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

## Ideal Offers

Apt in Pasdaran  
5<sup>th</sup> floor, 76 sq.m, 2 Bdrs  
fully furn, elevator  
parking spot  
\$800

Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

Apt in Fereshteh  
almost new, 89 sq.m, 2 Bdrs.  
fully furn, parking spot  
nice area  
\$1400

Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

Apt in Niavaran  
250 sq.m, 3 Bdrs., balcony  
furn & unfurn  
nice view, spj, parking spot  
Mr.Shayan: 09128440156

Apt in Velenjak  
brand-new flat in a garden  
85 sq.m, tower, 1 Bdr.  
fully furn with sauna, pool &  
Jacuzzi, parking spots, storage  
\$3000  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Office in Valiasr  
from 250 sq.m up to 7000 sq.m  
commercial office, ready for  
renting to foreign companies  
lobby, lots parking spots  
good access to highway  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Suite in Elahieh  
40 sq.m, good access  
\$1500  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

مالکین محترم

ملک های فروش و اجاره ای خود را (آپارتمان،  
ویلا، مستغلات، اداری و تجاری) به ما بسپارید.

بهترین مشاوره، برترین سرویس، بالاترین رضایت

مالکین محترم املاک مبله و غیرمبله، مسکونی، اداری و تجاری، ویلا و مستغلات  
شما را جهت اجاره به سفارتخانه ها و شرکت های خارجی نیازمندیم.

مالکین محترم

ویلاهای شما را جهت اجاره به منزل سفیر و مدیران  
شرکت های بین المللی در مناطق شمالی تهران  
نیازمندیم.

**SHANON**  
Shanon\_zt@yahoo.com  
+989121907875  
Tel: 88745542

<b>Velenjak (\$2400)</b> 250sq.m, 3bdrs, S/p S, J, balcony, & F.F	<b>Ajoudanieh (\$2000)</b> 200sq.m, 3bdrs fireplace, pkg, F.F	<b>Darrous (\$6000)</b> 1200sq.m, 5bdrs yard, S/p, & F.F
<b>Fereshteh (\$2800)</b> 300sq.m, 4bdrs, S/p Fully Furn	<b>Dibaji (\$1700)</b> 120sq.m, 2bdrs S/p, S, J, & F.F	<b>Jordan office</b> 200sq.m (\$7000) 2bdrs, pkgs

**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) 8888865

**TEHRAN**  
INTERNATIONAL DAILY  
**TIMES**  
Explore a Brand New Market  
in Iran for Goods & Services  
www.tehrantimes.com

**For rent**  
2 bed room fully  
furnished Apt. 8th  
floor in residential  
complex, 189 sq.m in  
Vanak Street  
Tel:  
**09121197363**

TEHRAN TIMES

Iran's Leading  
International Daily  
Advertising Dept



Tel:

021-430 51 450

## Number one Real Estate in Iran

www.DELTA HOME.ir

**HOME**  
Real Estate

TEL: 88 88 88 65 FAX: 88 88 93 35

Fereshteh  
120sqm, 2 bdrs, FF, SP, parking  
\$1600 USD  
Davood: (+98) 9123488513

Gandi  
140 sqm, 2 bdrs, FF, parking  
\$ 850 USD  
Davood: (+98) 9123488513

Shahrak-e-Gharb  
150sqm, 2 bdrs, nicely FF, best view  
Full facilities, Lobby, balcony  
\$ 1900 USD  
Davood: (+98) 9123488513

Shariati - Elahieh  
270 Sqm, 3 Master bdrs, brand new  
(Roof garden, gym, 2 SP(indoor & on roof top  
Green View, high security  
\$ 4500 USD  
Adrian: (+98) 921 71 76 740

Elahieh, green villa  
High security & private  
3500 Sqm, 5 bdrs, SP, Jacuzzi  
Wide & green garden  
\$ 25000 USD  
Adrian: (+98) 921 71 76 740

Zaferanieh  
190 Sqm, 3 bdrs, 2.5 baths, brand new  
Modern furniture, balcony  
\$ 3200 USD  
Adrian: (+98) 921 71 76 740

Jordan, Office  
1000sqm, flat, 10 parking space  
Lobby, high security, Good view to  
South and North of Tehran 1sqm=  
\$ 40 USD  
Linda: (+98) 9351721171

