

Report 

## UK protests after police kill unarmed black man

Protests have been taking place across the United Kingdom after yet another unarmed black man was shot and killed by police officers.

Police killed 24-year-old Chris Kaba in his car in south London on September 5. The post-mortem found he died from a gunshot wound sustained in the head.

In central London, people demanding justice for the victim, marched from Downing Street to Scotland Yard where speakers took to the stage.

The police watchdog investigating the killing says it will take up to nine months to conclude a probe. The time frame announced and the time it took for the officer involved to be suspended has sparked further anger. Only after days of community anger, the police announced that the officer who pulled the trigger will be suspended.

One of the victim's cousins outlined the family's demands, "Did the officers know that it was Chris in the car? Or were they simply following a suspect vehicle? The suspended officer must be interviewed under caution without delay and keep family informed of this. There should be a charging decision within weeks and not months."

Speaking at the protest, Bell Ribeiro-Adly, a member of parliament, said "the length of time it's taken to suspend the officer involved is completely appalling. I can't think of any other profession where your actions would lead to someone's life ending and you wouldn't immediately be suspended."

The former Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn was also in attendance. He said "despite the national mourning that's going on, it's important because we are bearing witness to the terrible tragedy that has happened here. Imagine if no one was here. Imagine the terrible pain." **► Page 5**

## Raisi departs for New York to attend UN General Assembly

TEHRAN — Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi departed for New York, United States, on Monday to address the 77th United Nations General Assembly.

Prior to his visit, Raisi met with the Leader of the Islamic Revolution on Sunday. The meeting with the Leader took place a day after he returned from Uzbekistan, the host of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in the current year.

During the meeting, the president briefed the Leader regarding the meetings and agreements at the SCO summit, as well as the plans for the New York visit.

Ayatollah Khamenei expressed his satisfaction with the briefing and measures taken to activate economic and political diplomacy in Uzbekistan and wished success for the president on his trip to New York.

In an interview with Al Jazeera on Thursday while he was in Uzbekistan, Raisi said he is traveling to New York to "secure the interests of the Iranian nation and to try to (help) realize (a) just international order through economic multilateralism."

During the trip, in addition to his speech at the UN General Assembly, the president is scheduled to meet and discuss with a number of heads of state.

Meanwhile, Ali Bagheri Kani, the Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs and Iran's chief negotiator in the JCPOA revival talks in Vienna, will accompany the president during his trip to the U.S., and advisor to the Iranian negotiating team has said.

"As Iran's chief nuclear negotiator Dr. Ali Bagheri will be accompanying the President, it will be a good opportunity for the E3/EU to push the U.S. to meaningfully resolve the few remaining issues. By stonewalling & foot-dragging the U.S. will needlessly make winter more painful," Seyyed Mohammad Marandi tweeted on Sunday.

Iran is on the belief that the 2015 nuclear deal cannot be restored unless the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) puts an end to the endless claims against Iran's Safeguards file. **► Page 2**

# Anti-Evil Axis

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## Iran, Uzbekistan ink MOU on energy co-op

TEHRAN- Iran and Uzbekistan signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on cooperation in different energy sectors, Fars news agency reported on Sunday.

As reported, the MOU was signed by Iran's Oil Minister Javad Oji and Uzbekistan's Acting Energy Minister Azim Ahmed Khojayeov on the sidelines of the 22nd Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Uzbekistan.

In this meeting, the high-ranking delegations of Iran and Uzbekistan discussed joint implementation of petrochemical projects in Iran, conducting geological and exploration activities in the field of oil and gas, supply of Iranian petrochemical products in Uzbekistan, exchange of crude oil and petroleum products, and joint research for the development and commercialization of catalysts and chemicals for petrochemical plants.

Providing financial aid and supporting banking cooperation for the development of oil, gas and petrochemical industries in both countries, providing equipment needed by the oil and gas industry, cooperation in the field of creating and providing laboratory equipment and exchange of knowledge in the field of oil and gas industries, as well as the training of skilled manpower in the oil industry were also agreed upon.



**Ghasempour wins gold at 2022 World Wrestling Championships**  
TEHRAN – Kamran Ghasempour of Iran claimed a gold medal in the 2022 World Wrestling Championships on Saturday.  
The Iranian freestyler defeated American wrestler J'den Cox 2-0 in the final match of the 92kg.  
Ghasempour was put on the shot clock in the first period and responded by scoring a takedown, the only points of the match. There was no scoring in the second period.

## Iran ranked 19th in tourism contribution to GDP

TEHRAN - Iran ranked 19th out of 185 countries in the 2021 Travel & Tourism Total Contribution to GDP Index, according to a biennial report released by the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC).

The Islamic Republic comes 19th with \$48.1 billion in the 2021 Travel & Tourism Total Contribution to GDP Index, standing between South Korea and Switzerland, which were ranked 18th and 20th with GDP contributions of \$48.8 billion and \$44.5 billion, respectively.

The U.S., China, Germany, Japan, and Italy were

named the top five countries of the same index. The figures from WTTC, which represents the global Travel & Tourism private sector, come from its 2021 Economic Impact Report (EIR), which lays bare the devastating impact of COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Earning \$33.3 billion, Iran was ranked 16th in the 2021 index for Domestic Visitor Spending, standing between Russia and the Philippines, which fetched \$39.6 billion and 32.8 billion correspondingly.

In 2019, Iran was ranked 17th in the same index,

with \$371 billion of income generated by the domestic visitor spending.

Gloria Guevara, WTTC President & CEO, said: "With positive news from across Europe about the gradual reopening of borders, we hope to see many more countries adopt a more risk-based approach." This will restore mobility safely through rapid testing and health and hygiene protocols, in addition to the benefit of the vaccination rollout, she explained. **► Page 6**

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## Why did NYT lie about Leader's health?

By Saeed Azimi

TEHRAN— In an extremely unfounded and unprofessional report published on Friday, the New York Times quoted four sources close to the Office of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei as saying that he has cancelled all public meetings and is in "bed rest."

However, less than 24 hours later the Leader made a public appearance, not looking "gravely ill" as the Iranian-American writer of the New York Times had claimed.

The newspaper claimed that the Leader was suffering from a severe pain in the stomach due to bowel obstruction and cannot even sit down, insisting that he has cancelled all public meetings.

The claim attracted the attention of several political pundits, as the Leader's office had announced on Wednesday that Ayatollah Khamenei will host a mourning ceremony on the occasion of Arbaeen with university students.

The Leader addressed the students while standing on his own feet, putting the 150-year-old reputation of the American daily into question.

Fereshteh Sadeghi, a former Al Jazeera producer and a well-known Iranian reporter tweeted on Saturday, "Who said Ayatollah Khamenei was gravely ill, had a surgery 'last week' and is 'too weak to even sit up in bed'? Of course @nytimes." **► Page 2**

## Iranian troupe to perform Holocaust drama "Women's Auschwitz" in Poland

TEHRAN – Iranian troupe Segane has been invited to perform its Holocaust play "Women's Auschwitz" in Krakow, Poland.

The play written by Ali Safari will be directed by him at Scena Supremova on November 5, the troupe announced on Saturday.

"Women's Auschwitz" is about three women who are spending the last moments of their lives in the Auschwitz concentration camp operated by Nazi Germany in occupied Poland during World War II and the Holocaust.

It is part of a trilogy by Safari about the three historical events that claimed millions of lives during the twentieth century.

The play and "Holodomor", another part of the trilogy, were performed by Segane at the Theatre On Pechersk in the Ukrainian capital of Kiev in October 2021 during the Golden Lion International Theater Festival. **► Page 8**

## Raisi departs for New York to attend UN General Assembly

President meets Leader prior to New York visit



From page 1 ▶ In this regard, Raisi told Al Jazeera, "Removal of sanctions should be accompanied with the resolution of safeguards. There are some political and baseless accusations against Islamic Republic of Iran when it comes to safeguard issues, so, we should finalize these safeguard issues."

Another issue that Iran is genuinely concerned about is the issue of economic guarantees that the U.S. must give Iran in order to fully enjoy the

economic benefits of the JCPOA.

In line with Iran's insistence on obtaining the necessary guarantees, the president told Al Jazeera, "Regarding the guarantees, if we have the trustworthy guarantees, and we have the lasting removal of the sanctions, not temporary removal of sanctions, and if there is a lasting solution for the safeguard issues, for sure it is possible to reach agreement."

## Leader to meet military commanders on Wednesday

TEHRAN — According to the head of the Foundation for the Preservation and Publication of Sacred Defense Works and Values, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Khamenei will meet a group of military commanders on Wednesday.

General Bahman Kargar announced on Sunday that a number of commanders and veterans of

the Sacred Defense and the families of the Sacred Defense martyrs will meet with the Leader at the Imam Khomeini Hussainiyah.

The meeting will take place as Iran marks an unexpected and surprise invasion of Iran by Saddam Hussein's army on September 22, 1980.

## Raisi rules out direct meeting with Biden in New York

TEHRAN— In an interview with CBS on Tuesday, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi took a hard line about any potential deal with the West and said President Biden has carried on the same policies as his predecessor.

"You're off to New York. You're going to speak to the United Nations," CBS correspondent Leslie Stahl said to Raisi during their conversation. "You know, President Biden is going to be there. Are you open to a meeting with President Biden? A face-to-face?"

