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Ball in U.S. Court on Nuclear Deal

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Report 

ASEAN Day 2022 celebrated in Tehran

By Mahnaz Abdi

TEHRAN- ASEAN Day 2022 was celebrated at the place of Royal Thai Embassy in Tehran on Tuesday, attended by ambassadors of some of the member countries in Iran as well as some Iranian officials, and also officials from other countries, including Russian and Indian ambassadors in Tehran.

Delivering a speech at the beginning of the ceremony, Reza Zabib, the assistant to Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and director general of Asia-Pacific Department at the Foreign Ministry, said, "As Mr. Abdollahian stated at the beginning of assuming office, Asia, including South East Asia is a major priority in Iranian foreign policy."

He continued to say:

Accordingly, the policy of the government of Mr. Raisi is to strengthen friendly relations with the countries in this region, being aware of the friendly and constructive approach of South Asian countries and confident that relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and these friend countries in the region will be further strengthened and consolidated peace and friendship and secure common interests.

Through its desirable conduct in the past five decades, ASEAN has proved to be driving force for peace and stability and development in the region, and has become a valuable platform for promoting cooperation among its member states, especially in the area of economy, and in such a way over the past few years it has succeeded in creating an ecosystem of stability and prosperity in South East Asia. ► Page 4

Tehran asked EU to meet Iranian demands: MP

TEHRAN – A senior Iranian lawmaker has said that Iran has asked the West in its answer to the European draft nuclear agreement to meet Tehran's demands.

The lawmaker, Abbas Moqtadaei, who is a member of Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, has provided some details about the Iranian response to the text submitted by the European Union on the 2015 nuclear deal known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Moqtadaei confirmed this point after MPs sitting on the Parliament National Security and Foreign Policy Committee held a three-hour meeting on Tuesday with the Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) Ali Shamkhani, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian, chief Iranian nuclear negotiator Ali Bagheri Kani and chief of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI).

"The meeting was attended by the Secretary-General of the National Security Council, and it was of great importance, because in the meeting held today (Tuesday), we studied Iranian views and visions, and a view was formed in order for the Council to be informed of the latest developments in this matter," the lawmaker said in an interview with Al Alam.

Moqtadaei stressed that the Iranian parliament approved a strategic law on the rights of the Iranian people, and as it is known, it was America that withdrew from the nuclear agreement. ► Page 3

What the U.S. gets wrong about Iran: real version



TEHRAN— The New York Times took a swipe at Iran in an opinion piece published on August 12, accusing it of being a government that seeks "isolation."

The spiteful essay accurately reflects the United States' feelings toward Iran. We all know that the United States is furious with

Iran, but why?

The reason is simple. Iran has not abandoned its revolutionary philosophy. Let us not forget that it was this revolutionary ideology that pushed the U.S. to enhance its efforts to topple the system and install one to power who would become its own puppet. Iran has refused to

follow the world's big bully, the United States, under its revolutionary doctrine.

The fight against arrogance is one of the features of the Islamic revolution. Iran can come to a deal with the U.S. on two conditions: The U.S. must change its arrogant behavior, and Iran must reexamine its values. ► Page 2

IPhO 2024 to be held in Iran

ham Yavari as saying.

Some 80 countries are going to attend the 54th International Physics Olympiad, she noted.

Most recently, Iranian students won two gold medals, one silver medal, and an honorary diploma at the 34th International Olympiad in Informatics

TEHRAN - The 54th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO 2024) will be held in Iran, the head of the National Organization for Development of Exceptional Talents said on Wednesday.

Iran has so far hosted four international Olympiads of physics (2007), astronomy (2009), computer (2017), and biology (2018), IRIB quoted El-



Wheat harvest in Hamedan

Some 436,000 hectares of land in the northcentral province of Hamedan is cultivated with wheat.

The Food and Agriculture Organization has predicted Iran's wheat production to increase by four million tons (over 44 percent) this year to 13 million tons.

Iran sees 2.9 million foreign visitors in 11 months

TEHRAN— Iran has recorded about 2.9 million foreign tourist arrivals over the past 11 months, tourism minister Ezzatollah Zarghami said on Tuesday, as many pandemic entry restrictions were eased.

"With the support of President Ebrahim Raisi, [the issuance of the tourist] visas has been resumed and 2,900,000 people entered Iran in less than a year. And this amount is growing and increasing," Zarghami said in a televised speech.

Last September, Iran initiated preliminary steps for a bounce-back, restarting the issuance of tourist visas following a 20-month hiatus, and easing COVID-19 protocols for fully vaccinated passengers.

It came when the tourism businesses faced a very complex situation due to COVID restrictions. There was a partial or even total closure of tourist accommodation during the toughest months of the lockdown, so the spring seasons were completely lost. Many

travel insiders, hoteliers, and tour operators faced big dilemmas such as bankruptcy, unemployment, debts, and the prospects of not being competitive on the international level.

The tourism minister said the rate of tourist arrivals, concerning coronavirus restrictions, is ahead of some international estimates.

Regarding domestic travels, Zarghami said the country has regained its pre-coronavirus status. ► Page 6

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MPs on foreign policy committee and relevant officials study EU nuclear text

TEHRAN - Members of the parliamentary Committee for National Security and Foreign Policy held a joint meeting on Tuesday with the Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) to study the draft nuclear text presented by the European Union to revive the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, the official name for the 2015 nuclear deal.

MP Jalil Rahimi Jahanabadi wrote on his Twitter account that the meeting lasted for three hours. The meeting was attended by SNSC secretary Ali Shamkhani, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian, Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Mohammad Bagheri Kani, and chief of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami.

In the meeting a complete report about the process of the Vienna talks and the views of EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell, who acts as the coordinator of the JCPOA, coupled with conclusion of Iran's views of the draft nuclear text were assessed, Rahimi Jahanabadi stated.

Amir Abdollahian, Bagheri Kani, and Eslami provided answers to MPs about the different aspects of the draft text. However, Borrell has said its text is final and the EU awaits response from Iran and the U.S.

Iran presented its written response to the draft text to the EU on Monday midnight. The EU confirmed receiving Iran's response. It also said it had given the text to the American side for study. ► Page 2

Report 

Photographer Babak Borzuyeh dies at 53

TEHRAN – Still photographer and photojournalist Babak Borzuyeh died at the age of 53 on Tuesday almost eight months after falling into a coma following a massive brain hemorrhage, Persian news media reported.

"With great sadness, it is announced that our dear Babak Borzuyeh surrendered to the divine destiny," his family wrote in a short message published by the Persian news media.

Earlier in autumn 2017, Borzuyeh, who was the son of the eminent brain surgeon Farzin Borzuyeh, slipped into a coma after a brain hemorrhage. However, he came out of the coma following prompt medical treatment.

He studied photography at the University of Tehran and also received a BA in acting and film directing from Azad University.

He worked for several local news agencies, including Mehr and Fars, and his photos have been published in the Tehran Times and other Iranian dailies.

As a still photographer, he also collaborated on a total of over 300 film, theater and TV projects. ► Page 8

What the U.S. gets wrong about Iran: real version

From page 1 ► Neither of these two eventualities is seen to be likely. As a result, the United States is enraged by Iran's revolutionary nature.

"Multiple U.S. administrations have attempted to coerce or persuade Iran to reconsider its revolutionary ethos, but have failed. The reason is simple: U.S.-Iran normalization could prove deeply destabilizing to a theocratic government whose organizing principle has been premised on fighting American imperialism," the essay wrote.

The first part of the preceding paragraph is correct. It's an honest admission from a reputable American media institution about the failures of past U.S. administrations. The second section, on the other hand, is pure fabrication.

The essay then goes on and on about how Iran values the "right amount of isolation," but it fails to see that the "global system," as it is referred to in the essay, is not restricted to the United States and a few European countries. On the contrary, Iran maintains extensive diplomatic contacts with countries all across the world, from Africa to Latin America.

Later, the essay goes to point out that one or two agreements between Tehran and Washington cannot solve a deep-rooted problem. Again, the statement is a sincere confession from the U.S.

"A sound U.S. policy must reconcile the short-term objectives of countering Iran's nuclear and regional ambitions without hampering the long-term goal of a representative Iranian government that is driven by the national interests of its people, rather than the revolutionary ideology of its rulers," the essay said.

However, it says that, with the exception of George W. Bush, all U.S. presidents have attempted to repair ties with Iran over the past 43 years. The notion appears to be absolutely false, given that the U.S. attempted to enter Iran militarily through Tabas during Jimmy Carter's rule, but failed. Throughout the imposed war from 1980 to 1989, the United States continually supported Saddam Hussein by giving modern weaponry and giving satellite image of the Iranian forces in the battleground.

The subsequent U.S. administrations did not hesitate to apply harsh, coercive sanctions

on Tehran in order to bring the country to its knees. They have consistently backed armed opposition groups like the MEK (Mojahedin-e-Khalq Organization), as well as separatist movements in Iranian provinces like Kurdistan, Khuzestan, and Azerbaijan. They openly supported Mir Hossein Mousavi, a presidential candidate who later became an opposition leader whose true goal was to overthrow the system in 2009. They assassinated late General Qassem Soleimani, a valiant military leader who ended Daesh's (ISIS) power in Syria and Iraq and restricted its influence to occasional operations now and then, and let's not forget that if he had been alive, he would have completely destroyed Daesh. The U.S. also assisted its best friend, the Israeli regime, in assassinating Iran's top nuclear experts in broad daylight, and never criticized these crimes in any international institution.

How can an imperialist regime with such terrible records is seeking to mend ties with Iran is a question that only the New York Times can answer.

"Robert Cooper, a decorated European diplomat who negotiated with Iran, urges strategic patience. 'Revolutionary powers don't think the way others do,' he told me. 'They don't want a different place in the world; they want a different world. It's no good thinking you can change them, but a moment may come when they begin to doubt or to get over their revolution ... then you can start something,'" the essay says.

Two ideas come to mind once again. One is that the revolutionary powers do not live in a different world. Their perspective on the world is far broader than Cooper's. Furthermore, the statement demonstrates the United States' level of displeasure and irritation with Iran, given that the underlying problem with Iran is that Tehran is a revolutionary government that does not follow the laws set by Washington.

Finally, the New York Times has brazenly targeted the Islamic Revolution's Leader. This is most likely owing to their proper understanding of the issue that the Leader is the captain of the ship, and he is a captain with a precise and deep awareness of the nature of the United States. He has thus far foiled the enemy's many plans and conspiracies, and it is not surprising that the U.S. is fiercely against him.



from claims made against him by terrorist organization members from the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO). The accusations have been vigorously denied by Nouri.

Tehran has harshly criticized the Swedish court's decision to sentence Nouri to life in jail, stating that the court is ill-equipped to handle the situation.

Nasser Kanaani, the spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry, said in mid-July that the court's statement is essentially twisted and undesirable, and that the court lacks legal jurisdiction to deal with the matter.

The spokesperson stated that Iran holds Sweden liable for the harm done to bilateral ties between the two nations by unsubstantiated remarks and verdict.

He asserted that the Swedish court system actively supports and promotes terrorism in contrast to Iran's government, which opposes permitting a terrorist organization to operate freely.

Kanaani lamented that Sweden had used its legal system to advance the evil intentions of the MKO terrorist organization.

MPs on foreign policy committee and relevant officials study EU nuclear text

Parliament holds closed door session to study Iran's response to EU

From page 1 ► For further consultations, the parliament also held a closed door session on Wednesday morning. Amir Abdollahian, Shamkhani and Bagheri Kani, Eslami, and Behrouz Kamalvandi, spokesman for the Atomic Energy Organization, also attended the session.

Meanwhile, in a tweet on Wednesday, Mohammad Jamshidi, director of the presidential office for political affairs, said, "The U.S. administration was wrongfully advised that pressure pays off & that it comes without cost, since Iran doesn't respond. The combination of active resistance & the Majlis Strategic Action to Counter Sanctions gave Iran the upper hand to negotiate from position of strength."

After the conclusion of the closed door session of the parliament to assess the EU text and Iran's response to it, Abbas Moqtadaei, deputy head of the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee of the parliament, spoke to the press.

"In this meeting, necessary explanations were given by the officials involved in the JCPOA revival negotiations, and 5 MPs expressed their opinions by drawing lots, and at the end, the meeting ended with the conclusion of the Majlis speaker," Moqtadaei said.

