

# U.S. Sanctions Fail to Make Iran Budge

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Report

## UN chief warns of “nuclear annihilation”

The UN Secretary-General has warned that “geopolitical tensions reaching new highs” while some governments, in a false bid for peace and security, are spending “billions on nuclear weapons” has put “humanity” one misstep away from “nuclear annihilation”

Antonio Guterres was speaking at the opening of the Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) which runs until August 26.

He said, “to [underscore] the importance of this conference, I will be in a few days in Hiroshima at the anniversary of the first nuclear bombardment in human history.”

“Humanity is in danger of forgetting the lessons forged in the terrifying fires of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Geopolitical tensions are reaching new highs,” he warned.

The United States remains the only country in the world and in history to have ever used nuclear weapons to massacre other people when it dropped two atomic bombs on Japan. The first on the city of Hiroshima and the second on Nagasaki city, wiping them both out of existence.

Guterres says “states are seeking false security in stockpiling and spending hundreds of billions of dollars on doomsday weapons that have no place on our planet.”

“Almost 13,000 nuclear weapons are now being held in arsenals around the world. All this at a time when the risks of proliferation are growing and guardrails to prevent escalation are weakening,” he said.

“The clouds that parted following the end of the Cold War are gathering once more,” Guterres warned “today, humanity is just one misunderstanding, one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation.” We need the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as much as ever.”

Opinion

## Fake Hulk instead of Iranian Hulk

By Masoud Hossein

TEHRAN - Hulk remind us the superhero in the Marvel Comics created by Stan Lee but recently he doesn't come to mind. Sajad Gharibi, known as Iranian Hulk, draws attentions to himself.

Gharibi showed a complete lack of boxing skills as he was dropped inside two minutes of the main event show against Kazakh Titan - real name Djumanov Almat Bakhytovich - in Dubai Sunday night.

He has angered Iranian countrymen and women due to his poor performance.

The Iranian people believe that Gharibi has brought disgrace on the whole country by showing the embarrassing performance and should not be allowed to participate in the international events representing Iran.

Zabihollah Poorshab, who has won three gold medals in the World Karate Championship, says that Gharibi has not been allowed to represent Iran in the events.

“It was not a fight, it was a show. We should avoid talking about these people since Iran has many great persons in all levels. I think he wants to show himself and the Iranian people should not follow him on the social media,” Poorshab said.



File photo

TEHRAN – Iran started injecting hexafluoride gas into 500 new advanced IR-6 centrifuges on Monday.

Behrouz Kamalvandi, the spokesman for the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), said this is in line with the plan to make 190,000 SWUs (separative work units)

operational in the nuclear industry.

Talking to the national TV late on Monday, Kamalvandi said the order to install new centrifuges was issued on Monday.

The nuclear spokesman said Iran has informed the International Atomic Energy

Agency (IAEA) of this step.

According to Kamalvandi, the AEOI also started installing IR-1 centrifuges. Kamalvandi also said the move is in line with the parliamentary ratification to realize Iran's nuclear rights.

## Transit of goods via Iran rises 31% in 4 months on year

TEHRAN- Transit of commodities through Iran increased 31 percent in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-July 22), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, the spokesman of Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) announced.

Ruhollah Latifi said that 4.921 million tons of goods were transited via the country in the mentioned four-month period.

“From the beginning of this year to the end of the fourth month, we witnessed the continuous growth of transit of commodities through Iran”, the official highlighted.



File photo

## Storytellers who give life to illustrations on large canvas

TEHRAN – Iran has always been home to avid storytellers who use that powerful medium to take us to the past, to the future, or to exotic worlds filled with new sights, sounds, smells, and feelings.

Pardeh-khani (literally, “reading aloud from the screen/from the curtain”), is one of those skills through which storytellers give life to illustrations on a large canvas.

## Relief, rescue operations underway in flood-stricken areas

TEHRAN – Aid to flood victims is still going on in 162 cities across the country, Mehdi Valipour, head of the IRCS Relief and Rescue Organization, has said.

Since July 23, flash flooding has claimed 78 lives and left 15 people missing, he lamented.

The Iranian Red Crescent Society aid workers, including 1,393 teams, provided relief and rescue services to 50,000 people in flood-affected areas, he said.

Twenty percent of areas across Iran are highly prone to flooding, Khosro Shahbazi, former head

of the Forests, Range, and Watershed Management Organization, said in January 2020.

According to statistics, the average rainfall in the country in the last 50 years has been 270 mm, which has decreased by 230 mm, in other words, over the past 5 decades, the average rainfall has dropped by 40 mm.

According to the World Meteorological Organization's multiannual forecast, in the next five years, Iran's average rainfall will decline by 75 per-

cent, and the temperature rises by 50-75 percent compared to the long-term average.

Climate change is a fact that cannot be run over, whether the temperature raises over 2 or 6°C, natural incidents such as flooding, droughts, and severe storms are among the main consequences of climate change. Heavy rain and other extreme weather events will become more frequent, which can lead to floods along with decreasing water quality, but also decreasing availability of water resources in some regions.

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Op-ed

## Biden Brings as much shame to Americans as MBS brings to Muslims

By Hossein Askari

Muslims the world over must shun Mohammad bin Salman and members of the al-Saud tribe. They must demand that Saudi Arabia relinquish its control over Islam's two holiest places in Mecca and Medina and place management of the two sites under the stewardship of all Muslim countries.

MBS and the al-Sauds have so shamed Muslims and Islam that they have no legitimacy left, nor can they continue to claim their stewardship of Islam's holy places as grounds for their legitimacy and refer to Islam on their national flag. To keep the al-Sauds as absolute rulers is for the people of Saudi Arabia to decide, but the control of Islam's two holiest places and the self-proclaimed honorific of “Custodian of the Two Holy Places” is for all Muslims to decide, not a tribe that brings only shame to Islam.

Throughout their rule of 90 years over what became Saudi Arabia, the al-Sauds have done little to uphold the teachings of Islam (<http://islamicity-index.org/wp/>), which include:

- freedom (God gave humanity the freedom to choose) **Page 5**

## Iran reaffirms ban on screening local films in Israel

TEHRAN – Iran's Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance has stressed the country's ban on screening its homegrown films in Israel.

In a press release published on Tuesday, the director of the ministry's Supervision and Evaluation Office said, “In their contracts with foreign distribution companies, Iranian producers and filmmakers must recognize the country's law prohibiting the screening of any Iranian feature, short, documentary or animated film in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.”

“Foreign distribution companies must respect the law,” Habib Ilbeigi noted.

The culture ministry's stress on the need for obeying the law came in early July after the Jerusalem Film Festival announced its official lineup would include the Iranian film “Until Tomorrow.”

Meanwhile, director Alis Asgari said MPM Premium, the Paris-based company that handles the global sales for the film, withdrew the film from the Israeli festival at Iranian producer Niki Karimi's request.

“Only a few foreign distributors have screened Iranian films at Zionist regime festivals, and this action is not acceptable to us; even these few cases must be stopped,” Ilbeigi said.



## FM says Iran injected gas into centrifuges in response to U.S. sanctions

TEHRAN — Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian said on Tuesday that Iran injected hexafluoride gas into hundreds of new generation centrifuges on Monday night in response to the new U.S. coercive actions against the Islamic Republic.

Speaking on the sidelines of an Islamic human rights and human dignity ceremony, Amir Abdollahian also said in the past weeks, while Iran was preparing for a new round of negotiations, the American side suddenly proposed a censure resolution against Iran at the International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors with the aim of gaining concessions from Iran at the negotiating table.

"We were surprised that while during those days we were constantly receiving messages from Joe Biden through intermediaries that the U.S. has good intentions and is serious about returning to the (nuclear) agreement," the tabled the draft for the resolution, the minister lamented.

However, he added, "We gave our decisive answer to the American side."

He then pointed out that European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell, who acts as the coordinator of the JCPOA revival talks, recently presented an initiative and a text for all parties, including Iran, P4+1, and the United States, but "while all sides in the capitals are reviewing the text to gather around in the negotiating table in Vienna" the U.S. on Monday took another move against efforts to revive the JCPOA, the official name for the 2015 nuclear deal.

The United States on Monday imposed sanctions on Chinese and other firms it said helped to sell tens of millions of dollars in Iranian oil and petrochemical products to East Asia. The U.S. Treasury and the U.S. State Departments imposed sanctions on a total of six companies, four based in Hong Kong, one in Singapore, and one in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in actions that were announced in separate statements.

Amir Abdollahian called the new U.S. sanctions moves "irrational measures".

"These are irrational measures and this is an ineffective sanctionomania by Joe Biden, Blinken and Robert Malley.

## Raisi to attend UN General Assembly in New York

TEHRAN— Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi will attend the United Nations General Assembly in New York, government spokesman Ali Bahadori Jahromi announced on Tuesday.

"Preliminary plans have been made in this regard," Bahadori Jahromi told reporters.

The annual UN conference will be held in September. It will be Raisi's second visit to New York to attend the largest international conference as he enters his second year of his presidency. Raisi started his work in August 2021.

Bahadori Jahromi also said in the negotiations between Tehran and Kabul over fulfilling Iran's water rights from the Helmand River, the Afghan side accepted Iran's right based on the 1973 agreement and acknowledged it.

However, the spokesman added, now there is a dispute over the amount of water that should flow into Iran.

"There are also some technical problems, which the Islamic Republic is seriously following up on," he stated.

"A report was presented in this regard in the cabinet meeting, and the energy minister will soon visit Afghanistan. One of the most important parts of his agenda is to pursue Iran's water rights and realize it," Bahadori Jahromi underscored.

Majid Takht-Ravanchi excoriated Eyal Holata, the chairman of Israel's so-called National Security Council, for his most recent anti-Iran remarks in two letters addressed to UN Secretary-General António Guterres and Zhang Jun, the rotating UN Security Council President.



They themselves mentioned that Trump's maximum pressure campaign has failed. Even Borrell himself mentioned the failure of Trump's maximum pressure campaign against Iran in a recent article and then put forward his own summarized ideas, but again we are witnessing the madness of imposing sanctions, which of course is only a show and has no tangible effect," the foreign minister remarked.

"I would like to point out that in response to this American action, Iran injected hexafluoride gas into hundreds of new generation centrifuges from Monday based on the decision that was made," he underlined.

According to the foreign minister, Americans should not imagine that they can get concessions from Iran at the negotiation table through such actions.

"They must put aside exaggeration, as we are people of logic and negotiation, and we are serious about reaching a strong agreement, but if the American side wants to continue this path, our hands will never be tied," Amir Abdollahian cautioned.

**"Iraqi leaders can solve their domestic conflicts with their tact"**

In response to a question about the developments in Iraq, the foreign minister said, "Iraqi leaders have the necessary competence and tact to solve the problem that has emerged in Iraq, and considering that any conflict inside Iraq is Iraq's red line, the role of authority and tact and the unity of political leaders is the most important factor in solving Iraq's internal problems."

The minister was referring to disputes between rival Shia factions over nominating a new prime minister.

On Iran's water rights from the Aras River, the spokesman also said a similar report was presented in the cabinet meeting, and this issue was also raised in the conversation between the presidents of Iran and Turkey.

"The Turkish side agreed to hold a meeting at the ministerial level on this matter and the government also insists on following this path," he added.

**Iran-China cooperation document is being implemented**

The spokesman also faced a question on the implementation of 25-year strategic cooperation plan between Iran and China to which he responded that the document has entered the operational phase, and one of the main points of President Raisi's recent telephone conversation with his Chinese counterpart was expressing satisfaction over the progress of implementing the plan.

Pointing to the volume of trade ties between Iran and China, Bahadori Jahromi said, "In the first 4 months of the (Iranian calendar) year, the value of exports to China has grown by 27 percent compared to the same period last year, and we have seen a 43 percent increase in foreign trade with this country. In 2021, our exports to China grew by 58% and in the agricultural sector, there was a jump of 45%."

In an interview on July 14, Holata blatantly threatened Iran with more terrorist attacks, claiming that "Israel has rarely acted in Iran over the past year."

The Iranian envoy stressed that "Israel will act independently against the Islamic Republic of Iran, regardless of Washington's opinion on this issue." Takht-Ravanchi added, "This is only a continuation of what it has done in the past year."

