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American Liberation Style: Terror, Sanction, Sedition

► Page 5

Opinion **T**

Europe energy crisis: Western sanctions backfire

By Ebrahim Fallahi

TEHRAN – As the weather gets colder in Europe, the efforts for curbing gas and electricity consumption are reaching their limits and the short-lived relief the union was celebrating over the past few months is starting to fade.

Before the Ukraine war, Russia contributed to the lion's share of Europe's energy imports, however the conflict, now in its ninth month, disrupted that partnership and no more gas is flowing through Nord Stream 1.

The energy crisis in Europe can be considered from two major aspects: the short-term effects and challenges, and the long-term impacts and solutions.

A short-lived relief

Although considering the condition of the union's storage facilities which according to the International Energy Agency (IEA) are currently 95 percent full, Europe might be able to pass through this year's winter but there is a heavy price that it must pay in doing so.

Businesses across Europe are not just curbing their energy use and continuing on a business-as-usual basis. They are shutting down factories, downsizing, or relocating. Europe may well be on the way to deindustrialization. The eurozone manufacturing activity has fallen to the lowest since May 2020. ► Page 4

Op-ed **T**

Mid-term elections in US under shadow of unprecedented political violence

By Abbas Sarvestani

Attack against Nancy Pelosi's husband on October 28, once again turned the discussion of political violence into the headlines of the world's media. In general, political violence in most of the modern societies is the result of social tensions, which develop due to different reasons: Ideology, religious and ethnic conflicts, political conflicts between different groups of elites, economic conditions and the concept of relative deprivation. However, in this particular case, I propose two new hypotheses and this is how the American electoral system and its participation in the Ukraine war led to the reproduction of political violence.

U.S. electoral system and the reproduction of political violence

Since the end of the Cold War, a global movement has transformed how democratic elections are conducted, with many democracies holding freer and fairer elections than at any time in their history and American organizations such as the International Republican Institute (IRI) and the National Democratic Institute (NDI) have played critical roles in this global transformation.

Paradoxically, the United States is a democracy that seems immune from this transformation. Unable or unwilling to professionalize their election management, they lack uniform, capable. ► Page 5

Reza A'alizadeh, the innovator of COVIRAN Barkat vaccine in an exclusive interview with the Tehran Times:

COVIRAN, a source of honor for nation

© Tehran Times/Bahman Vakhshour

By Farnak Bakhtiari

TEHRAN – Iran was the first country to acquire the knowledge of producing a vaccine against the coronavirus, Reza A'alizadeh, the innovator of the vaccine COVIRAN Barkat, told the Tehran Times in an exclusive interview.

On February 4, 2020, when China was struggling with this disease and had not yet entered Iran, my colleague Asghar Abdoli and I decided to study the newly-emerged virus and tried to understand its structure.

Of course, at that time, the only available document was the structure of the coronavirus released by China in global databases and the scientific backgrounds that were published about the previous strains, including SARS and MERS.

On March 28, the first case of the infection was confirmed in Iran when we started our work, he said, adding, after the investigations, we came to the conclusion that a vaccine can be developed. ► Page 7

Iran's export to Armenia up 15% in H1 on year

TEHRAN- The value of Iran's export to Armenia increased 15 percent in the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-October 22), from the first half of the previous year, an official with Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) announced.

Rahmatollah Khormali, the director-general of the TPO's office of Central Asia, Caucasus, and Russia, put the value of Iran's export to its neighbor at about \$180 million in the six-month period and said: "Of course, these statistics exclude the export of gas to Armenia and is related to our goods trade with this country."

Referring to the exchange of gas and electricity between the two countries, he said

Talabun: Age-old tradition to invite wedding guests

TEHRAN—Inviting guests to a wedding ceremony can be done in several ways, such as sending invitation cards, calling them, or meeting them in person.

People on Kharg Island, situated in Iran's Bushehr province, have an old tradition of inviting wedding guests. It is called Talabun.

This tradition is a way of inviting relatives to participate in the wedding as the wedding hosts decorate trays with green cloth and bowls of Noql (sugar-coated almonds) and Nabat (sugar candy) as well as flowers and sweets.

Then they send the trays to the houses of relatives and neighbors to inform them of the wedding and invite them to the ceremony. ► Page 6

IRGC launches satellite carrier

TEHRAN – The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Aerospace Force has successfully launched the Qaem-100 satellite carrier, which is built by Iranian scientists.

Qaem-100 uses a solid-propellant engine and can carry satellites weighing 80 kg into an orbit of 500 kilometers away from the Earth.

Qaem-100 three-stage satellite carrier is going to be employed for the launch of Nahid, a satellite manufactured by the Iranian Ministry of Information and Communications Technology in the near future, according to Tasnim.

Iran has made great progress in developing indigenous technologies in different areas, including sending satellites to space.

Iran inks MOU with Iraq, Venezuela and Serbia on medicinal plants

TEHRAN – Iran signed three memorandums of understanding with Serbia, Venezuela, and Iraq for the development of technologies in medicinal plants, natural products, and traditional medicine.

The agreements were signed on the sidelines of the 6th National Festival and Exhibition of Medicinal Plants, Natural Products, and Iranian Traditional Medicine which was held in Tehran on November 1 to 4 with the presence of 240 companies.

Business delegations from Russia, Serbia, Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Venezuela, Oman, India, and Gambia attended the exhibition. ► Page 7

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Op-ed **T**

'Engineering Operation': 40 years later

By Fatemeh Saberi

Arman Ali Verdi was a young student of religious studies who was kidnapped in the evening of October 26 during riots in the Ekbatan residential complex in west Tehran, and was brutally martyred. His martyrdom once again brought to mind the crimes of the Mujaheddin Khalq Organization (MKO) in assassinating people who were aligned or interested in the Islamic Republic system in the 1980s.

This horrible and sad crime in Ekbatan shocked all Iranian people. When people saw Arman's video, they asked themselves what sin or crime had this young man committed that they tortured and finally martyred him. Who are these people who commit these crimes and where did they get orders from?

Treason and crime against the people

As can be seen in the video spread on social media networks, a half-naked, tortured, lifeless young man with a bloody face is lying on the ground. The narration of Arman's friends and father indicates that Arman was beaten heavily. Arman's shoulder, nose and head has been broken, to the extent that there was no untortured part on his body. According to the doctor of a hospital where Arman was transferred, he had suffered a severe blow to his head. After being transferred to the hospital, Arman was only able to survive for a few more hours with a medical device.

According to the evidence shown by the video and the statements made by some arrested perpetrators. ► Page 2

Iran to hold resistance filmfest aboard warship with slogan "annihilation of Israel"

TEHRAN – Iran's International Resistance Film Festival has said it will organize its 2022 edition on a warship in the Persian Gulf with the motto of "Mustadafeen's Global Movement, Annihilation of Israel".

Speaking at a meeting on Friday, the director of the festival, Jalal Ghaffari, said, "We proposed that the festival be organized on the Shahid Qassem Soleimani Warship to convey this important message to the world."

The Association of the Revolution and Sacred Defense Cinema and the Revayat Foundation organize the festival annually to celebrate the anniversary of the Basij Organization.

The meeting was also attended by Basij Organization chief Brigadier General Gholamreza Soleimani, who said, "An important event during the second phase of the Islamic Revolution will be the annihilation of Israel, which has wisely been selected as the slogan of the festival, because if this event does not occur we will never arrive at the Islamic civilization." ► Page 8

TENDER INVITATION No: 401-04 MS

IRAN ALUMINIUM COMPANY (IRALCO), Would like to invite eligible producers/suppliers for the supply of one new unit of ARL-iSpark 8860 Quantometer on the basis of tender document (instruction and contract template). Interested companies may send their competitive offer till 26th November 2022, to below mentioned address.

Address: PO Box 31, opposite Bahonar Park, Natural Resources Boulevard, Arak - Iran; Postal code: 3818998116

Name of office: Secretariat of the Transaction Committee, Iranian Aluminum Company. Tel: +98 86 32162014

Attention: Mr. Abedi - Mr. Omid;

Note:

1- If participants are not able to send sealed envelopes on the base of above mentioned tender instruction, they can send their document through email to secretariat of the transaction Commission to this address: tenders@iralco.ir

2- Received emails should be based on terms and condition of tender document and required supporting document should send in two separated files (A, B)

For more information

Attention: Mrs. Mohammadi (Head of Spare part & Machinery department) Tel: +98 8632162402

Email: e.mohammadi@iralco.net; e.mohammadi@iralco.ir For more information, please visit our website <http://www.iralco.ir/> then click tender.

Public Relations Department of Iran Aluminum Company



President: Foes sought to replicate Syria-Libya scenario in Iran, but failed



TEHRAN— Iran's president has said that the enemies sought to turn Iran into Syria and Libya, but they failed.

President Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi made the remarks in a meeting with the students on Friday.

According to media reports, the president had a 4-hour meeting with the students participating in the first course of the "Paths of Progress Camps", stating, "Riots and attempts to disrupt the country are different from protests, and riots and those who create insecurity must be confronted."

Stating that Iran and its various cities are safe today, the president said, "Americans and our enemies sought to make the country insecure by implementing their patterns in Libya and

Syria, but they failed."

Elsewhere in his remarks, the president noted that the Islamic Republic has had many advances that the people and even many elites don't know about them in details.

He then expressed hope that the holding of the camps of the Paths of Progress, like the camps of the Paths of Light, will bring many blessings to the country.

The president considered students' familiarity with the country's progress and achievements as a factor to strengthen their motivation and determination, noting, "Students will see the progress made and will know that wherever we had more restrictions and sanctions, we made more progress with the will and determination of researchers, and this progress has made the enemy scrambling to devise new conspiracies."

Raisi considered the students and especially the members of the Olympiad teams to be the symbol and manifestation of the country's progress and stressed on identifying these talents and providing the necessary conditions for their continued growth and excellence.

"The talented should know the system of the country's issues and use their abilities in the path of fixing these issues," he underlined.

Iran privately warned Saudi Arabia over London-based news channel: report

TEHRAN – Iran has sent an official warning message to Saudi Arabia through diplomatic channels regarding a London-based satellite news channel Tehran says funded by Riyadh, according to Tasnim.

Citing a highly placed Iranian expert on the West Asia region, Tasnim said Iran sent the message because Iran knows the satellite news channel, Iran International, is funded by Saudi Arabia.

The expert, Sadullah Zarei, said the Saudis replied that they have nothing to do with the news channel.

"The Saudis said in response that they have nothing to do with Iran International and they disavowed this terrorist media. But we fully know the Saudi connection to Iran International. And we know that



Saudi Arabia is the funding source for the anti-Iran measures and that this quasi-media is funded by Saudi Arabia," Zarei told Tasnim.

The expert said Iran did not accept the Saudi response. "If Iran International has nothing to do with them, then many possible incidents will have nothing to do with us," the expert warned.

Diplomat censures Biden for promising to 'free Iran'

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani late on Friday castigated U.S. President Joe Biden for claiming to "free Iran".

Kanaani said the United States has always been an occupier in its history and it can never be a liberator.

Wherever the U.S. stepped in, it brought nothing but killing, looting and instability, he said.

He said nations in the region and across the world are witnessing the repercussions of U.S. military presence in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and Syria.

"Daesh-style liberation comes from Daesh's godfather; nothing else," the spokesman tweeted, Press TV reported.

Biden on Thursday vowed to "free" Iran and said protesters in the recent riots in the country would soon succeed in freeing themselves.

"Don't worry, we're gonna free Iran. They're gonna free themselves pretty soon," Biden said during a campaign speech in California.

Biden's remarks drew a strong rebuke from

President Ebrahim Raisi who said Iran was released from the U.S. captivity in 1979 and it will never be a U.S. puppet again.

"Iran was freed 43 years ago and is determined not to be occupied by you. And we will never be (your) milk cows," Raisi said in a speech he delivered Friday on the anniversary of the U.S. embassy takeover.

"End hypocrisy"

Also on Friday, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian took a swipe at the White House for supporting the riots in Iran while at the same time insisting on reaching an agreement with Tehran on the revival of the 2015 nuclear deal, saying Biden should abandon his hypocritical approach and support for terrorist groups such as Daesh.

"Simultaneous with open support for violence & terror during recent riots in Iran, WH is reaching out for an agreement," Amir Abdollahian tweeted.

"Mr. Biden: end this hypocrisy—incl support for terror & ISIS," he wrote.

Iran says sent drones to Russia months before Ukraine war

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian has dismissed media controversy over Iran's alleged support for Russia in the Ukraine war, assuring that Iran will not be indifferent if it is proven that Russia has used Iranian drones in the conflict.