Farmaniyeh, Privet Villa  
1500sqm, 8 bdrs, 3 floors, SPJ, sauna,  
Garden  
\$ 15000 USD  
Linda: (+98) 9351721171

Elahiyeh  
205sqm, 3 bdrs, 4th floor, SPJ, sauna  
Gym, coffee shop, roof garden, Lobby  
\$ 5000 USD  
Linda: (+98) 9351721171

Farmanieh, villa  
900sqm, 2500 sqm yard, 5 bdrs  
\$ 8000 USD  
Kaveh: (+98) 9128944169

Shahrak-e-Gharb, Villa  
,sqm, 5bdrs, sauna, SPJ 1400  
\$ 8000 USD  
Kaveh: (+98) 9128944169

Jordan, Office  
1100sqm, Flat  
\$ 10000 USD  
Kaveh: (+98) 9128944169

Evin  
70sqm, 1 bdr, 2 baths, brand new  
Gym, Luxurious lobby, roof garden.  
\$ 1000 USD  
Farshid: (+98) 9125540877

Must to see  
Elahiyeh  
290sqm, 3 bdrs, 3 baths, gym, brand  
new, green view  
Furn or unfurn  
Farshid: (+98) 9125540877

Guest House  
1- Jordan, 5 fl, 5 Units, 14 bdrs, FF  
2- Gandi, 5 fl, 19 Units, 38 bdrs, FF  
3- Jordan, 5 FL, 20 Units, 55 bdrs, FF  
Farshid: (+98) 9125540877

Elahiyeh  
260sqm, 3 bdrs, SPJ  
\$ 4000 USD  
Hojati: (+98) 9309701169

Zaferaniyeh  
180sqm, 3 bdrs, SPJ  
\$ 3000 USD  
Hojati: (+98) 9309701169

Shahrak-e-Gharb, Villa  
600sqm, 5bdrs, SPJ  
\$ 10000 USD  
Hojati: (+98) 9309701169



# Tuberculosis in Iran 10 times below global prevalence

**HEALTH** **TEHRAN** — The incidence of tuberculosis (TB) in Iran is 14 cases per 100,000 population which is more than 10 times below global rate, said head of the department for prevention of leprosy and TB at the Ministry of Health.

Tuberculosis is caused by bacteria (*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*) that most often affect the lungs. Tuberculosis is curable and preventable. According to the figures revealed by World Health Organization (WHO) in 2017, 10 million people fell ill with TB equivalent to 131 cases per 100,000 population worldwide.

Moreover, surveys indicate that over the past 50 years TB incidence has fallen 13 times, ISNA quoted Mahshid Nasehi as saying on Tuesday.

This is while Iran is adjacent to two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan, with TB incidence of 189 and 267 cases per 100,000 population, Nasehi highlighted.

Last [Iranian calendar] year (March 2017-March 2018), Nasehi said, some 8,819 individuals were diagnosed with TB of whom 46 percent were women and 14 percent were foreign nationals— mostly Afghan nationals.

Additionally, TB is highly prevalent among people aging above 65 in Iran, which again signifies the fact that the disease is very well-controlled in the country, she suggested.

Province of Golestan, northern Iran, and southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan, rank highest with peak TB incidence rate nationwide, she added.

TB is a leading killer of HIV-positive people. Unfortunately being infected with HIV virus will increase the chances of developing TB, Nasehi said, stating that, last year 3.3% of the patient diagnosed with TB were also suffering from HIV.

According to WHO risk of developing TB is estimated to be between 16-27 times greater in people living with HIV than among those without HIV infection as their immune system is weak. In 2015, there were an estimated 10.4 million cases of tuberculosis disease globally, including 1.2 million [11%] among people living with HIV. Almost 60% of tuberculosis cases among people living with HIV were not diagnosed or treated, resulting in 390,000 tuberculosis-related deaths among people living with HIV.

Nasehi also explained that the Ministry of Health is also taking routine measures to control and prevent the disease.

Conducting screening tests among different groups, particularly those at risk of developing the disease such as prisoners, people who received organs, people with HIV, etc., as well as giving people free of charge treatment and BCG vaccine at birth are of the measures taken by the Ministry, she said.

Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine is a vaccine primarily used against TB. In countries where tuberculosis or leprosy is common, one dose is recommended in healthy babies as close to the time of birth as possible.

Despite the preventive programs carried out in the country there are still cases of TB in Iran, she regretted, saying that, TB is treatable and after receiving 6 months of treatment the patient can go back to their normal life, she concluded.

## WHO key facts about TB

TB is one of the top 10 causes of death globally. In 2017, 10 million people came down with TB, and 1.6 million died from the disease (including 0.3 million among people with HIV). In the same year 1 million children became ill with TB and 230,000 children died of TB (including children with HIV associated TB).

In 2017, 87% of new TB cases occurred in the 30 high TB burden countries. Eight countries accounted for two thirds of the new TB cases: India, China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Pakistan, Nigeria, Bangladesh and South Africa.

Multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) remains a public health crisis and a health security threat. WHO estimates that there were 558,000 new cases with resistance to rifampicin — the most effective first-line drug, of which — 82% had MDR-TB.

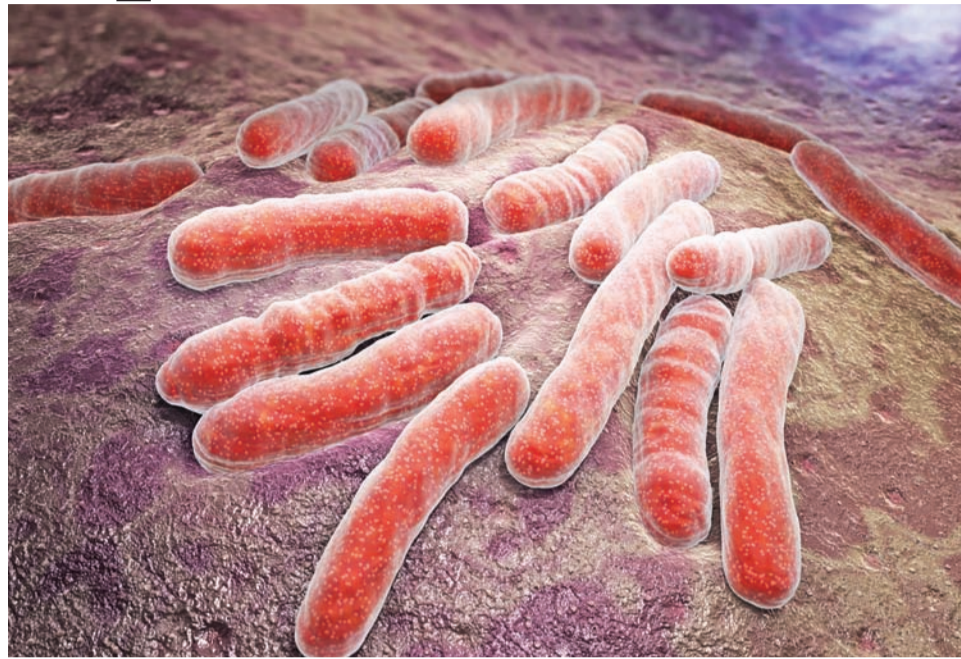
Worldwide TB incidence is falling at about 2% per annum which needs to increase to 4-5% yearly decline to achieve the 2020 milestones of the End TB Strategy.

It is estimated that 54 million lives were saved through TB diagnosis and treatment between 2000 and 2017. Ending the TB epidemic by 2030 is among the health targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.

## Latent TB and active TB

TB is spread from person to person through the air. When people with lung TB cough, sneeze or spit, they propel the TB germs into the air. A person needs to inhale only a few of these germs to become infected.

Although your body may harbor the bacteria



**TB is a leading killer of HIV-positive people. Unfortunately being infected with HIV virus will increase the chances of developing TB and last year 3.3% of the patient diagnosed with TB in Iran were also suffering from HIV.**

that cause tuberculosis, your immune system usually can prevent you from becoming sick. For this reason, doctors make a distinction between latent TB and active TB.

In case of latent TB you have a TB infection, but the bacteria remain in your body in an inactive state and cause no symptoms. Latent TB, also called inactive TB or TB infection, isn't contagious. It can turn into active TB, so treatment is important for the person with latent TB and to help control the spread of TB. About one-quarter of the world's population has latent TB.