"These statements clearly confirm the Israeli regime's accountability for acts of sabotage

# Ambassador: Iran, Azerbaijan are stuck together like "flesh to nails"

*"Iran is ready to build an entire city for Azerbaijan"*

From page 1 ▶ Below is the full text of the interview:

**In your opinion, what is the purpose of the messages issued by the Israeli ambassador in the Republic of Azerbaijan? Are they looking for diplomatic tension?**

The Zionist regime basically enters everywhere with sinister and particular intentions. This is not a slogan uttered by us. We saw and felt this issue. The presence of the Zionist regime in the Caucasus region or Central Asia in general after the collapse of the Soviet Union was with the intention of gaining legitimacy.

Some countries (of Central Asia) do not have an embassy in Tel Aviv, but they (the Israeli regime) established an embassy there and considered it as preparing the grounds for gaining legitimacy. Of course, they also have other goals, such as getting (geographically) closer to the Islamic Republic of Iran, which is closely monitored and supervised by Islamic Republic. It is natural that they do not like good relations between two neighboring countries, especially two Muslim, especially Shia, countries.

It was not the first time that he (the ambassador of the Israeli regime) did such a thing. As I have described, he is a naive and simple-minded boy and he thinks he has done a psychological operation, as well as something propagandistic.

The Zionist regime has an embassy in the Republic of Azerbaijan for any reason. If they were wise, they would limit themselves within the framework of bilateral relations. For them to think that from an Islamic and Shia country they can make provocative moves against the Islamic Republic and make conspiracies, this is one of the great miscalculations of the Zionist regime that they are making.

**"The most important plan is to connect the main land of Azerbaijan to Nakhchivan through Iranian land."**

Whenever we tried to warm the relations between two neighboring countries of Iran and Azerbaijan, agents of third countries started interfering. I cannot name some countries due to diplomatic reasons, but I can publicly name the Zionist regime, which is one of the biggest opponents of warm and friendly relations between the two friendly, brotherly, Muslim and Shia countries, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Azerbaijan.

They (the Zionist regime) have bigger plans. They always want to preserve a sort of tension in the relations between the two countries, while they want to slowly implement the goals in their minds. These and some other Zionist agents who come to the Republic of Azerbaijan as thinkers or academics, say things and pursue goals that we are sure are done with a sinister purpose and intention.

This action that he (George Deek) has done has encroached on the Islamic Republic and especially on our territorial integrity, which of course are not counted and certainly do not accomplish anything, but in any case, he has taken the book that has the name of the dear Tabriz

and terrorist acts in Iran," the ambassador pointed out.

Such provocative statements, according to Takht-Ravanchi, are not only a flagrant violation of international law and the UN Charter but also an open acknowledgment of responsibility on the part of the Israeli regime for recent terrorist attacks and actions against Iranian officials, scientists, and civilian nuclear facilities.

"It also proves the fact that the Israeli regime is responsible for such criminal and terrorist



of Iran in it and for us, Tabriz is an important city that has been influential throughout history.

If an unclean hand and mouth wants to mention the name of Tabriz or even wants to promote it, we understand that the true purpose was not reading the book or promoting it.

He wanted to send a message to some of his agents, and we felt we should give him a serious warning. I usually did this and answered the comments and videos that he recorded last year and two years ago in which he said strange things while pointing towards Iran. He addressed the public opinion in Azerbaijan towards opposing the Islamic Republic of Iran. They were general propaganda (against the Islamic Republic) that received an appropriate response, but this time this boy tried to touch on a sensitive issue with his crude imagination and it was necessary for us to have such a reaction. It will be the same from now on. If he wants to continue doing these childish things, he will definitely face an appropriate response. Of course, I am sure that the government of the Republic of Azerbaijan is not looking for these tensions. They do not want their territory to be a place for conflict between Iran and the Zionist regime. Therefore, I feel that the government of Azerbaijan should put them in a working framework.

**According to media reports, the Israelis are looking to establish a smart village in Zangilan, Azerbaijan, near the Iranian border. Considering the situation and tensions between the two sides, it can be assumed that this village will serve as a place for hosteldropping or some sort of evil activity against Iran. What do you think of this? Has there been a discussion with the government of Azerbaijan to clarify this matter?**

One of the functions of the relations between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Zionist regime is the use of up-to-date technologies, which you gave as an example. After the liberation of the occupied territories of Nagorno-Karabakh, different companies and countries have been invited to invest there or participate in the reconstruction process. The Islamic Republic of Iran was the first country to step forward. And in a meeting that I had with Azerbaijani officials in the middle of the war, when the fate of the war was not known, I said that the Islamic Republic of Iran supports the liberation of the occupied lands, and after the war is over, Iran will definitely be the first friendly country to come and reconstruct these areas.

At first, it was strange for them how the Iranian ambassador in the middle of the ongoing war raised the issue of liberation and reconstruction, and I raised this issue there for the first time.

After the war, this happened with the stabilization of the situation and they invited many countries.

This smart village project is

not entirely done by this regime (Israel). Azerbaijanis are trying to rebuild areas in a modern way and use new and renewable energies. For example, the regime is building a modern cattle farm in those areas, and its dairy products will be produced through a joint venture with Italy. The surface of the issue is an investment and economic work. However, we are always suspicious of the intentions of the Zionist regime, despite the fact that the government of Azerbaijan has promised and emphasized many times that it will not allow the provocative moves of any country, especially the Zionist regime, against Iran. We also accept the words and promises of our Azerbaijani brothers and their word is valid and they will definitely not allow such a thing. But we are suspicious of the intentions of the Zionist regime and we know that there is no such thing as free lunch.

We suspect they must have special intelligence, security and maybe an intention to do an act of sabotage behind what they are doing, which is under our monitoring. We made the necessary complaints and gave the necessary warnings to the Azeris, and the officials of the Republic of Azerbaijan at different levels have assured us that nothing against the national interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran will happen from the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

**Ali Shamkhani recently made a trip to Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan within a week and had a public and private meeting in Baku with the President of Azerbaijan. Is there a new plan for Nagorno-Karabakh?**

We have always been sensitive towards the Caucasus region since remote past, as we have interests in that region, and it is natural that the events that happen in the Caucasus region affect us, and again, it is natural that we are fully observing and monitoring the developments that occur in that region.

At the beginning of the breakdown of relations between the two neighbors, Azerbaijan and Armenia, there was war and conflict, and the Islamic Republic of Iran was one of the most active mediators.

It is natural for the Islamic Republic of Iran to be concerned about some geopolitical developments. We observe the new facts in the Caucasus and declare a position according to our collective interests.

That is why we follow the developments of the region with sensitivity. In the first war, we tried to mediate so that the right would reach the rightful, and in the second Nagorno-Karabakh war, the Islamic Republic of Iran announced a peace initiative and proposed a format that is similar to the Astana format designed to solve the Syrian crisis.

Our 3+3 peace plan was such that we said that all the countries of the region should be involved in it and help to solve the Nagorno-Karabakh crisis with the focus on ending the

occupation and encroachments on the territorial integrity of the countries and the rights of the minorities, which was somehow accepted by both the Russians, the Azeris, Armenians, and Turks. Georgians were a little hesitant and had a couple of reservations, and until this plan was formed, the work was done and the occupied areas were almost freed, and the Russians, as the main actor in that matter, took the initiative.

However, the same Iranian plan became the basis for a new political platform in the Caucasus region, which is referred to as the 3+3 platform or the six-sided platform. The three largest countries in the region, namely Iran, Russia and Turkey, in addition to the three countries of the Caucasus, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia are cooperating in this format. The first meeting at the level of deputy foreign ministers was held in Moscow, and we hope that the second meeting will be held in Iran.

Our Georgian friends still have reservations due to some issues and did not participate in the first meeting. We are trying to encourage them to participate in the second meeting, as staying away from the developments in the Caucasus is not in the interest of the countries of the Caucasus region and they should be more willing to participate in the future of the region.

The good thing about this plan is that no extra-regional country interferes in it. I am aware that Westerners, Americans and Europeans are not satisfied with this plan because it does not let them interfere in these affairs and says that the problem of the region can be solved by the people of this region.

One of the goals of Mr. Shamkhani's trip was to revive and strengthen this 3+3 format in some way so that we can solve the problems of the region between ourselves and between the countries of the region. As a big country in the region, we can help to solve some problems and disputes.

Iran supports the ongoing peace talks between Armenia and Azerbaijan. We consider any tension to the detriment of the entire region and we do not want tension to exist consistently. We have all suffered many economic losses for years. If these two neighboring countries achieve peace, it will benefit these countries and the interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran in different ways.

**"The Republic of Azerbaijan is our friend, brother, neighbor, Muslim and Shia country."**

There are a series of misunderstandings between Iran and Azerbaijan, and during Admiral Shamkhani's visit to Baku, a series of bilateral issues were raised both in the public meeting that we had with the president of Azerbaijan and the private meeting that he himself had with the Azeri president. Mr. Shamkhani tried to express the most important concerns that he has in various issues, and I think that from now on, especially after the meetings that our presidents had in Ashgabat, we are witnessing warm relations between the two countries.

*(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](http://tehrantimes.com))*

## Iran writes to UN chief, UNSC president over Israeli military threats

TEHRAN- The newest menacing remarks from a top Israeli official have been severely denounced by Iran's ambassador and permanent representative to the UN, who has also warned Tel Aviv against any adventurism as it would prompt Tehran to respond appropriately.

Majid Takht-Ravanchi excoriated Eyal Holata, the chairman of Israel's so-called National Security Council, for his most recent anti-Iran remarks in two letters addressed to UN Secretary-General António Guterres and Zhang Jun, the rotating UN Security Council President.

In an interview on July 14, Holata blatantly threatened Iran with more terrorist attacks, claiming that "Israel has rarely acted in Iran over the past year."

The Iranian envoy stressed that "Israel will act independently against the Islamic Republic of Iran, regardless of Washington's opinion on this issue." Takht-Ravanchi added, "This is only a continuation of what it has done in the past year."

"These statements clearly confirm the Israeli regime's accountability for acts of sabotage

and terrorist acts in Iran," the ambassador pointed out.

Such provocative statements, according to Takht-Ravanchi, are not only a flagrant violation of international law and the UN Charter but also an open acknowledgment of responsibility on the part of the Israeli regime for recent terrorist attacks and actions against Iranian officials, scientists, and civilian nuclear facilities.

"It also proves the fact that the Israeli regime is responsible for such criminal and terrorist

acts; and that it must be held accountable and accept all likely consequences of such crimes," the Iranian diplomat underlined.

Takht-Ravanchi continued by criticizing recent statements made by Israeli Minister for Military Affairs Benny Gantz, who claimed that Tel Aviv has the capability to seriously harm Iran's nuclear program in an interview at a Channel 13 conference in occupied Al-Quds on July 26.

Ambassador Takht-Ravanchi finally urged the Security Council to uphold its constitutional

duties to safeguard global peace and security and to denounce the Israeli regime's aggressive policies and malign behavior, which represent a severe danger to such goals.

Israel has been repeatedly warned by Iranian leaders and military that doing anything against the Islamic Republic will result in a devastating retaliation.

"This regime must be forced to comply with international law and abandon its dangerous plans for the region," he concluded.



# U.S. sanctions fail to make Iran budge

TEHRAN – In a move that contradicted its stated policy of returning to the 2015 Iran deal, the Biden administration imposed new sanctions against Iran allegedly targeting foreign firms facilitating Iranian oil sales.

The sanctions came at a time when the Biden administration, while refraining from making political decisions to conclude talks over reviving the 2015 nuclear deal, has put the blame for the pause in the talks on Iran, though Iran keeps announcing its readiness to conclude the negotiations in a short period of time.

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian announced on Monday that Iran was ready for making a deal. “I want to reiterate once again that we are serious about reaching a good, strong, and lasting deal. If the American side behaves realistically and shows the necessary flexibility in the possible negotiations, reaching a deal will not be out of reach,” he said, according to Fars News.

And Iran’s chief negotiator, Ali Bagheri Kani, has said Iran is ready to conclude the talks in a short period of time if the U.S. is ready to reciprocate.



But Iran’s repeated calls for a conclusion of the talks seem to have fallen on deaf ears in Washington. The new U.S. sanctions elicited a strong response from Iran because it believes that the new sanctions are meant to extract concessions.

Amir Abdollahian said the U.S. can’t get concessions at the negotiating table by imposing sanctions.