Speaking to reporters on Saturday, Amir Abdollahian once again rejected claims that Iran has provided Russia with missiles and drones to be used in the Ukraine war.

"Our relations with Russia are based on neighborhood and mutual interests. I would like to emphasize here that the fuss made by some Western countries that Iran has provided Russia with missiles and drones to help it in the Ukraine war, claims about the missile part is completely wrong and the drone part is correct," he said.

But he hastened to add that Iran has provided Russia with a limited number of drones months before the war in Ukraine, Press TV reported.

FM criticizes UNSC silence over Shiraz terrorist attack

TEHRAN — In a letter to United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres late on Friday, Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian criticized the UN Security Council's silence over the Daesh-claimed terrorist attack in Shiraz.

The foreign minister also sent copies of the letter to Harold Adlai Agyeman, President of the UN Security Council, and Csaba Korosi, President of the UN General Assembly.

Iran's top diplomat, however, thanked the UN spokesman Stephen Dujarric for his quick condemnation of the terrorist attack.

Below is the text of the foreign minister's letter:

Excellency:

You are aware that the great nation of Iran has been the target of yet another terrorist attack. Following previous terrorist attacks on Iranian citizens, diplomats, scientists, and peaceful nuclear facilities, on 26 October 2022, a sinister terrorist attack targeting pilgrims to the holy shrine of the Shah-e-Cheragh in Shiraz resulted in the martyrdom of 15 innocent Iranians, including men, women, and children, and the injury of 30 others.

This terrorist attack, for which ISIS/Daesh officially claimed responsibility, demonstrated the significance of the bravery of martyred General Qassem Soleimani in the fight against such a terrorist group as well as the necessity of protecting the secu-



ity of nations of the region from dangers posed by this terrorist group, highlighted the importance of maintaining ongoing, successful efforts in the region to eradicate terrorism and reminded the international community that its sensitivity and vigilance toward terrorist threats should not be compromised.

In this regard, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the timely statement made by the United Nations spokesperson as well as Your Excellency's subsequent statement condemning the terrorist attack in Shiraz. The Islamic Republic of Iran views this responsible action as a significant and encouraging step in taking the United Nations towards a consistent and non-discriminatory approach to combat terrorism.

However, it was expected that

the United Nations Security Council with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, which has repeatedly constituted terrorism as one of the most serious threats to international peace and security in its relevant resolutions and in line with its established practices, would strongly condemn the terrorist attack in Shiraz and call for the accountability and prosecution of those responsible for such heinous crime.

Nonetheless, the Security Council's inexcusable silence in the face of this crime demonstrated that some powers, who are also permanent members of the Security Council, continue to categorize terrorists as either good or bad, and not only use ISIS as a tool to exert pressure on other nations to further their own narrow political

agendas, but also their discriminatory and irresponsible actions make it more difficult for the Security Council to effectively carry out its mandate in combating international terrorism.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, as a victim of terrorism and a pioneer in the fight against terrorist groups in the region, is steadfast in its determination to continue its efforts in the fight against terrorism, both to protect the security of the region's nations and the honorable and great nation of Iran from the dangers posed by such terrorist group.

I wish Your Excellency continued success in furthering the purposes of the United Nations and take this opportunity to renew the assurances of my highest consideration.

'Engineering Operation': 40 years later

from page 1 ► Arman is beaten and tortured only for refusing to insult the Islamic Republic. He resists until the last moment. And he refuses to insult the leader of the revolution, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Arman was defending his beliefs even in the last moments of his life. Such resistance leads to more violence against him. As it is clear in the film, a woman among the people wants to beat her again, despite Arman is lifeless.

Arman's killing was not a natural story in the Iran riots. Rather, the way he was killed is a deep account of the anger, hatred, and evil of the rioters, who have no fear of committing crimes against the people and the country in such an inflammable atmosphere. They consider themselves authorized to take any action. They falsely consider themselves to be the defenders of the Iranian people's rights and use the slogan of "woman, life, freedom" for killing and commit violence against the Iranian people. They talk about freedom in the streets but force Arman to "insult" his

personal beliefs.

Like the MKO members who in the 1980s allowed themselves to commit any type of crime against those who were allied to the Islamic Republic, these days rioters are doing the same acts. The MKO portrayed itself as the supporter of the people but started to take arms against the Islamic Republic after 98 percent of the voters endorsed the Islamic Republic system in a democratic process. They martyred hundreds of officials and ordinary people in numerous shootings and bombings. They wanted to take power.

In one of the crimes of the organization called "Engineering Operation", three members of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps, a cobbler, a teacher and an engineer were kidnapped and tortured brutally until they died. This crime was one of the most horrific ones in the modern history of Iran. Even shortly after the assassination of the officials, they joined Iraq's Saddam Hussein, the killer of the Iranian youth, who had waged a war against

Iran. They partnered with Saddam's army in the war against their own countrymen.

Even now, in the streets of Iran, rioters commit crimes and treason against the nation under the name freedom. They want the people to rise against the Islamic Republic. They cooperate with Iran's enemies such as America, Israel and Saudi Arabia. And they want people to overthrow the Islamic Republic system. Most Iranian people do not accompany them. In fact, Arman symbolized the Iranian people.

President Joe Biden says the U.S. helps the protesters who want to "free" Iran! But as long as there are people like Arman who bravely defend the security of the country based on their own revolutionary beliefs and are even ready to be martyred in the way of their ideals, the Iranians will continue their path with strength. And this is the secret of unique power of the Islamic Republic, which American spy services are still unable to analyze and understand after 40 years.

Tehran's foreign policy decisions are based on wisdom, deputy FM says

TEHRAN – Iran's deputy foreign minister for political affairs said on Saturday that Iran's policies are based on "wisdom".

Ali Bagheri Kani made the remarks in reference to protests that erupted in certain cities in Iran after the death of Mahsa Amini on September 16.

The protests over Mahsa Amini's death degenerated into violence after thugs used the death of Amini as a pretext to cause chaos in the country.

American officials openly expressed support for the riots. Certain European states, including Germany and Britain, also joined the U.S. in expressing support for the rioters.

"The decision of the Islamic Republic is based on wisdom, as many countries wanted to destabilize Iran. However, our influential role-playing aborted" American wishes, Bagheri Kani said in a seminar entitled "21st Century and the World without U.S. Hegemony".

Bagheri Kani went on to say that the U.S. is on decline in terms of technological advances and economic indicators in comparison to other competitors and this is

acknowledged by experts in the world.

There is also a dispute between Republicans and Democrats on the U.S. and each side holds the other responsible for, he pointed out.

There is also "no good prospects" about what the Americans believe in, and values such as "democracy" in the country is being defied and the environment is degrading, he said.

Elsewhere in his remarks, he expressed happiness over Iran's membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and possible entry into BRICS, an economic bloc grouping Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Bagheri Kani went on to say that the U.S. occupied Iraq and Afghanistan and but occupation of these two countries only led to spread of fear and terrorism.

"In the recent time, both Americans' decisions and actions, such as their presence in Afghanistan and Iraq, have proven to be ineffective and not constructive," he said, according to Press TV.

The U.S. invaded Afghanistan in 2001 and was forced to leave country in disgrace after 20 years.



Bagheri Kani said the occupation of Afghanistan led to a sharp increase in opium production, rising by 50 times.

Prior to the invasion, opium production was banned by the Taliban, although it still managed to exist.

The U.S. and its allies have been accused of encouraging and aiding opium production and the ongoing drug trafficking within the region.

Only a small fraction of the total opium yield in Afghanistan is destroyed. The international community has also failed to curb heroin production in Afghanistan since the devastating military campaign.

Afghanistan is thought to produce more than 90 percent of the world's supply of opium, which is then used to make heroin and other dangerous drugs that are

shipped in large quantities all over the world. Opium production provides many Afghan communities with an income, in an otherwise impoverished and war-torn country.

Nearly half of the drugs produced in Afghanistan are moved through Pakistan, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

According to UNODC findings, cultivation of opium poppies in Afghanistan increased by 32 percent over the previous year, to 233,000 hectares – making the 2022 crop the third largest area under cultivation.

Cultivation continued to be concentrated in the southwestern parts of the country, which accounted for 73 percent of the total area, registering the largest crop increase.

In Helmand province, one-fifth of all arable land was dedicated to opium poppy cultivation.

The notorious Daesh Takfiri terrorist group in Afghanistan, better known as Daesh in Khorasan Province, is reported to have recently taken over opium production and trafficking.

International group calls for end of sanctions on Iran

TEHRAN – An international group of several countries denounced the imposition of sanctions on Iran and called for an immediate end to them.

The National Coordinators of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations held a meeting in Tehran on Saturday. At the end of the meeting, they issued a joint political declaration in which they called for an end to sanctions against Iran.

"We also reaffirm our strong rejection and condemnation of the imposition of illegal sanctions, unilateral coercive measures against the People and Government of Nicaragua, and aggressions that have a negative impact on the development and prosperity of the country. In this sense, we demand the immediate end of such sanctions," they said in the declaration.

The group also voiced support for the Iranian people and government. "We express our unwavering support for and solidarity with the People and Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, subjected to unilateral coercive measures, including unilateral sanctions imposed by certain countries, which violate the Charter of the United Nations and the rules and principles of international law, while seriously threatening the full enjoyment of their human rights and the realization



of their right to development," they said, adding, "We further call for the 'lifting of all such unilateral measures against the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iranian nationals and companies,' as recommended by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights in her report to the Human Rights Council on 17 August 2022 (A/HRC/51/33/Add.1), pursuant to her official country visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran from 07 through 18 May 2022."

The group includes Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Bolivia, Cambodia, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Iran, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, the State of Palestine, the Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,

Syria, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe.

The representatives of these countries met at the vice-ministerial level in Tehran in order to discuss ways and means to advance our common endeavors aimed at preserving, promoting and defending the prevalence and validity of the Charter of the United Nations, both in its letter and spirit, and to further improve our coordination on issues of common concern and interest and on potential ways to move forward.

The group also expressed concern over the replacement of the tenets of the UN Charter with what came to be known as rules-based order. "We reiterate our serious concern at continued attempts aimed at replacing the tenets enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations

– which have been agreed upon by the entire international community for conducting their international relations – with a so-called 'rules-based order', that remains unclear, that has not been discussed or accepted by the wide UN membership, and that has the potential, among others, to undermine the rule of law at the international level," the group said.

The group said, "We concur that double-standards, coupled with selective approaches or accommodative interpretations of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, aimed at advancing political agendas of dubious nature, in clear contempt for international legality and in disregard for the common good or collective interests of the peoples of the United Nations, represent one of the major threats to the prevalence and validity of that universal and legally binding instrument that constitutes an exceptional achievement for humankind and a true act of faith on the best of humanity."

At the end of their declaration, the members of the group vowed to defend the UN Charter. "We, at last, renew our firm determination to continue defending the Charter of the United Nations through concerted actions from the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations and to stand by one another in this noble endeavor."

Unrest in Iran was American Plan B, Amir Abdollahian says

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian said Saturday that Iran's recent unrest was a Plan B pursued by the United States and the U.S. failed in implementing this plan.

Speaking to reporters, Amir Abdollahian said, "What our nation has seen over the last 40 days was the implementation of the very Plan B that the Americans wanted to pursue. But they failed in this regard due to the nation's intuition and the guidance of the supreme leader."

The Iranian foreign minister also responded to Western allegations that Iran provided Russia with drones and missiles for use in the Ukraine war.

He said the West's kerfuffle over the provision of missiles is "entirely wrong" while the issues pertaining to the drones are "right," according to Iranian state news agency IRNA.

"We provided a limited number of drones to Russia months before [the start] of the Ukraine war. And we agreed with the Ukrainian foreign minister that if you have any evidence of Russia using Iranian drones in Ukraine, give us the evidence," he added.

He said this was agreed two weeks ago in a European country and a political and defense delegation from Iran went to that European country for a meeting with Ukrainian officials but the Ukrainian side called off the meeting in the last minute.

"The reason for the absence of the Ukrainian side was that the United States and some European countries, especially Germany, asked Ukraine not to participate in this meeting. They said [to the Ukrainian officials] that while we want to impose sanctions against Iran over the provision of drones



to Russia, you want to drink coffee with Iranians in a European country!" Amir Abdollahian said.

He added, "After that, in the telephone conversation that we had with the foreign minister of Ukraine last week, we agreed that if there is any evidence, they will provide us with it, and if the Ukrainian side sticks to its promise, we will be able to examine this issue in the coming days, and their evidence will be taken into consideration."

