

Hezbollah chief warns war on Iran will 'burn entire region' **2**

Iran will surely overcome U.S. economic blockade **3**

Iran sweep past China at 2019 Volleyball National League **15**

Council founded to supervise Iran's presence at intl. film events **16**

The costly Saudi defeat in Mecca

Washington concerned about Iran's power: Zarif

TEHRAN — Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif believes that the U.S. has exerted greatest pressure on Tehran because of Iran's power in the West Asia region.

"Today, Iran has the utmost power in the region. We are not in a difficult situation and the U.S. exerts pressure against Iran because it is concerned about Iran's power in the region," he told Al-Alam News Network in an interview aired on Friday.

Zarif said Iran draws its power from people.

"We have not reached this power through imposition of force on people. We have reached this power through right choice. This choice has always been the people. We have chosen the people and countered terrorism and extremism. So, we have power," he pointed out. He went on to say that Iran has an "open" attitude towards the Persian Gulf Arab states. **→2**



See page 13

Iran, Tajikistan push for close ties in line with mutual interests

TEHRAN — Tajikistan's Foreign Minister, Sirodjidin Mukhriddin, held separate talks on Saturday with President Hassan Rouhani and his Iranian counterpart Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif.

Rouhani said, "We have to try hard to develop Tehran-Dushanbe relations in different fields to the benefit of both nations' interests."

Noting that the two countries enjoy common cultural, historical, and linguistic features, Rouhani said, "The Islamic

Republic of Iran has always favored stability, full security and development of Tajikistan."

The president added, "We are ready to provide Tajikistan with more technical-engineering services and transfer experiences in implementing projects."

According to the president's official website, Rouhani said, "It is an honor for Iranian companies and private sector to provide our friendly countries with the best of activities and services." **→2**

Two European diplomats arrested at sinful party in Tehran

TEHRAN — Two European diplomats were arrested at a mixed-gender party in Tehran in the early hours of Friday and were released after identification.

According to Tasnim news agency, a British and a Dutch diplomat were

arrested in a sinful mixed-gender party and were handed to police which later released them.

The party was held in Tehran's Velenjak neighborhood and was attended by a large number of people, Tasnim added.

ARTICLE
Yusuf Abdullah
Islamic scholar from Nigeria

The international Quds Day

In the name of Allah who states "Glory be to Him Who made His servant to go on a night from the Sacred Mosque to the remote mosque of which We have blessed the precincts, so that We may show to him some of our signs; surely He is the Hearing, the Seeing" Q17:1

Peace and blessings of Allah be upon His chosen servant, our master Muhammad and his purified progeny.

While giving an open invitation to Muslims and the world on August 7th, 1979 to observe the day, Imam Khomeini of blessed memory said "I invite Muslims all over the globe to consecrate the last Friday of the holy month of Ramadan, which is a day of fate and which could also become the day on which the fate of Palestinian people might be determined as Quds day and to proclaim the legitimate right of the Muslim people of Palestine" The day expresses solidarity and global support to Palestinians, and indeed all other oppressed.

Observed through processions, conferences and rallies by nations, human rights activists and civil liberties organizations, this insightful declaration of the Imam evidently received borderless acceptance.

Established after World War II, Israel was promulgated and recognized by Western powers in 1948. Zionism as a movement developed in late 1800's which united Jews and saw the forceful creation of the illegal state in place of Palestine, then occupied by only 5% Jewish inhabitants. To quote from Zariani Abdul Rahman's book - HITLER AND THE WANDERING JEW, 1994. Just a few days ago, the diplomacy of the dignified and handsome Semitic Prince Faisal Abdul-Aziz al-Saud was lost on the hysterical crowd of New York Jews who were bent on literally spitting HRH.

Nine centuries ago, while Christian Crusaders were burning Jerusalem's Jews alive in their synagogue, it was the Muslim Saladin who kindly brought back Jews to Jerusalem, along with his Muslim followers. And 800 years later, within the UN headquarters in flushing Meadow, New York, this was how the Muslims were paid back for their past kindness to the Jews.

America was the apparent negotiator and chief architect of all road maps regarding the domination of Palestinians by Israel or what others ignorantly refer as incessant Mid-east conflict. **→7**

Ayatollah Khamenei condoles martyrdom of cleric in Kazerun

TEHRAN (Tasnim) — Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei offered condolences over the martyrdom of Hojattolislam Sheikh Mohammad Khorsand, the Friday prayer leader of Kazerun.

In a message on Saturday, Ayatollah Khamenei offered his condolences to the people of Kazerun and the family of Hojattolislam Khorsand over

the martyrdom.

Calling him an "active and successful" clergyman, the Leader said Khorsand's reunion with God on the Laylat al-Qadr and right after hours of supplication and invocation shows the great divine reward for that pious and industrious cleric.