“The Americans should not think that they can get concessions at the negotiating table with these measures. They should abandon their excessive demands and if they continue to pursue such demands, we will never sit idly by,” he said.

Amir Abdollahian said Iran responded to the new sanctions by

injecting uranium gas into hundreds of advanced centrifuges. “We are witnessing the madness of imposing sanctions, which of course is just a show and has no tangible impact on the ground. In response to this American action, we inject gas into hundreds of new generation centrifuges,” he said.

The Iranian foreign minister said the new sanctions were imposed at a time when all parties were reviewing the initiative presented by the EU foreign policy chief, Josep Borrell. The parties, he continued, were considering another round of talks in Vienna.

That seems to be the reason why Iran strongly responded to the U.S.

move. Because Iran has said it never accepts negotiations under pressure.

Iran and the U.S. have been engaged in indirect negotiations over reviving the 2015 nuclear deal, formally called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), since April 2021. And eight rounds of talks have so far been held, with the last round held in Doha, Qatar. After the Doha talks, Iran said it made all the political decisions needed to conclude the talks and that the onus is on the U.S. to do its part. But the U.S. has put the blame on Iran and, together with its European allies, even accused Iran of using delaying tactics, a charge Iran firmly denies.

The new U.S. sanctions appear to be meant to change Iran’s calculus and force it into taking the draft deal currently on the table. But Iran’s nuclear response showed that Tehran is unlikely to budge. Furthermore, the U.S. sanctions could further damage the credibility of the Biden administration’s commitment to diplomacy with Iran. Many pundits in Iran believe that the new sanctions are indicative of the contradictory approach of the U.S. toward Iran, which could further enhance Iran’s insistence on its demands.

## Fake Hulk instead of Iranian Hulk

From Page 1 ► “I don’t know how he has been permitted to participate in the events. He doesn’t deserve to represent Iran in the competitions,” he added.

Hadi Choopan, the Iranian professional bodybuilder, who won a bronze medal in the 2021 Mr. Olympia, also criticized Gharibi.

“Please don’t destroy our reputation. Stop it please. To fly is not an easy job, otherwise the roosters and hens will start to fly in the sky,” Choopan published on his Instagram account.

Gharibi was due to take on Martyn Ford three months ago but the fight was first postponed and then cancelled over fears for the Iranian’s health, mirror.co.uk reported.

“I can hold my head high, and with pride,” Ford wrote. “You only need to watch the fight, to understand EXACTLY why I pulled out. I just hope those who encouraged and pushed this fight are there to support him after. To me, I would rather walk away and risk being called a coward over potentially what could have happened to this kid in the ring if we had fought.

It’s time to forget the story of the fake Hulk. We need the persons who can show the world how strong we are.

In a short interview after his defeat, Hulk said: “I have nothing to say but I am ashamed and I apologize to the Iranian people.”

His coach provided a more elaborate explanation for the 300lb heavyweight’s performance, claiming he only had two weeks to train. “Thank you for your good and bad messages,” he said. “I just wanted to give a brief explanation about the fight. The fight was set before Sajad came to me and he signed the contract. There was no way to cancel it unless he paid a big fine for the cancellation.

“We had a bad situation. Sajad came to Tehran for his training [but] we had a financial problem, the sponsor didn’t keep their word. In short, Sajad trained with me for only two weeks and I told him he was not ready to fight. But I had to be with him because he had to fight and somebody had to coach him.

“There is NO way he should ever have been passed fit to fight, and everyone surrounding this needs to question themselves, and take responsibility for the backlash of what will now follow. This is not entertainment, it is bullying and taking advantage of a clearly delusional human being.”

## Karimi fit for 2022 FIVB Volleyball World Championship

TEHRAN – Iranian setter Javad Karimi will be ready for the 2022 FIVB Volleyball Men’s World Championship.

Greenyard MAASEIK player suffered an injury in the CEV Champions League Volley 2022 in February in the match against Dynamo Moscow.

Now, the reports suggest that the 24-year-old player is fit for the upcoming competitions.

Iran are drawn with Argentina, Egypt and the Netherlands in Pool F in the FIVB Volleyball Men’s World Championship.

Team Melli will start the campaign with a match against Argentina on August 27 and meet Egypt and the Netherlands on August 29 and 31, respectively.

Karimi can also accompany Iran in the Memorial of Hubert Jerzy Wagner slated for August 18 to 20.

A total of 24 teams, divided into six pools of four will play in a single round-robin format in the 2022 FIVB Volleyball Men’s World Championship.

The top two nations in each pool and the four best third-placed teams will qualify for the elimination round – making it much simpler for fans across the globe to keep track of the action.

## Three Iranian referees to officiate at FIBA U18 Asian C’ship

TEHRAN – Three Iranian referees have been chosen by FIBA Asia to officiate at the FIBA U18 Asian Championship.

Sadegh Ghanbari, Mohammad Rajabi and Ramin Fathi are the Iranian officials who will officiate in the competition in Tehran.

FIBA Under-18 Asian Championship will be held in the Iranian capital from August 21 to 28.

The top four teams will qualify for the 2023 FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup in Hungary. Iran has previously hosted the tournament in the 2008 and 2016 editions.

## Brazilian midfielder Wescley officially joins Gol Gohar

TEHRAN – Brazilian midfielder Wescley Gomes dos Santos, simply known as Wescley, officially joined Iranian football club Gol Gohar.

He underwent a successful medical examination and penned a two-year deal with the Iranian club.

The Brazilian footballer has most recently played for Brazilian club Ceará.

He is Gol Gohar’s third foreign player ever. The Sirjan based football club had previously signed Gabonese player Eric Bocoum and Brazilian striker Kiros Stanley.

Gol Gohar, headed by Amir Ghalenoei, finished fourth in the 2021/22 Iran Professional League.

The team will kick off the new season with a match against Tractor on Aug. 13.

## Iran to play Uzbekistan in CAFA U19 Championships opener

TEHRAN – Iran will play Uzbekistan in the opening match of the 2022 CAFA U19 Championships on Friday.

The Iranian team will also play Afghanistan and Kyrgyz Republic on Aug. 8 and 10, respectively.

Uzbekistan won the first edition in 2016 and Iran claimed the title in the second edition held in 2019.

The CAFA Junior Championship is an international football competition in Central Asia for the member nations of the Central Asian Football Association (CAFA).

## FIFA calls for allowing women into stadiums in Iran football league

TEHRAN – FIFA has called on the Iranian football federation to make necessary arrangements for the presence of women spectators in the 2022-23 edition of Iran’s Professional League.

The request has been made through an official letter a few days ago as the Iranian federation is planning the new season.

According to local sources, FIFA’s demand is not legally binding as it has asked for increased interaction between the Iranian federation and international institutions for preparing the ground for attendance of female spectators, PLDC wrote.

The letter also acknowledges some of the measures adopted by Iran following the controversial incidents that happened in Mashhad on March 29 ahead of a match between Iran and Lebanon.

Women were not allowed into the stadium in Mashhad. A viral video that showed a security force using pepper spray against women drew wide condemnation in Iran.

Earlier, the Iranian Sports Ministry had announced plans to take necessary steps and actions for the attendance of female spectators but it seems that no effective operational measure has been carried out.

## Iran deputy FM meets CIS director, Venezuelan minister

TEHRAN- Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic Diplomacy Mahdi Safari has met with Director of the Intergovernmental Council of the Roads Management of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Bouri Karimov and Venezuela’s transportation minister.

The meetings focused on fostering economic cooperation.

Safari and Karimov discussed different dimensions of multi-faceted economic and transportation cooperation.

During the meeting, Karimov (from Tajikistan), as the director of the aforementioned council in the CIS, talked about the attractive opportunities for cooperation between the Commonwealth of Independent States and Iran as part of various transportation corridors, including the North-South corridor.

Karimov said his visit to Iran is aimed at expanding the ties between CIS countries and the Islamic Republic of Iran, according to the Iranian foreign ministry.

Karimov also pointed to the potential of the Intergovernmental Council of the Roads Management and the membership of some private companies in the body, underlining the need for exchange of experiences among member companies and their Iranian counterparts.

Safari also highlighted the importance of expanding ties in the area of international transportation with the CIS countries and welcomed Karimov’s proposals for more meetings and mutual visits to see the transportation potential of both sides.

It should be mentioned that the Commonwealth of Independent States, also known as the CIS, was

formed in 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union and is comprised of Armenia, the Azerbaijan Republic, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Expansion of the ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the member states of the organization is among the priorities of Tehran and cooperation with these countries in the field of transportation and transit in line with common interests has gained additional importance, especially after the recent geopolitical developments.

In his meeting with the Venezuelan minister, Safari underlined that there is no limitation when it comes to expansion of ties with Venezuela, as a friendly country.

He also underlined the need for enhanced cooperation across all areas.

## Iran’s red lines must be fully taken into account, Amir Abdollahian insists

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian has reiterated that Iran’s red lines must be fully respected in any possible nuclear deal with the West.

Commenting on the indirect talks between Iran and the United States, Amir Abdollahian said, “It is very important to us that our red line be fully taken into account in the deal that would be made.”

“I want to reiterate once again that we are serious about reaching a good, strong, and lasting deal. If the American side behaves realistically and shows the necessary flexibility in

the possible negotiations, reaching a deal will not be out of reach,” he said, according to Fars News.

Similarly, the chief negotiator of Iran, Ali Bagheri Kani, has said that Tehran is ready to conclude the talks. “We are ready to conclude the talks in a short period of time, if the other side is ready for a similar action,” Bagheri Kani said.

The U.S. has not paid heed to Iran’s calls for a deal and has moved to tighten sanctions on Iran. On Monday, the U.S. Treasury Department announced new sanctions on foreign firms it alleged are assisting Iran

with selling its oil products.

Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Nasser Kanaani said the White House’s addiction to sanctions and its use of them as a tool is a symbol of Washington’s arrogant system and a change of administrations in the country doesn’t change their policy.

The Iranian foreign ministry spokesman added that the Biden administration officials have repeatedly called Trump’s “maximum pressure campaign” as a failed and futile policy but in practice they have continued the same policy and

even expanded it to the extent that they do not give up these useless and destructive measures even at a time when efforts are underway to resume the talks over a return to the JCPOA.

He underscored that firstly, the Islamic Republic of Iran will give an “immediate, firm and decisive response” to the White House’s insistence on pressing ahead with the imposition of sanctions, and, secondly, it will take all necessary measures to neuter the possible adverse impact of such sanctions on trade and the Iranian economy.

## Arbaeen focal point of international resistance front: Raisi

TEHRAN – Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi has said the religious pilgrim of Arbaeen is the focal point of the international resistance front in the West Asia region and the world.

Speaking in a meeting with the members of Arbaeen Central Headquarters on Tuesday morning, Raisi appreciated the measures taken by all institutions, organizations and ministries to hold this ceremony as grandly as possible.

He described Arbaeen as the guarantor of the survival of Ashura, and Ashura as the manifestation of all developments in humanity. “The movement of Imam Zain al-Abedin (AS) in founding the Arbaeen movement caused the purpose of the uprising of Imam Hussein (AS) and his comprehensive character to be explained to humanity and the source of transformation for all human beings.”

The Day of Arbaeen rolls around 40 days after the Day of Ashura, which marks the martyrdom anniversary of Imam Hussein (AS), the grandson of the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) who was martyred in the Battle of Karbala on October 10, 680 (Muharram 10, 61AH), nearly 14 centuries ago.

Over the past decade, the Iranian and Iraqi people have begun participating in what came to be known as the Great Walk of Arbaeen, a procession during which millions of Iranians and Iraqis travel on foot to the shrine city of Karbala, south of Iraq.

During their stint in Iraq, the Arbaeen pilgrims, including the Iranians, are usually accommodated in the personal houses of ordinary Iraqis, which have served as an occasion for the two peoples to know each other more.

President Raisi called Arbaeen the focal point of the international resistance front in the region and the world and said, “We are all obliged to make an effort to hold this ceremony regularly and without any defects as a huge movement by the Muslims of all countries,” according to official website of the Iranian presidency.

Raisi went on to say that those who cannot tolerate a hymn among different groups of the people or holding the Ghadir festival will try to prevent the Arbaeen ceremony from taking place, adding, “Undoubtedly, with the help of God and the attention of Imam Hussein (AS), as well as the determination, this ceremony will be held as grandly as possible.”