In the phone conversation between Amir Abdollahian and his Ukrainian counterpart, Dmytro Kuleba, the two sides discussed the latest developments related to the Ukraine crisis and bilateral topics.

Amir Abdollahian strongly dismissed the claims about the use of Iranian drones in the war in Ukraine, saying, "The Islamic Republic has had the experience of the eight-year imposed war and is thus opposed to war in Ukraine, Yemen, and elsewhere."

The Iranian foreign minister said, "We have good ties with Russia and we have had defense cooperation from the past, but our policy toward the Ukraine war is to respect the territorial integrity of countries, not to send weapons to the conflicting parties, and to stop

the war and the people's displacement."

"The Islamic Republic of Iran's policy is fully transparent, is based on a unified standard, and is against war," he said, according to the Iranian foreign ministry.

"We are ready for convening technical sessions with the participation of military experts between the two countries, without the need for any intermediary," the foreign minister added.

He described the statements of some Western officials as baseless and referred to Tehran's recurrent efforts to help bring about a ceasefire, adding, "We stand ready to help establish a truce."

"I believe Ukraine had better be careful not be influenced by some radical politicians in Europe," the top diplomat said.

The Ukrainian foreign minister, in turn, praised the Islamic Republic of Iran's position on not dispatching arms for use in the Ukraine war, saying talks between technical military delegations of the two countries are important.

He pointed to Ukraine's independence in its foreign relations and said his country does not take action under the influence of others.

The chief diplomat explained the consequences of war in his country and said Ukraine strives to safeguard the security and activities of embassies in accordance with international conventions.

Iran has said it does not support any side in the Ukraine war. It has said it support the settlement of the Ukraine crisis through dialogue and political ways. However, the West leveled accusations against Iran over the alleged provision of weaponry to Russia.

Iran envoy sends letter to UN chief

TEHRAN – Iranian Ambassador to the United Nations Amir Saeid Irvani wrote a letter to the UN secretary-general transmitting another letter to the UN chief by Iran's top diplomat.

In his letter, dated November 4, Irvani asked Antonio Guterres to circulate the Iranian foreign minister's letter as a document of the Security Council and General Assembly under agenda items 112 "Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism," and 121 "UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy".

The Iranian foreign minister, Hossein Amir Abdollahian, has sent a letter to Guterres concerning the recent terrorist targeting a shrine in the Iranian city of Shiraz.

"You are aware that the great nation of Iran has been the target of yet another terrorist attack. Following previous terrorist attacks on Iranian citizens, diplomats, scientists, and peaceful nuclear facilities, on 26 October 2022, a sinister terrorist attack targeting pilgrims to the holy shrine of the Shah-e-Cheragh in Shiraz resulted in the martyrdom of 15 innocent Iranians, including men, women, and children, and the injury of 30 others," Amir Abdollahian said in the letter, adding, "This terrorist attack, for which ISIS/Daesh officially claimed responsibility, demonstrated the significance of the bravery of martyred General Qassem Soleimani

in the fight against such a terrorist group as well as the necessity of protecting the security of nations of the region from dangers posed by this terrorist group, highlighted the importance of maintaining ongoing, successful efforts in the region to eradicate terrorism and reminded the international community that its sensitivity and vigilance toward terrorist threats should not be compromised."

The Iranian foreign minister also denounced the UN Security Council's silence on the Shiraz terrorist attack.

"The Security Council's inexcusable silence in the face of this crime demonstrated that some powers, who are also permanent members

of the Security Council, continue to categorize terrorists as either good or bad, and not only use ISIS as a tool to exert pressure on other nations to further their own narrow political agendas, but also their discriminatory and irresponsible actions make it more difficult for the Security Council to effectively carry out its mandate in combating international terrorism," he said.

The attack took place on October 26 at Maghrib prayer time, when a terrorist opened fire at the pilgrims with his AK-47 rifle, killing at least 13 people and injuring dozens of others. The attack prompted national grief and sorrow amid a continued wave of unrest.

continuation of the sanctions, to which that country has become severely addicted."

Iran has said the U.S. does not have the will to make the necessary political decisions to conclude the long-running nuclear talks. Talks over the nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), have come to a standstill. U.S. officials have recently said that the JCPOA is no longer on their agenda, at least for now.

SPORTS

Iran into 2022 Intercontinental Beach Soccer Cup final

TEHRAN – Iran defeated the UAE 5-2 to book a place in the final match of the 2022 Intercontinental Beach Soccer Cup.

Mehdi Shirmohammadi, Amirhossein Akbari (two goals), Moslem Mesigar and Ali Mirshekari scored for Iran.

Earlier in the day, Brazil defeated Paraguay 6-5 in another semifinal.

Team Melli will play Brazil in the final on Sunday.

Russia are the most successful team, having won four tournaments.

Iran have won the title three times.

Sardar Azmoun fit for 2022 World Cup: report



TEHRAN – Sardar Azmoun will reportedly be fit for Iran's opening match with England, slated for Nov. 21 in Group B of the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

The Iranian forward, who currently plays at Bayer Leverkusen, could return to his next week, [ligainsider.de](https://www.ligainsider.de) reported.

Azmoun suffered a calf muscle injury while warming up for the match against Porto in Group B of the UEFA Champions League in early October.

His absence could inflict a huge blow to Team Melli's confidence in the Qatar's World Cup.

Ex-Iran coach Ghotbi named Vancouver coach

TEHRAN – Canadian Premier League football club Vancouver has revealed it has hired Afshin Ghotbi as its new head coach.

The 58-year-old comes to the team with an incredible wealth of coaching experience, having worked in the game at all sorts of levels from youth football to the very pinnacle of the sport, including coaching at three FIFA World Cups.

Ghotbi was born in Iran but moved to the United States as a teenager, and he had a brief stint as a player at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). He began coaching in the 1980s, beginning with the UCLA women's team and going on to found his own academy – American Global Soccer School – in California.

He joined the US Soccer organization in the late 1990s, working on the technical staff for the men's national team in 1997 and 1998 during the side's appearance at World Cup '98 in France.

Ghotbi went on to work as an assistant coach with the South Korean national team, helping that side at both the 2002 and 2006 World Cups as well as appearances in the Confederations Cup, Asian Cup, and Gold Cup.

In 2009, Ghotbi was named head coach of the Iranian national team, helping lead it to the quarterfinals of the 2011 Asian Cup.

"I want to thank Vancouver FC for trusting me with this exciting project," said Ghotbi. "Now is an exciting moment for Canadian soccer, and the ever-growing passion for the game on the Lower Mainland and from coast to coast is evident. I look forward to building a club that will make our fans proud on and off the field."

Hadi Rezaei: Empowerment is key to success

TEHRAN – Iran sitting volleyball coach Hadi Rezaei says that empowering people with disability is most important thing for him.

He is one of the most successful individuals in the sport who has won a total of seven world titles – four as a player and three as a coach.

In the last six years he bagged three important achievements, including back-to-back Paralympic gold medals in Rio de Janeiro and Tokyo and the world title in Arnhem in 2018. He returned from brief retirement after Tokyo 2020 to be at the helm of the Iranian team for the 2022 World ParaVolley Sitting Volleyball World Championships in Sarajevo. And this time, he and his team are seeking to complete back-to-back feats in the World Championships.

"I have been to the Paralympic Games nine times and I felt that was enough. Since I belong to the community of people with disabilities and after serving many years as captain and coach for the Iranian team, I have been deeply in love with sitting volleyball. And if there is any way that I could be useful for the sport, I would be happy to serve over and over again," the Iranian tactician said.

"I chose to play an active part in the National Paralympic Committee of Iran for the sake of sitting volleyball and when I realised that there was a need for me to step in again, I heeded that call because there is so much room for development of the players."

The 62-year-old coach acts as a role model and actively uses his influence and experience to advocate for development.

"Sitting volleyball is a beautiful sport and its beauty increases with time because teams are all getting better. The people at World ParaVolley do not just use their influence but also use their experience to see that the sport improves and make sitting volleyball the No. 1 team sport for people with disabilities," Rezaei commending the work of International Federation.

As for his team's success in sitting volleyball, he shared that empowerment is key.

"I can talk about winning, but for me the most important thing is empowering people before anything else. A person with disability becomes revitalised when he or she joins sport because there is some sense of improvement and success," he said.

"Our team members come home with a heroes' welcome whenever they win something. This gives a good feeling to other persons with disability and empowers them to be useful individuals in society who can climb the summit of success and bring glory to themselves, to their families and their country."

Paykan to meet Itambe Minas at FIVB Club World Championship opener

TEHRAN – Paykan will play Brazilian club Itambe Minas in the opening match of the 2022 FIVB Volleyball Men's Club World Championship on December 8.

The Iranian club will also meet Italian side Trentino Itas a day later in Pool B.

Pool A consists of Brazilian clubs Sada Cruzeiro Vôlei and Vôlei Renata and Italian team Sir Safety Susa Perugia.

The 17th edition of the FIVB Volleyball Men's Club World Championship will be held in Betim, Brazil from December 8 to 12.

Italian teams have been the most successful, with 10 titles.

Iran committed to continuing JCPOA talks: FM

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian reiterated Iran's commitment to continuing talks in Vienna over reviving the 2015 Iran nuclear deal.

Speaking at the first meeting of the National Coordinators of the Group of Friends in Defense of the United Nations Charter, Amir Abdollahian said Iran is committed to continuing the nuclear talks with goodwill and based on mutual respect.

"The sole purpose of this negotiations should be the strong commitment from all sides to fully implementing their obligations under the nuclear deal," he said.

The foreign minister added, "However, America must prove that it has goodwill and genuine resolve and does not intend to use the negotiations for killing time and looking for another excuse for the continuation of breach of its commitments and the

Europe energy crisis: Western sanctions backfire



from page 1 ► Long-term consequences

In its latest analysis of the Europe energy crisis published on November 3, the IEA said that the union could face a shortage of as much as 30 billion cubic meters (bcm) of natural gas during the next year's pick summer period for refilling its gas storage sites.

In the report dubbed "Never too early to prepare for next winter: Europe's gas balance for 2023-2024" IEA cautions that the cushion provided by current storage levels, as well as recent lower gas prices and unusually mild temperatures, should not lead to overly optimistic conclusions about the future.

"With the recent mild weather and lower gas prices, there is a danger of complacency creeping into the conversation around Europe's gas supplies, but we are by no means out of the woods yet," said IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol.

The price of sanctions

A look at the IEA report shows that the European Union is going to face a great challenge for meeting its energy needs in the coming years and considering the heavy costs of shipping gas from long distances, Iran could have been a significant contributor to the resolution of this

issue.

Having the world's biggest gas resources, the Islamic Republic could provide Europe with the energy it desperately needs if the infrastructure for a pipeline were there or if the constant sanctions have not had prevented Iran from accessing the technology required for liquefying natural gas on large scales.

Unlike oil, natural gas is hard to be shipped on large scales in the form of gas and therefore it is exported either through pipelines or by turning it into Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), but that is an expensive and high-investment proposition. Iran currently does not have the infrastructure to export large amounts of gas to Europe.

Despite all these limitations, the Islamic Republic has constantly voiced its readiness to help Europe ease at least part of its energy demand.

In early October, Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Baqeri Kani highlighted the impact of sanctions on energy security in Europe amid the Russia-Ukraine war and voiced Tehran's preparedness to help restore energy security to the continent.

"It was thought for many years that countries like Iran should pay the cost of being sanctioned [but] now the Europeans have realized that imposing sanctions has also a price," Baqeri Kani said.

Considering the current experiences and looking into the future, European governments should see clearly the negative impacts that the sanctions have had and are going to have on global energy security and therefore more efforts should be made to help the nuclear talks reach the "ending" that would be a "win-win" scenario for both sides.

TEDPIX jumps 44,700 points on Saturday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), gained 44,782 points to 1.328 million on Saturday.

As reported, over 8.714 billion securities worth 51.077 trillion rials (about \$176 million) were traded at the TSE.

The first market's index rose 40,834 points and the second market's index gained 65,352 points.

TEDPIX gained 43,000 points to 1.283 million in the past Iranian calendar week (ended on Friday).

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

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

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

Also, as the condition deteriorated and TEDPIX experienced continuous drops, Stock and Exchange Organization (SEO) unveiled a comprehensive support package to encourage activities in the capital market as shareholders were getting reluctant to invest in the market.

As announced by the SEO Office of Public Relations, one of the major measures considered in this 10-section package is the insurance of shareholders' capital and dividends over the next year.

The comprehensive support package of the capital market, which was designed last week and has been reviewed by the country's



economic authorities, was put in effect on October 29.