Active TB makes you sick and can spread to others. It can occur in the first few weeks after infection with the TB bacteria, or it might occur years later.

## Those who are at risk

People infected with HIV as well as others who have conditions which compromise their immune system are most likely to develop TB.

Tobacco use greatly increases the risk of TB disease and death. 7.9% of TB cases worldwide are attributable to smoking.

## Symptoms and treatment

Common symptoms of active lung TB are cough with sputum and blood at times, chest pains, weakness, weight loss, fever and night sweats.

Active, drug-susceptible TB disease is treated with a standard 6 month course of 4 antimicrobial drugs that are provided with information, supervision and support to the patient by a health worker or trained volunteer. Without such sup-

port, treatment adherence can be difficult and the disease can spread. The vast majority of TB cases can be cured when medicines are provided and taken properly.

Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) is a form of TB caused by bacteria that do not respond to isoniazid and rifampicin, the 2 most powerful, first-line anti-TB drugs. MDR-TB is treatable and curable by using second-line drugs. However, second-line treatment options are limited and require extensive chemotherapy (up to 2 years of treatment) with medicines that are expensive and toxic.

In some cases, more severe drug resistance can develop. Extensively drug-resistant TB (XDR-TB) is a more serious form of MDR-TB caused by bacteria that do not respond to the most effective second-line anti-TB drugs, often leaving patients without any further treatment options.

WHO estimates that there were 558,000 new cases with resistance to rifampicin — the most effective first-line drug — of which 82% had MDR-TB. The MDR-TB burden largely falls on 3 countries — India, China and the Russian Federation — which together account for nearly half of the global cases.

Worldwide, only 55% of MDR-TB patients are currently successfully treated.

## Ending TB

Ending the TB epidemic by 2030 is among the health targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. WHO has gone one step further and set a 2035 target of 95% reduction in deaths and a 90% decline in TB incidence — similar to current levels in low TB incidence countries today.

The Strategy outlines three strategic pillars that need to be put in place to effectively end the epidemic:

Pillar 1: integrated patient-centered care and prevention

Pillar 2: bold policies and supportive systems

Pillar 3: intensified research and innovation

The success of the Strategy will depend on countries respecting the following 4 key principles as they implement the interventions outlined in each pillar: government stewardship and accountability, with monitoring and evaluation, strong coalition with civil society organizations and communities, protection and promotion of human rights, ethics and equity, and adaptation of the strategy and targets at country level, with global collaboration.

## TASHRIFAT INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE AGENCY

**SATISFACTION  
GUARANTEED**

### APARTMENT

Jordan  
4 Bdrs,fully  
furn,260sq.m,spj,\$3000

Jordan  
3Bdrs,fully furn,2nd fl.,250  
sq.m,spj.,\$2500

Darous  
2Bdrs,fully furn,3rd fl.,brand  
new,100 sqm,lobby  
€1600

Zaferaniyeh-Yekta,  
Apartment-villa  
French-style  
3Bdrs,fully furn 360 sq.m.sp,  
€5000

Valiasre-Bagheferdos  
3 Bdrs,fully furn,brand  
new,5th fl., 150 sq.m ,indoor  
spj,\$1900

Mirdamad-Naft  
3 Bdrs,fully furn,5th fl.,200  
sq.m, \$ 2000  
Close to Paladium Shopping  
center  
3Bdrs,180 sq.m,fully  
furn,lobby,sp,garden,\$2000

### VILLA

Elahiye  
Triplex-800 sq.m built up,1000  
sq.m land,Semi-furn,7  
Bdrs,spj,\$9000

Zaferaniyeh  
Duplex, 4 Bdrs,unfurn,350  
sq.m,spj,\$8000

Niavaran  
2000 sq.m land,green  
garden,500 sq.m built up  
area,indoor spj,4Bdrs,fully  
furn,triplex,\$15000

Darous  
1000 sq.m land,400 sq.m built  
up area, flat.4 Bdrs,spj.\$7000

Jordan  
850 sq.m land,500 sq.m  
built up,5 Bdrs,spj,furn/  
unfurn,duplex,\$7000