He continued to emphasize the provision of transportation, accommodation, nutrition and health of the Imam Hussein pilgrims and said, “Cheap travel and easy access to vehicles during the Arbaeen ceremony is very important and there is an expectation from us in this regard.”

Ayatollah Raisi emphasized the necessity of planning and managing the journey by the pilgrims for better service and said, “Certainly, the government and officials have the duty to provide the best possible



## TPO to establish export investment fund to support knowledge-based businesses



TEHRAN – Head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Alireza Peyman-Pak has said his organization is pursuing a plan for establishing an Export Investment Fund in collaboration with the National Development Fund (NDF) and the country's banking system to support knowledge-based exporters.

"The National Development Fund has announced its approval and the banks are also fully prepared in this regard; On the other hand, considering the position of knowledge-based and technological products, international companies also welcome participation in this sector," Peyman-Pak said

on Tuesday.

The export investment fund creates the capacity for knowledge-based companies to enter the international arena, he said, adding: "By introducing knowledge-based companies that have business potential, the Export Investment Fund creates an opportunity to attract foreign investment and to support this sector."

According to the official, the idea for establishing the mentioned fund has been proposed by the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology and the TPO is currently negotiating with the relevant entities to realize this idea.

Emphasizing that the Export Investment Fund will be responsible for supporting knowledge-based exporters, the deputy minister noted: "To have an efficient fund, the mechanism and format must be designed properly from the very beginning so that we do not face problems when it starts providing services."

## 75 water desalination plants operating across Iran

TEHRAN – Iran's National Water and Wastewater Engineering Company is operating and constructing 95 water desalination plants with a total capacity of 634,000 cubic meters per day across the country, of which 75 plants are currently operational, according to an official with the company.

Speaking to the Energy Ministry's news portal Paven, Fariba Golrizan the financial director of National Water and Wastewater Engineering Company, said that over 38.5 trillion rials (about \$138.5 million) has been invested in the mentioned 95 projects.

Stating that about three percent of the country's drinking water is supplied through water desalination plants, she said: "Over 92 percent of the country's water desalination plants are located in Hormozgan, Bushehr, Sistan-Baluchistan and Khuzestan provinces."

According to the official, most of the country's desalination plants are operated by the private sector which sell their produced water to the Energy Ministry through long-term contracts.

She noted that, on average, about 98,000 rials (over \$0.35) was spent to produce a cubic meter of water by the county's water desalination facilities in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20), which was paid to the



contractors by the government.

The official further noted that the government plans to support the country's desalination companies to increase their output.

"Based on the government's plan to develop the capacity of water desalination plants and to expand the use of these facilities, over the next four years, at least 400,000 cubic meters per day will be added to the capacity of the country's water desalination plants," Golrizan said.

She also mentioned the projects for transferring the Persian Gulf water to central provinces and said: "In addition to the desalination plant projects, there are also large water transfer projects, which are primarily implemented with the aim of supplying water to the industrial sector, however, when there is a need for drinking water, this capacity can be used and will be used in the future."

## TEDPIX gains 2,400 points on Tuesday



TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), gained 2,412 points on Tuesday.

As reported, TEPIX closed at 1.43 million points, as over 3.615 billion securities worth 21.662 trillion rials (about \$77.92 million) were traded at the TSE.

The first market's index rose 1,658 points, and the second market's index gained 5,184 points.

TSE is on the four Iranian stock exchanges, the other three ones are Iran Mercantile Exchange (IME), Iran Energy Exchange (IRENEX), and Iran's over-the-counter (OTC) market, known as Iran Fara Bourse (IFB).

Unprecedented fluctuations in the Iranian stock market over the past few months have led shareholders, experts, and scholars to call for the government to increase its support for the market.

Following the rising concerns over the market conditions, in early April, the Government Economic Coordination Headquarters, in its 216th meeting, approved some new directives for regulating the stock market.

## Transit through Iran's commercial ports increases 44%

TEHRAN – Transit of goods via Iran's commercial ports has increased by 44 percent since the beginning of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21), according to the head of the country's Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO).

"Port transit has grown by 44 percent this year, and despite the restrictions caused by the sanctions, the development plans of this organization in various sectors and areas are being pursued seriously," Ali-Akbar Safaei said at a meeting of the organization's supreme council on Monday.

As reported by the TPO portal, the meeting was attended by senior officials including the representatives of Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Transport and Urban Development, Planning and Budget Organization (PBO), and the members of the PMO executive committee, as well as a group of managers with this organization.

Speaking at the meeting, Safaei stated that currently, more than 200 large and small commercial ports are providing services to regulate sea traffic and ship goods in the north

# Transit of goods via Iran rises 31% in 4 months on year

From page 1 ► The 68-percent growth in transit last year and the 39-percent rise in the first two months of this year promise to reach 15 million tons of goods passing through Iran in the current year, which has been unprecedented in the entire history of the country, he added.

The policy of paying attention to neighbors and developing political and economic relations with

neighboring countries in the current government, increasing attention to road and rail routes in the world and the efforts and cooperation of transportation and trade-related organizations in establishing or activating corridors through the country has led to significant growth in transit of goods through Iran.

Iran is one of the countries that has a special status in trade and transit relations due to its strategic



location and special geography, as the country is the passage of several important international corridors.

Considering its geographical location, Iran can play a significant role in the transit of goods in the region and benefit a lot from its status in this due.

Paying attention to upstream documents, especially the country's development plans, and the

government's decision to develop transit, paying special attention to infrastructure development, reducing transit time, making it cheaper to cross Iran and making more advantages over competitors, due to the short path for customers, can lead to facilitating the development of transit so that the country can reach the desired growth in this due.

## Iran exports commodities worth nearly \$2.4b to Iraq in 4 months

TEHRAN- Iran exported non-oil products valued at \$2.398 billion to Iraq in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-July 22), according to the data released by the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA).

Based on the IRICA data, Iraq was Iran's second main export destination in the four-month period.

Increasing non-oil exports to the neighboring countries is one of the major plans that the Iranian government has been pursuing in recent years.

The value of Iran's exports to Iraq rose 20 percent during the previous Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20) as compared to the preceding year.

As reported, Iran exported \$8.916 billion worth of commodities to its neighbor in the mentioned year, making Iraq the Islamic Republic's second-biggest trade partner.

Exports to Iraq accounted for 18.3 percent of the country's total non-oil shipments in the previous year.

As stated by the chairman of the Iran-Iraq Joint Chamber of Commerce, Iran is planning



to boost its annual trade with neighboring Iraq to \$20 billion.

Speaking in a business forum between Iran and Iraq's Kirkuk province last December, Yahya Al-e Eshagh said the Iranian and Iraqi governments are determined to develop regional cooperation in all areas.

"Despite all events that are happening in the region, the relationship between the two countries of Iran and Iraq are on the upward trajectory," the official said.

The current administration of Iran under President Raisi has shown great interest in

broadening and enhancing trade and economic ties with neighboring states, he emphasized.

Elsewhere in his remarks, the chairman of the Iran-Iraq Joint Chamber of Commerce pointed to the country's planning for a \$20 billion trade with Iraq and put the current trade volume exchange between the two countries at about \$13-\$14 billion.

Iran and Iraq signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on economic cooperation back in January 2021, at the end of the fourth meeting of the two countries' Joint Economic Committee.

During the committee meeting, technical committees were formed in various business fields to discuss technical and engineering services and other topics of interest. The meeting also proposed and supported the establishment of a joint investment fund between the two countries and hopes to continue its path.

Good agreements were also reached to review establishing a shipping corridor and increasing the number of Iraqi aircrafts passing over Iran.

## Tehran, Sakha private sectors gather to explore trade opportunities

TEHRAN – A trade delegation from Russia's Sakha Republic led by the state's Deputy Prime Minister Kirill Bychkov visited Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) on Tuesday to meet with Tehran private sector representatives and to explore avenues of mutual cooperation.

As reported by the TCCIMA portal, the meeting was attended by Head of Iran Export Confederation Mohammad Lahouti, TCCIMA Deputy Head for International Affairs Hesamedin Hallaj, and the economic representative of the Russian Embassy in Tehran as well as managers of some Iranian companies.

Cooperation in various fields including foodstuff, woodwork, oil and gas, information and communication technology, precious stones, and construction were among the issues raised and



discussed by the two sides in this meeting.

Addressing the gathering, Lahouti pointed to the beginning of a new era of economic cooperation between Iran and Russia after the recent visits of the presidents of the two countries and expressed hope that these meetings would increase the two sides' economic exchanges.

Referring to the imposition of sanctions against Iran and Russia, Lahouti said: "Cooperation between the two countries can help neutralize the sanctions."

He stated that Russia, as Iran's largest northern neighbor, can

be a corridor for the expansion and development of Iran's foreign trade, and in return, the country can benefit from Iran's capacities to increase its trade interactions.

Lahoti underlined the creation of a joint financial channel for the transfer of funds as one of the solutions for developing relations under sanctions and said: "Changing the model of bilateral cooperation from export and import to joint cooperation such as swapping, re-export, and joint production is a necessity. Therefore, in order to achieve the mentioned goals, it is necessary to establish joint industrial and commercial committees between the two countries."

The official who is also the head of the TCCIMA Trade Facilitation and Export Development Committee said: "Having 30,000 active members TCCIMA is ready to take the lead in creating these joint committees."

Elsewhere in the gathering, Bychkov, in his turn, pointed out the potential fields of cooperation between the Russian and Iranian private sectors and stated that there is a bright perspective for the future of economic cooperation between the two countries.

"Sakha is the largest region of the Russian Federation and its area is equal to that of India," he said.

According to Bychkov, Russia's largest gas fields are located in the Republic of Sakha, and despite its large size, the region has a very small population.

"The volume of foreign trade of this state was five billion dollars last year, which was 60 percent more than the same period of the preceding year. This state has also been ranked first in the Russian Federation in terms of attracting foreign capital," he said.

## Oil Ministry following strict plans to fund development projects: Oji

TEHRAN – Iranian Oil Minister Javad Oji said on Monday that his ministry is seriously following the plans for funding the oil industry's development projects, Shana reported.

Speaking on the national TV, Oji noted that recent studies show that over \$160 billion of investment is required to complete the country's oil industry development projects over the next eight years.

"Planning has been done to provide this figure, and considering the current progress [in our plans] there will be no problem in this regard," he said.

The official noted that the current government has so far attracted over \$80 billion for the country's oil and gas projects and an agreement worth \$40 billion has also been signed with Russia's Gazprom.

Our priority is developing joint oil and gas fields, he said, adding: "In the downstream sector, we reached an agreement with Gazprom to build gas transmission and export pipelines to countries such as Oman and Pakistan."

"We have also signed 28 contracts with a total value of over one billion dollars for collecting flare gas, most of which have been signed with private companies that will use the collected gas as payment," Oji added.



and south of the country.

He pointed to the development of the marine

fleet as one of the most serious demands of this organization from commercial shipping companies and announced the purchase of eight large commercial vessels to operate in the Caspian Sea and the order to build four ocean-going vessels in the south of the country.

Elsewhere in the gathering, Mehdi Nourani, head of the Center for Assembly Affairs and Contract Supervision at the Transport Ministry, pointed to the positive performance of the PMO in the current year, saying that there have been improvements in various sectors including

port transit, loading and unloading of goods, growth of non-governmental investments and development of port infrastructure, especially in small ports.

Referring to the government's new approach for the development of port and maritime cooperation with neighboring countries and the region, he emphasized: "By using the capacities of all entities and institutions active in the field of trade, it is possible to increase the contribution of the Ports and Maritime Organization in international trade."