Insuring the shares of real entities up to one billion rials (about \$3,450) per person, issuing subordinated warrants on shares of fixed income funds up to 400 trillion rials (about \$1.38 billion), injecting new resources into the market by sovereign funds to buy shares, depositing up to 50 trillion rials (about \$172 million) of the resources approved in the national budget bill for the Capital Market Development and Stabilization Fund, as well as direct and continuous coordination, supervision and monitoring of the legal entities active in the capital market, including companies and semi-governmental financial institutions, pension funds and military institutions are among the measures considered in the mentioned support package.

As the result of the SEO's support package, TEDPIX, which was experiencing drops day after day, has returned to a climbing status.

This status brings the hope that the stock market will return to its previous prosperity condition soon, given that on Tuesday, SEO Head Majid Eshqi said that the SEO does not limit its support to the 10-section package.

"In order to increase the effectiveness of the support measures, we intend to submit a multi-section proposal to the economic headquarters of the government and we are trying to obtain resolutions in order to solve the major concerns of the stock market", the official added.

Liquidity rises over 37%

TEHRAN - Iran's liquidity reached 54.01 quadrillion rials (about \$186.6 billion) at the end of the current Iranian calendar year's fifth month (August 22), to register a 37.8-percent growth from the figure for the past year's same month.

According to the data released by the Central Bank of Iran (CBI), the country's liquidity in the mentioned date has grown by 11.8 percent compared to the last month of the previous year (ended on March 20), Tasnim news agency reported.

Iran's export to Armenia up 15% in H1 on year

from page 1 ► Referring to the export of technical and engineering services to Armenia, Khormali said: "The construction of a 60-kilometer road is underway in this country, and four Iranian companies participated in the related tender, and the result will be determined in the coming days, and if this project is handed over to the Iranians it will add a good amount to the value of our export to this country."

Iran and Armenia signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on energy cooperation in Tehran on Tuesday.

Based on the MOU, signed by National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) Head Majid Chegeni and Armenian Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures Gnel Sanosyan, the two sides agreed on extending a previous agreement on swapping gas for electricity by the end of the Iranian calendar year 1409 (March 2031).

Based on this MOU, according to the increase in the volume of exported gas, the electricity swap coefficient will also be modified, Chegeni stated.

Currently, Iran exports one million cubic meters of gas to Armenia, which will double, the official added.

The renewed MOU was signed on the sidelines of the visit of Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, on the head of a high-ranking delegation, to Tehran on Tuesday.

Armenian Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures Gnel Sanosyan also met Iranian Transport and Urban Development Minister Rostam Qasemi on Tuesday and expressed interest in forming a new transit route through Iran to access Persian Gulf countries.

During the meeting, the two sides reached an agreement to expand and develop the International North-South Transit Corridor in the Iranian territory from Nordoz border to Varzeqan and Tabriz.

According to Qasemi, with the addition of a new Iran-Armenia section to the International North-South Transit Corridor (INSTC), from Nordoz border to Varzeqan and then Tabriz, the capacity of moving goods and transit through INSTC will be significantly improved.



Qasemi also expressed Iranian companies' readiness for the exports of technical and engineering services to Armenia.

Addressing the press after the talks with Qasemi, Sanosyan for his part invited Iranian companies to participate in his country's development projects and announced his country's readiness for the beginning of the construction of Armenia's Kajaran Tunnel in the spring of 2023 with the participation of Iranian contractors.

Emphasizing that he has a mission from the prime minister of his country to announce that Armenia is ready to entrust the project to Iranian contractors without holding any tenders, he explained: "We are trying to build the Kajaran Tunnel in the spring of 2023 in collaboration with Iran."

During an Iran-Armenia business forum hosted by the Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) in mid-September, the attendees underlined the significant position of Armenia as Iran's only land gateway for entering Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) markets.

Iran's commercial attaché in Yerevan Akbar Godari, Head of Iran-Armenia Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry Hervik Yarijanian, and Head of Aras Free Zone Organization Majid Kiani were the key speakers at the mentioned

business forum.

Speaking at the forum, Godari stressed Armenia's unique geopolitical situation among Iran's neighboring countries and said: "Armenia is the only EAEU member with which Iran shares a land border, and considering the fact that the country's borders with Azerbaijan and Turkey are currently closed, Armenian market has a lot of potential for Iranian businessmen."

Over the past year since the 13th government has taken office, nine rounds of negotiations have been held between Iran and the Eurasian Economic Union, and

'Development of relations between Iran & Armenia provides enormous economic potential'

issues related to the implementation of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two sides have been resolved, Godari said at the time.

"The negotiations are in the legislative stage and will be finalized within the next few months," he announced.

Stating that in the last two years, numerous Iranian company representatives and business delegations have visited Armenia, Godari said: "The market of this country has a big difference with some neighboring countries; in Armenia, products are imported from many countries all around the world, so, Iranian products have to compete with world-class products."

Elsewhere in the event, Yarijanian pointed to the positive relations between Iran and Armenia and

stated: "In the last 30 years, the diplomatic relations between the two countries and given that Armenia shares Iran's only land border with the Eurasian Economic Union, the development of relations with this country provides enormous economic potential."

Also in early September, Head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Alireza Peyman-Pak hosted a meeting with Armenia's Deputy Economy Minister Narek Teryan in which the officials talked about a variety of areas for economic cooperation between the two countries.

The development of trade relations, alternative ways of transit, barter trade, the establishment of an Iranian car production line in Armenia, and the establishment of a joint production line of household and electronic appliances were among the subjects discussed at the meeting.

Iran and Armenia had also signed an MOU at the end of the two countries' 17th meeting of the Joint Economic Committee in Yerevan in mid-May.

The MOU, which covers cooperation in areas of transit, transportation, facilitation of exchange of goods, energy, development of environmental cooperation in Aras area and removal of pollution from border rivers, as well as medical tourism, was signed by Iranian Energy Minister Ali-Akbar Mehrabian and Armenian Deputy Prime Minister Mher Grigoryan, who are the chairmen of the two countries' Joint Economic Committee.

In that meeting, which was attended by a large number of deputy ministers, senior officials, ambassadors, and members of parliament of the two countries, the main issues that play a key role in the development of relations between the two countries were discussed.

According to the officials, the purpose of holding the 17th meeting of the Iran-Armenia Joint Economic Committee was the real and tangible development of relations between the two countries.

Among the issues raised at the meeting were transit, transportation, facilitation of trade, and broader cooperation in the field of energy.

ICCIMA calls for updating intl. trade contracts according to sanctions

TEHRAN - Head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) has stressed the need for reviewing and updating international commercial contracts according to the sanctions conditions, the ICCIMA portal reported.

Speaking at the national conference on the role and importance of commercial contracts in international trade, Gholam-Hossein Shafeie said: "Considering the rapid changes of societies, it is necessary to update the legal aspects of commercial contracts."

Organized by ICCIMA, the conference on the role and importance of commercial contracts in international trade was held in Tehran on Saturday with the presence of a number of ambassadors and commercial advisers from different countries.

Referring to the great importance of international contracts with regard to the



rapid changes in the dynamics of international trade, Shafeie said: "If the laws related to these contracts are not updated, businessmen will face many problems."

"This issue is more important for us because we are located in a region where trade with many countries entails high risk and there are many unprofessional traders in Iran and the countries

of the region. Unfortunately, the traders' lack of attention to the legal aspects of contracts has caused a lot of damage to the business of both parties," he said.

The ICCIMA head emphasized the importance of arbitration in international trade and said: "Unfortunately, this issue is not given the attention it deserves. Our businessmen often face commercial disputes in situations where either they do not have a solid contract or if they do, they have not considered ways of resolving disputes in the contract. Therefore, it becomes difficult to resolve commercial disputes in these conditions."

"We cannot rely on our international contracts, especially considering the current situation of sanctions imposed on Iran; the special consequences of these conditions should be taken into consideration in the contracts," Shafeie stressed.

Export from Isfahan province rises 5% in 7 months yr/yr

TEHRAN- The value of export from Isfahan province rose five percent in the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-October 22), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, the director-general of the province's customs department announced.

Rasoul Kouhestani-Pajouh said that 1.244 million tons of commodities worth \$823.758 million have been exported from the province in the seven-month period, with no change in weight.

The official said that 671 types

of goods were exported to 87 countries from the province in the first seven months of this year.

He named cast iron, iron and steel, petrochemical products, dairy products, machine and handwoven carpets, iron and cast-iron products as the major exported items and Iraq, Pakistan, Turkey, Afghanistan, and Armenia as the main export destinations.

As announced by the spokesman of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs

Administration (IRICA), the value of Iran's non-oil export rose 5.6 percent during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year, as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

According to Morteza Emadi, Iran exported 61.283 million tons of goods valued at \$28.406 billion in the mentioned seven months, registering an 18.2-percent decline in weight.

Liquefied propane, methanol, liquefied butane, film-grade polyethylene, petroleum

bitumen, liquefied natural gas, urea, iron and steel ingots, and light oils and petroleum products were the main exported products in the said time span, accounting for 41.9 percent of the total value of the exports.

Major export destinations of the Iranian non-oil goods were China with \$9.181 billion of imports, Iraq with \$4.029 billion, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with \$3.476 billion, Turkey with \$3.081 billion, and India with \$1.098 billion.

American liberation style: Terror, sanction, sedition

The United States has been involved in hundreds of wars, invasions, coups and conflicts around the globe, yet it claims to be the flagbearer of the international fight for freedom, liberation and human rights.

In addition to its crimes, atrocities and attempts to divide countries, Washington stands accused of seditious acts through a widespread social media campaign and its embassies around the globe have been censured for their role in destabilizing different regions of the world.

The U.S. itself was founded on violence against the indigenous people of America and since then it has survived on instigating violence with its hegemonic dreams and hopes of global hegemony following the collapse of the British empire.

Over the past two decades Washington has had its eyes on West Asia with the disastrous invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as its support for Takfiri terrorist groups in countries such as Syria and Libya and in particular the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It has since expanded its warmongering approach towards Eastern Europe with the aim of containing rising superpowers such as Russia. It has also pinned its hopes on China's domestic issues such as Taiwan, Hong Kong, Tibet, Xinjiang and elsewhere with the hope of containing the rising economic and military power of Beijing.

In essence, what is very clear is that wherever there is a U.S. presence, there is also insecurity and no stability in that part of the world.

U.S. President Joe Biden claims the U.S. will "free" Iran. Speaking at a campaign speech in California on Thursday, he said "don't worry, we're gonna free Iran." The reality is, as noted by Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, Iran was freed from U.S. captivity by toppling the puppet Pahlavi regime.

"I am telling Biden that Iran was freed 43 years ago," Raisi said in reference to the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

It is also important to note that the Iranian people were free in 1953 before the American CIA and British MI6 orchestrated a coup that toppled the



democratically elected government of Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadeq and replaced it with a puppet regime to loot the country's large oil and gas resources. This is something both Washington and its Western allies publicly acknowledge. The reality is that the U.S. has been trying to repeat the exact same scenario in Iran since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. It has no interest in freedom or the livelihoods of Iranian people. Experts say human rights are observed in Iran more than the United States where minority groups, including Black Americans, face systematic discrimination.

The U.S. claims it wants to free the Iranian nation while at the same time it has imposed the harshest ever sanctions on Iranian people that have caused the majority of the country's population to suffer. American sanctions prevented and continue to prevent patients suffering from serious diseases, such as cancer or rare skin diseases, to gain access to vital medicines by banning money transfer from Iran. This is under the name of "U.S. freedom." American widespread support for riots in Iran over the past few weeks have also led to the brutal death of police forces. This is the freedom and human rights that America seeks to spread and preaches about.

The closer the United States approaches Iranian borders or any other border in West Asia and beyond (under the guise of freedom and human rights), the more insecurity grows in that country. And the U.S. has dozens of military bases surrounding Iranian borders but an independent Iran has proven it has the capability to prevent the Pentagon from toppling the Islamic Republic because of Tehran's military might.

On the other hand, governments and kingdoms that have linked their own national security interests (knowingly or unknowingly, willingly or unwillingly) to the U.S. have been toppled because of their lack of sovereignty.

In cases where they have not been toppled, the U.S. is stirring sedition and divide nations. This policy of spreading instability helps American arms manufacturers make lucrative profits from weapons deliveries, as has been witnessed in many countries, such as Cuba and other Latin American countries and more recently to Syria, Libya, Ukraine, etc.

The U.S. State Department has demanded that North Korea refrain from taking any defensive measures to protect its territory, and instead engage in dialogue. This is while the United States has hundreds of warplanes buzzing around North Korean borders in joint war games that have been extended and which Pyongyang views as a rehearsal for an imminent invasion. North Korea has test-fired ballistic missiles in response to these war games and Pyongyang, unsurprisingly, has been denounced by Washington for stirring up trouble.