He then explained that Tehran must reach an understanding or consensus at the highest level,



which seems took place to some extent in the Wednesday meeting.

"Of course, we had another meeting yesterday evening (Tuesday) at the Secretariat of the Supreme National Security Council, where the members of the National Security Committee sat down with the above-mentioned officials, and the contents of the exchanged letters and the issues of Iran's concern were discussed," he added.

He went on to state that the important point of these meetings, which will continue in the coming days, is that Iran's national interests must be secured at the highest level.

The parliament's strategic ratification to lift sanctions must be observed at the highest level, Moqtadaei noted, adding, "The necessary compliance between the text of the agreement and this law must be done. What was explained to us is that the process of reaching

an agreement is ongoing, the negotiations are over and Iran's political decision has been made."

Moqtadaei also pointed out that now the ball is in the other side's court to make a decision.

"They should declare whether they intend to fully accept Iran's national interests or whether they are going to break their promise, as happened in the past. If they make a political decision to fully consider the Iranian nation and our interests, an agreement is available," the MP reiterated.

On the Tuesday meeting, Moqtadaei said the provisions of the agreement were made available to the MPs, and now the Parliament National Security and Foreign Policy Committee is in the process of Iran's response to the EU.

"The contents of the agreement were discussed and criticized in today's meeting," the MP

announced.

"Frankly, the Majlis (Parliament) will be acting strictly in this regard, in the sense that the interests of the Iranian nation must be taken into account at the highest level, and the reason for this is that our opposite party has gone through this process in the past and was unfaithful to it," he added.

"The issue of verification and sanctions removal and other related issues were clearly raised in the meeting (on Wednesday) and until we are sure that the interests of the Iranian nation will be secured, we will firmly adhere to our opinion. Both the Majlis and the government emphasize that the law passed by the Majlis should be properly considered," the MP from Isfahan asserted.

In response to a question about when the Americans will respond to Iran's proposal, the MP noted that Iran responded in the earliest time and now the other side must show whether it has the necessary seriousness at least in this regard.

"They should give an opinion on a pivotal issue and accept Iran's point of view to secure the interests of the Iranian nation, but if they do not accept it and follow the process of erosion, they should know that the cold months of Europe will gradually come and they may suffer the most," he concluded.

Senior advisor reaffirms Tehran's support for One China policy

TEHRAN— In the aftermath of U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan, Tehran's top foreign policy advisor to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution has criticized the U.S. for violating China's territorial integrity, expressing Tehran's firm support for the "One China" policy.

Ali Akbar Velayati, in a meeting with Beijing's Ambassador to Tehran Chang Hua on Tuesday, alluded to Washington's threats against China's territorial integrity and stated that "the enemies' conspiracies, encroachments, and threats should be met with resistance."

He upheld Tehran's support for the internationally recognized "One China" position and stated that Beijing is "regarded as a strategic ally" of Tehran.

According to the senior advisor, Russia faces similar threats from the U.S.-led NATO military alliance, calling for greater defense cooperation among Tehran, Beijing, and Moscow.

"Undoubtedly, Iran-Russia-China cooperation in the region, including joint exercises, is critical to the region's security and fate." "Iran is eager to extend such collaboration," he continued.

The senior Iranian politician emphasized that Iran and China have long-standing cultural, historical, and cordial links that have benefited both countries.

Velayati also mentioned China's Belt and Road Initiative, saying Iran has significant capabilities that could also contribute to the initiative.

In exchange, the Chinese ambassador emphasized the importance of following up on the improvement of Tehran-Beijing relations.

He went on to say that the two countries' ties are founded on mutual respect, and that leaders from both countries have worked



hard to establish the groundwork for such partnerships.

Ambassador Chang also commended Iran for its positions and support for the Belt and Road Initiative, stating that the Islamic Republic is seen as a critical partner in the initiative in Beijing.

Pelosi, the second most senior official in the U.S. government, visited Taiwan in early August despite Beijing's repeated warnings against visiting the island nation.

Hossein Amir Abdollahian, Iran's Foreign Minister, has reaffirmed Tehran's support for the One China policy and warned that the U.S.' provocative activities are endangering world peace and security.

Amir Abdollahian made the remarks after Pelosi concluded her contentious two-day tour to Taiwan in support of separatist voices on the self-ruled island.

"Respect for countries' territorial integrity is among the recognized fundamentals of the international law," the top diplomat said, adding, "Within this framework, the Islamic Republic's support for the 'One China' principle is indubitable."

"The U.S.'s provocative measures have turned into a source of threat against the international peace and stability," he noted.

'We are not far from reviving nuclear deal if US shows seriousness': top MP

'Iran nuclear team insisting that Safeguards probe must be closed'

TEHRAN – The spokesman for the Parliament National Security and Foreign Policy Committee announced on Wednesday that Iran and its negotiating partners, particularly the U.S., are close to an agreement to restore the 2015 nuclear deal though the sides have not yet reached that stage.

"Still we have not reached an agreement though we are not far from it," Abolfazl Amouie said.

He added, "If there is a serious will (by the American side) we will soon witness this event."

Amouie made the remarks

after a closed-door session of the parliament with Supreme National Security Council Ali Shamkhani, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian and Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Ali Bagheri Kani, Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) chief Mohammad Eslami and his deputy Behrouz Kamalvandi.

To get first-hand information, Amouie said, the parliamentarians held discussions with the officials mostly concerned with the nuclear talks.

The remarks by the

parliamentary committee spokesman came after Iran submitted its response to the EU text to conclude the nuclear talks and revive the JCPOA.

Iran gave its response on Monday midnight. EU has announced that it has given Iran's responses to the U.S.

Amoudi also said Iran's cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency in regard to the Safeguards probe is being politicized.

"We have had the greatest cooperation with the agency so

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani also slammed Pelosi's contentious journey to Taiwan as Washington meddling in Beijing's domestic affairs, and reaffirmed Tehran's staunch support for the "One China" policy.

Kanaani stated that U.S. officials' latest "tension-creating conduct" in intervening in China's domestic affairs and breaching its territorial integrity was an example of Washington's interventionist actions in several regions of the world.

"This behavior will have no effect other than growing instability and ginning up tensions, and it is so condemned," he said.

"Respect for the national sovereignty of countries is one of the fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter," the official continued, adding, "Article 2 of the Charter prevents members from any behavior that harms the territorial integrity and political independence of other states."

"The Islamic Republic of Iran considers respect for the territorial integrity of countries to be among the principles of its foreign policy, and support for the One China policy is unquestionable in line with this tenet," the spokesman stated.

According to the Iranian diplomat, unilateralism and violations of international laws and obligations have become an inherent component of U.S. foreign policy.

Under the One China policy, practically every country in the world recognizes Beijing's sovereignty over Chinese Taipei, including the United States, which courted the separatist government in Taipei, supported its anti-China position, and supplied it with enormous amounts of munitions.

that 23 percent of the inspection costs of the agency are related to inspection of our country," the MP said.

He added during IAEA director general's visit to Iran late last year it was agreed that Iran provide answers about the remaining issues but "we noticed that this was not implemented as IAEA Board of Governors adopted a censure resolution (against Iran in June)."

He added, "(Iran's) negotiating team is insisting that it is necessary to close safeguards issue for a durable (nuclear) deal."

Ball in U.S. court on nuclear deal

TEHRAN – After intensive meetings and consultations, Iran finally submitted its response to the text the European Union submitted to Iran and called it a “final” draft.

Iran’s chief negotiator, Ali Bagheri Kani, provided a detailed report to Iran’s Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) in a meeting attended by top officials, including the secretary of the council, Ali Shamkhani.

After holding brainstorming sessions, Iran submitted its final draft on the 2015 nuclear deal revival talks, which have been ongoing since April 2021. Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian offered some details on the content of the Iranian response. He said three issues were still pending. “We told America that if our opinions on these three issues, which are reasonable opinions, are respected, we are ready to enter the stage of announcing an agreement and hold a conclusion meeting,” Amir Abdollahian said on Monday hours before submitting the Iranian response.

The Iranian answer to the EU draft came amid Iranian calls for the U.S. to show flexibility. The Iranian foreign minister has said that Iran showed much flexibility and America knows that full well. “America knows very well



how much flexibility we have shown, now it is the turn of the American side to be flexible. In the recent Vienna negotiations, the American side expressed its verbal flexibility on two issues. This should be in writing. In the third issue and guarantees, we must have America’s flexibility. If America shows flexibility, we will reach a point of agreement in the coming days,” he said.

After submitting the response, Iran continued its internal consultations. The SNSC hosted a meeting of the members of Parliament’s National Security and Foreign Policy Committee on Tuesday. Shamkhani, Amir Abdollahian, and Bagheri Kani attended the meeting. And on Wednesday, a closed session of Parliament was held with the same officials to discuss the situation around the talks in Vienna over reviving the 2015

nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Alireza Salimi, a member of Parliament’s presiding board, offered some details about the Wednesday session. “We have presented our proposed package regarding the agreement, and the ball is now in the court of America and the West, and they are the ones who should make the appropriate decision regarding the agreement,” he told Fars News.

He also said that any agreement being achieved in Vienna should be passed by Parliament.

As things stand, Iran appears to have done its part and made every necessary decision needed to resuscitate the JCPOA. Therefore, it’s now the U.S.’s turn to do the same and facilitate the conclusion of the talks.

The U.S. confirmed that it has received the Iranian response via the EU and said that it will need “some time” to study it.

U.S. State Department spokesman Ned Price said on Tuesday, “We are still studying [the response].”

He added, “It will require some time to digest what has been provided to the EU and in turn what has been provided to us.”

While Iran has said it was serious about concluding the talks, Price sought to cast doubt on Iran’s seriousness. “It is our hope that as we have now approached what should be the final stage of this, that the Iranians will demonstrate seriousness of purpose that we have not consistently seen until now,” he said.

However, he acknowledged that the talks include a set of challenging technical issues that need to be dealt with. Price said, “These are not simple issues. There are some challenging technical details that would need to be worked out.”

Whether the U.S. will agree with the Iranian response remains an open question. But it seems that the U.S. is less interested in concluding the talks than engaging in a blame game against Iran.

IRAN IN FOCUS

AUGUST 18, 2022

Straight Truth
TEHRAN TIMES

3

SPORTS

Iran ease Kuwait at Asian U18 Volleyball Championship

TEHRAN – Iran eased past Kuwait 3-0 (25-12, 25-21, 25-13) in the 14th edition of the Asian Men’s U18 Volleyball Championship on Wednesday.

Iran, who started the competition with a 3-0 win over China on Tuesday, are to meet Chinese Taipei on Thursday in Pool A.

Japan, India, Thailand and South Korea are in Pool B.

The 2022 Asian Boys’ U18 Volleyball Championship is being held at the Azadi Hall in Tehran, Iran from Aug. 15 to 22.

The top four teams of the tournament will qualify for the 2023 FIVB Volleyball Boys’ U19 World Championship as the AVC representatives.

Yari wins gold at U20 World Championships

TEHRAN – Iranian freestyle wrestler Sobhan Yari claimed a gold medal in the U20 World Championships.

Yari defeated Armenian wrestler Mushegh Mkrtchyan 5-0 in the final bout of 79kg.

Ahmad Mohammadnejhad in 57kg, Hossein Mohammad Aghaei in 70kg, and Amirali Azarpira won three bronze medals.

The U20 World Championships are being held in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Sayadmanesh set to be out for six weeks

TEHRAN – Allahyar Sayyadmanesh, who tweaked a hamstring chasing a pass in the second half against Burnely, is expected to be sidelined for five or six weeks.

“We will see tomorrow but I expect he will be out for five or six weeks,” said Arveladze.

Hull City extended their unbeaten run at the start of the Championships season to four games.

The Iranian international winger will likely miss the National Team training camp in September in Austria.

Iran to play Japan at 2022 Asian U20 Volleyball C’ship opener

TEHRAN – Iran will play Japan at the 2022 Asian Men’s U20 Volleyball Championship opening match on Aug. 22 in Riffa, Bahrain.

Iran have been drawn in Pool B along with Japan and India.

Pool A consists of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Hong Kong. South Korea, Qatar and Kuwait are in Pool C. Pool D consists of Iraq and Thailand. Iraq, Australia and Bangladesh are in Pool E. China, Chinese Taipei and Pakistan have been also drawn in Pool F.