# Biden Brings as much shame to Americans as MBS brings to Muslims

From page 1 ► - justice  
- the eradication of poverty  
- a modest lifestyle and the sharing of wealth  
- equal opportunities to develop the self  
- rulers who serve with the approval of the community  
- the management of natural resources to equally benefit every person in all generations

The Al-Sauds' transgressions have no limit and have been magnified with the arrival of Mohammad bin Salman (MBS) on the scene. Just take a glance at his horrid record:

- a palace coup
- the imprisonment and torture of hundreds of dissidents
- the execution of hundreds of Saudis under questionable judicial proceedings
- the dismemberment of Jamal Khashoggi, the Washington Post columnist
- the purchase of a yacht with a price tag of about \$750 million
- the purchase of a palace in France (<https://www.cogemad.com/property/chateau-louis-xiv/>) along with gold furnishings that would conservatively exceed \$400 million
- a visit to France and Greece with an entourage of 700, 7 planes, 350 limousines and much more (<https://medium.com/@MiddleEastEye/limousines-dieticians-chateau-mohammed-bin-salmans-opulent-europe-trip-d6e56d81f6e8>)
- many other ostentatious assets that are hard for a decent person to imagine



- a war in Yemen (with American weapons, support and intelligence) that has caused over 350,000 casualties and been called a genocide by the United Nations

- "investing" \$2 billion with Jared Kushner against the advice of his own advisors

- "investing" billions in a golf circuit and other sports to "clean" his name

Such opulence alongside horrendous destitution in Saudi Arabia with Muslims all over the Middle East (West Asia) wallowing in poverty, with Palestinians in the West Bank and in Gaza suffering distress and privation without food and medicines. It is in hardship that many transgress and commit crimes. All this in

a country whose entire wealth comes from oil, in Islam a God-given depletable resource to benefit every member of all generations equally. As Muslims, the al-Sauds are carrying out the greatest theft of all time, in contravention to everything that Islam preaches.

While the al-Sauds have shamed all Muslims, Biden of Arabia has brought shame on America with his U-turn on MBS and his pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia for oil. Candidate Biden said of the al-Sauds "there is very little social redeeming value in the government" and vowed to make the Saudis "pay the price, and make them in fact the pariah that they are." This is the country whose citizens perpetrated 9/11. Yet President Biden went to Saudi

**"America does not stand for human rights and the oppressed, but for short-sighted self-interest."**

## Biden says al-Qaeda leader al-Zawahiri killed in airstrike in Afghanistan



U.S. President Joe Biden said in a report aired on TV on Monday that al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri has been killed in a CIA drone strike on a residential area in Kabul, Afghanistan's capital.

"I gave the final approval to go get him," Biden said.

Al-Zawahiri, 71, took al-Qaeda leadership after Osama bin Laden was killed in Pakistan in May 2011.

"Justice has been delivered and this terrorist leader is no more," Biden said. He also claimed there were no civilian casualties in the attack.

Taliban confirmed the U.S. airstrike on a residence in the Sherpur area of Kabul. They condemned the attack as a violation of international law and a breach of a deal signed between the U.S. and Taliban forces.

U.S. troops withdrew from Afghanistan almost a year ago after the Taliban signed the 2020 Doha deal in which they agreed not

to allow Afghanistan to be used again as a launchpad for international terrorists, but experts believe the group never broke their ties with Al-Qaeda.

Al-Zawahiri was an Egyptian surgeon who grew up in Cairo and later moved to Europe before joining bin Laden.

With a \$25m reward on his head, al-Zawahiri helped coordinate the September 11, 2001 attacks on the U.S. that killed nearly 3,000 people.

Earlier, U.S. officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, told reporters that the CIA carried out a drone attack in Kabul using two missiles. Al-Zawahiri was on his balcony at the time, they said, Al Jazeera reported.

## Washington is making the same blunder regarding Taiwan that it did in Ukraine

Tensions between the United States and the People's Republic of China (PRC) are rising sharply over the Taiwan issue. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's stated intention to include a stop in Taipei to meet with Taiwanese officials during her forthcoming trip to East Asia is the latest source of trouble. Pelosi apparently escalated that provocation further by inviting other prominent members of Congress to join her in that stop. Her actions have caused even the staunchly pro-Taiwan Biden administration to quietly press her to change her plans. Conversely, congressional hawks are urging Pelosi not to back down.

The reason for the administration's caution are readily apparent. Beijing has reacted with unusually intense anger to the prospective visit, with President Xi Jinping warning the United States not to "play with fire" on the Taiwan issue. Pelosi's visit is the latest - and most serious - in a series of U.S. actions over the past several years that have infuriated PRC leaders. The Biden administration needs to exercise even greater wariness about Pelosi's venture than it already has. Indeed, Washington needs to back away from its overall hardline policy toward the PRC.

For 4 decades after Washington shifted diplomatic relations from Taipei to Beijing in 1979 and passed the Taiwan Relations Act to govern reduced, informal relations with Taiwan, US administrations were careful to limit visits to the island to low-level officials. That restraint diminished dramatically during Donald Trump's presidency, when Congress authorized and the administration approved meetings by National Security Advisor John Bolton and other Cabinet-level officials with their Taiwanese counterparts. Those trips were part of a new policy of much stronger US diplomatic and military support for Taiwan - a course of action that the Biden administration has continued, despite insisting that the United States still adheres to a "one-China" policy.

Beijing's complaints about Washington's actions have steadily intensified, and they have now reached openly confrontational levels with respect to the Pelosi visit. The Biden administration needs to take the PRC's warnings more seriously. In many ways, Washington's determination to press ahead with greater support for Taiwan as part of an overall containment policy directed against China is

reminiscent of the blunders US officials made with respect to NATO expansion, especially the campaign to incorporate Ukraine, and Washington's tone-deaf response to Moscow's escalating complaints.

Biden administration policymakers dismissed the Kremlin's repeated warnings that trying to make Ukraine a NATO military asset would cross a red line with respect to Russia's security interests. They discovered belatedly that Russian President Vladimir Putin was not about to cower and accept US diktats simply because the United States insisted that Ukraine had a "right" to join NATO. Nor did he accept Washington's accelerating campaign to make Ukraine a de facto US military and intelligence ally perched on Russia's border.

The outcome of Washington's approach has been horrifyingly bloody and tragic for the people of Ukraine. Even more worrisome, the administration's policies have led to an extremely dangerous confrontation between NATO and a nuclear-armed Russia, with the United States and NATO cynically using Ukraine as a pawn in a proxy war against Moscow.

Washington risks making a comparable blunder in its dealings

with China. The administration must implement a quiet retreat regarding its growing political and military ties to Taipei and adopt a less confrontational approach to Beijing. Moreover, that change needs to go well beyond merely discouraging Pelosi's provocative visit to Taipei. It has become increasingly obvious to PRC leaders that the United States is pursuing a full-blown anti-China containment policy, with Taiwan as the point of the spear, in a desperate effort to preserve Washington's fading strategic primacy in East Asia. It is highly unlikely that Beijing will passively accept such an intrusive US presence in China's core security sphere over the long term. As the PRC's economic and military power continues to grow, Beijing's resistance to Washington's hegemonic efforts will escalate.

US arrogance and inflexibility helped lead to the current tragedy in Ukraine. Policymakers blew through red warning light after red warning light from the Kremlin. A similar approach seems to be taking place in Washington's relations with Beijing, and it threatens to produce a similar ugly outcome in East Asia over the Taiwan issue.

(Source: antiwar.com)

## UN chief warns of "nuclear annihilation"

From page 1 ► He noted that the conference is an opportunity to hammer out the measures that will help avoid a certain disaster and help return the world on a new path "free of nuclear weapons"

There are only a handful of countries that have nuclear weapons. Tensions in the West Asia region tend to stem from the Israeli regime. The apartheid occupation not only occupies Palestinian land but is also in possession of hundreds of nuclear weapons.

At the same time the regime is not a party to any nuclear treaty, nor does it allow the International Atomic Energy Organization (The IAEA or UN nuclear watchdog) to inspect any of its nuclear weapons sites. Ironically, Israel was not exposed during the UN Secretary General's speech.

On the other hand, the Islamic Republic of Iran has been under the most robust IAEA inspections regime despite having a civilian nuclear program for energy and all the reports from the UN nuclear watchdog have stated Iran's program is peaceful.

Iran has regularly voiced its strong opposition to any nation possessing nuclear weapons or any weapons of mass destruction at all. The country itself has been subject to attacks by weapons of mass destruction, the survivors of which are still suffering from the effects today in Iranian hospitals.

Elsewhere, the Secretary-General outlined five areas for action, starting with reinforcing and reaffirming the norm against the use of nuclear weapons, which he underlined, requires steadfast commitment.

He said "we urgently need to reinforce and reaffirm the 77-year-old norm against

the reduction and limitation of relevant weapons have also been fulfilled," he said.

The Russian leader stressed that over the more than half of a century of its existence, the NPT had become one of the key elements of the international system of security and strategic stability.

The commitments that it stipulates in the spheres of non-proliferation, disarmament, and the peaceful uses of nuclear powerfully meet the interests of both nuclear and non-nuclear states.

"We are convinced that all NPT-compliant countries should have the right of access to civilian nuclear power without any additional terms whatsoever. We are ready to share with the partners our experience in the field of nuclear energy," he pointed out.

He stressed that Moscow attaches great importance to the IAEA guarantee system "as a verification mechanism of the NPT and believes that it is very important to ensure its unbiased, depoliticized and technically grounded use."

In conclusion, Putin expressed the certainty that the conference would confirm the readiness of all NPT member countries to strictly comply with their commitments and make a tangible contribution to enhancing non-proliferation and world peace, security, and stability.

Russia wants to find out whether U.S. President Joe Biden's remarks about the need to negotiate a treaty to replace the New START when it expires in 2026 were an invitation to dialogue or just "lofty rhetoric," Russian diplomats have said.

The Russian delegation to the 10th Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation



the use of nuclear weapons. This requires a steadfast commitment from all States Parties. It means finding practical measures that will reduce the risk of nuclear war and put us back on the path to disarmament."

"We need to strengthen all avenues of dialogue and transparency.

Peace cannot take hold in an absence of trust and mutual respect."

He also cited that "reducing the risk of war is not enough. Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee they will never be used. We must work relentlessly towards this goal," he pointed out.

"This must start with new commitments to shrink the numbers of all kinds of nuclear weapons so that they no longer hang by a thread over humanity."

The UN Secretary-General cited the fighting in Ukraine among the conflicts driving the risk to a level not seen since the height of the Cold War. "All this at a time when the risks of proliferation are growing and guardrails to prevent escalation are weakening," he noted.

Also addressing the opening day of the conference, Russian President Vladimir Putin said there can be no winners in a nuclear war, and such a war "must never be fought".

"We advocate equal and inseparable security for all members of the international community," he underscored in a message of greeting uploaded to the Kremlin's website.

Putin said that Russia as a signatory to the NPT consistently followed its letter and spirit. "our obligations under bilateral agreements with the United States on

Treaty (NPT) said in a statement, published by Russia's permanent mission that "[U.S.] Secretary [of State Antony] Blinken cited President Biden's words regarding the readiness of the U.S. administration to negotiate a new arms control framework to replace New START when it expires in 2026. The U.S. President added that negotiation required a willing partner (implying Russia) 'operating in good faith.' We truly wonder if the U.S. side is indeed ready to negotiate or if it is mere 'lofty rhetoric,'"

"It was the United States that unilaterally withdrew from the dialogue on strategic stability with Russia citing the developments around Ukraine as a pretext," the delegation said.

Russia has accused the West of waging a "proxy war" against it by arming Ukraine and imposing sanctions on Moscow.

"The U.S. did this even though the goal of that dialogue was to lay down the groundwork for future arms control and risk reduction measures, i.e. with a view to making new relevant agreements. So it is high time Washington made up its mind, stopped rushing around, and told us frankly what it is that they want - escalate the situation in the area of international security or embark on equal negotiations."

The New START Treaty was struck in 2011, the treaty has been extended to the end of February 4, 2026.

Among the many agreements, Washington, in particular, former President Trump withdrew the United States from, was the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty with Russia in a blow to world peace and security.



## Niasar’s Chahar-Taq exemplar of Sassanid architecture, tourism official says

TEHRAN—A tourism official has said Niasar’s Chahar-Taq, which is an ancient square-shaped brick room surmounted by a domed roof, is an exemplar of fine architecture in the time of Sassanids.

“Niasar’s Chahar-Taq (Chahartaq) is a clear example of architectural knowledge and construction technology in the Sassanid period, and people feel responsible for this magnificent work as a national and transnational cultural heritage,” ISNA quoted Kashan’s tourism chief Ahmad Danaeinia as saying on Tuesday.

Danaeinia made the remarks after an unauthorized attempt to widen a nearby read posed a potential threat to the ancient monument, the report said.

“Yesterday, some people, without coordination, attempted to widen a road that crosses near the monument. However, the operation was stopped with the timely presence of the cultural heritage protection unit, and upon the order of the Kashan’s prosecutor,” the official said.