**Mr. Shahin**  
Nobody does it better

**09121081212**

Since: 1987

مالکین محترم املاک مسکونی و اداری شما را  
جهت اجاره به خارجی نیازمندیم

**Tel: 22723121**

[tehranfirstchoice@gmail.com](mailto:tehranfirstchoice@gmail.com)

**We give service with a  
difference... We care!**  
✓ Long & Short term rentals  
✓ Purchase Properties

**FURNISHED - UNFURNISHED  
Villa-Apartment-Office-  
Building**

### OFFICE

From 50 to 8000 sq.m available  
With all facilities in different  
areas

Jordan  
100 sq.m,3  
rooms,parking,brand new  
3rd fl.,\$1700

Valiasre  
150 sq.m brand new, all  
facilities,5th fl.,\$2300

Vozara  
250 sq.m,all facilities  
8th fl.,\$4000

Mirdamad-Naft  
120 sq.m,6th fl., \$1700

vanak  
shariati  
pasdaran  
shahrak gharb  
saadatabad  
4000-3000-5000-4000-1000  
sq.m,full,reasonable price

### FOR: EMBASSY/COMPANY

Jordan,  
4-storey building,1000 sq.m,  
all facilities,\$10000

Zaferaniyeh  
Triplex villa,800 sq.m,built  
up,1000 sq.m land,12  
rooms,\$8500

Niavaran  
Triplex villa,2000 sq.m  
land,600 sq.m built up ,spj,all  
facilities,\$15000

Darous  
Duplex villa,600 sq.m built  
up,1000 sq.m land ,all  
facilities,\$8000

Other areas:  
Farmaniye  
Aghdasiyeh  
Shahrak Gharb  
Shariati-Pasdaran  
Valiasre  
Tajrish  
Jordan  
Vanak  
Arjantin  
Zafar...  
nice cases ready to move in.

## Iran ends visa-free travel for Serbians



**TOURISM** TEHRAN — Iran has scrapped visa-free entry for Serbian nationals, days after the Balkan country reintroduced visas for Iranians, CHTN reported on Thursday. The practice will be mutually implemented followed by Serbia's recent suspension of visa waiver for Iranian citizens, the Foreign Ministry's passport office announced in a statement. On October 10, Serbia announced it would terminate visa-free entries for Iranians out of concerns that some may "abuse the system" as an avenue to enter other European states. In August 2017, Serbia abolished visas for Iranians in a move to boost tourism, improve growth and reach out to non-European markets. Serbia received over 15,000 Iranian nationals since the visa-waiver program came into effect.

## Thai Sept. tourist arrivals up 2.13% y/y



**BANGKOK (Reuters)** — Thailand saw a 2.13 percent increase in tourist arrivals in September from a year earlier, the country's tourism ministry said on Tuesday, while the number of Chinese visitors declined for three consecutive months. There were 2.66 million foreign tourists in September, the ministry said, which helped generate 140 billion baht (\$4.28 billion). Tourists from East Asia accounted for about 73 percent of all arrivals. However, the number of Chinese tourists in September dropped by almost 15 percent from a year earlier. The number has been declining since a boat accident in July, which killed 47 Chinese visitors. The ministry said tourists from China might be 669,000 fewer than initially expected for July-December. Tourism receipts account for about 12 percent of Southeast Asia's second-largest economy, making it one of the most important drivers of Thailand's growth. (\$1 = 32.6800 baht)

# Tehran, Tokyo draw co-op roadmap for female crafters

**HERITAGE** TEHRAN — Iran's Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization and Japan's Sasakawa Peace Foundation have drafted a roadmap for conducting surveys to assist Iranian craftswomen, CHTN reported. CHHTO deputy director Pouya Mahmoudian said on Tuesday that her organization has held talks with the Foundation's managers for the Middle East and Islam Program Department on ways to enhance collaboration in the cultural, scientific and educational arenas. "Since females constitute over 75 percent of Iranian craftspeople, and we believe our artists are peace ambassadors, so that it was decided that our first joint project entitled 'Women and Handicrafts' to come into focus on Iranian women next year." The project will be in an exploratory frame and its outcomes will be announced specifically, and it would be followed by several educational and arts workshops. Traditional ceramics, pottery vessels, hand-woven cloths as well as personal ornamentations with precious and semi-precious gemstones are among Iranian exports to Iraq, Afghanistan and Germany, the U.S., the UK and other countries. As a private foundation, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation conducts research activities, policy recommendations, and international collaboration aimed at the formation of a new governance system of human society that is more sustainable for environment, oceans, and human welfare.