The Asian Men’s U20 Volleyball Championship is an international volleyball competition in Asia and Oceania contested by the under 20 men’s national teams of the members of Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC), the sport’s continent governing body.

Tournaments have been awarded every two years since 1980. The tournament doubled as the World Championship qualifiers, where the top two teams qualified for the FIVB Volleyball Men’s U21 World Championship. The current champion is Iran, which won its sixth title at the 2018 tournament.

The previous 19 editions of the Asian Championship tournaments have been won by four different national teams. Iran have won six times as well as South Korea. China and Japan have won four and three titles, respectively.

The 2018 Asian Championship took place in Riffa, Bahrain.

New dates set for Hangzhou 2022 Asian Para Games

TEHRAN – The Hangzhou 2022 Asian Para Games are set to take place from October 22 to 28 next year following a decision made by the Asian Paralympic Committee (APC), Local Organizing Committee, and Hangzhou Asian Para Games Organizing Committee (HAPGOC).

The duration of the Games remains unchanged, and were chosen by stakeholders with consideration that the event is usually held a fortnight after the close of the Asian Games.

The trio also wanted to ensure that the dates did not conflict with other international events.

The Olympic Council of Asia last month announced the new dates for the Asian Games, which are now due to be held from September 23 to October 8 2023. “We are happy to announce the new dates for the Asian Para Games, which were approved by the APC Executive Board.

“We would also like to thank HAPGOC, the Chinese Paralympic Committee and Hangzhou and Zhejiang provincial Governments for their continuous support and efforts to ensure that the Games take place on the new dates,” said APC President Majid Rashed.

Rashed also thanked National Paralympic Committees, International and Asian Federations for their “patience and trust” in the APC and Hangzhou 2022 in announcing the Games’ new dates.

Hangzhou 2022 is set to be the second time that China has hosted the Asian Para Games after Guangzhou 2010.

The event was originally scheduled for October 9 to 15, but as a result of continued COVID-19 concerns in China it was postponed, along with the Asian Games in May.

It is set to be the fourth edition of the Asian Para Games following Guangzhou 2010, Incheon 2014, and Jakarta 2018.

As it stands, there are currently 22 sports expected to be on the sporting program which marks an increase of four from the previous edition in 2018.

Habibzadeh seizes silver at U20 World Championships

TEHRAN – Iranian freestyle wrestler Armin Habibzadeh won a silver medal in the U20 World Championships on Wednesday.

He lost to Japanese wrestler Yuto Nishiuchi from Japan 5-3 in the final bout of 61kg.

Iran has previously won a gold athree bronze medals in the competition.

Sobhan Yari has won a gold in the 79kg and Ahmad Mohammadnejhad in 57kg, Hossein Mohammad Aghaei in 70kg, and Amirali Azarpira won three bronze medals.

The U20 World Championships are being held in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Markovic fuels rumors with post directed at Persepolis fans

TEHRAN – Former Juventus striker Luka Markovic has recently shared an Instagram story in Persian, fueling speculations of his looming move to Persepolis.

In his story, the 22-year-old appreciated the support of the fans, hoping that he could bring “good news” for fans in “near future”.

Various reports in the past few days had linked the Serbian striker to the Iranian club, PLDC reported.

He received special attention of fans and Persepolis fan pages after following the official account of the Iranian club.

Markovic started his youth career in Red Star Belgrade in 2018 and was transferred to Juventus on loan later that year. He played 24 games for the U23 team of the Italian club, scoring a total of four goals.

He then opted to continue his senior career in the Serbian league.

Persepolis have not yet officially announced any statement about the Serbian.

Tehran asked EU to meet Iranian demands: MP

From Page 1 ► He noted that Iran had presented its response to the other side and stressed that its rights and guarantees should be taken into account.

Moqtadaei noted that it was premature to talk about the details of the Iranian response that was submitted to the European Union.

“In our response, we emphasized that the opposing party must meet Iran’s demands and the rights of the Iranian people,” he said.

Moqtadaei stressed that the most important red lines that Iran stresses are the rights and interests of the Iranian people, and these rights and interests have long been adhered to by Iran and the other side has violated them.

He underlined that if the Western side takes the strict choice, “we will also take this choice.”

“We presented our vision clearly and transparently, and the other party must understand it and respond to it positively. We were and still are committed to international laws and norms,” he added.

Moqtadaei considered that Iran wants to ensure its supreme interests, and the West has gone through an experiment with it and found that Tehran does not abandon this responsibility.

He stated that Iran is on the path of the nuclear agreement, which will realize its interests, and the other side must unite its words with its actions.

Moqtadaei pointed out that the other side should stop violating its pledges, and that Iran’s nuclear program is far from any ambiguity, as confirmed by the International Atomic Energy Agency.



He emphasized that Iran’s nuclear activities have always been peaceful with distinction.

Moqtadaei added, “We are now standing at a station where Iran has taken its last political decision, but the other party has not reached this station with its political decision.”

The European Union had announced that it had received the Iranian response and that it was under consideration and consultation with partners including the United States, while Tehran stressed that it would not retreat from its red lines, regardless of whether an agreement was reached or not.

Members of the parliamentary Committee for National Security and Foreign Policy held a joint meeting on Tuesday with the Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) to study the draft nuclear text presented by the European Union.

Lawmaker Jalil Rahimi Jahanabadi wrote on his Twitter account that the meeting was attended by Shamkhani, Amir Abdollahian, Bagheri Kani, Mohamad Eslami.

He said in the meeting a complete report about the process of the Vienna talks and the views of EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell, who acts as the coordinator of the JCPOA,

coupled with the conclusion of Iran’s views of the draft nuclear text were assessed.

The meeting was held after Iran submitted its response to the EU on Monday at midnight.

“We will submit our final conclusion in black and white to the EU coordinator by 00:00 this night. If the U.S. response is realistic and flexible, a deal will be made. If the U.S. doesn’t show flexibility, then we should talk further,” Amir Abdollahian said on Monday.

Amir Abdollahian added, “We are exchanging messages with America on three issues... We told America that if our opinions on three issues, which are reasonable opinions, are respected, we are ready to enter the stage of announcing an agreement and hold a conclusion meeting.”

The Iranian foreign minister underlined the need for the U.S. to show flexibility, saying that Iran has already demonstrated a great deal of flexibility and that now it’s the U.S.’s turn to follow suit.

He said, “America knows very well how much flexibility we have shown, now it is the turn of the American side to be flexible. In the recent Vienna negotiations, the American side expressed its verbal flexibility on two issues. This should be in writing. On the third issue and guarantees, we must have America’s flexibility. If America shows flexibility, we will reach a point of agreement in the coming days.”

In a report on Tuesday, the New York Times said European officials have said Iran’s response to the “final text” sent to the EU just before midnight Monday does not raise major new objections.

Safari said the international community should mobilize the resources to assist the landlocked developing states within the framework of an “international mechanism for financing corridors.”

In order for the corridors to boost the economies of the landlocked developing countries, the world community should fulfill its commitments, while all related regional and international institutions, such as the World Customs Organization (WCO), the International Road Transport Union (IRU), the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), the United Nations’ regional commissions, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), development banks and global financial bodies, should draft “the global program for supporting corridors,” with specified goals and time frames, under the leadership of the United Nations.

It should be noted that the International Conference of Transport of Landlocked Developing Countries opened on August 15 in the Turkmen city of Turkmenbashi and ran until August 16.

“Each corridor should be counted as an investment or financing project of its own, while the needs of the transit countries and landlocked countries along [the corridor] should also be viewed as a single package,” he said.

Iran deputy FM addresses conference in Turkmenistan

TEHRAN – Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic Diplomacy Mahdi Safari emphasized the significance of corridors in the Islamic Republic’s economic diplomacy during a speech at the International Conference of Transport of Landlocked Developing Countries in Turkmenistan.

On the second day of the conference and during a session themed on the status of corridors in promotion of transport and trade particularly in landlocked developing states, he elaborated on the Islamic Republic of Iran’s position and views as a developing transit country, according to the Iranian foreign ministry.

He pointed to the challenges facing transit in landlocked countries and said the enhancement of transit and transportation routes in the region was among Iran’s priorities. Iran’s active and constructive role in regional and multilateral initiatives for the promotion of regional and extra-regional transportation routes stems from that priority, Safari said.

The deputy foreign minister said, “Corridors are not merely a tool for transportation but one for the expansion of trade and promotion of national, regional and global economy. The enhancement of connectivity through corridors leads to the enhancement of commerce and lasting economic growth for countries and societies along the corridors, and the terms ‘trade corridors’ and ‘economic corridors’ have been created for that reason. In other words, corridors are an instrument for economic development of the developing states, including the landlocked ones.”

Out of the 32 landlocked developing countries in the world, eight (namely Afghanistan, Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) have bilateral and multilateral transit exchanges with Iran, Safari said.

“Some of the corridors in our region have connected several transit countries and several landlocked states, something that indicates participation in efforts

to decrease the vulnerability of landlocked countries and help them lower the costs of trade and have easier access to the global markets. This is while the countries of transit in our region are facing infrastructural, financial and technological challenges and should enjoy support from the international community,” the deputy foreign minister said.

He emphasized the necessity of adopting a systemic approach toward lasting and effective corridor-related cooperation between the countries of transit and the landlocked ones. The factors of such an approach, the official added, are a centralized and unified reference for the management of corridors, establishment of a unified corridor regime, and the adoption of a holistic approach to financing the infrastructure for each corridor.

“Each corridor should be counted as an investment or financing project of its own, while the needs of the transit countries and landlocked countries along [the corridor] should also be viewed as a single package,” he said.

Iran-EU H1 trade rises 34% yr/yr



TEHRAN - The value of trade between Iran and the European Union reached €2.55 billion in the first six months of 2022, registering a 34 percent growth compared to the previous year's same period.

According to the data released by the European Union's statistics office, Eurostat, the trade between Iran and the European Union stood at €1.9 billion in the first half of 2021, IRNA reported.

Iran exported €550 million worth of commodities to the union during January-June 2022 to register a 37 percent rise year on year; the figure stood at €400 million in the previous year's same six months.

Based on the mentioned data, the exports from Europe to the Islamic Republic in the said time span also increased by 33 percent, standing at €2 billion. Iran had imported €1.5 billion worth

of commodities from the European Union states in H1 2021.

Among European countries, Germany was Iran's top trading partner in the said six months, accounting for about a third of Iran's trade with the European Union. Germany exported €799 million worth of goods to Iran while importing €151 million worth of commodities from the Islamic Republic. The country's total trade with Iran was €950 million in the first half of the current year.

Iran mainly exports foodstuff and livestock, beverages and tobacco, raw materials, mineral fuels, and vegetable oils to the European countries, while foodstuff, beverages and tobacco, mineral fuels, vegetable oils, and chemicals are also the main products imported from the union.

According to Eurostat, the value of trade between Iran and the European Union reached €2.075 billion in January-May 2022, while the figure was €1.845 billion in the same period of time in 2021.

Iran exported commodities worth €465 million to the union in the five-month period of this year, to register a 33 percent rise year on year.

The EU's export to Iran rose six percent to €1.61 billion from €1.512 billion.

Iran's 4-month oil revenues increase 481% yr/yr

TEHRAN - Latest budgetary performance review report published by Iranian Planning and Budget Organization (PBO) shows that government revenues have increased by 63 percent in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-July 22) as compared to the same period last year.

Based on the mentioned report, the country's oil revenues have grown 481 percent in the mentioned four months, year on year, Tasnim news agency reported on Wednesday.

As reported, reviewing the government's budgetary performance in the said four months indicates the improvement of macroeconomic indicators. The data released by the PBO shows that by relying on stable incomes, the government has been able to make the country's incomes and expenditures more coherent.

Also in the said period, the privatization of capital assets has grown by 470 percent, while the handover of the government's movable and immovable properties has also increased by 104 percent compared to the same period last year.

Back in June, PBO Head Massoud Mirkazemi announced that selling oil has become better than before.

"Oil prices and exports have increased and



selling oil has become better," Mirkazemi said.

Earlier in April, the Wall Street Journal reported that Iran has been boosting oil exports in the current year as major oil buyers like China are cutting back imports from Russia due to the war with Ukraine.

Based on the report, Iranian oil exports increased by 30 percent in the first quarter of 2022 compared to the previous year, to reach 870,000 bpd.