In other words, the U.S. is allowed to hold the largest ever war games next to North Korea with the deployment of B-1B strategic bombers but the North is not allowed to test its own missiles to protect its territorial integrity.

The U.S. Navy missile-guided destroyers and other warships including U.S. warplane carriers and strike groups regularly sail in the South China Sea and expect China to remain silent, which by the way Beijing has exercised praiseworthy patience with

its diplomatic approach to the U.S. provocations. A reflection of how one country is not after seeking military confrontation and how another has a warmongering approach under the pretext of spreading freedom that nobody even requested in the first place.

Critics argue that the delusional idea that Washington can provide security guarantees for another country can't be further from the truth. The fact of the matter is, as history has shown and proven, the U.S. only looks after its own interests, makes lucrative profit from its military adventurism and once these America's interests are gone, so are the alleged security guarantees that Washington once promised to provide for certain governments and rulers and kings.

According to different researches the U.S. has been involved in hundreds of wars, conflicts and coups throughout its short history.

When Washington speaks about women's rights, at the same time, one only has to look at how many women the U.S. army has killed or starved to death because of the wars it has launched or directly supported.

How many women have been murdered in Yemen as a result of America's direct support for the war on the country? At the end of the day, it was U.S. bombs that fell on the heads of civilians, which killed hundreds of thousands of Yemenis, many of them women and children. How many American bombs destroyed hospitals in Yemen under the name of spreading freedom?

How many women and children has the United States murdered in Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan (to name a few) when its missiles landed on civilian buildings and other public institutions?

How many terrorist groups has the United States supported, backed, armed and provided logistical as well as intelligence support in Syria under the pretext of spreading its so-called freedom for the Syrian people.

The truth is under Washington's so-called "war on terror", following the September 11 attacks, global Takfiri terrorism has grown rapidly, creating further international instability.

Malaysia's nearly century-old Mahathir seeks re-election

Mahathir Mohamad, the nearly 100-year-old elder statesman of Malaysian politics, filed his candidacy Saturday in what is likely to be his final race, as campaigning for upcoming general elections began.

Prime Minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob called for elections 10 months ahead of schedule, with the graft-tainted ruling party of jailed ex-leader Najib Razak seeking to cement its political comeback four years after it was dramatically voted out.

A Guinness World Record holder for being the "world's oldest current prime minister" when he became premier for a second time in 2018, the 97-year-old Mahathir will stand again to defend his parliamentary seat in the holiday island of Langkawi in the November 19 vote.

Visibly slowed by age but still looking healthy, Mahathir was greeted by dozens of supporters waving flags of his Homeland Fighters' Party as he arrived at a local government office in Kuah, the island's main town, to register his candidacy.

Mahathir told reporters that he stood a "good chance" of winning and laughed off suggestions he should retire.

"I'm still standing around and talking to you, I think making reasonable answers," he said.

He added his party would not form any alliances with parties that are led by "crooks or jailbirds", an apparent reference to the ruling United Malays National Organisation (UMNO).

'Nuclear wars must not be fought,' China says

China's president has pressed world leaders to stop making threats and prevent the use of nuclear weapons in Europe and Asia as rhetoric over Russia's war in Ukraine continues to heat up.

President Xi Jinping made the plea after meeting German Chancellor Olaf Scholz in Beijing on Friday, the official Chinese state news agency Xin-

hua reported.

"The international community should ... jointly oppose the use or threats to use nuclear weapons, advocate that nuclear weapons must not be used and nuclear wars must not be fought, in order to prevent a nuclear crisis in Eurasia," Xi said.

A statement on Xi's comments did not mention any specific nations related to nuclear threats, however, rhetoric by world leaders discussing atomic arms has heightened in recent weeks. Fears have intensified that Russia's eight-month conflict in Ukraine could turn nuclear.

Moscow would face "severe consequences" if it uses any chemical, biological or nuclear weapons in its war with Ukraine, the Group of Seven (G7) industrialized nations warned on Friday.

US may elect first Muslim senator

The United States may elect its highest-ranking Muslim official next week – a Donald Trump-backed Republican who has questioned the legitimacy of the 2020 elections.

Mehmet Oz, a television personality and retired surgeon of Turkish descent, is running in Pennsylvania against Democratic Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman in a race that could decide the fate of the US Senate for the next two years.

While many Muslim Americans have welcomed Oz's candidacy, his run has failed to generate the excitement previous firsts spurred in Muslim-American communities. Oz is the first Muslim major party nominee for the Senate.

"Policies are more important for us here than anything else. Identity is great and wonderful, but if a candidate doesn't align with our values and principles, it doesn't make sense for us to support somebody like that," said Nagi Latefa, a Palestinian-American resident of Allentown, Pennsylvania, who promotes civic engagement in the community.

Oz, who describes himself as a "secular Muslim", has only discussed his identity when asked.

And unlike Muslim Congresswomen Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar, for example, he has not centred issues that specifically appeal to Muslim Americans in his campaign, including advocacy for Palestinian rights and combatting Islamophobia.

Mid-term elections in US under shadow of unprecedented political violence

From page 1 ► independent, and non-partisan election bodies. Instead, they rely on a crazy patchwork quilt of partisan state officers, well-meaning but amateur volunteers, and outmoded equipment to help administer elections in what has become one of the most polarized democracies in the world. America's electoral exceptionalism almost caught up with it in the disputed 2000 presidential election between Al Gore and George W. Bush, famous for its "hanging chads" and Supreme Court decision that ended vote recounts that could have changed the election's result. That election ended without violence and American electoral legitimacy alive but gravely wounded.

The 2020 election season was an inflection point that led to a step-change in acceptance of violence as a political tool, particularly among Republicans. The post-election to inauguration period is a unique period of the U.S. electoral calendar. January 6 was the highest-profile act of political violence in this period, a confluence of violence and an attack on U.S. democratic system. These worrisome trends in the United States that portend the potential of large-scale post- mid-term election violence in November. The very legitimacy of democratic elections in the United States may disappear.

How does U.S. electoral system lead to the reproduction of political violence?

For democracy to work, political parties must believe in the potential for rotational power; that is, the losing party must feel it has a chance to meaningfully compete in future elections. Trouble begins when parties believe they are facing an impending exile from power, either because of long-term trends or because they believe their opponents will change the rules to permanently rig the system against them. Without the prospect of future victory, there is little incentive to stay within the bounds of



the democratic system—after all, why keep playing a game when you know you'll lose?

For many years, the majority of Republicans and Democrats believed in democracy as a long game. When parties lost electoral contests, there was a sense of "oh well, we'll win the next one." However, from 2016 election have emerged signs that attitude may be shifting, with deeply troubling implications, despite President Trump's Electoral College victory in 2016, his vote margins in key states were razor thin, and he lost the popular vote by millions. Increasingly statements by GOP leaders and the President reflect the belief that demography is not on their side and creating barriers to vote is essential to staying in power. Witness President Trump's comments that shifting to voting-by-mail would lead to political ruin: "you'd never have a Republican elected in this country again." A GOP leader's re-election, however, could cause similar despair among members of the Democratic Party and many Democrats view Republican-backed restrictive election rules as efforts to suppress likely Democratic voters, undermining their political chances.

Although in 2000 political polarization in America was real but had not reached the fever pitch of the past several years. A national poll by the Democracy Fund found that an astounding 21 percent of Americans felt some level of violence would be

justified to achieve political goals if the opposing party wins the presidency. And the poll revealed few differences between members of either party. The loathing, it seems, is mutual.

The most consistent survey data comes from scholars Lilliana Mason and Nathan Kalmoe, who have been tracking public opinion on political violence using identical questions and methods for the last five years. From 2017 when their tracking begins, support for political violence rises across several measures prior to the mid-term elections and declines after the elections. Support for violence from 2017 through the summer of 2020 is generally quite close across parties but somewhat higher for Democrats, though as I'll show later, actual incidents of violence are far higher for Republicans.

Ukraine war ignited political violence in America

Although a century has passed from the bloodiest period of political violence in United States since The Great War which thousands of Americans were imprisoned for things they had written or said. With the blessing of the Justice Department, vigilante groups roamed the streets of major cities, arresting leftists and alleged draft-dodgers. Army troops patrolled the streets with machine guns and, in one case, a tank. Government press-censorship banned more than 400 issues of American

newspapers and magazines from the mail, and they shut down many others entirely. More Black Americans were murdered by white supremacists and mob violence in 1919 than in any year since the end of slavery. We are witnessing the rekindling of the political violence in U.S. There is same commonality between old and new violence and that is "war".

Adam Hochschild discussed what ignited this almost unparalleled storm of repression and violence: the U.S. entry into the World War I in April 1917. That, he argues, took the lid off a number of conflicts that had long been simmering in American life – conflicts between business and labor, racial identities, and nativists and immigrants. Currently, part of the political violence in the U.S. is the result of their participation in the proxy war in Ukraine.

The U.S. was initially cautious during the fall and winter as Russia, a nuclear country with veto power at the UN Security Council, amassed more than a hundred and fifty thousand troops along the Ukrainian border. It didn't want to poke the Russian bear—or provoke Vladimir Putin personally. Two days after long convoys of Russian tanks rolled across the border, on February 24th, the U.S. Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, still claimed that America's goal—backed by hundreds of millions of dollars in military aid—was simply to stand behind the Ukrainian people. The White House sanctioned Russia—initially targeting a few banks, oligarchs, political elites, government-owned enterprises, and Putin's own family—to pressure the Russian leader to put his troops back in their box, without resorting to military intervention. "Direct confrontation between NATO and Russia is World War Three, something we must strive to prevent," President Joe Biden said, in early March.

Yet in just over nine weeks, the conflict has rapidly evolved into a full proxy war

with Russia, with global ramifications. U.S. officials now frame America's role in more ambitious terms that border on aggressive.

The U.S. Congress approved \$13.6 billion in emergency spending in March to help Ukraine in its fight against Russia's invasion. The money includes weapons, military supplies and one of the largest infusions of U.S. foreign aid in the last decade. The war will fuel already high inflation and slow growth in consumer spending. Even before Russia's invasion of Ukraine, commodity prices were surging globally owing to four factors: supply-chain disruptions; adverse weather events; new waves of the coronavirus pandemic; and recovering global demand. The further, war-induced rise in global commodities price comes at a time when U.S. inflation is already at a 40-year high (of 7.9% year on year in February). This will weigh on consumer spending and real GDP growth. As a result, U.S. has lowered our forecast for real GDP growth this year from 3.4% to 3%.

Historically, periods of elevated geopolitical risks have been associated with sizable negative effects on global economic activity. Wars destroy human and physical capital, shift resources to less efficient uses, divert international trade and capital flows, and disrupt global supply chains. Additionally, changing perceptions about the range of outcomes of adverse geopolitical events may further weigh on economic activity by delaying firms' investment and hiring, eroding consumer confidence, and tightening financial conditions. So, we expect divisions to grow as the war drags on, in line with our long-held view that the American society in parallel global geopolitical landscape is becoming increasingly polarized.

Concluding remarks

Today democratic institutions in the U.S. have become sites of contestation

rather than impartial pillars. This makes them more likely to become flashpoints for violence, and none more so than the institutions that administer elections. As of July 14, according to the Brennan Center for Justice, "Eighteen states have already enacted 30 laws this year that will make it harder for Americans to vote." During the 2021 legislative sessions, 49 states introduced "more than 400 bills with provisions that restrict voting access." Some of this legislation "create[s] the serious prospect of an election crisis by giving state legislatures the opportunity to overturn election results they don't like." Restrictive laws also include measures that collectively make it more difficult to vote by mail and in person, including stricter ID and signature requirements for mail-in ballots, stricter in-person voter ID requirements, limits to early voting days and hours, shortened deadlines to request and submit a mail-in ballot, limits on access to mail ballot drop boxes, and more. Additionally, certain states have also enacted measures that undermined voting and elections, including expanded power for partisan "poll watchers," increasing opportunities for harassment and voter intimidation and imposing "criminal penalties on election officials." Critically, these newly enacted measures appear to fall below internationally accepted standards for free and fair elections, which call for voters to be able to participate in elections without coercion or intimidation.

All these factors have caused America mid-term election on November 8 to be combustible. Growing fears of political disenfranchisement; increasing partisan animosity; rising unemployment; coronavirus's disruptions to election administration; partisan distrust of mainstream media coverage; domestic strategies of disinformation; and the likelihood of foreign interference in the electoral process all add fuel to the pyre.