"No. I don't think that such a meeting would

happen," Raisi responded. "I don't believe having a meeting or a talk with him will be beneficial."

"What do you think the difference is for you, from your perspective," Stahl asked, "between the Trump administration and the Biden administration?"

"The new administration in the U.S., they claim that they are different from the Trump administration," Raisi said. "They have said it in their messages to us. But we haven't witnessed any changes in reality."

## Why did NYT lie about Leader's health?

From page 1 ▶ She continued, "He is well enough to walk." It is also worthy of mention that the Leader walked perfectly, not requiring a cane.

She then quoted a friend as saying, "NYT's report is part of the spoilers' plans to foil rapprochement with #Iran and resolve the current standoff in a rational manner."

Seyyed Mohammad Marandi, media advisor to the Iranian team engaged in talks to revive the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, also took a jab at the NYT report, tweeting, "The New York Times claim was made one day before Ayatollah Khamenei gave this standing speech."

"They claimed to have FOUR people 'familiar with his health situation,'" Marandi continued in his tweet on Saturday.

"Imagine how terrible & biased the New York Times & the rest of western media are on other issues linked to Iran," the advisor concluded.

So far, the New York Times has not retreated to the Leader's health conditions, which contrasted its unfounded report.

On top of that, Ayatollah Khamenei met President Ebrahim Raisi and received a fairly lengthy briefing on the president's three-day trip to Uzbekistan, where he attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit.

He will also meet military commanders on Wednesday.

This has led to several reactions from political

commentators who believe that the Times has begun discrediting its reputation just to win the media war against Iran. Some even go far as saying that the U.S. wants to win this war so badly that it resorts to purely fabricated lies and baseless claims.

"Iran's SL (Supreme Leader) Ayatollah Khamenei speaking in Tehran today. Does not appear to be 'gravely ill' & on 'bed rest' as claimed by anonymous sources to the NYT," Sina Toosi, Senior Fellow at Center for International Policy, tweeted on Saturday.

"The NYT report published yesterday asserted in the present tense that he was gravely ill, is currently on bed rest, & his doctors remain concerned that he is too weak to even stand up in bed," Toosi continued.

Similarly, Ali Ahmadi, Executive Fellow at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, tweeted Saturday, "Maybe SL was a bit ill & healed. But honestly, NYT's reporting about Iran has really seemed cribbed from WhatsApp rumor mill over the last couple years."

Analysts in Iran have reached another conclusion, that the New York Times reporters are being fed fake news by the Israeli sources.

Anyway, the Times is engaged in a media war against Iran, and is not afraid to resort to spreading fake news, disinformation, and misinformation. This is certainly not the first time they have done this, and will definitely not be the last one.

In a commentary on September 16, Middle East Eye said since the inception of the talks to resolve the nuclear dispute between Iran and the West, including the United States and certain Western European states, "Israel has done everything to prevent resolving the Iranian nuclear issue through diplomacy."

Talks started in April 2021 to resurrect the nuclear deal, officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), that was ditched by former U.S. president Donald Trump.

Former Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu claimed responsibility for Trump's decision to pull the U.S. out of the nuclear deal. "We convinced the U.S. president [to exit the deal] and I had to stand up against the whole world and come out against this agreement, and we didn't give up," Netanyahu said.

Even now, Middle East Eye also wrote, Israel "has not missed any opportunity to subvert President Biden's policy to revive the JCPOA."

Following is the text of the article:

On 12 September, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said it was "unlikely" that the U.S. and Iran would reach a new nuclear deal anytime soon. Negotiations between Iran and the world powers to revive the Iran nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), are faced with a new deadlock.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) report on 6 September indicates that "no progress" has been made in resolving questions about past traces of nuclear material in Iran's three undeclared sites. "Iran's position [on the IAEA probe] contradicts its legally binding obligations and jeopardizes prospects of restoring the JCPOA," said the latest statement from European powers Germany, France and the UK.

The spokesperson for Iran's Atomic Organization, Behrouz Kamalvandi, responded that Iran has been fully cooperative regarding the three alleged sites and has sent information and answers to the IAEA's questions. "The IAEA must not pass judgements on the Iranian nuclear program based on fabricated documents provided by the Israeli regime with specific political goals," he said.

A roadmap was signed between Iran and IAEA right after the nuclear deal and finalized the assessment of issues relating to possible military dimension (PMD) issues in December 2015 and before JCPOA's implementation in January 2016.

"The agency has no credible indications of activities in Iran relevant to the development of a nuclear explosive device after 2009. Nor has the agency found any credible indications of the diversion of nuclear material in connection with the possible military dimensions

## Israeli sabotage should not be allowed to kill the Iran nuclear deal: Middle East Eye



to Iran's nuclear program," the IAEA concluded.

In May 2018, former President Donald Trump withdrew from the JCPOA and re-imposed the world's most stringent sanctions and pursued the "maximum pressure" policy on Iran. A year later, in response, Iran increased its uranium capacity and enrichment levels.

While the military dimension issues were resolved under the nuclear deal, in 2019, the IAEA requested that Iran answer questions about possible undeclared nuclear activities and materials. The question that arises is whether the safeguards issues constitute the major obstacle standing in the way of reviving the JCPOA.

### Israeli sabotage

Since the inception of the nuclear talks, Israel has done everything to prevent resolving the Iranian nuclear issue through diplomacy.

In 2015, in an unprecedented event, then Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu insulted a serving U.S. president in a speech to Congress on the emerging nuclear deal. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi dismissed the speech by the Israeli prime minister as an "insult to the intelligence of the United States".

Netanyahu claimed responsibility for Trump's decision to pull the U.S. out of the Iran nuclear deal. "We convinced the U.S. president [to exit the deal] and I had to stand up against the whole world and come out against this agreement, and we didn't give up," Netanyahu said.

Even during the current U.S. administration, Israel has not missed any opportunity to subvert President Biden's policy to revive the JCPOA. Over the past decade, Israel has conducted several covert operations against the Iranian nuclear program. From sabotage,

bombings, and cyber attacks such as Stuxnet and Duqu, to espionage and the assassination of Iranian nuclear scientists, Israel has done it all.

Israel's campaign of fear against Iran's nuclear program has been ongoing for 40 years. Over the past four decades, every now and then Israel has claimed that Iran is only a few years away from a nuclear bomb. For example, in 1995 Netanyahu claimed "Iran is three to five years from being able to produce a nuclear weapon."

In 2009, General Yossi Baidatz, the chief of research for Israeli military intelligence, said that Iran would have a working weapon by no later than the end of 2010. In 2013, Israeli intelligence officials claimed that Iran could have a nuclear bomb by 2015 or 2016.

Moreover, Iran is deeply suspicious about the IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi's close relations with Israel. In a statement in March 2020, Iran reiterated that "copies of papers presented to Iran by the agency as the basis for its requests are neither authentic nor related to the open-source, but rather claimed by the Israeli regime to have been acquired through a so-called secret operation."

On 3 June 2022, Grossi visited Israel to meet with the prime minister to discuss the Iranian nuclear program. Right after the visit, on 9 June 2022, the IAEA passed a resolution saying that Iran must provide credible information in response to the IAEA's questions. "Grossi's visit to Israel out of phase with IAEA impartiality, professionalism," the Iranian foreign minister reiterated.

### The 'most inspected' country

An informed Iranian source who asked that their identity remains anonymous said "Iran has no problem with addressing all IAEA questions. We are ready to sign

a roadmap similar to 2015 with the agency to finalize the IAEA's technical questions within two months, right after signing the revived agreement. In the case of the contaminated locations, by counting every milligram of Iranian-enriched uranium, the IAEA can verify the truth."

They added: "However, the Israelis themselves could have contaminated some locations through their agents in order to block the deal and may continue such covert sabotages. Yet, we should not let the Israelis drag the IAEA and the Iranians into such a trap in order to keep the nuclear file on the IAEA agenda indefinitely."

In 2011, during Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's presidency, at an international conference, a former chief of the Israeli intelligence service (Mossad) told an Iranian ambassador: "You are negotiating with the six world powers on your nuclear program but, in the end, we will decide on Iran's nuclear program."

Israel pushed Trump to withdraw from JCPOA and, as a result, Iran's stock of uranium enriched to 60 percent was estimated to be 55.6 kg, enabling Iran to produce enough material for a bomb if it decides to. Israel's campaign to thwart the revival of the 2015 Iranian nuclear deal has shown success. "Israel is conducting a successful diplomatic campaign to stop the nuclear agreement and prevent the lifting of sanctions on Iran," Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid said.

However, the outcome of attempts to sabotage the revival of the JCPOA is predictable: more pressure and sanctions on Iran and as a result, more stockpiling of highly enriched uranium (potentially 90 percent) and "zero breakout time" by Iran. In case of a referral of Iran's nuclear dossier to the United Nations Security Council to reimpose previous resolutions, Iran will likely suspend its implementation of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT). And in case of any military strike, Iran will likely move towards producing a nuclear bomb.

The world powers need to rethink their current approach. Israel is the only country in the Middle East in possession of nuclear bombs, is one of only four countries in the world that does not permit IAEA inspections, and is not a signatory to the NPT. Iran is not among those four, is a member of the NPT, does not have any nuclear weapons, and is the most inspected country worldwide by the IAEA.