The jump in Iran's oil exports in Q1 was the fastest among all producers in West Asia, while the volume of exports is estimated to be the highest since former U.S. President Donald Trump withdrew from the so-called Iranian nuclear deal in 2018, the report said.

Logistic issues limiting Tehran-Dhaka trade: ICCIMA head

TEHRAN - Gholam-Hossein Shafeie, head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA), has said tariff barriers and transportation problems are the main factors that are hindering Iran-Bangladesh trade relations.

Shafeie made the remarks in a meeting with Iran's new Ambassador to Dhaka Mansour Chavoshi in Tehran on Tuesday.

Chavoshi, who has been newly appointed as Iran's envoy in Bangladesh, visited ICCIMA to discuss ways to strengthen trade and increase the volume of trade exchanges between Iran and Bangladesh, before leaving Tehran for his mission.

During the meeting, Shafeie mentioned Bangladesh's acceptable economic growth in recent years and assessed the future economic prospects of the country as positive.

He emphasized the need to improve

the trade infrastructures of the two countries for the development of mutual cooperation.

The ICCIMA head further pointed to common areas for economic cooperation such as transportation, construction materials such as bitumen and cement, fuel, investment, clothing and textile, agriculture, herbal medicines, and medical devices, saying that the two sides should take all the necessary measures to benefit from these capacities.

According to Shafeie, Bangladesh has established tariff exemption treaties with some countries including the members of the European Union, and therefore, in order to facilitate trade with the Islamic Republic, it is necessary to implement a similar preferential trade agreement that has already been approved by the two countries.

Referring to the recent trip of an



ICCIMA Head Gholam-Hossein Shafeie (R) and Iran's new envoy to Dhaka Mansour Chavoshi

Iranian trade delegation to Dhaka to participate in the meeting of the chambers of commerce of the D-8 organization, he said: "This delegation discussed cooperation programs, including the reduction of trade tariffs and the cancellation of business visas among the members of this organization. It was also announced that the next round of the meeting of the D-8 Chambers of Commerce would be held in Tehran,

million on Wednesday.

As reported, the first market's index dropped 5,738 points, and the second market's index fell 16,746 points.

Tehran Stock Exchange experienced a growth of 9.5 percent in the value of its trades in the past

ASEAN Day 2022 celebrated in Tehran

'ASEAN, driving force for peace, stability, development in region'

From page 1 ► The conduct and success of ASEAN has not only contributed to the peaceful settlement of challenges, but also to boosting democracy and economic growth and regional prosperity.

To continue this constructive role, ASEAN ought to be able to adapt itself to new requirements in the current changing world and overcome current challenges.

As a country with practical practice in contributing to maintaining regional peace, the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the only way to maintain stability and security for prosperity of the people in South East Asia is to strengthen mutual cooperation and develop regional set-ups by the ASEAN member states themselves.

Aiming to improve the level of relation with ASEAN and using bilateral and multilateral potential of the ASEAN member states and in compliance with the policy of promoting multilateralism, Islamic Republic of Iran has shown its strong will to enhance cooperation with ASEAN member states through joining the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in South Asia (TAC) (embodies universal principles of peaceful coexistence and friendly cooperation among states in Southeast Asia), presenting a roadmap for cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and ASEAN with joint projects in the fields of science, tourism, and health, which has been submitted to the ASEAN Secretariat, shows that the Islamic Republic of Iran is serious and has a forward looking prospective to expand cooperation with the Association.

We do hope that ASEAN member states will further consult with the Association's Secretariat to smoothen and implement the joint projects of Iran and ASEAN.

In the end, once again I reiterate the strong will of the people and government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue and strengthen cooperation with the ASEAN member states with a view to utilize the prospective potentials for the benefit of our people and strengthen stability and progress

in the East and West Asia and to help create and expand more inclusive peace and friendship with a discourse way under rule of law in the international relations.

ASEAN members willing to have closer ties with Iran: Thai ambassador



Thai Ambassador to Iran Worawoot Pongprapapant

"We, all the members of the association, would like to have closer relations, especially in terms of economic and trade and investment, with Iran", Thai Ambassador to Iran Worawoot Pongprapapant told the Tehran Times in an exclusive interview on the sidelines of the above-mentioned ceremony.

"And this is what that I can say we are looking forward very much having close relations with Iran in terms of economics and trade", the ambassador reiterated.

"We see the potentials of Iran, especially when you talk about almost a hundred million population, and Iran is a big market for ASEAN products", he noted, adding, "And also it could be the transportation hub for our products to enter countries in the Central Asia or Eastern Europe and Iran is in a very strategic location for our products."

"We are having some sort of consideration, especially some member countries of ASEAN, for importing medical equipment form Iran, meaning that Iran is reputable



Iranian Foreign Minister's Assistant Reza Zabib (3rd R) and some ASEAN countries' ambassadors in Tehran

in terms of having high-quality medical products, and also the medicine", the envoy stated.

He went on to say, "And for us, Thailand, we conduct discussion between exporters and importers of Thailand and Iran in terms of having some sort of trade in the area of rice and fertilizer; negotiation has been going on, and it means that we see the potentials and Iranians also see the potential for business."

"We will be discussing and I hope that the trade relations between ASEAN and Iran could be improved, especially when we see the prospect of JCPOA (Iran's nuclear deal known as Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action), and really hope that the parties will be about to conclude soon, that would bring the prospect even closer, even clearer between ASEAN and Iran."

Answering a question about the major challenges in the way of trade between the two sides and the solution to remove them, the ambassador said, "Iran has been under sanction for many years, and they have to be relying on themselves and they have so many products produced locally", adding, "And it seems difficult for a product from ASEAN to enter the Iranian market because of the tariffs which are very high and also some sort of standards that make it difficult for us to enter Iranian market."

"There is one thing that I think we can do together to make the trade done more easily; it is to have some sort of trade agreement among us; with the trade agreement this kind of tariff could be reduced and also the tax will be reduced; they would make trade between us more easily", he commented.

As announced by Secretary of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO)'s ASEAN Trade Promotion Desk Mohsen Rezaei-Pour, the value of Iran's exports to the ASEAN member countries rose 33 percent in the previous Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20) from the preceding year.

The Islamic Republic's export to the mentioned countries reached \$2.371 billion in the past year, the official said.

Indonesia was the top export destination for Iranian goods among the ASEAN member states in the previous year, importing \$1.101 billion worth of commodities, Reza-Pour noted, adding exports to Indonesia rose 63 percent in terms of value.

During the period under review, Thailand was Iran's second-largest export destination in this union; the Islamic Republic exported 1.241 million tons of goods worth \$784 million to this country, according to the official.

The exports to Thailand increased by 59 percent in terms of value compared to the preceding year.

The top exported items to Thailand include steel ingots, steel sections, zinc, chicken viscera, bitumen, and vaseline, Rezaei-Pour said.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a political and economic union of 10 member states in Southeast Asia, which promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, security, military, educationa, and sociocultural integration between its members and countries in the Asia-Pacific.

The association was established on August 8, 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) by the Founding Fathers of ASEAN, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, ad Thailand.

As set out in the Declaration, the aims and purposes of ASEAN are to accelerate economic growth, social progress, and cultural development in the region, to promote regional peace, collaboration and mutual assistance on matters of common interest, to provide assistance to each other in the form of training and research facilities, to collaborate for better utilization of agriculture and industry to raise the living standards of the people, to promote Southeast Asian studies and to maintain close, beneficial cooperation with existing international organizations with similar aims and purposes.

Iran-Pakistan joint economic committee meeting kicks off in Islamabad

TEHRAN - The 21st Iran-Pakistan Joint Economic Committee meeting kicked off in Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan, on Wednesday, IRNA reported.

Held at the level of deputies, the first day of the two-day committee was chaired by Iran's deputy transport and urban development minister and Pakistani deputy commerce minister for economic affairs.

As reported, the meeting started with the introduction of the members of the two sides' delegations followed by discussion and exchange of views on the goals of the committee and the

preparations for the draft of the meeting's final memorandum document.

Late on the same day, the technical committees of the two sides met to discuss cooperation in various fields including trade, banking, customs, tax affairs, industry and export guarantees.

The official meeting of the two countries' Joint Economic Committee will be held on Thursday under the chairmanship of Iranian Transport and Urban Development Minister Rostam Qasemi and Pakistani Minister of Commerce Syed Naveed Qamar.

Tehran hosts intl. event on new agricultural technologies

TEHRAN - Iran's first international exhibition of new agricultural technologies kicked off at Tehran Permanent International Fairgrounds on Wednesday, IRIB reported.

Representatives of 40 companies active in various agricultural fields showcased their latest products and achievements in this one-day exhibition.

The opening ceremony of the event was attended by senior officials including the ambassadors of Russia, Iraq, Armenia, and Turkmenistan.

This exhibition was held with the aim of networking experts active in the field of new agricultural technologies, completing the value chain of such technologies, supporting knowledge-based companies active in the mentioned field, assessing the country's agricultural technology needs and

accelerating the commercialization of existing technologies.

On the sidelines of the exhibition, a memorandum of understanding was signed among the country's major organizations and institutions active in the agriculture sector including Supportive Fund of Investment Development in Agriculture (SFIDA), Plant Tissue Culture Association of Iran, Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection, Horticultural Sciences Research Institute (HSRI), Seed and Plant Certification and Registration Institute, Agricultural Biotechnology Research Institute of Iran (ABRII), Agricultural Research Education And Extension Organization, and the Horticulture Department of the Agriculture Ministry, for cooperation to promote new technologies in this sector.

TEDPIX drops 8,000 points on Wednesday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), fell 8,101 points to 1.451

Iranian calendar week (ended on Friday).

TSE is one of 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).

Francis Fukuyama’s elusive quest for classical liberalism

The moderate equipoise of a classical liberalism that expands freedom but sacrifices nothing is an ideological chimera.

By Christopher England

Francis Fukuyama occupies a unique position in intellectual life. His 1992 book, *The End of History and the Last Man*, which notoriously proclaimed “Western liberal democracy as the final form of human government,” must surely be among the most widely (and sometimes unfairly) disparaged works of political thought in the last three decades. At the same time, as Fukuyama has become more sensitive to the fragility of liberalism, he has produced several of the truly great works of twenty-first-century social science, in particular his two-volume historical reconstruction of the origins of political order and the sources of regime decay. However, his most recent work, *Liberalism and Its Discontents*, is instructive mostly for what it reveals about the rhetorical strategy of contemporary liberalism. In calling, like so many recent commentators, for a return to the moderation of the “classical liberal” tradition, Fukuyama manages to reveal the strange role that an elusive concept of classical liberalism has come to play in contemporary political discourse.

His basic argument is by now familiar: the West is in crisis today, but this is mostly because liberals themselves have strayed from the true liberal tradition. Since the 1960s, politics has become polarized between a libertarian hostility to government, leading to global financial deregulation and soaring inequality, and a progressive obsession with the recognition of minoritarian identities, which corrodes the cohesion offered by a shared national identity. In turn, economic dysfunction and declining cohesion undermine the political process, generating cultural discontent and political polarization in an endless feedback loop.

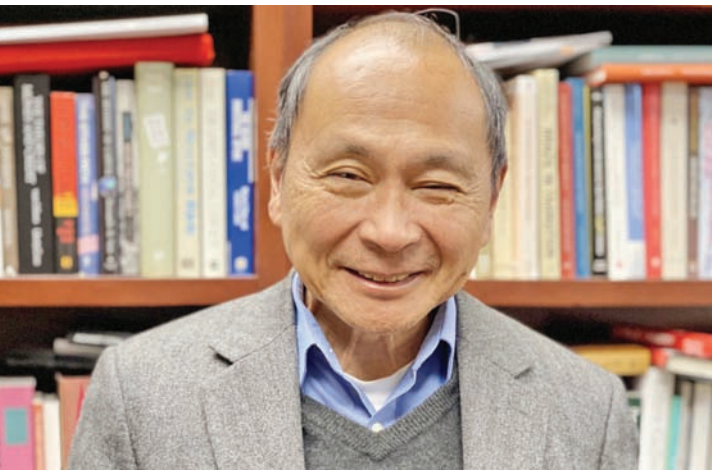
To break this cycle, Fukuyama insists that we must return to the moderate tenants of classical liberalism that first coalesced in the seventeenth century following the Wars of Religion. This is what the political philosopher Judith Shklar once called “the liberalism of fear,” since nothing concentrates the mind on what really matters like the prospect of violence. On this view, classical liberalism abandoned utopian aspirations, settling on a political regime that would avoid the worst outcomes (civil war, violent oppression), even if it did not claim to pursue moral perfection as a matter of policy. It is hard to generate political

consensus about the summum bonum, but everyone wants to avoid their neighbor’s knife in his back (Hobbes) or the state’s boot on his neck (Locke). A combination of strong but accountable government, limited by the rule of law and the protection of individual rights, allows for a *modus vivendi* whereby individuals can choose to live and worship as they see fit, without imposing their vision of the good life on the rest of society.

