

Man of the Year

Ibrahim: The Lion of Nablus

Why Ibrahim?

By Mohammad Sarfi
Editor in chief

TEHRAN- Choosing is always a difficult task, especially when it comes to selecting the face of the year. In 1401, there were many candidates for this title, but for various reasons, our choice was Ibrahim Nablusi, a young Palestinian martyr.

The most important reason for this selection goes back to the importance of the Palestinian issue. Although more than 70 years have passed since this deep and painful wound emerged, it is still fresh for the Muslims and every free-minded human being in the world. Only from the beginning of this year until now, about 90 Palestinians have been killed by the Zionist occupation army, a significant number of whom are women and children.

Although Ibrahim was young, he had a significant impact on current developments in Palestine. With his intelligence and creativity in fighting Israeli occupiers, he became an inspiring

figure in occupied territories, especially in the West Bank.

While Israel and its perennial supporter America are doing their utmost to largely downplay the Palestinian issue through various tricks, Ibrahim disrupted their plan with his short but glorious life and heroic martyrdom.

Some people used to think that the "Abraham Accords" would be the end of the bloody conflict in Palestine, but the 2022 World Cup was a clear mirror that proved the inaccuracy of those calculations.

Some treacherous Arab rulers have chosen to normalize relations with the child-killing regime, but the Muslim people of the region have never forgotten Palestine, and the noisy displays of normalization have not diminished their hatred of cancerous Israeli tumor.

Now Israelis are so afraid of Ibrahim that even if a Palestinian teenager or young person has a picture or symbol of this martyr warrior, he or she will be harassed and even arrested. ► Page 4

Shamkhani insists on 'collective regional security' in UAE

TEHRAN - In light of improving relations between Iran and its Persian Gulf neighbors, the secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, Ali Shamkhani, paid a visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Thursday to meet senior Emirati officials.

Shamkhani was leading a team of leading economic, financial, and se-

curity officials to the UAE.

During a meeting with Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the President of the United Arab Emirates, Iran's top security official said that the United States and the Israeli regime are to blame for most of the regional conflicts.

'Collective security'

While highlighting the role of ex-

tra-regional nations in causing regional crises, Shamkhani he did not completely rule out the possibility of "collective regional security" among the region's players.

Efforts to achieve collective security based on local capacities might help to put a stop to many of the issues that are happening right now, he noted. ► Page 2

Iran, China, Russia successfully conduct nighttime shooting operations

TEHRAN - The participating troops from Iran, China, and Russia have successfully completed nighttime shooting operations against aerial targets, the exercise's spokesperson Rear Admiral Mostafa Tajeddini said on Friday.

In the northern Indian Ocean, the Joint Maritime Security Belt Exercise 2023, which includes the participation of surface and aerial forces from the three nations, got underway on Thursday night.

Based on the remarks by Tajeddini, the drill was based on a common tactical language used by Iranian naval forces, including the Iranian Army and IRGC naval forces as well as Chinese and Russian ones. ► Page 2

Iran, Iraq plan to establish 3 joint industrial parks

TEHRAN - Iranian Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Ehsan Khandouzi said the country plans to establish three joint industrial parks on the border with the Iraqi provinces of Maysan, Basra, and Wasi.

As reported by the portal of the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines, and Agriculture (IC-CIMA), Khandouzi, who recently traveled to Iraq to co-chair the two countries' fifth Joint Economic Committee meeting, said the two sides have also reached an agreement to co-manufacture products with high added-value.

"In the recent trip to Iraq, we witnessed the serious will of the two countries to implement the ► Page 6

Assad hails Iran-Saudi deal as 'wonderful surprise'

TEHRAN - Syrian President Bashar Assad has welcomed a Chinese-brokered deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia to restore their diplomatic relations, saying the deal is a "wonderful surprise."

"The announcement of the resumption of relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia with Chinese mediation is a wonderful surprise," President Assad said in an interview with the Arabic service of Russia Today.

He also said that the Syria-Iran relationship is no longer a problem in the region. "The talk that there is a Syrian-Iranian relationship that must be severed is no longer being raised with Syria," he said. ► Page 3

Advanced cancer treatment center inaugurated

TEHRAN - A cancer treatment center, which is said to be the most advanced of its kind in the region, was officially inaugurated by President Ebrahim Raisi on Thursday.

Some 12 trillion rials (about \$25 million) has been spent on building the center which is specialized for diagnosing and treating stage 3 cancers.

Stage 3 cancer is considered advanced. In this stage, the tumor may

have grown to a specific size, cancer may consist of multiple tumors, and/or cancer may have spread to adjacent lymph nodes, organs, or tissue.

In some cases, stage 3 cancers may be considered metastatic cancers, meaning they may have spread beyond their organ of origin.