Rather than killing the JCPOA and pushing Iran towards developing a nuclear bomb, the world powers should focus on reviving the JCPOA and push Israel to follow the deal's principles to achieve a Middle East nuclear-weapon-free zone as the UN General Assembly mandated in 1974.





## Shiraz to host intl. clothing, leather expo in late Sep.



TEHRAN - The First International Exhibition of Clothes, Bags, Shoes, Leather, and Related Industries is going to be held at Shiraz International Permanent Fairground in Fars Province from September 28 to October 1, IRIB reported.

The exhibition is aimed at creating a platform for promoting small businesses, introducing the country's cultural values through tribal clothing,

creating a platform for encouraging domestic and foreign companies' investment in the clothing and leather industries, and creating effective, extensive and sustainable communication between businessmen and people active in the mentioned sectors.

Introducing modern and up-to-date technologies through knowledge-based and international companies, promoting self-sufficiency in the production of products with export capacity, and planning to reach a good position in the world's markets are also among the goals of this exhibition.

Some specialized meetings and workshops are also planned to be held on the sidelines of the exhibition which are going to be attended by members of the country's unions and trade organizations active in the mentioned industries.

## Commodities worth \$92m exported from North Khorasan in 5 months

TEHRAN - As announced by a provincial official, 441,500 tons of commodities worth \$92.7 million were exported from North Khorasan province, in the northeast of Iran, during the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-August 22).

Hossein Haji-Beglou, the head of the province's Industry, Mining and Trade, named urea, melamine, ammonia, nitrogen, as well as steel products, aluminum ingots and cement as the main exported items, and Afghanistan, Iraq, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Germany, China, Turkey, Ukraine, Pakistan, Poland, Syria, Russia, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Azerbaijan, New Zealand, Malaysia, Belgium, Kuwait, Austria and Oman as the export destinations.

He also announced that 14,400 tons of goods worth \$39 million were imported to the province in the five-month period.

As previously announced by Abbas Baqeri, the acting head of the province's customs department, the value of export from North Khorasan jumped 219 percent in the first quarter of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-June 21), as compared to the first quarter in the previous year.

The official said that 36,370 tons of products



worth \$33,246,164 were exported from the province in the three-month period, indicating also 215 percent rise in terms of weight.

He named petrochemical products including urea fertilizer, ammonia and melamine crystal, steel products, edible citric acid, houseplants, plastic products, cans and alpha aluminum as the major exported items, and Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Iraq, Turkey, Romania, Uzbekistan and Germany as the main export destinations.

The official further announced that commodities worth \$8,781,197 were imported to the province in the first quarter of the present year, with one percent rise year on year.

He named air conditioner, flashlight, frozen

# Iran eyes free trade with SCO member states

TEHRAN - Head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Alireza Peyman-Pak said that President Ebrahim Raisi has stressed the need for establishing Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), the TPO portal reported.

Making the remarks in an interview with the national TV, Peyman-Pak pointed to the significance of removing the barriers to financial and banking exchanges with the SCO member countries, saying: "During President Raisi's meetings with the presidents of some SCO members, the development of trade and the removal of obstacles and challenges were emphasized."

"We have had a good experience with the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU); 80 percent of the process [for reaching an FTA with EAEU] has been completed and we will finalize technical discussions in December and the draft of the agreement will be



sent to the parliament for approval," the TPO head said.

"Since most of the Eurasian countries are also members of the Shanghai Organization, the president suggested that we pursue establishing free trade agreements in the Shanghai area as well," Peyman-Pak added.

In the meetings that were held during the SCO summit in Uzbekistan,

the presidents of the members of the pact, the monitoring members, and the partners all put forward good words in this regard, the official said.

"Regarding financial and banking issues with countries like Russia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan, we have taken good measures to use alternative routes. Also, the removal of the dollar and the euro in mutual trade will also be put on the agenda,

and the parties will be offered the use of new insurance and financial facilities that our central bank has considered," he added.

According to Peyman-Pak, another issue raised by the president was the use of transit capacities of the SCO members.

"We have the North-South Corridor and we focused on it in the last few months and developed the country's transit capacities [through this corridor], but the workload is large and requires SCO members' participation as well," the official said.

Iran officially joined the SCO at the 22nd SCO summit on Friday.

The Islamic Republic's full membership in the SCO was announced by the president of Uzbekistan. China, Russia, India, Iran, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Belarus, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan attended the 22nd SCO summit.

## Policies of 7th National Development Plan discussed at ICCIMA board meeting

TEHRAN - The board of representatives of the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) held its 24th meeting on Sunday during which the policies of the country's Seventh Five-year National Development Plan (2022-2026) were discussed.

As reported by the ICCIMA portal, the meeting was chaired by ICCIMA Deputy Head Hossein Selahvarzi.

Speaking in the meeting, Selahvarzi touched upon some of the important events of recent weeks and said: "The announcement of the general policies of the seventh national development plan is the most important news these days; the plan is mainly focused on production-based economic growth and to realize this goal each of the active elements in the country's economy must take responsibilities and actions."

The official underlined attention to rationality and stability in decision-making and reducing interference in all economic, social and cultural elements as one of the duties of the government in this regard and added that the government's



role in the economy should be limited to policy-making and it should not interfere in administration and implementation procedures.

"We, as the private sector representatives, have always raised this issue and emphasize it this time as well," he added.

"The principles of the seventh national development plan are a compass for the government to manage the country in the next five years, the realization of which depends on having powerful media, universities and comprehensive security," Selahvarzi stressed.

## About 4,000 National Housing Movement units under construction in Qom province

TEHRAN - As announced by a provincial official, about 4,000 units of National Housing Movement are under construction in Qom province.

Dariyoush Baladi, the director-general of the province's Housing Department, said that of the 4,000 mentioned units 500 units will be handed over to the owners by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20, 2023).

After National Housing Action Plan (started in 2018), National Housing Movement is the government's second major program to provide affordable housing units for the low-income classes.

The operation for the construction of 209,212 residential units of National Housing Movement began in early February.

The ceremony to begin the mentioned operation and also to launch some development projects in the housing sector was attended by the transport and urban development minister.

National Housing Movement to construct four

million housing units in four years is one of the major plans of the current government in the housing sector.

According to the plan, out of these four million residential units, 3.2 million units will be constructed in cities and 800,000 units in villages, some of these units are currently being constructed after providing lands and preparing the necessary conditions.

Land supply was the first condition for the realization of the national movement plan and housing construction, in this regard, a series of measures were taken by the government and Ministry of Transport and Urban Development. According to the latest statistics, the lands of 2.8 million housing units of National Housing Movement have been provided by the ministry.

Although, studies show that the provision of land and financial resources are two serious obstacles to the construction of this number of residential units.

## Iran counting on knowledge-based companies to develop maritime fleet

TEHRAN - Managing director of Iran Shipbuilding and Offshore Industries Complex (ISOICO) has said domestic knowledge-based companies have great potential for the development of the country's maritime fleet that should not be neglected, the portal of Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) reported on Sunday.

Stressing the necessity of developing the country's maritime transport fleet and its positive impact on the economy, Salman Zarbi said: "Maritime industry is considered one of the most effective industries in the world and more than 90 percent of the world's transportation and trade takes place through maritime transportation."

"Many countries have put great importance upon the advantages of their sea transportation, while this economic capacity has been neglected in our country despite



having 5,800 kilometers of coastline in both north and south of the country," he said.

According to Zarbi, knowledge-based companies can reduce the gap between Iran's maritime transportation industry and those of developed countries and

create favorable conditions so that the country can benefit from the advantage of this industry in economic development.

He said the Iranian maritime industry needs to enter the shipbuilding arena because restrictions caused by the sanctions

have locked down the country's transportation industry and prevented shipping lines from getting new and up-to-date ships.

"We must definitely develop our marine transport fleet and one of the strategies in this regard is to have our own national industries to help improve the marine transport fleet," the ISOICO head said.

Pointing out that the world's maritime transport has become a competitive market, he said: "We must transform Iran's maritime industries to be able to compete in global markets in the best way possible."

"We should consider exporting services and vessels as well to improve our position both at the regional and at the international level," he stressed.

## TEDPIX drops 11,000 points on Sunday

TEHRAN - TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), lost 11,183 points to 1.377 million on Sunday.

As reported, over 4.687 billion securities worth 35.436 trillion rials (about \$126.5 million) were traded at the TSE.

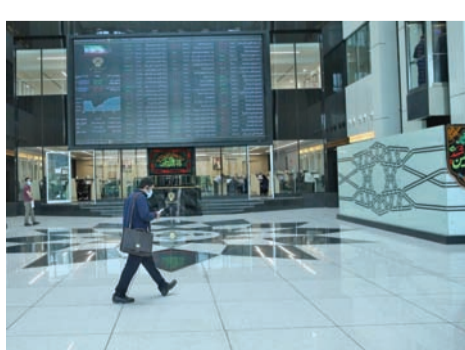
The first market's index lost 9,532 points, and the second market's index dropped 18,474 points.

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).

Stock market analyst Mostafa Safari believes that global economic stagnation and inflation have negatively affected stock markets all around the world including the Iranian capital market.

According to Safari, the outlook, however, is positive for the next two years and the Iranian stock market is expected to get back on track and continue its upward trend within the next two years.