According to Fukuyama, liberals of both Right and Left need to recapture this spirit of moderation. Libertarians must be brought to accept that strong government and sensible regulations are necessary, while progressives need to remember that a majoritarian national identity has always played a role in healthy democracies. At one level, this plea for moderation is entirely unobjectionable. Complications only appear when one looks below the surface.

The first question to ask is whether liberalism has the resources within itself to engender this sort of moderation. Recent critics like Patrick Deneen have argued that the liberal valorization of individual choice/autonomy corrodes social stability as well as the communal values that make choice meaningful in the first place. What is distinct about marriage, if we can choose to enter and exit a marriage at the drop of a hat, just like any other relationship? Indeed, why go through the stress of choosing anything at all, if all choices are equally arbitrary and thus of equal value? Against Deneen, Fukuyama wants to argue that classical liberalism has always been perfectly compatible with moderate autonomy, that is, with a circumscribed range of political choices that promote freedom without tipping over into destabilizing radicalism.

Yet, while Fukuyama is surely correct that liberals can embrace moderate autonomy, it is also true that centrist liberalism is not a stable point but has historically tended to oscillate to the left and right, going through repeated cycles of radicalization, overreach, and retrenchment. In the eighteenth century, the basic liberal conceptual triad of rights, equality, and the state played a role in the excesses of the French Revolution. Later, in Britain, the same ideas generated a proto-libertarian free market ideology that contributed to suffering at home and famines in colonies like Ireland and Bengal by discouraging economic “intervention” during hard times. In these cases, and many others, the



liberal commitment to moderation only arrived after the fact. There is a good reason for this.

The root word of liberalism is the Latin *liber*, which denotes the state of being a free man rather than servile; it also shades into other meanings, such as the debauchery of the libertine who “goes too far” in his freedom and ends in licentiousness, enslaved by his passions. In some sense, then, the very idea of liberty points toward its own limitation. This helps explain why the liberal tradition has always been a bit schizophrenic, combining a desire for greater human freedom with a fear of “going too far.” Today, Fukuyama’s brand of “classical liberalism” has come to stand for this elusive and perhaps impossible ideal of a liberal polity that would maximize individual freedom and economic growth without sacrificing anything in the way of social cohesion, that is, without ever “going too far.” But is this really anything more than a rhetorical flourish?

Liberals pursue freedom by granting a zone of autonomous choice to individuals, or to groups in the case of multicultural liberalism. Choice, however, really only has value against a background of unchosen institutions and obligations. Trivial choices such as, say, what color shoes to wear, do not strike us as being exemplary moments of true autonomy—unless, that is, we once struggled against a society that historically restricted our sartorial choices. Thus, liberalism generates expectations for personal and political freedom, which emerge through confrontations with unchosen tradition.

It is no coincidence that in the 1970s and 1980s the best liberal philosophers, from Rawls and Rorty on the Left to Nozick and Hayek on the Right, all began to toy with the word “utopian” when describing their respective intellectual projects. Liberal thought encourages us to ask the utopian question, “What would the world look like if the constraints on liberty that I find most bothersome were removed?” When we take a belief or institution that seemed like a given fact of nature, and alter it based on our current choices, then we can be confident that we are acting autonomously, that our life is not being governed by forces over which we have no control. Liberalism provokes such confrontations. A liberalism wholly at peace with the world, lacking any utopian quarrel with life, would be unrecognizable.

Furthermore, we might ask

what kind of moderation is really compatible with this stance toward freedom? The truth is that it is difficult to say ahead of time which choices are prudent exercises of liberty and which stray too far, resulting in political disintegration. For example, John Locke, in a critique of multiculturalism *avant la lettre*, argued that religious toleration could not be extended to Catholics and atheists. Subsequent generations chose to disregard Locke’s counsel of prudence and discovered that these groups could live quite peaceably together, albeit only after some very painful experiences. On the other hand, as Fukuyama notes, deregulating the economy in the 1980s seemed like a perfectly reasonable idea at the time, and in some cases proved quite successful, and it is only after the fact that we truly understand how disastrous deregulation can be when extended to the financial sector.

In short, the appropriate measure of moderation is only evident after the fact, in retrospect. From within the liberal perspective, the proper limit only appears as a limit after we confront the consequences of our individual and collective decisions. The liberalism of fear emerges after we learn to be afraid of civil strife. Like Fukuyama himself, many liberals learned to see the dangers inherent in proclaiming Western democracy the final form of human government only after the project had been tried and failed.

For it to be otherwise, liberalism would have to learn to make peace with the unchosen aspects of life. While some individual liberals, like Fukuyama, seem perfectly able to do this on some issues, historically it has proven very difficult for liberalism to generate consensus among adherents regarding appropriate limitations on choice, or to make peace with societies that choose non-liberal ways of life, until they confront the undesirable consequences of experimentation. Fukuyama’s call for moderation is commendable, and much of his diagnosis of our political moment is spot on. However, despite his best intentions, the moderate equipoise of a classical liberalism that expands freedom but sacrifices nothing is an ideological chimera. Liberalism exists to kick over the traces, even if it is often wise enough to try to patch things up after the fact.

Christopher M. England received his Ph.D. in political science from Johns Hopkins and continues to teach and write about politics.

A Timeline of Trump’s False and Misleading Statements on the Mar-a-Lago Search

The former president has pushed frenetic and sometimes contradictory claims about the FBI’s search of his Florida home.

In the days since former President Donald J. Trump’s Florida home was searched by federal agents last week, he has posted dozens of messages on Truth Social, his social media platform, about the Democrats, the FBI and other perceived foes.

Those statements reflect the strategy Mr. Trump has long used to address controversy, by turns denying any wrongdoing while directing attention elsewhere. Some of the messages also reflect his penchant for false and misleading claims.

Here are some of the false and unsupported statements he has made since the FBI’s search.

After the search becomes public, Trump suggests, without evidence, that Biden played a role.

In the days following the search, Mr. Trump’s allies focused attention on the FBI’s search warrant for his home at the Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Beach. Those warrants typically remain under seal unless charges are filed, but many of his supporters suggested that the FBI was not releasing it because the search was politically motivated.

Mr. Trump was free to release the warrant at any time. Instead, he repeatedly linked the White House to the search, suggesting that President Biden or other Democrats knew about it.

“Biden knew all about this,” he wrote on Aug. 9. He provided no evidence.

Karine Jean-Pierre, the White House press secretary, said President Biden was not given advance notice of the search.

Trump suggests, without evidence, that the FBI may have planted evidence. He then makes false claims about Obama.

Mr. Trump said his lawyers and others at Mar-a-Lago were not permitted to watch the search, and suggested the lack of oversight could have allowed the FBI to plant evidence.

He wrote on Truth Social that agents did not want witnesses “to see what they were doing, taking or, hopefully not, ‘planting.’”

But Mr. Trump’s lawyer said during a television interview that the former president watched the search from New York from video provided by security cameras inside of Mar-a-Lago.

Mr. Trump also targeted former President Barack Obama, falsely claiming that his predecessor took more than 30 million documents to Chicago after he left the White House. In a later post, Mr. Trump increased the figure to 33 million documents.

The National Archives and Records Administration, or NARA, responded in a statement, saying that “NARA moved approximately 30 million pages of unclassified records to a NARA facility in the Chicago area, where they are maintained exclusively by NARA.”

After reports reveal a focus on classified documents, Trump suggests the search was unnecessary.

After reports showed the FBI sought documents related to “special access programs,” a term reserved for extremely sensitive operations and closely held technologies, Mr. Trump said the FBI could have asked for documents without a search.



He posted on Truth Social that the FBI had already asked him to install an additional padlock in an area where secure documents were kept.

“My attorneys and representatives were cooperating fully, and very good relationships had been established,” he wrote on Aug. 11. “The government could have had whatever they wanted, if we had it.”

Mr. Trump received a subpoena this spring seeking additional documents, and federal officials met with Mr. Trump and his lawyer Evan Corcoran at Mar-a-Lago. After the visit, at least one of Mr. Trump’s lawyers signed a written statement claiming that all material marked as classified and stored in boxes at Mar-a-Lago was returned.

But an inventory of material taken from Mr. Trump’s home during last week’s search showed that agents seized 11 sets of confidential or secret documents.

After the FBI log of seized documents shows some marked classified, Trump says, without evidence, that the documents were already declassified.

After the warrant was released by a Florida court, an accompanying log showed that 11 sets of classified documents were retrieved from Mar-a-Lago. The warrant also showed that the investigation was related to violations of the Espionage Act.

Mr. Trump then suggested that the documents seized by the FBI were legitimate.

“Number one, it was all declassified,” he wrote.

While presidents have broad powers to declassify information while in office, violations of the Espionage Act still apply to declassified documents.

Trump repeats unfounded claim that documents could have been planted.

In a series of posts on Truth Social, Mr. Trump doubled down on his criticism of the FBI, saying the agency “has a long and unrelenting history of being corrupt.” He listed discredited claims of election interference during the 2016 election.

Mr. Trump then returned to his earlier, unsupported, claims that the documents could have been planted by the FBI.

“There was no way of knowing if what they took was legitimate, or was there a ‘plant?’” he wrote. “This was, after all, the FBI!”

Lebanon war: The beginning of the end

By Mohammad Javad Mahdizadeh

The whole world was paying attention to the World Cup games when some teams from the special forces of the Islamic resistance of Lebanon (the military branch of Hezbollah) crossed the point Khala Warda on the Palestinian-Lebanese border at 9:05 AM, 12 July 2006, and captured Ehud Goldwasser and Eldad Regev, two Israeli soldiers of the patrol unit from the northern region of Israeli army in a special operation called “Al Waad al Sadeq” (the true promise).

Israeli politicians and generals did not expect Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the Secretary General of Hezbollah, to fulfill his promise in planning an operation to free Lebanese prisoners in Israeli jails, especially Samir Kuntar.

The operation was answered by Israeli air force, launching massive air raids against southern

suburb of Beirut (Dahiya) and the whole Lebanese Shia regions. Hezbollah retaliated during future days and nights by firing hundreds of rockets and short range missiles at important Israeli targets. It not only targeted important cities like Haifa, but the main garrisons and headquarters of the Israeli armed forces in the north.

The Zionists became more furious of the retaliation, especially after “Missile Unit” of the Islamic resistance movement hit Israeli warship Saar-5 (Ahi Hanit) off the port of Beirut, just when Sayyed Nasrallah promised the warship to be targeted during a live telephone speech, broadcasted by Al Manar, the Hezbollah satellite TV.

This military-media operation seemed so hard for Zionist leaders in Tel Aviv that they ordered an air raid on Al Manar headquarters in the Haret Hraik region in southern Beirut a few days later, but it was more surprising for them when Al



Manar programs began to continue from another building in the area, and it didn’t stop during the war.

Condoleezza Rice, then American secretary of state, supported Israeli invasion of Lebanon, calling it “The birth pangs of the New Middle East”. However, Hezbollah missiles reached the town of Hadera, 20 km north of Tel Aviv during last weeks of the war, proving that Zionist settlers will pain

more if this “New Middle East dream” continues more.

UN Resolution 1701 was the option of the global powers at the Security Council to stop the war, however, none of Israeli goals of the war (from a total annihilation of the Islamic resistance planned from the beginning of the war to preventing banish Hezbollah rockets and missiles from Lebanese-Palestinian borders) were realized.

Years later in an interview Martyr lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani, Commander of the Iranian IRGC Quds Force who was in Lebanon during the war, informed leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamenei that Israeli army was raising the level of military preparation to begin an all-out war against Lebanon to completely destroy Hezbollah and occupy the whole southern region of the Litani river in order to create new Zionist settlements in the region,

a dream that had not been realized during the Israeli occupation of South Lebanon from 1978–2000.