Talabun: Age-old tradition to invite wedding guests



from page 1 ▶ It is common for neighbors and relatives to take flowers from the trays and wish the bride and groom a happy life. This is one way that they announce their willingness to be a part of the wedding.

It is also a common belief that young singles should eat Noql and Nabat in order to fulfill their marriage wishes.

Although the tradition has almost been lost to time, it has been inscribed on the National Intangible Cultural Heritage list.

Kharg Island is a continental island in the Persian Gulf south of Iran. The island is located 25 km off the coast of Iran and 483 km northwest of the Strait of Hormuz.

Administered by the adjacent coastal Bushehr province, Kharg Island provides a seaport for the export of oil.

With over 6,000 years of history and significant monuments from the Elamite, Achaemenid, Parthian, and Sassanid eras, Bushehr is one of Iran's most important historical centers.

Besides its cultural heritage, beautiful beaches and lush palm groves make it an attractive destination for world travelers.

The historical and architectural monuments of Bushehr include Islamic buildings like mosques and praying centers, mansions, old towers, castles, as well as gardens.

When it comes to cultural attractions, there are many historical mounds in Bushehr including Tall-e Khandaq with Sassanid architectural style, Tall-e Marv located near an Achaemenid Palace, and Qajar era Malek al-Tojar Mansion. Qajar-era Kazeruni Mansion, which has been inscribed on the World Heritage List, is another attraction that world travelers love to see among various ancient sites.

Lorestan registers 383,000 overnight stays in H1

TEHRAN— Lorestan province has recorded over 383,000 overnight stays, mainly by domestic travelers, in the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (started on March 21), a provincial official announced.

383,295 overnight stays have been recorded for the first half of the current year at authorized accommodation centers such as hotels, traditional lodging houses, eco-lodge units, apartment hotels, and guest houses, the provincial tourism chief said on Saturday.

Having a favorable climate and considerable tourism capacities in historical, cultural, and natural areas, Lorestan attracts domestic and foreign tourists in all seasons of the year, Ata Hassanpur 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.

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.



Mass vaccinations against COVID-19, back-to-back familiarization visits for foreign tour operators, streamlined travel procedures and new strategies suggest that Iran is determined to see a recovery in tourism, relying more on its many tourist attractions, 26 of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and especially its hospitable people.

Lorestan, which is a region of raw beauty, was inhabited by Iranian Indo-European peoples, including the Medes, c. 1000 BC. Cimmerians and Scythians intermittently ruled the region from about 700 to 625 BC. The Luristan Bronzes, noted for their eclectic array of Assyrian, Babylonian, and Iranian artistic motifs, date from this turbulent period.

Lorestan was incorporated into the growing Achaemenid Empire in about 540 BC and successively was part of the Seleucid, Parthian and Sassanid dynasties.

Ancient monastery, parallel with Iranian ones, found in UAE



TEHRAN - An ancient Christian monastery, similar to ones existing in Iran, has been discovered on an island off the coast of the United Arab Emirates, officials announced.

The newly-unearthed monastery possibly dates back to the years before Islam spread to the Arabian Peninsula, Los Angeles Times reported on Friday.

Archaeologists have found similar churches and monasteries in Iran and some other countries across the Persian Gulf. Historians believe early churches and monasteries spread along the Persian Gulf to the coasts of present-day Oman and all the way to India.

The monastery on Siniyah Island, part of the sand-dune sheikhdom of Umm al-Quwain, sheds new light on the history of early

Christianity along the shores of the Persian Gulf.

The monastery sits on Siniyah Island, which shields the Khor al-Beida marshlands in Umm al-Quwain, an emirate some 30 miles northeast of Dubai along the coast of the Persian Gulf. Carbon dating of samples found in the monastery's foundation dates between 534 and 656.

Iran is home to several ancient monasteries. UNESCO has it that the Armenian monasteries of Iran have borne continuous testimony, since the origins of Christianity and certainly since the 7th century, to Armenian culture in its relations and contact with the Persian and later the Iranian civilizations.

They bear testimony to a very large and refined panorama of architectural and decorative content associated with Armenian culture, in interaction with other regional cultures: Byzantine, Orthodox, Assyrian, Persian, and Muslim.

Those monasteries in Iran have survived some 2,000 years of destruction, both of human origin and as a result of natural disasters. They have been rebuilt several times in a spirit in keeping with Armenian cultural traditions.

Photo contest to spotlight migratory birds in Rey

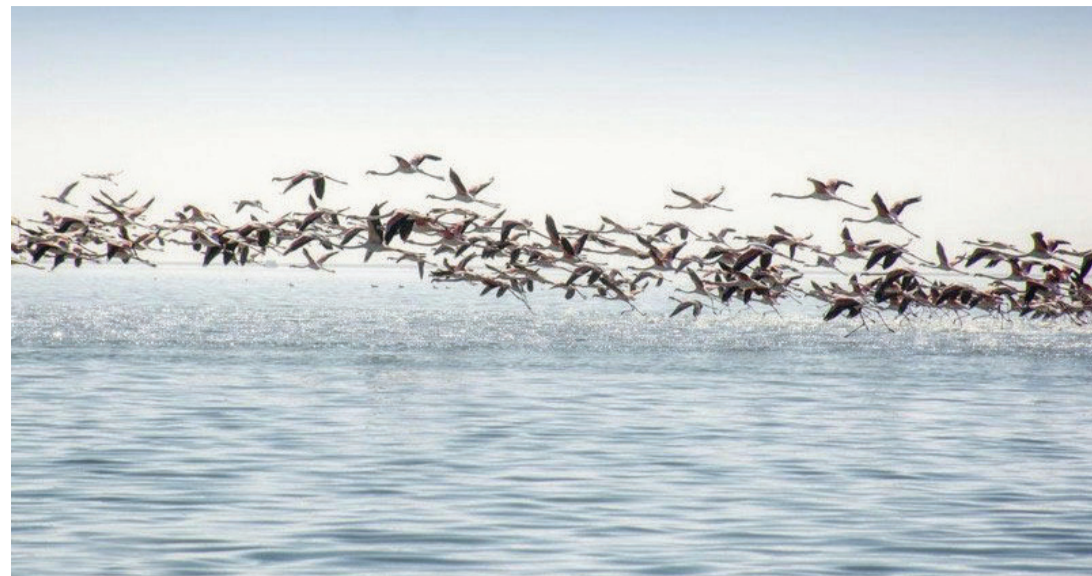
TEHRAN—The tourism directorate of Rey is set to launch a photography contest on the migratory birds taking refuge in a local wetland.

The Eshqabad Wetland receives birds from the northern countries of Iran in the second half of the year, said Rey's tourism chief on Saturday.

Birdwatching is one of the main capacities of the region to attract tourists and travelers during the mentioned time, Noruz Taqipur added.

Birdwatching, the observation of live birds in their natural habitat, is a popular pastime and scientific sport that developed almost entirely in the 20th century.

The south Caspian Sea retreats are amongst the most famed heavens for birdwatchers in Iran, usually being dominated by its northerly guests until about mid-May, when the migration season comes to an end. In a wider scene, the mid-winter population of migratory birds is estimated to exceed a million in the whole southern sandy shorelines of the Caspian Sea that spans some 700km.



Bird migration is the regular seasonal movement, often north and south along a flyway, between breeding and wintering grounds. Many species of birds migrate. Migration carries high costs in predation and mortality, including from hunting by humans, and is driven primarily by the availability of food.

Unsustainable development in Iran has resulted in habitat fragmentation posing a serious threat to migratory birds. Also,

anthropogenic disturbances such as agricultural expansion have resulted in dramatic global habitat loss and fragmentation.

Moreover, poaching, overgrazing, and long-standing drought spells have also impacted habitat destruction, which ultimately results in birds' total extinction.

The most tragic of these was the death of over 30,000 migratory birds in Miankaleh international wetland in late January 2020,

which was announced by the veterinary organization that the birds have been killed due to the "botulinum toxin", but it was finally announced that some fishermen, landowners or hunters may have thrown poison into the water and killed these species.

Dalmatian pelican, Siberian crane, lesser white-fronted goose, and white-headed duck are among the endangered migratory birds which migrate to Iran.

Meeting to discuss agritourism prospects in Lorestan

TEHRAN—A national conference focusing on agritourism is scheduled to be held in Khorramabad, the capital of western Lorestan province on November 10th and 11th, the provincial tourism chief has said.

The event aims at promoting agritourism and introducing the province's capacities in this branch of tourism, Ata Hassanpur explained on Saturday.

Some 150 experts and scholars are planned to attend the conference, the official added.

Lorestan has very good capabilities in agritourism, which, if flourishes will contribute to the development of the tourism industry, he noted.

Agritourism is a relatively new branch of the travel industry in which tourists stay with locals in rural areas. Farm/ranch recreation refers to activities conducted on private agricultural lands, which might include fee-hunting and fishing, overnight stays, educational activities, etc.



Agritourism and nature-tourism enterprises might include outdoor recreation (fishing, hunting, wildlife study, horseback riding), educational experiences (cannery tours, cooking classes, or tea or coffee tasting), entertainment (harvest festivals or barn dances), hospitality services (farm stays, guided tours, or outfitter services), and on-farm direct sales (u-pick operations or roadside stands).

Agritourism 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.

Rural tourism is said to differ from agritourism in some ways. For instance, rural tourism enterprises do not necessarily occur on a farm or ranch, or at an agricultural plant. They do not generate supplemental income for the agricultural enterprise.

To cite an example, we could refer to saffron farms in northeast Iran that are going to fame as a new destination for agritourism. Iranian Saffron is known as the "red gold", saffron is a magical ingredient in Persian culture, from aromatic foods and colorful desserts to physical and spiritual medicine.

Experts believe that agritourism pays special attention to the production sector, saying "For this reason, agricultural tourism is much more important and practical than other branches of tourism because it creates a new chain and diversity in the field of production and services."

Walkway to ancient windmills undergoes restoration

TEHRAN—A walkway to the ancient windmills of Sangan in Khaf county, Khorasan Razavi province, has undergone some rehabilitation works, Khaf's tourism chief has said.

The project involves repairing the substructure as well as flooring, Mahmoud Ba'aqideh explained on Saturday.

The project is being carried out in collaboration with Sangan Municipality and City Council, the official added.

A collection of ancient Iranian windmills (locally called Asbads) has been inscribed on UNESCO's tentative list of World Heritage properties.

Experts believe such primitive yet significant machines bear testimony to the human being's



adaption to nature by transforming environmental obstacles into opportunities. Iranian Asbads enjoy a smart technique to grind grains, a technique that goes back to ancient times when the people living in the eastern parts of Iran invent it in an attempt to adapt themselves to nature and transform environmental obstacles into opportunities.

According to the latest official data, a total of 374 Asbads have been identified so far mostly in the eastern wing of the country, but not all of them in faultless conditions.

The development of Asbads took place due to the scarcity of water resources and continuous 120-day winds, which annually sweep through the east and southeast of the Iranian plateau from late May to late September. Wood, mud, and brick were the main construction materials for the two-story windmills.

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.

According to the UN cultural

body, 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 sugarcane and other purposes.

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.

UNWTO experts explore resilient tourism

TEHRAN - More than 150 experts from the International Network of Sustainable Tourism Observers (INSTO) of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) recently met in Madrid to discuss ways to achieve attain

Key themes included the transition to a circular economy and the reduction of food waste in the sector, with the global network of INSTO Observatories pioneering and implementing catalytic activities aimed at helping the tourism sector to implement sustainable development at the level of the destination to be supported.

To ensure an inclusive and resilient tourism development, they are leading the transformation of tourism by building on the principles of participatory approaches, including all stakeholders, TTG Asia reported on Friday.



Addressing the event, Zurab Pololikashvili, Secretary-General of the UNWTO said: "To ensure the sustainable transformation of the tourism sector, its development must be seen as a means to achieve the overall prosperity of a local community and the surrounding environment rather than a goal in itself."

Pololikashvili added that the Observatories

help guide and accompany this change to "ensure evidence-based decision-making."

At the Global INSTO Meeting, destinations focused on how a timely and evidence-based approach is helping stimulate circular economy processes that result in using resources such as water and energy more efficiently. In addition, challenges in the environmental and social dimensions and the need for indicators that allow for comparability among destinations were highlighted.

Another topic was the availability of data from a growing variety of data sources, making it increasingly difficult to process them into useful information needed for an informed decision- and policy-making process—these issues will be addressed in the INSTO Network through webinars and technical discussions.