"It seems that for the next two years, we will see an upward trend in the capital market; Because some statistics show that the market follows a two-year pattern; it has been facing



two years of recession from August 2019 to August 2022, now it is time for the market to

experience two years of prosperity," he explained.

The expert said the capital market needs political and economic stability for growth, which can be achieved by restoring the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

"We should not expect the economic impact of the nuclear deal in the short term, and it may take more than a year for the positive effects to be manifested in the market," he stressed.

According to the expert, global inflation, the increase in interest rates, as well as the inflationary pressure caused by increasing costs, have all resulted in the stock markets across the world facing serious challenges.

Pointing out that the world is moving towards inflationary stagnation, Safari said: "The positive cycle of the country's economy that should have been already started has been delayed due to internal and external political and economic shocks and we are still facing capital outflow."

"Stability in the forex rates and economic policies helps the capital market. With stability in economic policies, export restrictions are reduced, currency transfer is easier and the cost of foreign trade exchanges is reduced for companies active in the stock market, ultimately leading to the growth of the stock market," he said.

# UK protests after police kill unarmed black man

From page 1 ▶ “We will carry on being here until the interview takes place under caution. I want a much higher degree of accountability to bring security and safety to our communities.”

Some of the family members of those killed by the police, some of them many years ago but still seeking justice, also attended the rally.

Lee Lawrence, whose mother Cherry Groce was shot by police in 1985, told the crowd, “When I was 11 the police came in my house and shot my innocent mum Cherry Groce in front of me and my siblings.

“My mum was paralysed. She passed in 2011 the same year when Mark Duggan was killed by police. We never got justice. Justice is about fairness and if we received justice my mother would have not been killed. We will hold their legacy and their deaths will stand for something. We owe it to them to never give up.”

Floyd Jarrett, whose mother Cynthia Jarrett died of a heart attack after a police raid in 1985, said, “Every time you take the lives of our mothers and children, we will come out and protest, I’ve seen for 30 years people make the same cry and I’m telling Chris Kaba’s family that we will stand up. No justice, no peace.”

Marcia Rigg, whose brother Sean Rigg was killed in Brixton police station in 2008, said, “I’m just going to fight my tears. My condolences to Chris’ family. The whole country is grieving. We are grieving for our loved ones our kings, our queens.”

She added, “It shouldn’t take a death for us to wake up and come out in the streets again. We know there’s no justice but just us. We are not going anywhere.”

Protests have also taken place in other cities including



Manchester and Cardiff as part of a national day of action.

The protesters are angry at the lack of accountability for police when they use lethal force. A similar pattern has been seen over the decades where officers kill black people and other ethnic minority groups and go unpunished.

The British police force has been censured by rights groups and United Nations experts for racism against non-white people, especially black people.

Ilyas Nagdee, Amnesty International UK’s Racial Justice Director, says: “Racism is still rampant in policing and it’s disappointing that police chiefs have stopped short of accepting that policing is institutionally racist.

“Despite the gloss sometimes put on things by senior officers, little has changed with regards to racism and misogyny in policing in the 23 years since the Macpherson report, and in some respects, things are getting worse.

“The overuse of Tasers and of stop-and-search against black people, racial profiling in the name of countering ‘gangs’, appalling incidents of misogyny and strip-searching in schools are just some of the issues which suggest the police as an organization remain in denial about its deep-rooted racist thinking and practices.”

As the OHCHR states, systemic racism persists, in large part, due to misconceptions that the abolition of slavery, the end of the transatlantic trade in enslaved Africans and colonialism, and measures taken by states to date, have removed the racially discriminatory structures built by those practices.

Statistics by the British ministry of justice highlight this racist attitude as between April 2019 and March 2020 “there were 6 stops and searches for every 1,000 White people, compared with 54 for every 1,000 Black people”.

Even in cases where an inquest has found wrongdoing by the police, no criminal investigation has been launched. This is why black communities have lost hope not just in the police but in the judicial system as well. There is rarely any justice for the many black victims of the police.

And in the few instances where cases of black people dying after being in contact with the police are examined by the justice systems, convictions are even more rare.

Reports show that since 1990 there have only been nine unlawful killing conclusions returned by juries into deaths involving the police yet none of these have resulted in murder or manslaughter prosecution.

Judging by the vast evidence of institutionalized racism in the UK police, it’s clear to see why there is anger and pain in black communities.

The police who are supposed to protect them and enforce the law are actually doing anything but protection and law enforcement. The judicial system is failing black people as well, meaning the lack of any accountability will see more victims at the hands of police in the future.

This is while research has highlighted how institutionalized the problem has become. Blacks, Asians, and ethnic minorities have been unjustly killed by police.

Studies have found the proportion of deaths involving black, Asian, and minoritized ethnicities in police custody where restraint has been used is two times higher than it is in other deaths in custody.

And the proportion of these deaths in police custody where the use of force is used is over two times greater than it is in other deaths in custody.

According to the Office of the United Nations, High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) racism and racial discrimination against Africans and people of African descent are often rooted in policies and practices grounded in the debasement of the status of individuals in society.

The UN agency says this is particularly apparent in countries with a legacy of enslavement, the transatlantic trade in enslaved Africans, and colonialism resulting in sizeable communities of people of African descent.

It would appear that British police continue to live in a culture of colonialism, where black citizens in the community are still being treated as second-class citizens.

## Germany takes control of Russia’s Rosneft subsidiary

*The government has placed the Russian oil giant’s three refineries in Germany under trusteeship as it seeks to manage the impact of the energy crisis.*

The German government has taken the German subsidiary of Russian oil giant Rosneft under state control, putting it into the trusteeship of the Federal Network Agency regulator.

Rosneft Deutschland accounts for about 12% of Germany’s oil processing capacity and is one of the largest oil processing companies in the country, the Economy Ministry said in a statement.

It follows a similar move by Berlin with SEFE, formerly known as Gazprom Germania, which came under trusteeship after the Russian company Gazprom ditched it in April.

In an official announcement of the move, Chancellor Olaf Scholz said it was important to do everything possible to ensure Germany’s energy security.

He said the decision had not been easy but that it was unavoidable, as Russia was no longer a reliable energy supplier. It was “far-reaching energy policy decision to protect” the country, the chancellor added.

He said the step would secure the Schwedt refinery in the eastern state of Brandenburg, which supplies 90% of fuel to the German capital, Berlin. Since its construction some six decades ago, it has received all its crude from Russia via the Druzhba pipeline.

The refinery is one of three now to be taken under trusteeship, the others being the MiRo and Bayernoil refineries.

He also announced a “future package” for eastern German states worth €1 billion (\$997.50 million) over several years following the move to trusteeship for Rosneft.

Schwedt itself would receive €825 million from the federal and state governments, according to Scholz. He said the funding would ensure that redundancies would be avoided at the plant, which employs some 1,200 people.

Economy Minister Robert Habeck was also upbeat about the decision.

“Today, we can say that the site has been secured, and Schwedt’s future is in planning,” he said.



Later on Friday, Scholz reacted to reports that Polish refiner PKN Orlen was interested in buying a controlling stake in the refinery in question. Warsaw said earlier this year that ending Russian ownership of the refinery was a condition for potentially supplying it with sea-borne oil via a terminal in Gdansk and via Polish pipelines to replace Russian crude.

“At the moment, we’re doing a trusteeship,” said Scholz, not selling the refinery.

### Why has Germany made the move?

The German government cited the need to ensure continued operations at the three oil refineries amid Berlin’s resolve to cease oil imports from Russia by the end of the year and European sanctions over Moscow’s invasion of Ukraine.

“With the trusteeship, the threat to the security of energy supply is countered and an essential foundation stone is set for the preservation and future of the Schwedt site,” the Economy Ministry said in a statement. It said suppliers, insurance companies, IT companies, banks and even customers were no longer willing to work with the company.

The trusteeship is to be accompanied by a “comprehensive package” that will ensure oil can be supplied to Schwedt via alternative routes, the ministry said.

Rosneft has previously stated that it was not intending to stop importing Russian oil even though an EU embargo is to come into force on January 1, 2023.

The trusteeship is initially due to last six months. The Federal Network Agency, or

Bundesnetzagentur, is the office responsible for regulating the electricity, gas, telecommunications, post and railway markets in Germany. Its main tasks are promoting competition in the sectors for which it is responsible and for guaranteeing fair and nondiscriminatory access to those networks.

### What else has been said following the announcement?

A spokesperson for the Economy Ministry said on Friday at a regular news conference that it was not necessary to discuss the move with Russia.

However, taking over Schwedt does risk retaliatory measures from Moscow. So far, neither Rosneft Deutschland nor Rosneft have responded.

British oil giant Shell, which owns a 37.5% stake in Schwedt, said on Friday it was “unaffected” by Berlin’s move to take control of the refinery. It has wanted to sell its stake for some time.

Reuters news agency has reported that Polish refiner PKN Orlen is interested in taking a controlling stake in the PCK Schwedt refinery. Warsaw said earlier this year that if Russian ownership of the refinery was ended, it would be potentially possible to supply it with sea-borne oil via a terminal in Gdansk and via a Polish pipeline.

### Rosneft pledges to fight ‘illegal’ expropriation

Rosneft accused Berlin of undertaking the “forced expropriation” of its German subsidiaries.