## Half a million visas issued for Arbaeen pilgrims



**TOURISM** TEHRAN — Over 500,000 visas have so far been issued for Iranian pilgrims who are to make their ways to the holy Iraqi cities of Najaf and Karbala. A total of 820,000 people have applied for the visas, of whom 500,000 have been granted the permits till the present, ISNA reported on Tuesday. Arbaeen pilgrimage, aka Arbaeen trek, is a characteristic spiritual exercise in which hundreds of thousands of Shia

and Sunni Muslims, even Christians and Zoroastrians, etc. from various nationalities participate. The long treks will be destined to Karbala, where Imam Hussain (AS), the grandson of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), is laid to rest. The event marks an end to the 40-day mourning period following martyrdom of the Imam and his loyal companions at the Battle of Karbala on Muharram 10 in the year 61 AH (680 CE).

## Over 1,400 sites in Sistan-Baluchestan on national heritage list



**HERITAGE** TEHRAN — Over 1,400 historical and archaeological sites, scattered across Iran's southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan, have been inscribed on the National Heritage List, provincial tourism chief has said. So far some 3,000 archaeological sites have been identified across the province through excavations and surveys conducted by the Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization, ISNA quoted Alireza Jalalzaie as saying on Wednesday.

Earlier this month, Jalalzaie announced that the number of international travelers to the province grew by 23 percent during the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (started March 21) compared to the same period last year. Sistan-Baluchestan is home to distinctive archaeological sites and natural attractions, including two UNESCO World Heritage sites, namely Shahr-e-Soukhteh (Burnt City) and the Lut Desert, which is shared between it and Kerman Province.

# Iran: Meeting the nomads of Babak Castle

A hike to Babak Castle, in northwest Iran, proves fascinating, although the highlight is an encounter with a nomadic family. "It's hard living this way, but I have to because of my husband," explains Leila, the mother of a nomadic family here in Farsi. I've stumbled across her following my blister-inducing yet rewarding hike up to Babak Castle. Thrusting up for 7,545ft through billowing mist in Kaleybar, northwest Iran, this Sasanid structure is a monument to Babak Khorramdin, a Persian leader who fought off the Arab invaders until 839 and is seen as a revolutionary leader and hero. I've been fighting too, battling the burning in my legs and the urge to gasp like a beached fish. Leila is a beacon of light and succor after my sweaty hike. My cousin, Hoda, had recommended Babak Castle, and after a three-hour drive from Tabriz, I rolled out of a dust-coated 4x4 car and started on the endless slope that sprawled before me. Grit rolled down the steep incline with my every lurch and the harsh ground tripped up the unwary. A rugged pathway hugged the cliff-top, protecting it, while mountains loomed all around us. I gripped onto jagged rocks for support, as I reached Babak Castle. Lines of murky grey and dirty brown bricks made up tall rectangular structures with narrow openings once used



for firing arrows at enemies. Leila's home, her tent, sits close to the crumbly trail leading to Babak Castle. As I staggered past her, we exchanged smiles and Leila beckoned me over — her face etched with wrinkles — and made an 'eating soup' gesture. She thrust open the sagging blanket that's her front door and ushered me inside. Leila's husband was out for the day. He originates from a family of nomads and continues this way of life to support his own. He's searching for new herds of goats; he's already brought his existing herd to graze here among

the cool pastures and chill air of the mountains. I breathe in deeply, smelling the earthy odor of the poppies — the flower of love according to Persian literature. I can see why nomads choose this climate and setting for summer. "This is Zeinab," Leila gestures towards her daughter, who smiles at me, revealing gaps in her teeth. Zeinab is only eight years old, but she wears an immaculately positioned dainty floral headscarf, just like her mother. Their home is constructed from long flowing pieces of ripped-up clothes and blankets, which