The Hezbollah victory in the 33-day war was followed by an improvement in the capabilities of the Palestinian resistance forces, who fought Israeli forces in different wars on the Gaza Strip (22, 8, 51, 12, and 3-day wars), and the victorious experience of Hezbollah against Takfiri-Salafi terrorists in Syria (since 2013), what Zionists consider a potential threat, based on a very famous speech of Sayyed Hassan Nasrollah in which he said:

“O, warriors of Islamic resistance! Be ready for the day, when the supreme command asks you to liberate Zionist occupied regions in Galilee region!”

Mohammad Javad Mahdizadeh is a political-military analyst and historian researcher, focusing on West Asia, East Europe, and Latin America affairs.

Archaeologists tasked to reconsider Sialk Hills boundary



TEHRAN—A team of cultural heritage experts and archaeologists has been tasked with conducting extensive field research to verify the legal boundary of the magnificent Sialk Mound in central Iran.

“Sialk Hills is one of the most important hubs of civilization in Kashan and Iran. Due to this importance, determining the area and boundaries of this ancient site is the expertise of archaeologists and the final opinion must be announced by those experts,” CHTN quoted Isfahan province's tourism chief as saying on Wednesday.

Ahmad Danainia reminded efforts underway to register the site in the UNESCO World Heritage list, saying “For the global registration of these

ancient hills, its limits should be modified...”

Experts believe that Sialk is a treasure trove of information about diverse subjects such as palaeobotany, palaeozoology, palaeoanatomy, diet, climate change, and ancient metallurgy.

Situated halfway between Kashan and Fin in Isfahan province, Tapeh Sialk (“Sialk Hills”) has yielded interesting pottery pieces, metal tools, and domestic implements made from stone, clay, and bone that date from as early as the 4th millennium BC.

Several excavation projects at the site have so far been conducted, beginning with a 1933 French Louvre delegation led by Roman Ghirshman; capping with a most recent project in 2009, which was led by Hassan Fazeli-Nashli, a faculty member of the Archaeology Department, University of Tehran.

Many travelers opt to pass Kashan on their journeys between Tehran, Isfahan, Shiraz, and Yazd because this delightful oasis city on the edge of the Dasht-e Kavir is one of Iran's most alluring destinations. Kashan not only boasts a cluster of architectural wonders, an atmospheric-covered bazaar, and a UNESCO-recognized garden, but it also offers some of central Iran's best traditional hotels.

Iran to take part in Najaf tourism fair

TEHRAN – Iran will participate in the International Exhibition of Travel, Tourism, Hotel Equipment and Services in Najaf in October.

The Islamic Republic plans to set up a pavilion at the event, which is scheduled to be held from October 11 to 14 in the Iraqi holy city, the director of the Iranian pavilion Ebris Mazandarani said on Wednesday.

By introducing and promoting Iran's tourism potential during the event, an increase in the number of Iraqi tourists visiting the country is expected, he added.

Travelers from Iraq are attracted to the country because of its facilities in different areas of tourism, including health, sports, entertainment, and religion, he noted.

Each month, thousands of Iraqi pilgrims visit Mashhad, Iran's holiest and second-largest city, which embraces the shrine complex of Imam Reza (AS), the eighth Shia Imam.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, Iraqi constituted Iran's largest source of tourists. In return, hundreds of thousands of Iranian

pilgrims head for the holy Iraqi cities of Najaf and Karbala each year to attend the Arbäeen pilgrimage, aka the Arbäeen trek, to mark an end to the 40-day mourning period following the martyrdom of Imam Hussein (AS), the grandson of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

A relatively hidden gem and a backpacker's dream, Iran holds vast potential as a holiday destination with stunning landscapes, numerous World Heritage sites, and above all, its hospitable people.

The country is often portrayed as “one of the safest to travel” by most visitors who experienced it, particularly solo female travelers and families, and Lonely Planet calls its people the “friendliest in the world.”

The Islamic Republic expects to reap a bonanza from its numerous tourist spots such as bazaars, museums, mosques, bridges, bathhouses, madrasas, mausoleums, churches, towers, and mansions, of which 26 are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Under the 2025 Tourism Vision Plan, Iran aims to increase the number of tourist arrivals from 4.8 million in 2014 to 20 million in 2025.

Iran sees 2.9 million foreign visitors in 11 months

From page 1 ▶ “According to the forecasts of the World Tourism Organization, global tourism will return to the normal state (before the coronavirus pandemic) by the end of 2024. However, we returned to normal earlier than the forecasts of international organizations,” the minister said.

“Domestic travel has achieved some 40 percent increase compared to the pre-coronavirus period.”

Elsewhere in his remarks, the official used the context of anti-Iranian sentiment as a barrier to attract far more potential travelers.

“Designing an Iranophobia project and presenting a negative image of Iran in some media is one of the obstacles to attracting foreign tourists,” Zarghami said.

“We have many relative advantages and facilities that none of the countries in the region have.”

Long shunned by Western travelers, the Islamic Republic has steadily stepped-up efforts to use tourism, over the past couple of years, to help promote its international image battered by endless opposition mostly from the U.S.

Experts believe even before the pandemic, Iran's tourism was already grappling with some challenges, on top of those Western “media propaganda” aimed at scaring potential travelers away from the Islamic Republic. They say Iran is still somehow “unknown” to many potential travelers due to such a “media war.”

The minister added one of the priorities that his ministry follows was to develop tourism ties with the neighboring countries.

“Our priority is to strengthen relations with neighboring



countries and now we are pursuing the project of cheap overland travels with neighboring countries.”

Citizens from Iraq and Afghanistan were the main source of tourism for Iran from October 23 to December 22, 2021. Over the past couple of years, neighboring Iraq has been one of Iran's most important markets for tourism and pilgrimage. In January, the deputy tourism chief Ali-Asghar Shalbfavian announced that Iran had renewed arrangements to facilitate travels for Iraqi nationals. “For Iraqi tourists visiting Iran, a new system has been implemented to ensure their safety and comfort.”

Before the COVID pandemic, Iran tourism had constantly been growing, reaching more than eight million visitors in the Iranian calendar year 1398 (started March 21, 2019). That surge, however, helped prejudices to become thick

and thin.

However, Iran's trump card is that the country benefits from a wide variety of travel destinations ranging from seacoasts and lush green woods to towering mountains and harsh deserts. As a wallet-friendly destination with hospitable people, Iran has long been a desired destination for nature lovers, birdwatchers, powder chasers, culture devotees, pilgrims, museum-goers, foodies, adventurers, and medical travelers, to name a few.

Mass COVID-19 vaccinations, consecutive fam tours for foreign tour operators, easing travel procedures, and fresh strategies, altogether, suggest Iran is determined to experience a tourism rebound with a greater reliance on its numerous tourist spots of which 26 are UNESCO World Heritage, and above all, its welcoming people.

Rig-e Boland deserves better tourism infrastructure

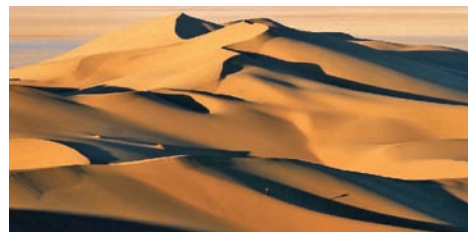
TEHRAN—The tourism infrastructure of Rig-e Boland, a barren desert situated in Aran-Bidgol county, central Isfahan province, needs to be developed, a local tourism chief has said.

With its natural beauty and unique location, Rig-e Boland deserves the development of tourism infrastructure, Mehdi Mashhadi explained on Tuesday.

Traveling to the desert has become an increasingly popular option for tourists in recent years after the geography of tourism changed, the official added.

“Until recently, most people chose forest and coastal areas for travel, but now the desert is becoming one of the most popular tourist destinations,” he explained.

The Rig-e Boland desert in Aran-Bidgol



county, near a salt lake, is considered one of Iran's natural tourist attractions, which has been inscribed on the national heritage list due to its unique features, he noted.

Over 2.5 million people visit Rig-e Boland each year during the high season, which makes it one of the most visited areas in the country, he stated.

Neighboring the popular Maranjab desert, Rig-e Boland still lacks proper tourism infrastructure and services, he added.

With an area of approximately 168,000 hectares, Rig-e Boland is home to different types of dunes. The general structure of dunes is mainly light sandy, and in some places, it is accompanied by gypsum and quartz particles. The Rig-e Boland is in a horseshoe shape, starting from the Maranjab region, and extends to the north of Aran-Bidgol county. It is the largest sand field in Isfahan province and the eighth largest dune in the country.

Popular for off-roading, Maranjab is one of the most popular deserts in Iran, situated about 60 Km from Kashan in a northeast direction.

The desert is surrounded by a salt lake from the north, Band-e Rig Desert and National Park from the east, Masileh Desert, Hoz-e sultan and Moreh Lakes from the west and eventually Aran-Bidgol from the south.

Fishery museum to be established in Gilan

TEHRAN—A fishery museum will be established in Bandar-e Anzali, northern Gilan province, the provincial tourism chief has said.

The old building of the city's fishery department, which is over 150 years old, is planned to be turned into a museum, Vali Jahani said on

Wednesday.

The fishing educational and research tools in the province, which are almost 100 years old, deserve to go on display and receive better maintenance, the official added.

Bounded by the Caspian Sea and the Republic of Azerbaijan on the

north, Gilan, in the far past, was within the sphere of influence of the successive Achaemenid, Seleucid, Parthian, and Sassanid empires that ruled Iran until the 7th century CE.

Sophisticated Rasht, the capital of Gilan province, has long been a weekend escape for residents of

Tehran who are looking to sample the famous local cuisine and hoping for some pluvial action—it's the largest, and wettest town in the northern region. Gilan is divided into a coastal plain, including the large delta of Sefid Rud and adjacent parts of the Alborz mountain range.

Experts from Iran, Mauritius discuss ways to expand mutual tourism

TEHRAN—On Tuesday, ways to boost tourism ties between Iran and Mauritius were discussed during a meeting in Tehran.

About 100 representatives of the private sector of tourism from both countries attended the event, which was organized by Iran's Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Ministry in collaboration with the Iranian embassy in Madagascar and Mauritius, CHTN reported on Wednesday.

The meeting, which focused on exploring the tourism opportunities of the two countries, highlighted building relationships between the two nations and learning more about each other's capacities.

As a result of knowing the tourism capacities of the two countries, the development of tourism interactions will become possible, the report added.

In addition to the tourism cooperation, the purpose of the Mauritius delegation's visit to the Islamic Republic

was to establish cooperation in the fields of economics, industry, and agriculture.

Mauritius is an island country in the Indian Ocean, located off the eastern coast of Africa. Mauritius offers a rich mixture of the many cultures and traditions of its different people. The ethnic and religious diversity of Mauritius also means that there are many holidays and festivals scheduled throughout the year, which makes it a top destination for tourists.

Oldest Zilou in Iran undergoes restoration

TEHRAN—Iran's oldest Zilou, which formerly covered the congregational hall of a mosque in Meybod, has undergone restoration in the ancient oasis city.

The oldest Zilou in Iran, which belongs to the Jameh Mosque of Meybod, will be restored and documented, ILNA quoted a local tourism official as saying on Wednesday.

“This valuable work is the only three-

color Zilou in Iran, white, blue, and red, which measures 740 x 314 cm, with twenty-four special patterns, in two rows of 12,” the official explained.

In 2019, Meybod celebrated becoming a world city for Zilou, a status given by the WCC-APR after its experts probed the in-house expertise that has been passed down from generation to generation across the city.



According to UNESCO, Meybod is a remarkable example of the viability and transmission of human beings' collective thoughts from different generations to the present one.

“What is significant in the city of Meybod is the regularity of city planning. The anatomy and spatial structure of the city show original plans which conform with the old Iranian city planning.”

Millennia-old relics discovered in Zanjan

TEHRAN—Iranian police have recently confiscated three clay relics, estimated to date back to the 1st millennium BC, a senior police official in charge of protecting cultural heritage has said.

The relics were discovered in a historical site in Tarom county after police had received reports from cultural heritage aficionados, Hossein-Ali Fazli explained on

Wednesday.

Some digging tools were found by the authorities as well, the official added.

Zanjan is one of the cities founded by Sassanid King Ardashir I (180-242 CE). The province makes a base for wider explorations with the architectural wonder of Soltaniyeh, the subterranean delights of the Katala-

Khor caves, colorful mountains, and the UNESCO-registered Takht-e Soleiman ruins are nearby.