It said that the seizure was “illegal” and it would take legal action to protect its assets.

“Rosneft sees this as a violation of all the fundamental principles of the market economy, the civilized foundations of a modern society built on the principle of the inviolability of private property,” a company statement said, stressing that the firm had fulfilled its legal and contractual obligations.

Rosneft said that Berlin’s decision meant that it was no longer possible to “guarantee the industrial and ecological safety of the plant.”

(Source: dw.com)

## WORLD HEADLINES

### American democracy facing twin threats: NY Times



The United States has experienced deep political turmoil several times before over the past century. The Great Depression caused Americans to doubt the country’s economic system. World War II and the Cold War presented threats from global totalitarian movements. The 1960s and ‘70s were marred by assassinations, riots, a losing war and a disgraced president.

The current period is different. As a result, the United States today finds itself in a situation with little historical precedent. American democracy is facing two distinct threats, which together represent the most serious challenge to the country’s governing ideals in decades.

The first threat is acute: a growing movement inside one of the country’s two major parties — the Republican Party — to refuse to accept defeat in an election.

The second threat to democracy is chronic but also growing: The power to set government policy is becoming increasingly disconnected from public opinion.

### Egypt’s Suez Canal to raise transit fees by 15% in 2023

Egypt’s Suez Canal Authority plans to raise the transit fees for ships passing the waterway by 15% at the start of 2023.

In a statement, the Canal Authority’s chairman, Osama Rabie, said the transit fees for bulk and tourist ships will also be raised by 10% and will also be applied as of January 2023.

Rabie cited the increase in fees to current global inflation, which increased the operational costs and the costs of navigation services provided in the canal.

### Pelosi’s Armenia visit against American interests: analyst

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s Armenia visit is “against the interests” of Washington, a foreign policy and security analyst told Anadolu Agency on Saturday.

The main reason for Pelosi’s appearance nearby Armenia, which is under the control of Russia and hosts Russian bases, is “to protect the interests of the Armenian lobby in America, which is actually against the interests of America,” Omer Ozkizilcik said.

“Pelosi’s visit to Armenia may even strengthen Azerbaijan’s hand because the Russian administration will not be satisfied with the arrival of her to Armenia,” Ozkizilcik said, noting that if Russia removes its protection on Armenia, it would make Azerbaijan’s superiority over Yerevan “stronger.”

“I think that this visit, which will be made to protect the interests of Armenia, would backfire and serve neither the American interest nor the Armenian interest, given the fact that Russia is dominant over Armenia,” he added.

### Russia, China don’t seek ‘to be in the driver’s seat’ in world affairs - Kremlin

Russia and China do not aspire to be in charge of the world, while some other countries do, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told Rossiya-1TV channel on Sunday.

“Actualizing their bilateral relations, it is exactly Russia and China that don’t seek to be in the driver’s seat in the world. We know that other countries do show such tendency,” Peskov said in a fragment of the “Moscow. Kremlin. Putin” program in an interview with journalist Pavel Zarubin, shown on Sunday.

The spokesman also drew attention to “absolute similarity in the attitude [of Russia and China] toward various kinds of provocative actions, the source of which is the United States”. Moscow and Beijing are at one in their assessment of the “inadmissibility of such destabilizing behavior,” he added.

### 6.4-magnitude quake strikes off east coast of Taiwan



A 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck southeastern Taiwan on Saturday, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

The quake hit just after 9.30pm (1330 GMT), about 50km (30 miles) north of the coastal city of Taitung at 10 kilometers (six miles) deep.

Taiwan’s Central Weather Bureau put the magnitude slightly lower at 6.4 but said it was shallower at 7.3 kilometers (4.5 miles).

Local media initially reported no injuries or damage from the quake, but Taiwan’s Central news agency said the metro system in Kaoshiung city in the south of the island was temporarily suspended. The quake was also felt in the capital, Taipei.

### Turkey seeks SCO membership, joining Iran, China, Russia

NATO member Turkey is seeking to join the China-led Shanghai Cooperation Organization as President Recep Tayyip Erdogan attempts to forge alliances with friendly countries in the East.

Erdogan made the announcement after attending the SCO summit in Uzbekistan on Friday, where he held talks with leaders, including China’s President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

A successful bid would make Turkey the first North Atlantic Treaty Organization member to join the bloc.

“Our relationship with these countries will be moved to a much different position with this step,” Erdogan said about the SCO when he spoke with reporters in the city of Samarkand, where the summit was held, according to Turkish state news agency Anadolu.

## Ashish Vang, a forgotten Persian festival for honoring the elderly



TEHRAN—Millennia ago, a day was dedicated to honoring grandfathers, grandmothers, and the elderly in Iran.

Known as “Ashish Vang”, the day honored the elderly and was a way to show gratitude for the dedication, accomplishments, and contributions they provided throughout their

lives.

The twenty-fifth day of the sixth Iranian calendar month of Shahrivar was devoted to this festival and commemorating the elders of each family, according to ancient Iranian traditions.

The day was also related to God’s mercy, morality, spirituality, and purity.

However, the tradition gradually faded and was forgotten after the end of the Sasanian Empire (224–651).

Following that, the tradition of respecting the elderly was transferred to Noruz, the Iranian New Year, when family elders are supposed to be visited during the holiday season.

Iranian culture still places a high value on respecting elders.

## Tehran meeting to discuss mining tourism

TEHRAN—Tehran’s Mosalla will be hosting a meeting on mining tourism on Tuesday, Tehran’s deputy tourism chief has said.

The event, which will be held on the sidelines of the 11th International Investment Opportunities in Iran Mines & Mining Industries Exhibition & Conference, will explore Iran’s mining tourism potential, Ali Rafiei explained on Sunday.

Ways to revive abandoned mines across the country and turn them into tourist destinations will also be discussed during the meeting, the official added.

In 2020, Iran started to promote mining tourism by launching the first project in the Anguran lead and zinc mine, located 130 kilometers west of the northwestern city of Zanjan.

Mining tourism is a type of adventure tourism that has gained many fans around the world. Because of the interest of tourists in this category, mining tourism has become

one of the most interesting forms of tourism in the world for some time, and it has also been proposed as a way of developing old industrial areas.

The mines can be included in a tourism package in different regions where tourist arrivals can have a positive effect on the local economy. Because of these potentials, they can help create sustainable development, job creation, and poverty reduction in more remote areas of the country and prevent environmental, social, and economic damage in local communities.

In recent years, Iran has developed new programs for tourism development in different branches of the industry including agritourism, which is a subset of a larger industry called rural tourism that includes resorts, off-site farmers’ markets, non-profit agricultural tours, and other leisure and hospitality businesses that attract visitors to the countryside.

## Nature lovers clean route to Masouleh

TEHRAN – A cleaning project has been recently completed on a route leading to the northern Iranian village of Masouleh in Gilan province, the provincial tourism chief has said.

The project was carried out in collaboration with 70 members of environmental and tourism NGOs, Vali Jahani explained on Wednesday.

The project was aimed to promote a culture of respect for the environment and nature as well as tourist destinations, the official added.

The scenic village is famed for its Lego-shaped earthen houses built on another’s rooftop. Home to some of the most stunning landscapes in the country, Masouleh is one of the many stepped villages that are quite common to find around the country, especially in Kordestan and around Mashhad. They have been built on a hill so steep that the roof of one house is the pathway for the next.

Whereas practically, all stepped villages



in Iran have been able to keep their rural and traditional essence, for some reason, Masouleh has evolved into a popular touristic destination that especially attracts domestic vacationers.

Thanks to a pretty developed tourist infrastructure, Masouleh is receiving the attention of all the guidebooks, portraying it as a dreamy mountain village so, slowly, it is becoming the prime destination for those

next. For instance, Shiraz is named a “world city of [diverse] handicrafts”, Malayer is a global hub for woodcarving and carved-wood furniture, while Zanjan has gained the title of a “world city of filigree”.

In addition, the ancient city of Shiraz has been chosen to host the 39th General Assembly of the World Crafts Council-Asia-Pacific Region (WCC-APR) in May 2023. Shiraz has a remarkable amount of handicraft pioneers. With an average age of 70, some of these pioneers are still active at their workshops. The occupational records of about 100 pioneers are collected and are annually praised by the custodians of the WCC General Office.

Available data compiled by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts suggests the value of Iran’s handicrafts exports stood at \$120 million during the first eleven months of the Iranian calendar year 1399 (March

# Iran ranked 19th in tourism contribution to GDP

From page 1 ▶ “The urgent need to restore international travel is starkly evident following the release of WTTC’s data, which shows the global Travel & Tourism sector suffered disproportionately hard due to the pandemic.”

Globally, countries experienced an average fall in GDP contribution of 49.1%, while the worldwide economy shrank by just 3.7% last year, showing how travel restrictions have dramatically reduced Travel & Tourism’s contribution to economies around the world, Guevara said.

“We believe this shows that understandable but misguided actions to curb COVID-19 with ineffective damaging travel restrictions such as quarantines, do more harm than good, and end up crushing the very economies

they were designed to protect.”

Iran recorded some three million foreign tourist arrivals over the past 12 months as many pandemic entry restrictions were eased, according to data compiled by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts. Last September, the Islamic Republic 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.