drape from wooden sticks stuck in the ground. Everything in the tent is joined together like a patchwork quilt. A bit of crimson here, a spot of canary yellow there, with a flash of fiery orange. A bulky generator stands in the entrance of the tent, while metal pots hang from torn bits of cloth wrapped around the sticks. A single light bulb droops into the center. This life is only temporary. After summer, the family will move closer towards the city and Zeinab will go back to school. "Let's eat ash-e doogh (yoghurt soup)!" Leila enthuses. Cross-legged, I crack paper-thin bread, shards crumbling over the carpeted floor. Leila dishes up the soup with her metal ladle. The milky, slightly yellow, soup streams into my white plastic bowl with dashes of green and bursts of white. "This is all homemade, including the doogh." Leila is referring to the soup's main ingredient, a fizzy, minty yoghurt drink. The soup is warm and sour, leaving light bubbles in my mouth. It's weighed down by soaked spinach and soft rice. The pungent garlic sizzles on my tongue. I start to say my goodbyes, but am blocked by the family's animals — chickens, goats and a large, friendly yapping dog. I meander through them, trailing a dusty cloud behind me. There's a flash of a welcome breeze and Leila's tent flaps in the wind as if it's waving farewell. (Source: National Geographic Traveler)

## ROUND THE GLOBE

### Mountain Railways of India

The Mountain Railway of India consists of three railways: the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway located in the foothills of the Himalayas in West Bengal (Northeast India) having an area of 5.34 ha., the Nilgiri Mountain Railways located in the Nilgiri Hills of Tamil Nadu (South India) having an area of 4.59 ha. and the Kalka Shimla Railway located in the Himalayan foothills of Himachal Pradesh (Northwest India) having an area of 79.06 ha. All three railways are still fully functional and operational.

The Mountain Railways of India are outstanding examples of hill railways. Opened between 1881 and 1908 they applied bold and ingenious engineering solutions to the problem of establishing an effective rail link across a mountainous terrain of great beauty.



They are still fully operational as living examples of the engineering enterprise of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway consists of 88.48 kilometers of 2 feet (0.610 meter) gauge track that connects New Jalpaiguri with Darjeeling, passing through Ghoom at an altitude of 2258 meters. The innovative design includes six zigzag reverses and three loops with a ruling gradient of 1:31. The construction of the Nilgiri Mountain Railway, a 45.88 kilometer long meter-gauge single-track railway was first proposed in 1854, but due to the difficulty of the mountainous location the work only started in 1891 and was completed in 1908. This railway, scaling an elevation of 326 meters to 2,203 meters, represented the latest technology of the time and uses unique rack and pinion traction arrangement to negotiate steep gradient. (Source: UNESCO)

## Ancient 'grand lady' skeleton uncovered in Chinese tomb

Archaeologists in China have uncovered the tomb of a 900-year-old preserved skeleton nicknamed the "Grand Lady." The remains of the body were uncovered in a water-filled coffin within a tomb at Tiegua Village in China. The skeleton was buried with various other artifacts, such as a model house with miniature furniture inside and a silver pendant decorated with dragons. A sign found on the coffin said the tomb belonged to the "Grand Lady" who lived in "Ankang Commandery." While her actual name was difficult to read on the sign, the archaeologists believe it could be née Jian. LiveScience reports. "The skeleton [of the Grand Lady] is essentially preserved, complete with fingernails and hair," the team wrote in the

Chinese Cultural Relics journal. One indication of the Grand Lady's age came from the 200 bronze coins located within her coffin produced between roughly 713 CE and 1100. The archaeologists said she probably died around A.D. 1100. This clue made sense since that time period marked the Song dynasty when culture and art prospered in the region. The Grand Lady had ornate style as she was found wearing silver and gold hairpins on her head, silver bracelets on her arms, and a string of 83 bronzed coins on her abdomen. Beneath her right hand were the remains of two zongzi or what was left of two rice dumplings. She was also buried with other grave goods and many small replicas of real-life objects. Within her tomb, there

were 10 female figures wearing masks and playing musical instruments. Portraits were in her coffin which were likely of the Grand Lady wearing different clothes and accessories. The discovery is fascinating because many artifacts were still housed within the tomb. Oftentimes, tombs are looted by robbers such as the one found next to the Gray Lady that was likely one of her family members, according to the archaeologists. Both tombs were unearthed between June and September 2014 by an archaeological team from the Nanling County Cultural Relics Administration and Anhui Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology. (Source: Fox News)