The first well-documented evidence of human habitation on the Iranian plateau is found from deposits from several excavated cave and rock-shelter sites in the Zagros Mountains, which dates back to Middle Paleolithic or Mousterian times (c. 100,000 BC).

Invitation for Cooperation at Embassy of Pakistan-Tehran

as “Social Secretary in Ambassador Office” Relevant university education, full knowledge of English and Farsi, Full knowledge of English↔Farsi translation & interpretation, Preferably under 35 years (35 on 27st August 2022)

Full knowledge of Office programs, Good typing skills (in En and Farsi) Relevant work experience (in charge of office) preferably in a Diplomatic Mission/Int'l or Regional Organizations.

Please send your info latest by 27st August 2022 to below email address. You may also send your resume with copy of education certificates and work experiences along with one picture addressed to Head of Chancery of Embassy to below address.

No.1, Etemadzadeh St., West Fatemi St., Tehran
pareptehran@gmail.com

Tehran, Karbala ink sisterhood agreement

TEHRAN – The Iranian capital city of Tehran and the Iraqi holy city of Karbala have signed a sisterhood agreement.

The visiting governor of Karbala, Nassif Jassim al-Khattabi, signed the agreement on Tuesday with Tehran mayor Alireza Zakani, ISNA reported.

The two sides aim to boost cooperation during the Arbäeen pilgrimage and broaden the ties in other fields, as well.

The Municipality of Tehran also intends to sign sisterhood agreements with some other Iraqi cities, including Baghdad and Najaf, according to the report.

The Arbäeen pilgrimage, which is one of the largest religious gatherings in the world, comes 40 days after Ashura, the martyrdom anniversary of Imam Hussein (AS), the third Imam of Shia Muslims, and the grandson of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).



Each year, a huge crowd of people floods to Karbala, where the holy shrine of Imam Hussein (AS) is located, to perform mourning rituals.

This year Arbäeen falls on September 17.

Before the outbreak of coronavirus, some 2 to 3 million Ira-

nians attended annually in the Arbäeen march. However, last year, the rituals were held virtually to avoid the transmission of the disease.

In July, Mehdi Chamran, chairman of Tehran City Council, said Tehran municipality allocated 300 billion rials (nearly \$11 mil-

lion) to provide essential services, facilities, and equipment, as well as help to create bases needed by Iranian pilgrims.

The fifth international conference on the Arbäeen pilgrimage will be held in Tehran on August 23.

Organized by Allameh Tabatabai University, the conference has been held every year since 2016, and this year it will be held with a 2-year break due to the spread of coronavirus in the country.

The two sides aim to boost cooperation during the Arbäeen pilgrimage and broaden the ties in other fields, as well.

Some \$60m in zakat collection targeted



TEHRAN – The Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation has set a target to collect 18 trillion rials (about \$60 million) in zakat (alms) in the current Iranian calendar year (ending March 2023).

In the first quarter of the current Iranian calendar year, 7.94 trillion rials in zakat have been collected, an increase of 44 percent year on year, IRIB quoted Habibollah Asoudeh, deputy director of the Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation, as saying on Wednesday.

Zakat is the third of the Five Pillars of Islam and refers to giving a fixed portion of one's wealth to the needy and poor.

It enjoins every adult, mentally stable, free, and financially able Muslim, male and female, to pay a certain amount of money to support specific categories of people.

The profession of Faith (shahada) – the belief that “There is no god but God, and Muhammad is the Messenger of God” – is the first pillar of Islam. Prayer (salat), alms (zakat), fasting (sawm), and pilgrimage (hajj) are the other four.

As much as 80 percent of the collected zakat is spent to provide basic foods for the needy and

the rest is allocated for development projects in underprivileged areas, Asoudeh said.

About 80 percent of the collected zakat is spent to provide basic foods for the needy and the rest is allocated for development projects in underprivileged areas.

Iran has been named the 32nd most generous country among 114 countries by the World Giving Index 2021.

The ranking is done based on the three indices of ‘helping a stranger’, ‘donating money’, and ‘volunteering time’.

Iran is 38th in helping a stranger, 23rd in donating money, and 92nd in volunteering time.

Reports suggest that Zakat payments globally were particularly high in

2020 as a response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Iran reports first case of monkeypox

TEHRAN – Iran has announced its first case of the monkeypox virus, detected in a woman, health ministry spokesman Pedram Pakaeen said on Tuesday.

A 34-year-old woman who is living in the southwestern city of Ahvaz has been diagnosed with monkeypox, IRNA reported.

Pakaeen explained that the woman has been quarantined after being tested positive and is at her home during the recovery period.

However, the official stressed that the disease is not highly contagious and fatal.

Those who have injected the smallpox vaccine will be immune against monkeypox to a great extent, Pakaeen noted.

Since May 13, cases of monkeypox have been reported to the

World Health Organization from 12 Member States that are not endemic to the monkeypox virus.

In May, Pakaeen said the Ministry of Health was examining suspects to identify possible monkeypox infection. Also, a guideline has been prepared for the pre-

vention and treatment of this disease, which will be provided to universities.

Due to its low transmission pace, it is less likely to cause an epidemic and is not worrisome, he stated.

Monkeypox is a viral zoonosis (a virus transmitted to humans from animals) with symptoms very similar to those seen in the past in smallpox patients, although it is clinically less severe. It is caused by the monkeypox virus which belongs to the orthopoxvirus genus of the Poxviridae family.

The virus is transmitted from one person to another by close contact with lesions, body fluids, respiratory droplets, and contaminated materials such as bedding. The incubation period of monkeypox is usually from 6 to 13



days but can range from 5 to 21 days.

Monkeypox is usually self-limiting but may be severe in some individuals, such as children, pregnant women, or persons with immune suppression due to other health conditions. Human infections in the West African clade appear to cause less severe disease compared to the Congo Basin clade, with a case fatality rate of 3.6% compared to 10.6% for the Congo Basin clade.

The virus is transmitted from one person to another by close contact with lesions, body fluids, respiratory droplets, and contaminated materials.

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Iran finds herbal medicines effective in COVID-19 treatment

Two herbal drugs that are effective in healing the symptoms of COVID-19 have been permitted to be produced domestically.

The Food and Drug Administration has approved four domestically produced herbal medicine effective in the treatment of COVID-19 and has issued a production license for two of them.

Kianoush Jahanpour, the spokesman for the Food and Drug Administration, told IRNA on Monday that “none of these drugs are a cure for COVID-19, but they have effects to reduce the symptoms of this disease and should be further investigated.”

The first herbal medicine in this collection is an oral spray containing six herbal essential oils, and according to the results of a clinical trial presented, if used, it helps to improve the pulmonary complications of coronavirus, including shortness of breath, cough, and arterial oxygenation, he explained.

تولید دو داروی گیاهی موثر در درمان کرونا در ایران

سازمان غذا و داروی ایران چهار فرآورده طبیعی تولید داخل با اجزای گیاهی برای بهبود علایم کووید ۱۹ را تایید کرده و مجوز تولید را برای دو مورد آنها صادر کرده است.

کیانوش جهانپور سخنگوی سازمان غذا و دارو روز دوشنبه در گفت و گو با ایرنا گفت: هیچکدام از این داروها داروی درمان کووید ۱۹ نیستند اما اثراتی برای بهبود علایم این بیماری داشته اند و باید مراحل بررسی بیشتر را طی کنند.

وی گفت: اولین داروی گیاهی از این مجموعه یک اسپری دهانی حاوی ۶ اسانس گیاهی است و با توجه به نتایج کارآزمایی بالینی ارائه شده در صورت مصرف به بهبود عوارض ریوی کووید ۱۹ شامل تنگی نفس، سرفه و اکسیژن رسانی شریانی کمک می کند.

SOCIETY

AUGUST 18, 2022

Straight Truth

TEHRAN TIMES

7

IPhO 2024 to be held in Iran

From page 1 ► According to the latest information on science production, Iran is ranked 15th in the world in the international system of Web of Science in 2021, with an h-index of 383, which indicates the quality of Iranian articles registered.

Iran's scientific position in the Web of Science over the last 5 years shows that the production of conference papers has been on a downward trend during 2020 and 2021 due to the outbreak.

The share of Iranian science production from conference papers has dropped from 7.38 percent in 2017 to 1.26 percent in 2021.

In the SCOPUS international regulations,



the most important research areas of Iran in the production of science in 2021 have been medicine, engineering, and materials science, respectively.

BIRDS IN IRAN

Part 2

Eight major habitat types may be identified, each with its own characteristic bird fauna:

True desert and semidesert

The desert environment occurs throughout the central desert basin from the region of Tehran through the great Dasht-e Kavir and Dasht-e Lut deserts to the Jaz Murian basin in central Baluchestan and locally along the southern coastal lowlands from northwestern Khuzestan to Baluchestan.

Rather few species occur in true desert, and densities are very low, but most of those species which have become adapted to this hostile environment have large ranges both in Iran and in the southern Palearctic as a whole.

Examples include: Houbara bustard Chlamydotis undulata, cream-colored courser Cursorius cursor, spotted and coronated sandgrouse Pterocles senegallus and P. coronatus, desert and bartailed desert lark Ammomanes deserti and A. cincturus, hoopoe lark Alaeon alaudipes, desert warbler Sylvia nana, desert wheatear Oenanthe deserti, hooded wheatear O. monacha, and trumpeter finch Rhodopechys githaginea.

Although Iran possesses no true endemic species, one species, Pleske's ground jay Podoces pleskei, which occurs widely in the deserts of central and eastern Iran, is almost confined to the country, and is known elsewhere only from extreme western Pakistan.

Semiarid steppe of the desert rim and foothills

Much of Iran's land surface, lying between 1,500 and 2,000 m in elevation and with an annual rainfall of between 100 and 300 mm, supports a steppe vegetation dominated by the low shrub Artemisia herba-alba.

Large tracts have been modified by man, either through the grazing of domestic animals or irrigation and cultivation, particularly for cereals.

The resulting patchwork is now the home of many of Iran's commonest and most widespread birds.

Characteristic species include: long-legged buzzard Buteo rufinus, Eurasian kestrel Falco tinnunculus, black-bellied sandgrouse Pterocles orientalis, roller Coracias

garrulus, bee-eater Merops apiaster, several species of lark alaudidae, including the ubiquitous crested lark Galerida cristata, isabelline wheatear Oenanthe isabellina, and black-headed bunting.

High mountains

The alpine zones of the Alborz and Zagros mountains and the higher peaks of mountain ranges in Azarbaijan, Khorasan, Kerman, and Baluchestan provinces support a montane fauna—the so-called Paleomontane fauna—typical of all high mountain ranges from the Pyrenees and Alps in western Europe to the Himalayas.

Characteristic species include: golden eagle Aquila chrysaetos, bearded vulture Gypaetus barbatus, alpine swift Apus melba, crag martin Hirundo rupestris, horned lark Eremophila alpestris, alpine chough Pyrrhocorax graculus, alpine accentor Prunella collaris, rock thrush Monticola saxatilis, black redstart Phoenicurus ochruros, wall creeper Tichodroma muraria, and snow finch Montifringilla nivalis.

The Caspian snowcock Tetraogallus caspius, which is confined to high mountain ranges in Turkey and Iran, is still locally common on the highest peaks in the Alborz and Zagros.

Forests and woodland

Although of rather limited extent, Iran's forested regions possess a very rich bird fauna, which is largely Western Palearctic in affinities.

The luxuriant forests of northern Azarbaijan and the south Caspian region have a bird fauna scarcely different from that of a central European woodland, with common species including: wood pigeon Columba palumbus, green woodpecker Picus viridis, great spotted woodpecker Dendrocopos major, tree pipit Anthus trivialis, red-backed shrike Lanius collurio, jay Garrulus glandarius, wren Troglodytes troglodytes, dunnock Prunella modularis, blackcap Sylvia atricapilla, icterine warbler Hippolais icterina, robin Erithacus rubecula, nightingale Luscinia megarhynchos, several species of thrush Turdus sp., several species of tit Parus sp. and chaffinch Fringilla coelebs.