“We do our best to remove obstacles, but, based on our mission and duty, we are obliged to safeguard the cultural heritage of our country, which is the pride of every Iranian.... and we will not give up any efforts in this regard,” the official said.

Experts say this architectural form turned into the most typical form of Sassanid religious architecture, relating closely to the expansion and stabilization of Zoroastrianism under the Sassanid reign and continuing during the Islamic era thanks to its usage in religious and holy buildings such as mosques and tombs.

### Arts and architecture at the time of Sassanids

The Sassanid era (224 CE–651) is of very high importance in the history of Iran. Under Sassanids, Persian art and architecture experienced a general renaissance. Architecture often took grandiose proportions, such as palaces at Ctesiphon, Firuzabad, and Sarvestan, which are amongst the highlights of the ensemble.

Crafts such as metalwork and gem-engraving grew highly sophisticated, yet scholarship was encouraged by the state. In those years, works from both the East and West were translated into Pahlavi, the language of the Sassanians.

Rock-carved sculptures and bas-reliefs on abrupt limestone cliffs are widely deemed as characteristics and striking relics of Sassanian art, top examples of which can be traced at Bishapur, Naqsh-e Rostam, and Naqsh-e Rajab in southern Iran.

## Monsoon flood uncovers public bathhouse in southern Iran

TEHRAN—A recent torrential downpour has washed away soil from the top of a subterranean public bathhouse in southern Iran.

“Heavy rains caused the ground to subside and reveal the roof of a large bathhouse in the town of Anar in Kerman province,” ISNA quoted an archaeologist as saying on Monday.

“Constructed some 160 years ago by the order of Mohammad Ismail Khan Nouri (Vaki al-Molk), the ruler of Kerman in the Qajar period, the bathhouse was buried decades ago due to a flood and its exact location was not known,” Mohammadreza Nasababdollahi said.

“Unfortunately, all the historical bathhouses in Anar have been destroyed by human factors in the past periods, and this one is the only remaining historical bath of the town that has been spared from human destruction due to being buried under the soil.”

He expressed hope that the bathhouse to be safeguarded and preserved with the help of the provincial directorate for tourism and cultural heritage.

“I hope Kerman’s General Directorate of Cultural Heritage will put the rescue operation of this 160-year-old bath on the agenda and prevent its destruction,” the archaeologist said.

Public bathhouses in Iran were not the only places for bathing and cleaning up. They had a social concept for people who gathered at these places weekly. It was a place where people talked with each other about their daily life and shared humor and news.

Some bathhouses are still operational, but

In 2018, UNESCO added an ensemble of Sassanian historical cities in southern Iran — titled “Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars Region”— to its World Heritage list. The ensemble comprises eight archaeological sites situated in three geographical parts of Firuzabad, Bishapur, and Sarvestan. It reflects the optimized utilization of natural topography and bears witness to the influence of Achaemenid and Parthian cultural traditions and of Roman art, which later had a significant impact on the architecture and artistic styles of the Islamic era.

Efforts made by the Sassanids also yield a revival of Iranian nationalism took place, for example, Zoroastrianism was declared the state religion. The dynasty evolved by Ardashir I and was destroyed by the Arabs during the period from 637 to 651. The dynasty was named after Sasan, an ancestor of Ardashir I.

Under his leadership, who reigned from 224 to 241, the Sassanians overthrew the Parthians and created an empire that was constantly changing in size as it reacted to Rome and Byzantium to the west and the Kushans and Hephthalites to the east, according to Britannica Encyclopedia.

At the time of Shapur I (reigned 241 CE–272), the empire stretched from Sogdiana and Iberia (Georgia) in the north to the Mazun region of Arabia in the south; in the east, it extended to the Indus River, and in the west to the upper Tigris and Euphrates river valleys.

According to UNESCO, the ancient cities of Ardashir Khurreh and Bishapur include the most significant remaining testimonies of the earliest moments of the Sassanid Empire, the commencement under Ardashir I, and the establishment of power under both Ardashir I and his successor Shapur I.

“The architecture of the Sassanid monuments in the property further illustrates early examples of construction of domes with squinches on square spaces, such as in the Chahar-Taq buildings, where the four sides of the square room show arched openings: this architectural form turned into the most typical form of Sassanid religious architecture, relating closely to the expansion and stabilization of Zoroastrianism under Sassanid reign and continuing during the Islamic era thanks to its usage in religious and holy buildings such as mosques and tombs,” the UN cultural body said in its website.

The Sassanid archaeological landscape also represents a highly efficient system of land use and strategic utilization of natural topography in the creation of the earliest cultural centers of the Sassanid civilization.

the majority of them have lost their so-called social function anymore since most people have bathrooms in their homes due to the modern lifestyle.

In the old times, there were separate bathhouses for men and women, usually built next to each other. However, there were some bathhouses, which were used by men and women at different times of the day. There were also male and female public bathhouses; at daybreak, a longhorn (Booq-e javaz) was blown to announce that the bath was ready. Men came to the baths from daybreak till the afternoon. Women could use the bathhouses from then to sunset. In some cases, five days were allocated to the men and two days to women.

Persian literature is full of proverbs, narrations, and folk stories about bathhouses, which indicate the importance of the place in the pastime.

Kerman province is something of a cultural melting pot, blending various regional cultures over time. It is also home to rich tourist spots and historical sites, including bazaars, mosques, caravanserais, and ruins of ancient urban areas. Kerman is bounded by the provinces of Fars in the west, Yazd in the north, South Khorasan in the northeast, Sistan-Baluchestan in the east, and Hormozgan in the south. It includes the southern part of the central Iranian desert, the Dasht-e Lut.

# Storytellers who give life to illustrations on large canvas

From page 1 ► The time-honored dramatic form of art is still occasionally performed across the country to commemorate the slaying of Imam Hussein (AS), grandson of the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), in the battle of Karbala in 680 CE.

Pardeh-khani is a type of storytelling combined with a laudation that is always accompanied by pictures. It is probably acting like an educational-entertainment media to form a kind of stream of consciousness for audiences to virtually travel to different times and places.

There are illustrations on a large canvas named parde, and a person called pardekhan (storyteller or minstrel) stands before the crowd, points to an illustration with a stick, and narrates its story.

This was a kind of street art and people, mostly children, and teenagers, would gather in a square, where pardekhan would tell his stories. With a long wooden stick, he would show the images and at the same time would tell the story of each majlis (act).

According to an article published by the Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts of the Shanghai University, encountering two-fold forces for creating an attractive situation on one hand and making audiences aware of the mysteries of the world, on the other hand, are the most important features of this art. The contrast between death and life, past and future, good and evil, holy



people and cruel ones, war and peace, lightness and darkness, and physical and metaphysical forces all form deep concepts which are the main elements of the purposeful business of Pardeh-Khani art, reflected both in the context of stories and in the contents of the pictures painted on curtains and those who are in charge of presenting this show including painters, storytellers and minstrels follow such concepts. Accordingly, the main objective of this study is to clarify the unknown corners and aspects of this business as a deep-rooted and noble art.

Each canvas comprised several parts called majlis, and each majlis had its own story, which was also part of the main story. Most narratives came from one of these two sources: the story of Imam Hossein (AS) and Shahnameh by Ferdowsi, the great Persian poet who composed the epic poem.

## Ten destinations to make the most of your Iran journey

TEHRAN—It is great to visit must-see attractions, as much as you can, while traversing a country. When people start planning their travels to Iran, they mostly think of big cities such as Tehran, Isfahan, Yazd, and Shiraz or ancient sights such as Persepolis or Jame Mosque of Isfahan.

To get the most out of your time, do not be limited to such cities or sights, sure there is always much more to see and enjoy. Here is a short list of some spectacular valleys you should not miss while in Iran.

### Stars Valley, Qeshm Island

Stars Valley or Valley of Stars is located on Qeshm Island and it is definitely on your “MUST SEE” list on Qeshm Island. Created as the result of the erosion of soil and stones by wind and rain, the two-million-year-old Stars Valley is located on the west of the village of Berkeh Khalaf, 5 kilometers from the southern coast of the Qeshm Island.

Locals believe that a star once fell on this area, thereby creating the rocky shapes that make it seem as if from another planet. In fact, it is the result of years of erosion by heavy precipitation. The valley is composed of marl and sandstone, and the rock formations vary from tall pillars, creating canyon-like paths, to hollowed-out spaces and smooth, round stones.

### Rainbow Valley, Hormuz Island

The entire Hormuz Island is made of Rainbow Mountains and you can freely walk through most of the middle of it. But this spot is a good place to stop and check out all the colors. In the close vicinity of Silence Valley lies the mesmerizing valley of more than 70 shades of minerals, rendering the valley a perfect subject for geology studies.

Rainbow Valley is a geologist’s dream and an inspiration for artists and nature enthusiasts. Imagine a narrow valley with multi-hued earth and sand and colorful mountains in shades of red, purple, yellow, ochre, and blue—the result of the uneven cooling of molten rock. On all sides, patches of color form geometric patterns. This awesomely photogenic natural site is at its best in the late afternoon.

### Rageh Canyon, Kerman province

Geopark of Rageh Canyon, which is a natural attraction of Kerman, is formed due to the phenomenon of erosion in the plain of Rafsanjan. The length of the valley is about 20 kilometers and the depth of the valley is 70 meters.

The opening of the valley is about 180 meters and in some places, it is less than three meters. The contrast between the flat plain and the canyon, the forms, and volumes created by the erosion of the valley has been monopolized. In some places among columns and wall peak jags there are interesting and various spatial shapes, moreover it can be seen in narrow and wide passages alongside the river and valley walls, in addition to small or big holes and cuts which some of them are natural and some are

manmade long ago. Eagle, partridge bird, and gazelle are some of the wildlife in the area, however, Rage is near the Bidoye protected area.

### Taleghan Valley, Taleghan

There are plenty of valleys to explore in Taleghan, which comprises 76 smaller villages. The first valley appears at the top of the mountain pass to enter this county, and calm, clear water reflects the villas that dot the hillside. Other tree-lined villages sit in the valleys, surrounded by slopes lined with walnut trees fed by roaring rivers down the center. Wild horses and bell sounds of the grazing sheep make frequent appearances, creating the perfect escape from busy city life.

### Alamut Valley, Qazvin

Located between the dry plains of Qazvin and the forested hills of Mazandaran Province, the Alamut Valley rewards those who spend some time hiking through it. Alamut, the valley of assassins, the fort of eagles is a natural and historical oddity in Iran. The ominous reputation of the region as the center of power for one of the most feared military forces in history is only augmented by the unimaginable expanse of its valley and formidable mountains that strike one as the massive bodies of giants in hibernation.

If you are interested in hiking, Alamut Valley is one of the best places for hiking and mountain climbing. You can visit Ovan Lake and capture picturesque photos, walk through the ancient and see the Castel of Hasan Sabbah, and stay at a local house in one of the beautiful villages of Alamut Valley.

### Lar Valley, Tehran

Lar Valley sits at the foothills of Mount Damavand. Given its diverse ecosystems, it is home to various birds, reptiles, mammals, and amphibians. As it’s only open for a few months during the year, it’s best visited from May to June when the landscape is covered with bright yellow wildflowers and wild red poppies, adding a lovely contrast with the azure waters of Lar Dam.

Lar Valley is one of the best places for hiking, mountain climbing, and even cycling.**Kool Khersan (khersoon), Dezful**

The reason for naming is not determined exactly. Kool means a closed valley and Khersan is the plural form of Khers, meaning Bear. People believed that bears were living there before.

The Kool Khersan (khersoon) valley or Dezful’s Ghost Valley is a natural tourist attraction in Khuzestan Province. It is more than 200 meters deep and its walls are covered with Siavoshan herbs and waterfalls, and beautifully watered canyons. The entrance to Kool Khersan is covered with trees (Cedar) and palm trees, and the massive gravestones and grapevine trees, and wildlife figs have made this place look like the strange valleys of movies.

### Shirez Valley, Lorestan

Lorestan Province is known for its natural beauty,

also employed for more impressive purposes.

The curtains were painted with simple pictures, without any naturalism and shading techniques and traditional perspectives, which were being utilized in them to emphasize the ideological and religious aspects to impress deeply the audiences. Breaking down space, time and situations is one of the most important characteristics of the art of Parde-Khani resulting in a kind of suspension and postponement in the story. Another characteristic of this art is the encounter of twofold forces clarifying the deep and complex concepts hidden in them. This duality and contrast allow the audiences to analyze the messages of curtains and select their path. The existence of a kind of hidden agreement between the contrast subjects painted on curtains causes the audiences to understand relations between forces and promote their general awareness.