The Friday prayer leader of Kazerun was murdered on May 29.

Khorsand, 52, was stabbed in the abdomen by an attacker outside his home and succumbed to injuries after being taken to the hospital.

The assailant, identified as Hamid Derakhshandeh, fled the scene but was arrested by police a few hours later.

Kazeun is located in the southern province of Fars.

Protesters set fire to U.S. embassy in Honduras

TEHRAN — Protesters torched the access gate to the U.S. Embassy in the Honduran capital on Friday during a second day of major protests against President Juan Orlando Hernandez.

The protesters set fire to the entrance of the building in downtown Tegucigalpa with about a dozen tires after dousing them with fuel, Reuters witnesses and fire services officials said. A fire department official said there were no damage to the embassy apart from the access gate.

The attack came on the second day of protests over decrees by Hernandez that his critics argue

will lead to the privatization of public services.

The demonstrators were pushed toward the embassy after being dispersed from a nearby commercial zone by police nearby, though it was not immediately clear why they attacked the building, Reuters reported.

The protesters chanted "American trash, American trash" outside the embassy, which was not being guarded at the time.

A court filing earlier this week showed that Hernandez had been investigated by U.S. authorities as part of a drug trafficking

and money laundering probe linked to his brother. The president has not been charged with any crime.

Hernandez has faced stiff opposition in Honduras since he claimed a second term in a highly divisive election at the end of 2017 which was heavily criticized by international observers and which his opponents say he stole.

Hernandez, a conservative ally of the U.S. government, rode out protests against his re-election after he was recognized as the victor by countries including the United States.

Virginia shooting leaves 12 dead at municipal center

TEHRAN — The shooter who opened fire indiscriminately in a Virginia Beach city building Friday afternoon, killing 12 people and sending at least four others to the hospital, was a disgruntled employee, a Virginia government source briefed on the investigation told CNN.

The shooter, a public utilities worker, died after a long, moving gunfight with officers, Police Chief James Cervera told reporters.

Four people were in surgery Friday night, the

chief said. Hospital officials said three people are in critical condition and one is in fair condition.

"This is the most devastating day in the history of Virginia Beach," said Mayor Bobby Dyer. "The people involved are our friends, coworkers, neighbor, colleagues."

Cervera said one person was shot in a car and the gunman fired indiscriminately as he went through all three floors of Building 2 at the city's municipal center.

An officer involved in the gunfight was shot.

The officer survived, thanks to a ballistic vest, the police chief said.

The shooting suspect was identified as DeWayne Craddock, according to a law enforcement official and a Virginia government source.

Craddock, 40, worked as a certified professional engineer for the city of Virginia Beach in the Public Utilities Department. He is listed on department news releases as a point of contact for information on local road projects over the past several years. **→13**



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300,000 expected to attend Imam Khomeini's memorial

TEHRAN — The 30th anniversary of the demise of Imam Khomeini, founder of the Islamic Republic, will be held at his mausoleum in south Tehran on Tuesday, according to the secretary of the Central Committee of Commemoration of Imam.

Speaking at a press conference on Saturday, Mohammad Ali Ansari said some 300,000 mourners are expected to take part in the event, IQNA reported. **→3**

ARTICLE
Setareh Behroozi
Tehran Times journalist

Media literacy and Gen C: How to deal with?

Encountering a kid holding a cellphone or tablet in the hand is not a strange picture for us. Nowadays, people are born with smart phones and tablets, which connect them to cyberspace, a place which is a part of our everyday life.

Agree or not, we are now citizens of another type of world, we are real people in a space which has no border and very little limits and this fact makes it hard for parents more than any other group to control their children, who should learn ethical and legal codes for living in the cyberspace.

In 2012, the digital analyst Brian Solis defined Generation C as the "Connected Consumer." He pointed out that anyone who integrates technology into their daily routine, regardless of age, shares certain qualities.

Depending on whom you talk to, the "C" in Gen C can refer to everything from "collaboration" to "community," "computerized," and "content." At the most fundamental level, however, I like to think that Gen C stands for connectivity.

Keep in mind that Gen C is not considered as an age group at all and it includes people who are not merely online--they're active and engaged in online communities, from the familiar social networks to product review sites.

The digital transformation--and all the cultural changes that have accompanied this upswing in connectivity.

However the point is that for members Gen C, which includes children and young adults, web and cyberspace interactions are the main reliable sources.

But what could parents do to deal with this problem? The answer is media literacy. This competency can save lives of our children.

Media literacy is the ability to identify different types of media and understand the messages they're sending. Kids are bombarded with text messages, memes, viral videos, social media, video games and advertising take in a huge amount of information from a wide array of sources, far beyond the traditional media.

However all the media have a common point, someone create the content for some reason. As a responsible parent you should understand the reason and teach your child to understand it as well. This is the basis for media literacy. **→11**