Reza A'alizadeh, the innovator of COVIRAN Barkat vaccine in an exclusive interview with the Tehran Times:

COVIRAN, a source of honor for nation

From page 1 ▶ So, we went into the lab and tested multiple samples to find the best virus sample to isolate and purify. In mid-April, we managed to produce a sample of the vaccine candidate and entered the animal phase.

We conducted the pre-clinical trial on laboratory animals such as mice, rabbits, guinea pigs, and monkeys, we realized the effectiveness of the vaccine and decided to industrialize the existing vaccine candidate, he explained.

Then we were looking for a place to mass produce this vaccine, unfortunately, the biggest challenge we faced was the lack of proper infrastructure for the killed vaccine platform in the country.

Therefore, we fell behind in the stage of mass production. Just when we had access to the vaccine candidate, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine candidates were still undergoing animal studies, and we lagged behind other countries due to the lack of industrial infrastructure for vaccine production.

In fact, Iran was the first country to acquire the knowledge of making a vaccine against the global pandemic, because when we made the vaccine sample, China announced that the Sinovac vaccine was under construction using an inactive virus.

At that time, we talked to the Headquarters for Executing the Order of the Imam, and they started to create the infrastructure, and within six months, the infrastructure was built from scratch at Shafa Farmed Company.

The first clinical phase started on December 29, 2020, and after completing the clinical phases, it also obtained an emergency license, which was very effective compared to foreign vaccines, he said.

Vaccine generations

When we were checking the platforms, we were thinking of choosing the closest way to the destination.

And we came to the conclusion that our people prefer a vaccine that has a history of use. That's why



we worked on the killed vaccine.

For example, the polio vaccine is a vaccine that has both killed and live attenuated vaccines and has been used by a large number of people in Iran, and its side effects are less and better known.

But nevertheless, we were so innovative in this method that it was as if the killed vaccine was made in a new way, he stated.

Another generation is recombinant or protein vaccines. These are vaccines that take the gene of a part of the virus and express it in another cell and then formulate and inject it with an adjuvant, including, PastroCovac, Spicogen, Covo Pars, Novavax, and Noora.

Third-generation vaccines are also vaccines that are based on another virus, such as adenoviruses, which one of the vaccination groups in Iran worked on. This vaccine is used for the first time in human history. Johnson & Johnson, AstraZeneca, and Sputnik vaccines are the third generations.

The fourth type of vaccine is based on genes. In this gene model, a part of the virus that has pathogenic properties or an important part of the virus in binding or entering the host's body is formulated in a gene carrier such as RNA or DNA and introduced into the human body. This model is the first time that it has entered public vaccination.

Vaccine production crossroad to scientific progress
Elsewhere in his remarks, he re-

Iran was the first country to acquire the knowledge of making a vaccine against the global pandemic.

ferred to the scientific importance of vaccines, noting that vaccine production is along the road to scientific progress, in the heart of which all sciences progress, from industrial sciences to biological sciences and pharmaceuticals, as well as medical sciences, and humanities.

"We overcame the industrial lag of previous years in one year to make the corona vaccine, which compensated for this lag in health technology and pushed it miles ahead," he added.

It took a month until we were able to offer Barkat Plus from the day the Omicron strain was announced in Iran. This shows that our technical knowledge is up to date and this means progress.

Stating why there was no single vaccine manufacturer in Iran and the manufacturers did not gather to make a vaccine, he said that at that time, 19 groups were working on vaccine production and this was a big event.

Because the more different platforms and methods are tested, the

more infrastructure will be produced and the best methods will become a science. So, it was scientific progress and this is a matter of pride.

Anyway, the country needed to acquire the technical knowledge of various vaccine production platforms, which were updated during the corona outbreak.

Leader gave confidence to our young technologists

The first person who injected this vaccine was me and my colleague because we believe that what we have made should be tested on ourselves first so that if there is a danger, the dear people of the country will not be harmed and dear Iranians trust the national vaccine, he noted.

Pointing to the decision of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamenei to inject the Barkat vaccine, A'alizadeh said that in all his speeches in the field of elites and technologies, the Leader has always praised the support of Iranian elites' products and has stated that "I will not fail to defend the elite society and the scientific movement of the country as long as I breathe."

His work was a very big step in the advancement of the Barkat vaccine and gave confidence to the country's young technologists. It is hoped that other officials of the country will also put this procedure at the top of their agenda, he added.

Articles in prestigious international journals

In October 2021, an article on the pre-clinical and technical knowledge of COVIRAN Barkat was published in the prestigious international Journal of Medical Virology.

An article on the first two clinical trial phases of COVIRAN also was published in "BMJ Open", a leading multidisciplinary medical journal.

However, the study of the third phase of the vaccine is on the path to publication and will soon be in international journals.

Iran inks MOU with Iraq, Venezuela and Serbia on medicinal plants

From page 1 ▶ Serbia, Brunei, Belarus, and Iraq were among the countries interested in meeting their needs by Iranian knowledge-based companies.

After negotiations, Serbia requested to import Iranian products, especially herbal supplements, cosmetics, and medicinal products.

Also, the result of negotiations with Iraq reached a stage where Iranian knowledge-based products in the field of medicinal plants will be exported to the neighboring country.

Brunei also announced its readiness to use Iranian knowledge-based products.

The export revenue of medicinal plants is estimated at \$700 million, the caretaker of the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology, Rouhollah Dehghani, has said.

Stating that out of 2,500 medicinal plants, 1,800 of them are endemic to Iran, he emphasized that Iran with its own strong history of traditional medicine and a rich ecosystem of medicinal plants has a huge opportunity for increasing share in the national and global market.

So far, about 30,000 plant species have been identified in the world, with Iran's share



of about 8,000 species which is more than the whole of species found in Europe.

Some 2,300 species of medicinal plants have been identified in the country, accounting for one-third of the medicines used in human societies, the share of world trade in these products is about \$124 billion and Iran's share is \$570 million, which is only 0.5 percent of the total.

The per capita consumption of medicinal plants in Iran is about one kilogram of dried plants, in other words, 83,000 tons of medicinal plants worth 1.2 trillion rials (around \$4 million) are consumed in the country, while in Europe this amount is 900 grams and in the United States is 2.5 kilograms.

Universities of Tehran, Naples to expand cooperation on natural resources



TEHRAN - The University of Tehran and the University of Naples Federico II signed a memorandum of understanding to expand cooperation in the fields of natural resources.

Mohammad-Ali Ebrahimzadeh and Danilo Ercolini represented the Iranian and the Italian sides respectively, IRNA reported on Saturday.

The MOU underlines the need for boosting scientific cooperation in the fields of natural resources, agriculture, and soil science.

Based on the agreement, which will be valid for five years, the two sides will implement programs to exchange professors and students, present online joint courses, and carry out joint research projects.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, has addressed the important role the university and scientific elite play in increasing Iran's national strength.

Over the past years, Iran has made strides in achieving scientific progress despite the fact that the country has been under severe sanctions that impinged on Iran's scientific interaction with the world.

Moreover, several Iranian prominent scientists were assassinated by the enemies for contributing to Iran's progress, which has become possible largely because of the knowledge generated by young scientists.

This explains why the Leader described talented youth as one of the most precious assets of Iran.

The Iranian deputy science minister Peyman Salehi said in July that despite U.S. sanctions, the international activities of Iranian scientists have increased year by year.

According to the latest edition of the best global universities ranking released by U. S. News, 52 Iranian institutions were ranked among the best institutions worldwide.

In the previous edition of the ranking, 44 institutions from Iran were among the top institutions in the world.

On November 17, 2015, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, announced the general policies on the environment, emphasizing the need for comprehensive, harmonious, and organized management of vital resources based on ecological capability and sustainability, particularly by increasing capacities and appropriate legal and structural capabilities accompanied by public participation.

The policies call for establishing a cohesive and national system on the issue of the environment. Improving environmental conditions with the purpose of helping society enjoy a healthy environment, administering justice and observing intra-generational rights, preventing and prohibiting the circulation of all kinds of unlawful pollutants, recording crimes related to the environment, administering efficient and preventive punishment of polluters and destroyers of the environment and forcing them to compensate for their actions, were also among the policies.

Continuous refinement and control of air, water, soil, and noise pollutants, destructive waves and rays, and unfavorable climatic changes, and making compulsory the observation of environmental standards and criteria in implementing rules and regulations, development plans, and spatial planning, were other issues that the Leader urged officials to do.

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Iranian students win medals at intl. invention competition

TEHRAN - Iranian students grabbed 13 colorful medals at the International Science & Invention Fair (ISIF) 2022.

In this tournament, which was attended by 570 teams from 32 countries, the Iranian team won a total of 13 colorful medals and a special award. The students won 4 gold, 7 silver and 2 bronze medals.

The ISIF gold-medal-winning team consisted of Mehrbod Bani Amerian and Arvin Yaghoobi in the field of technical engineering and electronics, in addition to Pariya Kakhodaie who grabbed a

gold medal in the field of chemistry-nano.

Hasan Kakanejadi and Kousha Rostami won the silver medal in the field of computer science.

Annually organized by the Indonesian Young Scientist Association (IYSA), the competition was held in Bali, Indonesia, from November 1 to 5.

This year, a total of 32 countries and 614 teams participated in various segments of the competition. The result was announced at the prize-giving ceremony held on November 4, at the University of Pendidikan Ganesha.

Iran to attend climate change conference in Egypt

TEHRAN - An Iranian delegation, headed by Department of Environment chief Ali Salajegheh, will attend the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) which will be held in Egypt on November 6 to 18.

The delegation of Iran is scheduled to participate in the ministerial meeting to present a national statement and also conduct bilateral meetings with the ministers of neighboring countries and heads of international organizations on the sidelines of the meeting.

A new report from UN Climate Change shows countries are bending the curve of global greenhouse gas emissions downward but underlines that these efforts remain insufficient to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius by

the end of the century.

A second UN Climate Change report on long-term low-emission development strategies, also released, looked at countries' plans to transition to net-zero emissions by or around mid-century.

The report indicated that these countries' greenhouse gas emissions could be roughly 68% percent lower in 2050 than in 2019, if all the long-term strategies are fully implemented on time.

The report notes, however, that many net-zero targets remain uncertain and postpone into the future critical action that needs to take place now. Ambitious climate action before 2030 is urgently needed to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

COP 27 is the moment where global leaders can



regain momentum on climate change, make the necessary pivot from negotiations to implementation and get moving on the massive transformation that must take place throughout all sectors of society to address the climate emergency.

ENGLISH IN USE

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Iran well rid of 153 swarms of desert locusts

Some 153 swarms of desert locusts from Saudi Arabia which penetrated into the southeastern provinces have been controlled, Esmail Najjar, head of Iran's Crisis Management Organization has said.

Since the [Iranian calendar] month of Bahman (starting on January 21) we fought swarms of desert locust in approximately 532,000 hectares of farming lands, IRNA news agency quoted Najjar as saying on Saturday.

Provinces of Bushehr, Fars, Kohgiluyeh and Boyer Ahmad, Hormozgan, Kerman, Khuzestan, and Sistan-Baluchestan have been affected by the locusts which incurred major losses on farming lands and gardens.

Farm lands in the aforementioned provinces have undergone aerial spraying of chemical insecticides and ground pest control operations, he stated.

۱۵۳ دسته از ملخ های صحرائی نابود شدند

رئیس سازمان مدیریت بحران کشور گفت: ۱۵۳ دسته از ملخ های صحرائی که به استان های جنوب شرقی کشور حمله ور شده بودند، نابود شده است.

اسماعیل نجار روز شنبه در گفت و گو با خبرنگار ایرنا درباره آخرین اقدامات برای مبارزه با ملخ های صحرائی در کشور، گفت: از بهمن ۹۷ تاکنون در ۵۳۱ هزار و ۸۸۸ هکتار مبارزه با ملخ های صحرائی انجام شده است.

تاکنون در استان های خوزستان، بوشهر، فارس، هرمزگان، کرمان، سیستان و بلوچستان، جنوب کرمان، و کهگیلویه و بویراحمد اراضی و باغات مورد هجوم ملخ های صحرائی و خسارات جبران ناپذیری قرار گرفته اند.

این مناطق با استفاده از هواپیما سمپاشی هوایی و از طریق نیروی انسانی سمپاشی زمینی شده است.



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NOVEMBER 6, 2022

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Value of a man depends upon his courage; his veracity depends upon his self-respect and his chastity depends upon his sense of honor.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon: 11:48 Evening: 17:23 Dawn: 5:06 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:32 (tomorrow)

Shahnameh: Haft Khan

Part 1

Haft Khan, the title of two famous episodes in Ferdowsi's Shahnameh, the Haft Khan-e Rostam, and the Haft Khan-e Esfandiar, describing seven exploits that each hero had to undertake before reaching his ultimate goal.