This great work of art which has great integration with the culture, tradition, and religion of Iranian has been inherited generation by generation so far that we can see this art as public art in the streets of Iranian cities on special days and months such as Muharram for Muslims all around the world as well as traditional Iranian festivals.

The main purpose behind this work is to familiarize the younger generation with mythical characters from ancient Iran such as Rostam and Sohrab.

and Shirez Valley is one of the most amazing places to visit and explore. It is located 45 kilometers northeast of Kuhdasht city in Lorestan Province. This great canyon is surrounded by 150 to 200 meters high walls! The erosion of stones and rocks in this area has made amazing shapes here.

Shirez canyon is of great geo touristic importance, so although it is not located in the touristic route of Iran (consisting of the main cities) it attracts so many visitors every year. This is located at the intersection of 3 provinces: Lorestan, Kermanshah, and Ilam. You’ll be surprised to know that there are some ancient sites here belonging to the Stone Age! There are also some works belonging to the cave life era. When you walk here, you can see oak and sycamore trees across the valley. Mother Nature also has grapes, figs, and wild pears here for you. The best time to visit Shirez canyon is during spring and summer because the mountains in this area make a temperate climate during spring and summer. But during winter and fall, it gets cold here.

### Dohezar Valley, Tonekabon

The sensational Dohezar Valley sits outside Tonekabon, a city in the Mazandaran Province along the Caspian Sea, and is still commonly referred to by its former name, Shahsavar. Peace of mind and a cool climate await visitors who vacation here in the summer, escaping the chaos and heat of other parts of the country. Thick forests, open grazing fields, and flowing streams make up the heavenly atmosphere, and it’s also a fabulous place to catch the Mazandarani dialect and culture of the local villagers.

### Abyaneh Valley, Isfahan

As a village of great antiquity, Abyaneh is like a living architectural and anthropological museum. It presents an impressive model of the man adapting to the environment. It is located on the northwestern slope of Mount Karkas, 40 kilometers from Natanz, in Isfahan province. It is 2,500 meters above sea level. A road links Abyaneh to the main Kashan-Natanz highway in a region called Hanjan, which is 55 kilometers and 25 kilometers away from Kashan and Abyaneh respectively. Abyaneh is mainly watered by the Barzrud River. Set on the slope of the lofty mountain of Karkas, this village has a cold climate with numerous springs creating a favorable condition for agriculture. Given the evidence found in Abyaneh, the village dates back to antiquity, but its golden age was during the Safavid era. The word ‘Abyaneh’ has been derived from the word ‘viona’ meaning ‘Willow Grove’ (in the local dialect ‘vey’ means willow).



# Venezuela seeks to use Iran’s technological capabilities

TEHRAN – Iranian Vice President for Science and Technology Sourena Sattari and Venezuelan Minister of Science and Technology Gabriela Servilia Jimenez discussed enhanced technological cooperation in the field of agriculture, medicine, and medical equipment.

In a meeting in Tehran on Monday, Jimenez said that medical equipment, animal husbandry technologies, cultivation of medicinal plants, animal medicine, agriculture, advanced materials, and the environment are among the areas where Venezuela is interested in using Iran’s capabilities.

Iran can provide significant help to Venezuela’s health sector, the pharmaceutical sector has faced the most damage due to sanctions, and we need raw materials and active pharmaceutical ingredients. These materials are included in the field of all medicines, including recombinant bio-chemicals and specifically, anti-cancer drugs, linear accelerators, and equipment, she explained.

Stem cells are one of the areas where we are interested in sharing our experiences with Iran and using Iran’s achievements, she highlighted.

She went on to say that “Venezuela is the ninth country in the world in terms of biodiversity and we are ready to cooperate in the field of medicinal plants, which can be a beneficial capacity for technological development.”

One of the challenges of



technological interactions is the mechanism of financial exchanges between the two countries, for which a solution must be prepared with two-way interactions, Sattari stated, noting that many knowledge-based companies use innovative tools to deal with sanctions.

For Iran-made products to enter the Venezuelan market, especially in the pharmaceutical and medical fields, a specific mechanism for approvals and standards should be defined and introduced to the firms, he stated.

**Knowledge-based companies**  
Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei designated the current Iranian year as “The Year of Production: Knowledge-Based and Job-Creating”.

Strengthening knowledge-based companies is on the agenda, raising hope for reducing obstacles on the path to de-

velopment.

The Leader has called on all Iranians, including citizens and government officials, to work hard to boost knowledge-based production and create new jobs.

Today, the country’s knowledge-based ecosystem accounts for more than 3 percent of GDP. And the figure is projected to reach 5 percent, however, the main goal is to step toward a 10 percent share in GDP, Sourena Sattari told Fars on February 13.

The share of knowledge-based companies in the country’s economy has exceeded 9 quadrillion rials (about \$34 billion), and since 2019, it has experienced a growth of more than 450 percent, he stated.

There are currently 6,263 knowledge-based companies operating in the country, offering advanced products and services in various fields of technology to domestic and foreign markets, and

some of them have entered international markets, Siavash Maleki, deputy head of the Fund, stated.

The fields of aircraft maintenance, steel, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment, oil, and gas are among the sectors that researchers in technology companies have engaged in, leading to import reduction.

Medical equipment, animal husbandry, medicinal plants, agriculture, and the environment are among the areas where Venezuela is interested in using Iran’s capabilities.

The knowledge-based firms exported \$836 million of goods in the first three months of this year (started March 21), Mehdi Safari, deputy minister of foreign affairs for economic diplomacy, said.

While in the same period last year, the export value of these companies’ goods was \$400 million, he highlighted.

Iranian knowledge-based companies marketed their products in 70 countries, and in some global markets have overtaken European and American companies, Siavash Maleki, deputy head of the Innovation and Prosperity Fund, said.

## Abu Akleh, Mandela announced winners of Islamic Human Rights Award

TEHRAN – The 7th Islamic Human Rights and Human Dignity Award announced Shireen Abu Akleh, a veteran Palestinian journalist, and Mandla Mandela, the grandson of icon Nelson Mandela, as the winners during a ceremony in Tehran on Tuesday.

The Award is granted to a scholar with outstanding works and a martyr for explaining Islamic human rights.

Shireen Abu Akleh worked as a reporter for the Arabic-language channel Al Jazeera for 25 years and was one of the most prominent names across West Asia, who was shot and killed on May 11 while covering a raid by Israeli defense forces.

Mandla Mandela, one of the pioneers of the new anti-apartheid wave of the Zionist regime, won the Award for his support for the Palestinian people.

Iran Judiciary head Gholam Hossein Mohseni-Eje’i, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, a number of other officials, as well as ambassadors of Islamic countries in Tehran participated in the event.

According to Secretary of Human Rights Headquarters of Iran Kazem Gharibabadi, this year, 35 candidates from 22 countries were introduced to receive this award, and in the end.

The Islamic Human Rights and Human Dignity Award is an honorary award that the High Council for Human Rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran grants to human rights activists or victims of human rights violations (either natural or legal persons) effectively and prom-



inently involved in Islamic human rights issues, notwithstanding religion, race, color, gender and nationality, the website of Iran’s high council for human rights reported.

Winners of the Islamic Human Rights and Human Dignity Committee will receive a plaque of honor and a certificate of merit as well as 10 full-size gold coins, the source added.

**Declaration of Islamic Human Rights seeks to develop high human values**

Emphasizing that the Declaration of Islamic Human Rights seeks to develop and explain high human values, Gharibabadi said that the West has always tried to impose its liberal values on other societies by ignoring the values of other countries, including Muslim countries.

Observance of human rights is one of the main challenges of human rights in the world today. Today, human dignity is subject to violation, cultural, social, and political dominance, war, embargo, destruction and environmental hazards, and poverty are among the components that have marked world peace, he added.

The Award is granted to human rights activists or victims of human rights violations, notwithstanding religion, race, color, gender and nationality.

## FDA imports medicine for SMA patients

TEHRAN – The first batch of SPINRAZA – a drug special for patients suffering from spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) – has arrived in the country, the Food and Drug Administration director announced on Tuesday.

SPINRAZA is a prescription medicine used to treat SMA in pediatric and adult patients.

Another medicine will also be provided to patients in the near future, ISNA quoted FDA director Bahram Daraei as saying.

According to the Ministry of Health, there are 500 SMA patients are living in the country, for them, the FDA pays 4 trillion rials (about \$13 million) annually to cover their treatment costs.

The National Document on Rare Diseases has been approved in December 2020, with the aim of preventing the birth of infants with rare diseases and removing medical and therapeutic problems.

The Majlis (Iranian Parliament) has approved a total of 50 trillion rials (about \$156m) for the treatment of patients with rare diseases, Health Minister Bahram Einollahi has said.

A total of 250 trillion rials (around \$943 million) has been proposed in the budget bill for the current year (started on March 21) to support and treat patients with rare diseases.

The National Document on Rare Diseases was approved in 2020 to prevent the birth of infants with rare diseases and remove medical and therapeutic problems.

For the first time in the budget bill, a fund has been set up to support patients with such diseases, Hamidreza Haji Babaei, chairman of the planning and budget committee of the parliament (Majlis), said in February.

U.S. sanctions have directly impacted the lives of Iran’s most vulnerable citizens, including women, children, and patients.

In May 2018, the U.S. began to unilaterally impose sanctions against Iran after the former left the Iran agreement, officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

The sanctions, preserved under the Joe Biden administration, have restricted the financial channels necessary to

pay for basic goods and medicine, undermining supply chains by limiting the number of suppliers willing to facilitate sales of humanitarian goods to the country.

Iran has repeatedly denounced the sanctions



as an act of “economic war”, “economic terrorism”, and “medical terrorism”.

Under the current circumstances, the Government of Iran has provided special financial packages as well as social and economic rehabilitation plans for poor and people in the vulnerable situation along with economic support measures, especially for small businesses, Zahra Ershadi, deputy permanent representative of Iran to the UN, said in February.

“In the meantime, treatment programs have been provided for around 4 million legal and illegal Afghan refugees,” Ershadi added.

She went on to say, “The United Nations system and its specialized agencies can play an important role in exchanging countries’ successful experiences in implementing post- COVID economic and social rehabilitation projects, as well as mobilizing international financial resources to achieve the desired national goals in the post- COVID era.”

## ENGLISH IN USE

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## Iran will defeat COVID-19, we believe: Chinese envoy

Chinese Ambassador in Iran, Chang Hua, has said he believes that Iran would overcome the crisis of coronavirus outbreak.

“We believe that by sending humanitarian aid, Iran will overcome the crisis,” he said in a meeting with Mahmoud Reza Peyravi, secretary general of the Iranian Red Crescent Society, IRNA reported.

The envoy praised Iran’s Red Crescent Society as the first organization affiliated with the Red Cross and the Red Crescent societies which sent humanitarian shipments of aid to the Chinese people.

A delegation of Chinese medical experts arrived in Tehran on Saturday with a cargo of aid to help combat the novel coronavirus, known as COVID-19.

## سفیر چین: باور داریم ایران بر بحران کرونا غلبه خواهد کرد

سفیر جمهوری خلق چین در تهران ابراز امیدواری کرد ایران بر بحران شیوع ویروس کرونا غلبه خواهد کرد.

به گزارش ایرنا، چانگ هوا روز دوشنبه در حاشیه دیدار با محمودرضا پیروی دبیرکل جمعیت هلال احمر ایران گفت: ما باور داریم که با ارسال کمک های انساندوستانه از سوی دوستان دولت ایران از بحران این بیماری عبور خواهد کرد. دیپلمات ارشد چین در ادامه ضمن قدردانی از جمعیت هلال احمر ایران به عنوان نخستین سازمان بشردوستانه عضو جمعیت های ملی صلیب سرخ و هلال احمر که محموله های کمک را برای مردم چین ارسال کرد، گفت: ما هم با شدت گرفتن ویروس کرونا در کنار ایران هستیم.