Many stage 3 cancers have multiple subcategories, usually designated as stages 3A, 3B, and 3C. These subcat-

egories are often determined by the size of the tumors, whether multiple tumors are present, and the degree to which cancer has spread locally.

For the first time in West Asia, some ultra-modern devices such as linear accelerator, CyberKnife, tomotherapy, and CT simulator have been used in this cancer treatment center. ► Page 7

vengeful lion

By Hadis Hosseini

Who are Palestinians? They are heroes who die young and rise to fame quickly. Although sometimes their achievements go unnoticed, they never give up and continue on their path. One of these heroes was Ibrahim al-Nabulsi, who was as brave as a lion and martyred at the age of 18.

Ibrahim al-Nabulsi (1992-9 August 2022) was a Palestinian militant and a senior commander of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades. He served as the commander of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades in the West Bank, earning the nickname "The Lion of Nablus". He survived several Israeli assassination attempts and made high-profile appearances at the funerals of fellow Fatah militants. On August 9th, 2022, he, along with ► Page 5

Palestinian Generation Z

Mohammad Mohsen Fayezi

Generation after generation, Palestine follows a path that seems to be predetermined for it, a destiny of support and betrayal, defeat and victory, politics and opportunities, leaders and legends.

Since 2010, a generation of Palestinians was on their own predetermined path that was interpreted as the "post-Oslo" generation. This meant a generation that had turned 20 years old and had not witnessed the path taken before Oslo or viewed the decisions made by its leaders as an event. Instead, they saw Oslo as a consequence and searched for it in their surroundings. A generation that did not find independence, identity, or its rights from Oslo. The events of 2015 and 2016, ► Page 5

Everything, everywhere, the West Bank

Ali Esmaeil

refers to everything and everywhere being on the West Bank. Israeli military journalist Amir Bokhbot, citing former army officers, has stated that what is happening on the West Bank is actually a war, as every time Israeli soldiers raid Palestinian areas in the West Bank, especially Jenin and Nablus, they become targets of gunfire.

All statistics and signs indicate a new struggle against a new order on the West Bank.

An order that Zionists are pursuing and a new struggle that young people on the West Bank are consolidating. The events of the first week of April 2023 are a good example of the special conditions on the West Bank. ► Page 5

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SPECIAL ISSUE



TEHRAN PAPERS

Shuttle diplomacy in Middle East in last month of the year

In the following column, we take a look at some important contents and views in Thursday Iranian newspapers.

In recent weeks, the region has been witnessed significant developments in the field of diplomacy, Siasat-e-Rooz says.

The resumption of relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia, visit of the Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) Rear Admiral Ali Shamkhani to the United Arab Emirates, Egypt's interest in normalizing relations with Tehran, the trip by Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Ali Bagheri Kani to Oman, the visit of a Kuwaiti delegation to Tehran, joint naval exercises between Iran, Russia, and China, the fifth meeting of the Iran-Iraq Joint Economic Commission, the visits of Hans Grundberg, the UN Secretary General's Special Representative for Yemen, Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko to Tehran coupled with willingness by the Maldives to resume relations with Tehran and the meeting of Mohammad-Reza Raouf-Sheibani, the accredited Iranian ambassador in Libya with the country's foreign minister, and some other diplomatic missions and meetings were among the developments.

These developments show the failure of the Western scenario to isolate Iran from one side and the status of Tehran in regional equations, and also the ability of regional countries to resolve disputes without Western interference.

Also, these developments show the new will of the countries of the region to realize the new world order based on a multilateralism.

Arman-e-Melli: Let's only look at national interests

Some analysts and political experts believe that China is not even afraid of military conflict in the new world order. But we noticed there was no provocative response from China during Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan, Arman-e-Melli wrote.

The reason is clear, China pursues its own interests.

Of course, China seems satisfied with Russia's involvement in Ukraine because Beijing is noticing that America is focused on the issue of controlling Russia, and if the crisis between Ukraine and Russia leads to peace, the United States will use the same scenario for Taiwan and China.

Through the "One Belt one Road" initiative, China intends to reach Iraq, Lebanon, and the Mediterranean through the south coasts of Iran and then reach Africa. Of course, due to the U.S. sanctions, China is considering other paths to reach its goals.

Iran wants "strategic" relations with China, but China wants not more than an economic partner.

China believes that Iran seeks to attract European investment and if Iran's relations with the West improve, China will be forgotten. But Iran must balance its relations with other countries including China and the West to secure its national interests.

Etemad: Middle East and new developments

The United Arab Emirates has been one of Iran's most important economic partners during the past decades.

The UAE's role in regional developments, including the Yemen crisis, makes the talks be-

tween Iranian and UAE officials important and challenging.