“Domestic travel has achieved some 40 percent increase compared to the pre-coronavirus period,” the tourism ministry said earlier this year.

More than 56 million passengers used buses for their overland journeys across Iran during the



past Iranian calendar year (ended March 20).

Data compiled by the Road Maintenance and Transportation Organization indicates that 103,364,000 passengers used overland public transportation during the past Iranian year 1400, Mehr reported.

Some half of the figure, which counts 56,453,000 passengers, opted to travel by busses for their domestic journeys, the organization said.

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.

## More ancient windmills to come to life once again

TEHRAN—Restoration work has been commenced on some ancient windmills in Tabas-e Masina, South Khorasan province, eastern Iran.

During the current round of restoration, Asbads (vertical-axis windmills) which are situated in the Kheirabad neighborhood, will be amended to become operational once again, the tourism chief of Tabas-e Masina said on Sunday.

“Asbads can be regarded as a manifestation of the creativity and ingenuity of Iranians in the use of clean energy, which due to the 120-day winds of Sistan, which sweeps through the eastern parts of the country,” Amir-Esmaeil Shahsavari said.

Some 45 Asbads have been registered as cultural heritage within three neighborhoods of the ancient city, the official said.

Such windmills are dotted across the provinces of Sistan-Baluchestan, South Khorasan, and Khorasan Razavi, fueled by



strong northern winds that are usually blowing in the region.

Britannica says the earliest known references to windmills are to a Persian millwright in 644 CE and windmills in Seistan [Sistan], Iran, in 915 CE.

As mentioned by UNESCO, Robert Forbes, a technology historian, stresses the point that the Islamic era windmill was the invention of Iranian. He writes: “this invention, which

was initially an exclusive device for Iran and Afghanistan, turned into an important source of energy all over the Islamic territories in the 12th century, and not only it was used for the grinding of grains and operation of water pumps, but also the chopping of sugarcanes and other purposes.

Moreover, the UNESCO website says that such vertical-axis windmills were taken to China during the Mongol reign. Besides, the know-how of windmills was taken to other Islamic territories and was used in Egypt as the main source for the chopping and grinding of sugarcanes. In the 11th century, windmills reached Spain, the Islands of the Aegean Sea, and Portugal.

Technically speaking, unlike European windmills, the Iranian design is powered by blades arrayed on a vertical axis in which the wind power is directly translated down without the need for any gears found on the horizontal-axis mills.

## Restoration completed on historical ice storage

TEHRAN – A restoration work on a historical Yakhchal (ice storage) in Na’in, central Isfahan province, has come to an end, a local tourism official has said.

A budget of 1.5 billion rials (\$5,000) was allocated to the project, CHTN quoted Mahmoud Madanian as saying on Thursday.

The project involves strengthening the structure, repairing walls, and restoring the damaged parts, the official added.

The structure was inscribed on the national heritage list in 2005.

When there was no electricity, no refrigerators, and no appliances, people kept a huge amount of water next to the high walls of Yakhchal, which cast a shadow that kept the water cool.

The water turned into ice during the wintertime. Then people cut the ice into many portable parts and put them in the ice house and covered the surface of the ice with special local grass.

This structure is built high to minimize the contact of warm air with the ice surface as the warm air floats upwards. The feature of the ice storage was essential to its functioning.

There were also wells behind the ice storage with a

connective canal at the bottom of the ice storage to the wells with a slight slope.

When people piled up the ice, a little amount of water remained under the heap of ice. If the water was not removed it would make the rest of the ice melt. By channeling the water into the well, not only did they prevent the ice stored in the ice house from melting, but also they had cold and tasty water during the summer months when the weather went up to 40 degrees Celsius.

The history of Na’in dates back to nearly 2000 years, which makes it one of the oldest continuously settled towns on the Iranian plateau.

Na’in lies 170 km north of Yazd and 140 km east of Isfahan. Like much of the Iranian plateau, it has a desert climate, with a maximum temperature of 41 °C in summer and a minimum of -9 °C in winter.

During ancient times, the city was at the junction of a desert road that connected Tabas and Mashhad. It used to be an important crossroads on converging trade routes since Sassanid times. Na’in was known for its ceramics and textiles; today it’s primarily known for fine hand-knotted carpets and for hand-loomed camel-wool cloaks, which are produced in the neighboring villages.

## Six natural elements in Mazandaran gain national status

TEHRAN—Six natural elements in Mazandaran province, including old trees and the natural landscape of a village, have recently been registered on the national heritage list, CHTN reported on Saturday.

Recent entries to the national list comprise six for natural properties including old trees of olive, walnut, Caucasian zelkova, and the natural landscape of Neva village in the Amol county, the report said.

Sandwiched between the towering Alborz mountain range and the Caspian Sea, Mazandaran has a rich yet turbulent history. An early civilization flourished at the beginning of the first millennium BC in Mazandaran (Tabarestan).

Its insecure eastern and southeastern borders were crossed by Mongol invaders in the 13th and 14th centuries. Cossacks attacked the region in 1668 but were repulsed. It was ceded to the Russian Empire by a treaty in 1723, but the Russians were never secure in their occupation. The area was restored to Iran under the Qajar dynasty.

The northern section of the region consists of lowland alongside the Caspian and upland along the northern slopes of the Alborz Mountains. Marshy backlands dominate the coastal plain, and extensive gravel fans fringe the mountains. The climate is permanently subtropical and humid, with very hot summers.

# Biotech holds 40% share of pharmaceutical exports

From page 1 ▶ Iran's biotechnology products are exported to European, Asian, and Latin American countries, and Iran's technology can compete with other countries in this field, he further highlighted.

About 80 percent of biotechnology molecules are produced in the country, and we are the second country in the world in the production of these products.

"We are also self-sufficient in the production of products derived from plasma, and we have designed and established the formula of these products," he said.

There are more than 500 knowledge-based companies active in the field of biotechnology, and about 16 companies operate in the field of medicine.

Currently, 20 to 30 types of biotech medicine are produced in the country in addition to kits, vaccines, and blood products. Also, 80 percent of biotechnology pharmaceutical items are domestically produced.



**Biotechnology development**

Biotechnology today is widespread in all fields and is no longer limited to biomedical drugs so it has replaced the injured limbs.

The Vice Presidency for Science and Technology is set to achieve a 3 percent share of the global biotechnology market.

In May 2021, the Biotechnology Development Council launched 129 production projects with the aim of saving up to \$1.44 billion in

foreign currency.

Iran is ranked 12th in the world and first in West Asia in terms of biotechnology, as 9.5 percent of the income of knowledge-based companies and more than 60 percent of their exports are related to biotechnology.

Foreign exchange savings of \$1 billion per year by producing 22 biopharmaceuticals, gaining the first rank in biotechnology

products and vaccines in West Asia, and the presence among the top five biotechnology producers in Asia are among the country's achievements, Mostafa Ghanei, secretary of the biotechnology development office of the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology, said in October 2020.

So far, 27 biotechnology medicines, 12 vaccine projects, 90 pharmaceutical raw materials, and 55 projects in agriculture and food security have been implemented in order to gain a 3 percent market share and biotechnology assistance to the development of the economy, he explained.

**Iran's biotechnology products are exported to European, Asian, and Latin American countries.**

## Iran-Iraq red crescent cooperation continuous, permanent

TEHRAN – Cooperation between the red crescent societies of Iran and Iraq is continuous and permanent, president of the Iraqi Red Crescent Society Yassen Al-Mamouri said in a meeting with his Iranian counterpart Pirhossein Kolivand.

In the meeting held in Najaf, Iraq, on Saturday, Al-Mamouri honored cooperation with the neighboring country of Iran.

The Iranian Red Crescent Society with all its strength and capacity assisted the Iraqi Red Crescent during the Arbæen pilgrimage.

Referring to the Iranian Red Crescent Society's use of Emergency Operation Center (EOC) technology, he said that this modern and advanced system will be launched in Iraq with the help of the Iranian RCS.

### IRCS services worldwide

The IRCS, established in 1922, is one of the



first and oldest members of the movement and is currently one of the top five societies in the world due to its significant activities in the national and international arenas.

In 2005, the IRCS received the Henry Davison Award for outstanding humanitarian services, and the IRCS initiative of volunteers was selected as the best project (out of 50 projects from 45 national societies),

by the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

In addition to offering services to the victims of natural disasters in the country, it has taken numerous missions in international disasters and incidents, helping the people of Afghanistan, Palestine, Iraq, Southeast Asia earthquakes, Lebanon, Gaza, Somalia, and Yemen.

Moreover, the Iranian Red Crescent Society provides medical services to people in 13 Asian, African, and Latin American countries.

Currently, some 14 medical facilities are offering humanitarian, relief, and health services to the deprived people in 13 countries, including Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, the United Arab Emirates, Bolivia, Ivory Coast,

Sierra Leone, Ghana, Congo, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, Niger, and Ecuador.

## 16 biological technology programs to help national economy

TEHRAN – Some 16 national programs related to biological technologies are being implemented to help economic development in the country, IRNA reported.

The programs focus on livestock and poultry, their feed, biofertilizers, the revival of orchards, production of oilseeds and agricultural products, development of biological agriculture, and production of medicines and vaccines for livestock, poultry, and aquatic animals.