To be continued

COVID-19 UPDATES ON AUGUST 17

New cases	4,824
New deaths	67
Total cases	7,493,317
Total deaths	143,160
New hospitalized patients	995
Patients in critical condition	1,428
Total recovered patients	7,201,750
Diagnostic tests conducted	53,576,725
Doses of vaccine injected	153,437,937

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AUGUST 18, 2022

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

He who is greedy is disgraced; he who discloses his hardship will always be humiliated; he who has no control over his tongue will often have to face discomfort.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon:13:08 Evening: 20:10 Dawn: 4:55 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:26 (tomorrow)

Indian influences on Persian painting

Part 2

The background, too, is made up of disparate elements. Aliqoli Jobbadar borrowed motifs from several sources, and failed to integrate them in a convincing manner.

At the beginning of his career, in his first dated painting, of 1657-58, Aliqoli made a fine copy of a Mughal painting of circa 1630-40, believed to be by Govar-dhan.

It shows a dervish before an encampment, perhaps to be identified as Majnun before Layla's camp.

The original and the copy once appeared side by side in an album broken up and sold in Paris in 1982.

A second picture from the “Drouot Album”, of a young Mughal prince surrounded by a circle of teachers, has also been attributed to Aliqoli Jobbadar. Aliqoli Beg Jobbadar copied Indian miniatures intermittently for twenty-seven years.

The direct copies of his early years are the most successful, for he was never to learn how to create new works in a Mughal style that preserved the modeling and spatial relationships of actual Mughal work.

If Aliqoli Jobbadar was a house-born slave of Shah Abbas II, as the literal reading of the inscription on the St. Petersburg miniature would suggest, he could not have traveled to India to make his studies of Mughal miniatures.

He and possibly Mohammad Zaman as well were simply copying Indian miniatures of the 1630s-1650s that had passed into Persian collections, including probably the collection of Shah Abbas II himself.

The Persian painter Mohammad Khan, who worked in Kashmir, was employed by, or perhaps his pictures were simply collected by, Dara Shokuh, the eldest son of Shah Jahan.

Paintings by him are in a moraqqa (an album in which paintings, drawings, and calligraphy specimens are mounted) now in the British Library, that Dara Shokuh presented to his wife, Nadera Banu Begom in 1641-42.

Mohammad Khan signed and dated, 1633-34, a fine picture of a young man in Persian costume, kneeling and pouring wine into a small jeweled cup, and five unsigned miniatures are attributed to him.

His dated miniature is notable for its detailed rendering of an elaborate, bejeweled wine bottle, cup, and dagger and a plaid waist sash.

A row of flowering plants and a band of small stones colored in grey to reddish tones line the bank of a stream. Pale depictions of trees and white birds on the horizon follow a Mughal model.

While the face of the young man indicates an interest in realistic modeling, the figures are otherwise flat and show the painter's training in traditional Persian style.

Three paintings attributed to Mohammad Khan in the Dara Shokuh Album are of flowers and insects, a theme inspired by European herbals and notably developed by the Safavid artist Shafi Abbasi between 1634-35 and 1652-53.

An even closer comparison, however, is a study of a yellow narcissus and butterfly signed by the painter Mohammad-Nader Samarqandi in the collection of Sir Cowasji Jehangir.

Both are large and sturdy representations

of flowers with a butterfly hovering over them, and are probably from the same workshop.

Mohammad-Nader illustrated a Yusuf o Zolaykha in Kashmir (modern Srinagar) in 1651 and is generally associated with this city.

Probably the then 19-year-old Dara Shokuh purchased flower paintings as well as other work by Mohammad Khan during the royal visit to Kashmir in 1634.

An album in the Royal Library, Windsor Castle, contains miniatures that duplicate some of those in the Dara Shokuh Album, and Falk and Archer attribute one of these to Mohammad Khan too.

Two other painters working on the Dara Shokuh Album followed the style of Mohammad Khan, and Mohammad Khan may have been head of a “Persian” painting workshop in the city of Kashmir by 1633.

A fine drawing of a Persian nobleman by Mohammad Khan has been discovered in the Raza Library, Rampur.

The man stands facing left, his gaze averted to a small flower held in his raised right hand. His face and turban are colored, but the body is rendered in line, as a finished drawing.

He wears an elaborate coat with fur collar, and his large turban of red, blue, gold, and black plaid cloth is carefully executed. His face with its prominent nose is an obvious likeness rather than an idealized portrait.

A line of verse to the left of the figure translates: “The least servant of Shah Abbas [II], Mohammad Khan, makes the realistic picture with the point of a pen, 1070 [1659-60].”

An inscription in the lower right corner identifies the subject as “a picture of Aliqoli Khan.” A copy of this work, by a less skilled hand, in the Golestan Library, Tehran, includes the same verse, date, and identification of the portrait.

This same nobleman was the subject of a painting in the Art and History Trust Collection. The kneeling man wears a grey-fur-collared, striped red coat over a striped lavender coat, the narrow stripes carefully describing the volumes of the body underneath.

The hands are large and rather flaccid, with henna-dyed nails; the thumbs are extremely short in comparison to the long curling fingers.

In the background a partially drawn-up curtain reveals a row of tall, thick leaves and two deeply eroded mountainsides.

From the partially cut off inscription on the lower left corner Soudavar has read “Aliqoli,” and then, mistakenly we believe, identified the words as the signature of the painter Aliqoli Jobbadar.

We believe this to be another work by Mohammad Khan and the subject a portrait of Aliqoli (Khan).

Striped robes describing the body underneath in such a lifelike manner are not found in the work of Isfahan masters of this period. Striped clothing does appear in illustrations of a Masnavi by Khaja Ahsanollah Zafar Khan, the poet and intermittent governor of Kashmir.

In a double-page miniature of Zafar Khan in discussion with a clergyman in the presence of his court, robes have stripes of varying widths and include ones similar to those in Mohammad-Ali's signed portrait.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica
To be continued.

Tehran orchestra to perform symphonic poem “Alamdar”

TEHRAN – The Tehran Symphonic Orchestra will perform the symphonic poem “Alamdar” at Vahdat Hall for five nights from September 5.

Composed by Iranian musical prodigy Puria Khadem, “Alamdar” (“The Standard-Bearer”) is about Hazrat Abbas (AS), the brother of Imam Hussein (AS) and the standard-bearer of the Imam's group in the Ashura battle in 680, during which the Imam and his companions were martyred.

Bardia Kiaras will conduct the orchestra, which will be accompanied by vocalist Puria Akhavas and a choir of veteran singers. Actor Parviz Parastui, who is also the producer of the program, will do the narration.

Hossein Parsai is scheduled to direct the dramatic show along with the performances. The dramatic piece has been composed in 11 stages by Mohammadreza Kuhestani and will be choreographed by Ali Barati.

The performances will take place as a result of collaboration between the Rudaki Foundation and the Khademin Ali ibn Abi Talib (AS) Charity Organization, which is being handled by Olympic gold medalist wrestler Rasul Khadem,

Bardia Kiaras conducts the Tehran Symphonic Orchestra performing the symphonic poem “Alamdar” at Vahdat Hall on September 28, 2020. (Moj/Mohsen Abolqasem)

Puria's father, and Parastui.

The performances will be organized to raise funds for the poor across the country.

The Tehran Symphonic Orchestra performed “Alamdar” at Vahdat Hall during a charity concert in September 2020.

Earlier in November 2015, the

Tehran Symphonic Orchestra performed “Alamdar” under the baton of Ali Rahbari at Vahdat Hall.

“I believe this 16-year-old boy is a champion of music composition,” Rahbari said after the performance.

“This is a great honor that

Puria's father, Rasul Khadem supports his son in music. Rasul Khadem won a gold medal in sports, and I hope his son wins a gold medal in music,” he added.

The composition was also performed the same year by the Azerbaijan State Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Rauf Abdullayev in Baku.

Photographer Babak Borzuyeh dies at 53

From Page 1 ► His work for director Rasul Mollaqaolipur's 1996 acclaimed war drama “Journey to Chazzebah” brought him the Crystal Simorgh for best still photographer of the Fajr Film Festival.

Mollaqaolipur also hired Borzuyeh for his subsequent films, “Hiva” and “Poisonous Mushroom”.

Borzuyeh had made a cameo appearance in Dariush Mehrjui's 1980 movie “The School We Went to”.

Borzuyeh's skills in still photography convinced outstanding filmmakers such as Ziaeddin

Dorri, Puran Derkshandeh, Masud Kimiai and Ahmadreza Darvish to work with him.

Borzuyeh was the curator of “Wind and Leaf”, an exhibition organized at Gallery 21 in Paris in November 2019 to commemorate the legendary Iranian filmmaker and photographer, Abbas Kiarostami.

The exhibition showcased a collection built by a group of Iranian photographers inspired by poems from Kiarostami's book, “Wind and Leaf”.

He is survived by his wife Nezal Shahtalai, his son Bradia and daughter Paria.

Photographer Babak Borzuyeh in an undated photo.

Ally Condie takes Persian readers on “The Last Voyage of Poe Blythe”

TEHRAN – “The Last Voyage of Poe Blythe”, a novel by American author of young adult and middle-grade fiction Ally Condie, has been published in Persian.

Peydayesh is the publisher of the 2019 book rendered into Persian by Arezu Moqaddas.

Who do you become when you have nothing left to lose? There is something that Poe Blythe, the seventeen-year-old captain of the Outpost's last mining ship, wants far more than the gold they extract from the Serpentine River: revenge.

Poe has vowed to annihilate the

Front cover of the Persian edition of Ally Condie's novel “The Last Voyage of Poe Blythe”.

river raiders who robbed her of everything two years ago. But as she navigates the treacherous waters of the Serpentine and realizes there might be a traitor among her crew, she must also reckon with who she has become, who she wants to be, and the ways love can change and shape you. Even - and especially - when you think all is lost.

The novel has received critical acclaim.

“A compelling, serpentine journey into the heart of grief, the way it can threaten to destroy, and what it looks like to survive,” Sabaa Tahir, New York Times bestselling author

of “An Ember in the Ashes”, has said.

“With its wonderful subversion of gender tropes and achingly real characters, ‘The Last Voyage of Poe Blythe’ takes readers on an epic journey to unearth life's true treasures. Ally Condie has knocked it out of the park.” Renée Ahdieh, bestselling author of “Smoke in the Sun” and “The Wrath & the Dawn”, has stated.

Condie is a former high school English teacher who lives with her husband, three sons and one daughter outside of Salt Lake City, Utah.

A story about hijab in France

An interview with the author of the book “The Ambassador's Memories,”

The book “The Ambassador's Memories,” written by Nilufar Shadmehri and published by Soore Mehr, is about the author, who is currently a university professor. She had challenges as a student and in her early years when she enrolled at one of France's scientific institutes; this novel tells those exciting and challenging days.

*** The 72nd edition of your book has arrived. How has the feedback been thus far? Tell us, kindly.**

The feedback I have gotten has been excellent and positive. The majority of them stated that once they started reading the

book, they didn't put it down, which made me feel wonderful. Some of the criticism has also been quite helpful to me in understanding the perspectives of my audience. Some of them inquired as to how much of this story was based on reality, so I assured them that it was entirely based on personal experience and truth.

*** What was it like for you to discuss the real Western culture in your book?**

There are positive and negative aspects to every culture, nationality, and nation. Personally, I haven't come across a place that is either positive or exclusively negative. Therefore, all that I experienced and learned is included in my book. I made an effort to stay out of the way and preserve the truth of what happened. Naturally, as this is my story, it was told from my point of view, but I made an effort to be truthful about what I see and hear.

*** It appears from the book's points that you assume that Westerners are not very familiar with Islam. Do you mean that?**

The main values of Islam are disappearing in the West. The majority of them rely on the media's portrayal of Islam in that country, which, in my opinion, was drastically different from what I observed in Iran, and their recognition was therefore wrong.

Furthermore, they observed Muslims from immigrant groups that identify as Muslims but do not practice Islam, and these are just a few of the factors that make their knowledge untrustworthy.

*** How did readers in Europe respond to the book?**

When Iranians residing in France met me, they frequently mentioned how they had similar experiences and how much their people confused our culture and nationality with other countries. We had a lot of common experiences.

*** Do you have any plans for the second book?**

Although the second book is finished, numerous issues remain unresolved. One of these examples is that my audience now has a mental image of the places, characters, and events to which they are connected. In the second book, when I returned to France, I stayed in the same dormitory for six months before leaving and moving into an apartment. Because of the changes in characters and locations, this may now be confusing to them. It's similar to extending the seasons of a series, except with the series, changes can be made because it's not a true story, whereas I'm presenting one.