The orthography of the word khan, and the structural parallels between the two episodes, have instigated debates among scholars in the past two centuries.

These theories are of more than purely historical interest for they shed considerable light on the composition and function of both episodes within the framework of the Shahnameh (The Book of Kings) as a whole.

The two standard critical editions of the Shahnameh, by Evgeni Eduardovich Bertel's et al., and Jalal Khaleqi-Motlaq, offer uniformly divergent spellings, khan in the case of the former and khan in the case of the latter.

This systematic disagreement does not reflect the variations in the manuscripts, which can at times contain a mixture of the two, although, as confirmed by the critical apparatus furnished by both editions, the majority of the early manuscripts tend to favor khan, an option also followed by the early Arabic translation by Fath ibn Ali Bondari Esfahani.

The spelling is relevant to the meaning. The orthographic variations khau- and kha- in the manuscripts of the Shahnameh show that khau- and kha- were once distinct initial phonemes.

The phonemes khau- and kha- collapsed into kh-, and this merger is reflected by inconsistencies of spelling in the manuscripts.

The use of the compound haft khan in the Shahnameh reflects a traditional poetic wordplay and double-entendre (iham) associating the heroic themes of fighting and feasting.

The semantic world of heroic ordeals, as reflected by khan, in the sense of a stage or station (i.e., manzel, another term used to mark out the exploits of Esfandiar in most mss.) is poetically linked with the semantic world of heroic feasts, as reflected by the rhyming word khan in the sense of "feast," which is the stylized context for the narration of heroic ordeals.

In the poetics of the Shahnameh, it is the distinctness of the two words Khan and khan that makes possible the thematic interplay between feasting and fighting. This interplay predates the phonemic merger of kha and kh.

Feasting and fighting constitute a major theme associated with heroic figures in the Shahnameh, who are conventionally described as warriors particularly given to two activities, razm 'fighting' and bazm 'feasting.'

The activity of feasting, with its full panoply of ceremonial rituals, is also the context for the telling of stories about the exploits of warriors, their activity of fighting.

And this context is the ultimate occasion for the expression of regal authority on the two levels of performance: that of heroic prowess and of poetic skillfulness.

The same fecund duality can be seen in a synoptic scrutiny of both quests and their internal structure. Here the debates about the origin and function of the episodes can be illuminating.

Thus, Friedrich Spiegel in Eranische Altertumskunde, and later in an article in ZDMG, offers an extensive review of both episodes, and attempts to prove that the exploits of Esfandiar were in fact a carefully constructed calque (on the seven quests of Rostam) by the Zoroastrian clergy, eager to extol Esfandiar as a champion of the faith over the popular hero Rostam.

They thus embellished his exploits to make them appear grander in scale than those of Rostam (summary in Theodor Nöldeke, Das Iranische Nationalepos).

But as Nöldeke points out, though initially swayed by the above argument, his own final conclusions tend to go against Spiegel and favor the co-existence of different traditions for the episode and, if anything, opt for privileging Esfandiar's quest as the model for that of Rostam.

This judgment was mainly based on an examination of other early Persian and Arabic sources, which usually refer only to the Esfandiar quests.

A detailed and in many ways convincing rebuttal of Nöldeke was presented in Kurt Heinrich Hansen's Das Iranische Königsbuch: Aufbau und Gestalt des Schahname von Firdosi, in which the author examined in some detail the interaction between the royal tradition embedded in the Shahnameh and the Sistani heroic cycle with Rostam as the main protagonist, which is also such a vital part of Ferdowsi's Book of Kings, but far less of a feature in the extant early Arabic and Persian prose accounts of the same material (though there are notable exceptions).

But in a closer examination of Ferdowsi's Shahnameh and Abu Mansur Ta'alebi's (the question of the disputed authorship of the Ghorar is not germane to the issue) Ghorar Akhbar Moluk al-Fors, Hansen comes to the conclusion that omission of the Rostam episode did not indicate an ignorance of the Rostam saga.

On the contrary, he argues, it was a deliberate policy decision for thematic reasons. He explains the lack of reference in Ta'alebi, by pointing to his penchant for excising from his account material not directly relevant to his strictly 'royal' chronicle as well as his reluctance (as he points out at the beginning of the Haft Khan episode of Esfandiar, with a direct jibe addressed to the Matter of Sistan; Ta'alebi, Ghorar) to include what he regards as far-fetched and "marvelous."

He further claims (Das Iranische Königsbuch) that the Rostam episode is much more ingeniously put together and that it has all the hallmarks of an ancient, traditional, heroic saga (with his horse Rakhsh taking an active part), and that by contrast Esfandiar's exploits seem to be a later imitation, a lackluster performance in comparison.

A close reading of both episodes may, however, suggest that the differences between the two are as much related to their mimetic function in the overall structure of the epic, as to any possible questions of precedence and imitation.

In other words, it is not a case of either being finer-wrought or less naive than the other: they are both there because of different moral and aesthetic ends, as indicated in this brief synopsis of the episodes.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica
To be continued.

Iran to hold resistance filmfest aboard warship with slogan "annihilation of Israel"

From Page 1 ▶ The director of the Association of the Revolution and Sacred Defense Cinema, Mohammad Hosseini, said, "Instead of organizing the festival in Tehran, we decided to relocate the festival to the resistance frontline in the Persian Gulf; everything has gone well and we will hold it on a warship."

He also added that the association is producing five films that will premiere during the Fajr International Film Festival in February 2023.

One of the films is "Aras", which focuses on two Azerbaijani soldiers at a frontier post who stand fast against the Soviet invaders.

Hosseini also called director Narges Abyar's adaptation of Simin Danesvar's novel "Savushun" an "anti-England project" that is produced at the association.

Abyar is making a TV series and a feature film based on the novel, which follows a Persian family during the Allied occupation of Iran in World War II.

It is set in Shiraz, a town which evokes images of Persepolis and pre-Islamic monuments, the great poets, the shrines, Sufis and



Organizers of the 17th International Resistance Film Festival pose after holding a meeting in Tehran on November 4, 2022 to discuss issues on the event.

nomadic tribes within a historical web of the interests, privilege and influence of foreign powers; corruption, incompetence and arrogance of persons in authority; the paternalistic landowner-peasant relationship; tribalism;

and the fear of famine.

The story is seen through the eyes of Zari, a young wife and mother, who copes with her idealistic and uncompromising husband while struggling with her desire for traditional family life and

her need for individual identity.

The heroic stand taken by the southern family against British colonial intrigues ends in the murder of the husband, with the wife determined to carry on the struggle.

Iranian shorts line up for Baku festival

TEHRAN – Five Iranian movies will be screened in the different sections of the 13th Baku International Short Film Festival.

"Cloudy Man" by Shahin Jalali and "It Builds a Life" by Mehdi Parizad will be shown in the fiction films competition of the festival, which will take place from November 11 to 15 in the Azerbaijani capital.

"Cloudy Man" is about an old key maker who begins to suffer from hand tremors. New reality brings painful consequences - the man finds it impossible to continue his career. The doctor advises him to retire, but the elder fears becoming useless and approaching death.

"It Builds a Life" follows a man who had to build a life, not ruin it.

"Bubble Beetle" by Voria Nikmanesh and Maryam Hashemnejad and "It's a Gray, Gray World" by Mohsen Purmohseni-Shakib will be

contending for the award for best-animated film.

In "Bubble Beetle", a dung beetle lifts a dung bullet from a steep ascent with great effort. It reaches the top of the peak after several unsuccessful attempts but it seems that more difficult challenges have been set in the course of its life.

The story of "It's a Gray, Gray World" is set in a dreary, grey world, where people discover a man's colorful identity. They are furious about his bright colors and call the police.

"Night of the Universe" will be screened in the Asian Talents section, which will present best film and best director awards.

In "Night of the Universe" by Ramin Farzani and Parisa Sedaiazar, it is winter. A man and a woman try to connect the gas to their home. Their little daughter, Rana, wants her parents to give birth to her.



"Cloudy Man" by Shahin Jalali.

A jury comprising Azerbaijani writer Orkhan Fikretoglu, Turkish director Erdem Tepegoz and Serbian producer Miroslav Mogorovic will select winners in the international competition.

Hobsbawm's "The Age of Capital" published in Persian

TEHRAN – "The Age of Capital, 1848-1875" by Eric J. Hobsbawm has been published in Persian by Akhtar.

Ali-Akbar Mahdian is the translator of the book that was first published by Vintage Books in 1975.

In this book, Hobsbawm chronicles the events and trends that led to the triumph of private enterprise and its exponents in the years between 1848 and 1875.

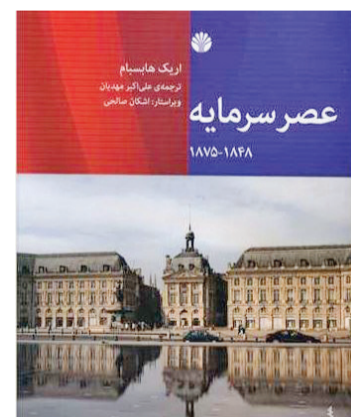
Along with Hobsbawm's other volumes, this book constitutes an intellectual key to the origins

of the world in which we now live.

Although it pulses with great events—failed revolutions, catastrophic wars, and a global depression, "The Age of Capital" is outstanding for its analysis of the trends that created the new order.

With the sweep and sophistication that have made him one of our greatest historians, Hobsbawm identifies this epoch's winners and losers, its institutions, ideologies, science and religion.

The book is the second part of Hobsbawm's trilogy on the



Front cover of the Persian edition of Eric J. Hobsbawm's book "The Age of Capital, 1848-1875."

nineteenth century, which also comprises "The Age of Revolution" and "The Age of Empire".

Hobsbawm, a self-confessed "unrepentant communist", was professor emeritus of the economic and social history of the University of London at Birkbeck.

He wrote many acclaimed historical works, including "The Age of Extremes: The Short 20th Century 1914-1991" and his recent autobiography, "Interesting Times: A Twentieth-Century Life".

"Always a Coach" unveiled

The book "Always a Coach," written by Hasan Majidian, is about the coach martyr, Muhammad Abdi. The unveiling took place at a bookstore in Tehran, in the company of his family, friends, and students.

At the start of the event, Hasan Majidian, the author, revealed that he had always wanted to write about martyrs since he was young, and his enthusiasm grew following Abdi's martyrdom, but he never imagined one day producing a book about him!

"When several of my friends and I began the work in 2011, we decided to go to all people who had seen the martyr, including his family, comrades, and students. During 5-6 years, we met and interviewed over 60 people," he said.

He expressed how much joy he had conducting the interviews since he was so taken with Muhammad Abdi's personality. He also discussed their difficulties during the interview process, stating that they couldn't decide on a writing format at the outset.

"I had the idea to compile the speeches of all the narrators and write them down. The book

is organized into four chapters by myself. His early years, his Basij organization activities, the chapter pertaining to his educational efforts, and the events in the province of Sistan that caused his martyrdom. However, because the chapter on childhood was so brief, we had to remove it, and as a result, the book only had three chapters. I also choose each chapter's name from his own words," the author added.

Hasan Majidian pointed out that he gave the book the name "Always a Coach" right away and provided reasons for it at the book's opening. He asserted that in his opinion, Muhammad Abdi is still coaching, influencing children's behavior, and instructing.

This book, according to Majidian, is helpful for educational coaches and teachers who work with teenagers. Every young person who reads this book and observes Muhammad Abdi's behavior with his parents will learn something.

Hassan Abdi, the brother of martyr Mohammad Abdi, also said in another part of this event that he is 5 years younger than his brother. "Being obedient to his parents was one of Muhammad's characteristics,

and he credited them for many of his successes. This trait was one of the factors that constantly worked in Muhammad's favor," he said.

Hasan Abdi discussed his brother's level of commitment to his work and claimed that if he made the decision to accomplish something, he would do it wholeheartedly. He had a remarkable level of tenacity and initiative, and he was also very patient.

In the end, the journalist, Meysam Rashidi, stated that this book is special in terms of structure, and the author has done a good job of editing this book.

"The shortness of the sentences is a key aspect of this novel. We always urge writing students to write in brief sentences. This novel also has wonderful elements like the text's fluency and the characters' ability to maintain their tone, which makes it stunning," he added.

Furthermore, this journalist mentioned that reading the book "Always a Coach" demonstrates that Hasan Majidian paid attention to every detail, that he was the trustee of the narrators' narrations, and that he shared his experiences with his readers completely honestly.