Biological technologies are considered the future savior of the country's economy, an increasingly growing field that all countries are dependent on. These technologies can shape the future of mankind and the world.

### Knowledge-based ecosystem

Over the past year, in order to real-

ize a resilient and knowledge-based economy, the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology has implemented a series of activities to further develop the ecosystem of innovation and technology in the country.

The Vice Presidency for Science and Technology was founded in 2006 as one of the sub-sets of the government with the slogan of moving from an oil-based economy to a knowledge-based one, aiming at increasing technological capabilities and innovation in order to generate wealth from the knowledge and improve people's quality of life.

So, over 7,000 knowledge-based and 1,600 creative companies have so far been registered and started operations.

The fields of biotechnology, agriculture, food industries, chemical technologies aircraft maintenance,

steel, gas, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and medicine, oil, electronics and telecommunications, information technology, and computer software are among the sectors that researchers in technology companies are working in.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei designated the current Iranian year (March 2022-March 2023) as

**A strategic technology development headquarters has been formed to implement 362,000 projects.**

"The Year of Production: Knowledge-Based and Job-Creating". Strengthening knowledge-based companies are on the agenda, raising hope for reducing obstacles on the path to development.

In this regard, a strategic technology development headquarters was formed and 362,000 technological projects and 154 commercialization projects were supported, in addition to the inauguration of 23 national mega projects.

Moreover, in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem development, 65 creative houses and innovation centers, and 30 specialized accelerators have been established with the aim of empowering and strengthening the export capacity of knowledge-based, creative, and technological companies.

## Ardabil protected, hunting prohibited areas measure 500,000 hectares

TEHRAN – Some 456,000 hectares area of land in the northwestern Ardabil province are protected and hunting prohibited areas.

The provincial department of environment manages 174,000 hectares of protected areas and 282,000 hectares of hunting prohibited areas, IRNA quoted Hassan Qasempour, the director of the provincial department of the environment as saying.

Referring to the difference between protected areas and hunting prohibited areas, he said that rangers in hunting prohibited areas just prevent illegal hunting but in protected areas, they also prevent cutting trees as well, he explained.

Statistics show that the growth rate of protected areas in Iran is higher than in many countries so the number of protected sites in Iran has risen about 37 times compared with 26 times on average in the world from 1962 to 2018.

To preserve the existing biodiversity over the wide geographic expanse of Iran, four types of areas have been designated for preservation and protection, including, national parks, wildlife refuges, protected areas, and natural national monuments. In 1997, the Department of Environment (DOE) held supervision over 7,563,983 hectares of such areas.

Currently, 30 national parks, 170 protected areas, 45 wildlife refuges, and 37 national natural monuments, measuring about 19 million hectares in the area are in the country.

According to the latest studies, about 1,300 species of vertebrates, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and aquatic fish, about 30,000 species of invertebrates, and 8,000 species of plants have been identified in the country.

Following the formation of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), various world-class meetings were held between scientists, and new parks with new management emerged in different countries. In Iran, too, the issue of protection of hunting grounds changed to a more general issue, so in 1956, the Hunting Club of Iran was formed.

Later, it developed into an organization overseeing hunting and fishing activities in the country. In 1971 the organization changed its name to its current one and notably hosted the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance in the city of Ramsar in the same year.

The Convention on Biological Diversity



predicts that the average protected area in the world will reach 30 percent of the total area of a country. There is 11.6 percent of the protected areas in Iran. Therefore, the DOE introduced 29 areas with about 700,000 hectares as new areas to the Ministry of Agriculture, but there are some problems.

Of course, despite all these problems, the rate of Iran's protected areas is higher than many countries in the world, or over a 40-year period, the growth of these areas in Iran is higher than the global average, Ali Bali, deputy director of the habitats and regional affairs office of the DOE has said.

The global average for protected areas is about 15.7 percent of a country's area, although the average in countries such as Venezuela, Ecuador, Canada, India, and Nepal is above 30 to 40 percent, he noted.

From 1962 to 2018, the average number of protected areas in the world increased 26 times, compared with 37 times in Iran. Of course, this growth has been in terms of the number of protected areas, but the issue is how large this number is, he explained.

He pointed to the challenges of protected areas and said that one of the main threats to protected

areas is habitat destruction, which may be done by government agencies to implement development projects, or in a more limited area by the locals.

The next challenge is mining and mining activities. We have a big challenge in this area; Mines are the most incompatible activities against protected areas, he stated, citing poaching as another challenge for protected areas.

Drought, dust, human-made, and natural hazards such as wildfires are other challenges that threaten these areas, and on the other hand, the development of villages in or around protected areas also threatens the dynamism of these areas, he concluded.

**Currently, 30 national parks, 170 protected areas, 45 wildlife refuges, and 37 national natural monuments, measuring about 19 million hectares are in the country.**

## COVID-19 UPDATES ON SEPTEMBER 18

New cases	289
New deaths	14
Total cases	7,542,822
Total deaths	144,301
New hospitalized patients	74
Patients in critical condition	277
Total recovered patients	7,320,941
Diagnostic tests conducted	53,995,563
Doses of vaccine injected	154,642,760

## ENGLISH IN USE

### LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

## Iran working with Green Climate Fund

TEHRAN – The Department of Environment (DOE) is working with the United Nations Green Climate Fund (GCF), under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), to reduce the effects of climate change.

FAO and the Department of Environment as the National Designated Authority (NDA) of Green Climate Fund (GCF), partnered to bring together local, national, and international stakeholders in a three-day workshop, the last one in a series of iterative events held under the project "Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Program of Iran."

"Throughout the implementation of this Project, FAO as the delivery partner has always stayed committed to providing its technical expertise, data, and tools to support the country in its efforts to strengthen the national capacities to effectively access and efficiently manage, track and guide climate financing with particular attention to the requirements of the GCF," said Gerold Bodeker, FAO Representative to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

## همکاری ایران با صندوق اقلیم سبز سازمان ملل

سازمان حفاظت محیط زیست به عنوان مرجع رسمی ایران در زمینه حفظ محیط زیست با صندوق اقلیم سبز سازمان ملل با محوریت سازمان خواربار و کشاورزی ملل متحد (فائو) در راستای کاهش تأثیرات تغییر اقلیم همکاری می کند.

فائو و سازمان حفاظت محیط زیست کشور به عنوان مرجع صلاحیت دار ملی ایران و صندوق اقلیم سبز با همکاری یکدیگر، این پروژه را پیش بردند و در قالب چند برگزاری چند کارگاه اقدامات را بررسی کردند، بر این اساس در آخرین کارگاه، ذینفعان محلی، ملی و بین المللی را به عنوان آخرین حلقه از زنجیره رویدادهای پروژه «برنامه آماده سازی جمهوری اسلامی ایران برای همکاری با صندوق اقلیم سبز» گرد هم آوردند.

گروید بودیکر نماینده فائو در جمهوری اسلامی ایران گفت: در طول اجرای این پروژه، فائو، به عنوان شریک اجرایی، همیشه متعهد به ارائه تخصص فنی، دادهها و ابزارهای سیاستی خود برای حمایت از کشور در تلاشهای خود برای تقویت ظرفیت های ملی برای دسترسی موثر و مدیریت کارآمد، ردیابی و هدایت تأمین مالی اقدامات اقلیمی با در نظر گرفتن الزامات صندوق اقلیم سبز بوده است.



SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

## GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Be afraid of a gentleman when he is hungry, and of a mean person when his stomach is full.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon: 12:58 Evening: 19:24 Dawn: 5:26 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:50 (tomorrow)

## Iran: history of drama

Part 4

This flourish of the drama reflected not only the relative novelty of the genre, with its potential for experimentation, but also the general intellectual climate in Persia, which was partly encouraged by the government of Mohammad-Reza Shah (1941-78).

The Ministry of Culture and Arts (Wezarat-e Farhang o Honar) established an acting school; a division of dramatic arts was added to the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Tehran; and Persian national television sponsored a theater workshop that produced plays for television and the stage.

Beginning in 1967, the government also sponsored the Shiraz arts festival, which became an international forum for experimental theater, attracting Western playwrights and theater groups.

Nevertheless, the official attitude toward some notable Persian dramatists and their works was ambivalent. Although the government sought to promote Persian drama to international status, it was unable to tolerate explicit or even subtle criticism of the regime; many works were strictly censored.

Such measures, usually coupled with harassment and incarceration of writers, resulted in frequent bans on publication and production of such plays as Amuzgaran by Yalfani and Hasanak by Soltanpur.

It was perhaps partly for this reason that Persian dramatists, like Persian poets and fiction writers, took refuge in often enigmatic symbolism that had to be decoded by the audience.

Fascinated by this situation, playwrights became even more interested in innovative techniques. Farsi represented a generation of younger playwrights who seemed to focus their work on experimentation with metaphor, symbol, and language.

The language and form of his first play, *Goldan* (The Vase; Tehran, 1961), attracted the attention of the critics. More advanced examples of this school include the work of Nalbandian, whose first play, *Pajuhesh-i Jarf wa Setorg wa Now dar Sangvaraha-ye Dore-ye Bist-o-panjom-e Zamin-shenasi* (Profound, Strong, and New Research on the Fossils of the Twenty-Fifth Geological Era; Tehran, 1968), which was performed at the Shiraz arts festival in 1968, alluded to various Persian and non-Persian traditions that even many educated Persians found difficult to decipher.