## COVID-19 UPDATES ON AUGUST 2

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| New cases                      | 9,350       |
| New deaths                     | 74          |
| Total cases                    | 7,410,075   |
| Total deaths                   | 142,134     |
| New hospitalized patients      | 1,431       |
| Patients in critical condition | 1,271       |
| Total recovered patients       | 7,084,659   |
| Diagnostic tests conducted     | 53,267,297  |
| Doses of vaccine injected      | 153,283,365 |



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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

There is no greater wealth than wisdom, no greater poverty than ignorance; no greater heritage than culture and no greater support than consultation.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon:13:11    Evening: 20:27    Dawn: 4:38 (tomorrow)    Sunrise: 6:14 (tomorrow)

## Persian influences on Indian painting

Part 3  
The 15th century

The first “Persian” miniatures attributed to a 15th-century provenance in Sultanate India were from a Khamsa of Amir Khosrow Dehlavi, known from some thirty-three illustrated or illuminated leaves.

Salient Indian characteristics, described by Richard Ettinghausen, include the presence of women wearing transparent veils, chauri bearers, thrones raised on curved brackets, handleless ewers, and Indian-type cooking pots.

Ettinghausen also noted similarities between the Khamsa illustrations and Inju paintings of Shiraz of around 1330-41, namely the double framing lines, band-like formats extending the width of the text box, and the use of red and yellow as background colors.

Other features of the Indian illustrations, such as exuberant, large floral trees filling up the background and textiles patterned with large peony blossoms or scroll-folds appear in the Inju Shahnameh of 1330 held in the Topkapi Museum Library and in Faramarz ibn Khodadad’s Samak-e ayyar of about 1330-40 in the Bodleian Library, but they also appear in contemporary Mamluk manuscripts.

Based on stylistic similarities it would seem that the dispersed Khamsa should date from the second half of the 14th century.

However, scholars have given various, later dates for the script. Richard Ettinghausen believed that the rather crude writing of the Khamsa dates to 1450 or later; Assadullah Souren Melikian Chirvani attributed the script to 1420-30, while Simon Digby compared the “proto-nastaliq” with dated manuscripts of about 1400 and even earlier.

Stylistically related later manuscripts have come to light, including a dispersed Shahnameh with four leaves in the Bharat Kala Bhavan, Varanasi, an incomplete Khamsa of Nezami Ganjavi, fully described in a London sales catalogue, and another copy of the same Khamsa in the Biblioteca dell’Accademia Nazionale die Lincei, Rome.

There is no indication of provenance in any of the manuscripts. Amir Khosrow Dehlavi was patronized by the Tughluqids (r. 1320-1414) during the last five years of his life (d. 1325), and thus their court in Delhi suggests itself as the “natural place” for prototypes of the archaic Persian imagery of the dispersed Khamsa of Amir Khosrow to have first appeared. Scholars, however, have also proposed origins in other cities of northern and western India.

Sultanate manuscripts of the late 15th and early 16th centuries

There are three main ways in which Persian influences on Indian painting of the pre-Mughal period show themselves.

At their simplest manifestation, certain Persian motifs, not necessarily taken from paintings, are introduced into indigenous works.

At another level, Persian compositions are used to “give order to” the Indian work, which usually also involves the use of select Persian motifs, including clothing.

In the most complete manifestation, Indian artists simply copy Persian paintings as best they can and reuse motifs in their Persian models to illustrate other scenes in a similar Persianate style. Examples of these three types of assimilation are given below.

Da’ud, a Muslim poet living in Avadh in the last quarter of the 14th century, wrote

a romance Candayana or Chandayana (also called Laur Chanda) in Avadhi-Hindi, which is known from a dispersed copy written in Arabic script, the bulk of it kept in the Prince of Wales Museum of Western India, Mumbai.

A miniature in the Bellak Collection, Philadelphia, shows the heroine Canda lying dead on a palette under a tree and being mourned by her lover Loraka.

Persian influence is limited to the blue, gold, and silver cloud bands and incomplete geometric interlace patterns that appear on the beige hillside and on Loraka’s yellow shield and, for the cloud bands, on the blue sky.

Here Persian influence need not have come from Persian paintings (and probably did not), since the cloud bands and interlace patterns are found on contemporary manuscript illumination and leather bindings, as well as other forms of Persian art.

Another type of borrowing from 15th-century Persian manuscripts is exemplified by the Ne’mat-nama made for the Mandu ruler Ghias ad-Din Khalji (d. 1500-01) in the British Library.

Here figures (often women in male clothing) wear various Persian and Indian garments and turbans, including a small, tightly wound turban worn high on the head, as featured in Turkman painting of the 1470s.

Some of the male attendants and at least one female in Persian dress are in three-quarter front face, as is normally found in Persian painting, while Ghias ad-Din and the women he is instructing in the arts of gracious living are shown in profile view, as is the Indian norm.

A beige landscape covered by regularly spaced semé (clumps of grass) and flowers, or a green hillside covered with low bushes and small scallops of ground cover, the high horizon, the dark blue sky, and the white, fat clouds with curving tails, all depend on Turkman models of the last third of the 15th century.

Interestingly, another manuscript, a glossary by Mohammad Shadiabadi entitled Meftah al-fozala’, made for Ghias ad-Din Khalji earlier in his long reign (1468-1501), has 179 small miniatures that are in true Turkman style, all of which are probably the work of one migrant painter from Shiraz.

Norah Titley believes that he was also responsible for the opening miniatures of the Ne’mat-nama, but maintains that a Mandu artist produced the remarkable miniatures of mixed style that are usually illustrated from this manuscript.

A third artist completed the illustration cycle during the reign of Ghias ad-Din’s son Naser ad-Din Khalji, but none of these miniatures is now reproduced. This sequence of a Persian artist and a Persianate Indian painter is, unfortunately, the only one known that is clearly dated.

A third and more elusive type of borrowing began by the second quarter of the 15th century, when Indian artists and Persian artists living in the subcontinent were ordered to copy entire Persian manuscripts or to complete the illustration cycles of books begun by Persian artists in a closely imitative style.

This difficult subject was first broached by Basil W. Robinson in 1967 and was further developed by Irma L. Fraad and Richard Ettinghausen in 1971, with Robinson adding further manuscripts to this list in 1980; and many additional ones have been proposed in the past twenty-five years.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica  
To be continued.

# Iranian films line up for Moscow documentary festival

TEHRAN – Six Iranian films will compete in the Moscow International Documentary Film Festival – Doker.

“Isatis”, “Water, Wind, Dust & Bread”, “Slow and Sluggish”, “Unrest”, “Fika & Fidan” and “Huntsman” will be screened in different sections of the festival, which will take place in the Russian capital from August 15 to 28.

“Isatis”, a documentary by Alireza Dehqan about one man’s journey to the desert in central Iran, will be the closing film of the festival. It will be competing in the Doker Kids category.

Isatis is the first adobe city and the second historical city in the world. Water, wind, soil and fire narrate the story of this thousands-year-old city. The water story is narrated by the people who built aqueducts in Isatis, a town in the heart of the desert. The story of the wind is narrated by the city of wind catchers from the people who conquered the wind to survive in a hot and dry city. The story of the soil is narrated by people who constructed the world’s oldest adobe city. The story of the sacred fire is related from Zoroastrian masters to huge factories. The story of the kind dialogue between religions and the scent of faith is also told. The secret to perfection and peaceful permanence can be found only in harmony with nature.

The winner of a special mention from the 2021 IDFA jury, “Water, Wind, Dust, Bread” will be screened in the Doker Short Competition.



A scene from the Iranian documentary “Isatis” directed by Alireza Dehqan.

Director Mehdi Zamanpur Kiasari brings a poetic story about the life of Abolfazl, an 11-year-old boy who is missing both hands. Despite his disability, Abolfazl lives a full life with his family and friend Setayesh in a palm orchard near the Afghan-Iranian border, where foreign visitors often head for eco-tourism. He and his eight-year-old friend, Setayesh, belong to a group of stateless children living in the remote border area of Iran, and having no birth certificate poses a major disadvantage for their future.

The section also features “Unrest” directed by Mohammad-

Sadeq Esmaeili. It is about a 14-year-old teenager who runs away from the house of his addicted father who forces him to live in an orphanage. Now he is trying hard to find his absent mother just for the first time. Additionally, he does not have an ID card and this is causing many problems in his daily life.

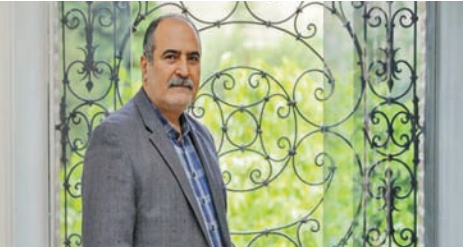
“Slow and Sluggish” by Delavar Doostanian tells the story of a pair of snails living peacefully on a beautiful plain but they decide to return to their hometown. One of them enters the city, goes into a house of characters and also faces deadly accidents on the

way. Doostanian’s “Fika & Fidan” and “Huntsman” will also be shown in the Doker Kids category.

“Fika & Fidan” is about a cat named Fidan who was rescued as a kitten by a girl and eventually lives in peace, but with the arrival of a cat named Fika he becomes stressed and acts violently against her.

“Huntsman” follows an agama reptile from the lizard family that falls in love with a female agama and starts a family. They live in peace with their child in nature until a predator enters their territory causing fatalities for them.

## Iran reaffirms ban on screening local films in Israel



Supervision and Evaluation Office director Habib Ilbeigi in an undated photo.

From Page 1 ► He said the ban includes streaming by VOD platforms and screening at festivals and theaters, and threatened to prosecute any violation.

“This issue is a red line in terms of the Iranian cinema, and accordingly, no film produced in Iran is allowed to be screened in the illicit regime of Israel,” Ilbeigi said.

“The owners of Iranian films must take the ban on screening Iranian films in the Israeli-occupied territories into consideration in

any international contract. It would not be acceptable for us if they say they have not been informed about the screening of their films in the territories,” he added.

“Since we do not recognize the Israeli regime, any interaction and cooperation with the regime will be subject to prosecution,” he noted.

Iran also enforces a ban on Iranians playing in any sports competition with athletes from the Israeli-occupied territories.

## “The Lady in the Van” arrives in Iranian bookstores

TEHRAN – A Persian translation of English writer Alan Bennett’s story “The Lady in the Van” by Mazdak Boluri has been published.

Ney is the publisher of the book originally published in 1999.

Life imitates art in “The Lady in the Van”, the story of the itinerant Miss Shepherd, who lived in a van in Bennett’s driveway from the early 1970s until her death in 1989.

It is doubtful that Bennett could have made up the eccentric Miss Shepherd if he tried, but his poignant, funny but unsentimental account of their strange relationship is akin to his



Front cover of the Persian edition of Alan Bennett’s story “The Lady in the Van”.

best fictional screenwriting.

Bennett concedes that “One seldom was able to do her a good turn without some thoughts of strangulation”, but as the plastic bags accumulated, the years pass by and Miss Shepherd moved into Bennett’s driveway, a relationship is established which defines a certain moment in late 20th-century London life which has probably gone forever.

The dissenting, liberal, middle-class world of Bennett and his peers has a hilarious but also telling collision with the world of Miss Shepherd: “There was a gap between our social position and

our social obligations. It was in this gap that Miss Shepherd (in her van) was able to live.”

Bennett recounts Miss Shepherd’s bizarre escapades in his inimitable style, from her letter to the Argentinean Embassy at the height of the Falklands War, to her attempts to stand for Parliament and wangle an electric wheelchair out of the Social Services.

Beautifully observed, “The Lady in the Van” is as notable for Bennett’s attempts to uncover the enigmatic history of Miss Shepherd, as it is for its amusing account of her eccentric escapades.

## A review of the book “We are the Children of Iran”

The latest book by Davood Amirian, “We are the Children of Iran,” is a collection of amusing stories about the imposed war.

Amirian humorously and sweetly described his experiences of the training phase during the imposed war in this book, which was published by Soore Mehr.

The author is introduced at the beginning of this book before the plot begins to unfold. You can read the sweet and interesting memories of a young man from his training in the 21st army camp of Hamza Seyed al-Shohada (AS) and during the Iran-Iraq war in this book, which is created for the adolescent

age group and written in a fictional style.

The memories included his childhood, using a different birth certificate because he was too young to be sent to the front, bitter and cheerful experiences of the training phase with other sent people who were mainly his own age or younger, attending religious classes, officials disarming guards as part of a predetermined plan, conflicts with officials, being punished and encouraged, etc.

The 5th Holy Defense Book Festival in 2000 selected this book as the best book for the diary genre.