Even the works of more popular playwrights like Sa'edi, who wrote under the pseudonym *Gowhar Morad*, were often characterized by similar approaches.

For example, in *Mah-e Asal* (Honeymoon; Tehran, 1976), an allegory in which Persia in the 1970s is presented as a police state, a newlywed couple is forced by a government agency to accept an oddly dressed old woman as a permanent guest in their apartment.

Before long their personal relationship is under the absolute control of the woman and the agency she represents. Through a series of arbitrary actions and nonsensical speeches the couple has been totally brainwashed by the end of the play.

Not all of Sa'edi's plays belong to the theater of the absurd, however; in fact,



Ezzatollah Entezami and Ali Nasirian perform "The Theatrical Agency" at Sangalaj Theater in Tehran, 1975.

despite his use of symbols to convey several levels of meaning, he is often described as a realist, probably because he set his works in everyday urban and rural situations and dealt with topical issues.

He was a particular master of dialogue reflecting all walks of Persian life, which enhanced the realistic character of his work.

The works of Beizai, whose book *Nemayesh dar Iran*, is the definitive work on the history of Persian theater since the mid-1960s, are also characterized by language, style, and symbolism that require deciphering by a sophisticated audience.

*Chahar Sanduq* (Four Boxes; Tehran, 1979), written in 1967, is a study of how a society manufactures its own dictators.

Four characters appear on stage as four colors: yellow, green, red, and black, symbolizing intellectuals, clergy, merchants, and laborers respectively.

At the beginning, in order to safeguard the interests of his own class, each contributes to the making of a scarecrow as guardian against some unknown external threat.

Soon, however, the scarecrow comes to life and is able to break their alliance and force them to build four boxes, in which each is confined.

This confinement is, however, self-imposed, for each character is more afraid of the others than of the despotic scarecrow. Beizai, who is also a successful filmmaker, is known for mythical and historical characters caught in ontological dilemmas.

In his plays he succeeds in presenting universal philosophical ideas in fully dramatic terms. His language is poetic, in both formal and colloquial Persian; in the latter, he achieves this effect by means of rapid rhythmic exchanges among characters.

Other playwrights of the period relied on more traditional forms. Beizai himself used such forms in many of his plays.

Nasirian, a well-known actor, writer, and director in both theater and films, relied on them extensively. His *Siah* (Black) and *Bongah-e Te'atral*. *Nemayesh-e Takht-hozidar Do Bakhsh*, (The Theatrical Agency. A Takht-hozidar Show in Two Parts, 1978) are modern adaptations of ruhozi and takht-hozidar.

For subject matter, he often turned to old Persian tales, as in *Bolbol-e Sargashteh* (The Wandering Nightingale; 2nd ed., Tehran, 1975), a reworking of a popular children's story. Nevertheless, his guiding themes were contemporary social issues, particularly the clash between traditional and newer ways of life.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica.

To be continued

# Iranian troupe to perform Holocaust drama "Women's Auschwitz" in Poland

From Page 1 ▶ The Holodomor is recognized as a genocide of the Ukrainian people carried out by the Soviet government. It was a famine planned by Joseph Stalin to eliminate a Ukrainian independence movement.

The word Holodomor literally translated from Ukrainian means "killing by starvation." The term Holodomor emphasizes the famine's man-made and intentional aspects such as rejection of outside aid, confiscation of all household foodstuffs and restriction of population movement.

As part of the wider Soviet famine of 1932-33 that affected the major grain-producing areas of the country, millions of inhabitants of Ukraine, the majority of whom were ethnic Ukrainians, died of starvation in a peacetime catastrophe unprecedented in the history of Ukraine.

The two plays were staged at several Ukrainian festivals, including the 2021 Melpomene of



"Women's Auschwitz" by Ali Safari.

Tavria International Theater Festival in Kherson, upon an invitation from the Ukraine ambassador to Iran,

Serhii Burdyliak.

"Berlin 10:10" was the second episode of the trio, which was

performed by Segane at Da Theater in Tehran in August 2020. This play also recounts a World War II story.

## Iranian director says film production abroad is more economic

TEHRAN – Iranian director Qorban Mohammadpur has said that making films abroad is more economical than at home.

He is making a series edition to his movie "Salam Mumbai" with Bollywood cinema in India. Regrettably, his previous project, "Falling in Love in Hanoi", which was being produced with a Vietnamese crew in their country, remained unfinished due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

"If we collaborate with other countries on production, we can easily afford the cost of production; for example, if we make a film with Vietnam, the country not only provides a portion of the start-up capital, but also we would receive 70 percent of the box office revenue," Mohammadpur told the Persian service of MNA on Sunday.

"In addition, a film star's salary in Vietnam is \$50,000, while Iranian stars won't accept less than 5 billion rials (over \$172,000) for a project in Iran," he added.

He said that Iranian cinema is over, and called it a bankrupt business, and added, "Due to the misguided policymaking by officials over the past two years, Iranian cinema has been led to a complete breakdown, as there

is a major decline in the number of filmgoers in the country."

"Meanwhile, the Bollywood cinema doesn't confine its production to only domestic screenings; their films were distributed in numerous countries," he noted.

"In Iran, nine out of ten films cannot cover the cost of their advertisements, and this means that Iranian cinema is over. Production only by governmental organizations is possible, because, for the organizations, it doesn't matter if their films fail to earn a return on capital. There is a catastrophic decline in the number of film productions by the private sector, therefore, I believe that Iranian cinema is dead," Mohammadpur explained.

He said that Iranian-set films are boring, and added that Iranian films need to be shot on location abroad to attract new audiences.

"Bollywood directors make their films on location in Europe or America to draw people to theaters and we can make our films in countries such as India, Vietnam or South Korea to attract larger audiences," Mohammadpur noted.

He is currently making "Salam Mumbai",



Director Qorban Mohammadpur in an undated photo. (Mehr/Ashraf Tabatabai)

which is said to be the first series to be available on both Iranian and Indian VOD platforms.

Earlier in 2021, he said that it will be produced in 20 episodes, seven of which will be made in Mumbai and 13 in Tehran.

He made a film edition of "Salam Mumbai" in 2016 with a number of Iranian and Bollywood cast and crew members. In 2018, he also directed "The Devil's Daughter" in India.

## Asghar Farhadi named president of Zurich Film Festival jury

TEHRAN – Oscar-winning Iranian director Asghar Farhadi will head the jury for the feature film competition at the Zurich Film Festival.

The 18th edition of the festival will take place in Zurich from September 22 to October 2.

The jury also comprises British director Clio Barnard, American producer Daniel Dreifuss, Swiss screenwriter Petra Volpe and Swedish producer Piodor Gustafsson.

"Until Tomorrow", a co-production from Iran, France and Qatar by Ali Asgari, will be screened in the feature film competition.

The film is about Fereshteh



Director Asghar Farhadi attends the 74th Cannes Film Festival on July 14, 2021, to promote his latest film "A Hero". (Reuters)

who studies and works in Tehran. But what her parents don't know is that she also has a two-month-old daughter out

of wedlock. When they announce a spontaneous visit, she has to take the child somewhere else for a night. This would not normally be a problem – but with the pressure of time, the plan proves to be a difficult undertaking. With the help of her quick-witted roommate Atefeh, Fereshteh embarks on an odyssey through the city.

Told over the course of one day, the film impressively shows what it means for people in Iran to live outside traditional family structures – and how the intrepid generation of Millennials is putting the patriarchal value system to the test.

Iranian director Saeid Rustai's drama "Leila's Brothers", winner

of the International Film Critics Award at the 2022 Cannes, will be shown in the Special Screenings category.

The film tells the story of Leila who has spent her entire life in her forties keeping her parents and four brothers afloat. The indebted Iranian family is struggling to survive. Not only Western sanctions but also pervasive corruption make it difficult to get ahead. But this time, Leila forges a perfect plan to escape poverty once and for all – if only her own family doesn't stand in her way.

Rusta, master of fast-paced epic dramas, succeeds in a razor-sharp swan song to the Iranian patriarchy.

## The story of a 15 years old soldier in "The Kid in the Bazaar"

The diary of a young soldier from Javadiye Bazaar, Tehran, is told in the book "The Kid in the Bazaar." Considering the atmosphere of the Holy Defense era, he was very determined to join the front at the age of nine. After making numerous unsuccessful attempts to go to the war fronts, he finally succeeded at the age of fifteen.

Hamid Ghasemi is the story's famous teenager, and author, who showed bravery and sacrifice, refusing to surrender despite being wounded numerous times. He dropped out of school and became a powerful individual during the war. As a result of that environment and the other soldiers, he underwent significant transformation and ceased acting like a 15-year-old teenager.

He made an effort to provide a clear narrative of his memories along with a compelling plot so that the reader may enjoy and comprehend everything. One of the few works that has been able to capture the psychology and sociology of the fronts, as well as living there, including both difficult and rewarding days, is this one.

Until there is even one warrior remaining, recording their memories helps to save the details of past events from being lost to time. These records also demonstrate the cost that the war imposed on our nation, upcoming generations, and the entire world.

Published by Soore mehr, this 284-page book is currently available.