If the United Arab Emirates cooperates effectively to resolve the Yemen crisis, this issue can strengthen and help the process of normalizing relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia, Etemad writes in a commentary.

Israel's ties the UAE (after normalizing the relations), the issue of energy, and ways to strengthen cooperation are among the topics that are discussed in the talks.

Concurrent with the announcement that Iran's secretary of the Supreme National Security Council plans to visit the UAE, Saudi Arabia's interest to invest in Iran was a critical decision. Many people expressed doubts about it, but what has happened shows that this cooperation is possible.

Since the official announcement of the agreement between Iran and Saudi Arabia to resume relations and reopen embassies in Tehran and Riyadh, there have been speculation about the nature of this decision by Saudi Arabia. Some consider Saudi Arabia's move as tactical rather than a strategy. But it is difficult to give a definite opinion on this.

Quds: Will resistance groups be left alone Iran with Tehran-Riyadh deal?

About a week has passed since the signing of an agreement in Beijing between Iran and Saudi Arabia to restore relations, and the new dimensions of the agreement can still be examined, Quds wrote.

One of the dimensions of the agreement is resistance groups and how Iran will deal with them.

We all know that Iran is the main supporter of resistance groups in the region. On the other hand, in the last decade, it was Saudi Arabia that has always been in conflict with these groups, and it was also Saudi Arabia that was attacked by groups close to Iran on its oil facilities. Now the question is raised whether the Islamic Republic will abandon the resistance groups?

In general, Iran's foreign policy in supporting different groups is set according to three main principles: 1- The policy of these groups towards global imperialism. 2- The degree of popularity of these groups. 3- The relationship of these groups with Islamic religion and ideology.

Based on these three indicators, Iran has developed a model for supporting active groups. In this sense, at first, Tehran communicates with the anti-imperialist groups and in the second step it leads them to be in contact with their people and the society in order to reach social and political maturity.

The agreement between Iran and Saudi Arabia will not affect Iran's support for these groups. Basically, these groups no longer need Iran's permanent support and have reached full maturity.

However, concerns remain about some smaller groups. Regarding these groups, it seems that Iran will not stop supporting them, although it will try to improve the relationship between these groups and the governments and make both sides aware of the Zionist regime's enmity.

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Berlin on Thursday, Scholz repeated claims by the Western nations that Iran was attempting to acquire nuclear weapons and said that Tehran shouldn't be permitted to possess nuclear weapons.

He also claimed that Iran was a "serious threat" and that Germany prioritizes dialogue for resolving the conflict.

"Independent countries and the world's public opinion are fed up with such double standards and behaviors and are gradually becoming more confident in their conclusion about how far the claims and allegations of some Western governments against the Islamic Republic of Iran are hypocritical and invalid," the spokesman noted.

Shamkhani insists on 'collective regional security' in UAE

from page 1 ► The establishment of a more powerful region is an attainable goal, the Iranian official said, adding that everyone must take the necessary measures in that direction.

On the bilateral relationship, Shamkhani emphasized the need to strengthen and expand ties between the two nations in all spheres given their long history of diplomatic ties as well as their shared religious and cultural heritage.

As their bilateral cooperation grows, Iran and the UAE may strengthen their neighborly diplomacy, according to Shamkhani.

'Determining step'

President Bin Zayed, for his part, expressed pleasure over Shamkhani's visit to the UAE and complimented Iran on its detente with Riyadh, which he hailed as a "determining step" towards improving synergy and convergence among regional nations.

He highlighted that "the Emirates is very much interested in and ready for resolution of some instances of misunderstanding between the countries towards enhancement of the bilateral relations to their highest level."

Iran, China, Russia successfully conduct nighttime shooting operations

from page 1 ► He emphasized the need for co-operation and specific directions during midnight firing operations against airborne targets.

Rear Admiral Shahram Irani, the commander of the Iranian Navy, said that the joint exercise is primarily based on maritime security, highlighting the importance that Iranian naval forces place on the safety in international navigation.

He also said that the focus of the first day of the naval security was concentrated on coordination, cooperation, and rescue of vessels that "have fallen prey to pirate attacks and how to counter acts of terror."

The Iranian Navy chief continued by stating that

one of the main goals of the naval exercise was to combat maritime terrorism.

The admiral added, "Right now, the unjustified presence of some foreign military troops continues to pose threats to the region. The issue needed to be handled and addressed. As a result, all military assets, including boats and planes, were used, and all planned drills were effectively carried out."

The joint exercise aims to increase multilateral cooperation between the three nations, strengthen regional security and its foundations, and show each country's willingness and capacity to support international peace, maritime security,



"Animosity should be replaced with cooperation"

During a meeting with his Emirati counterpart Sheikh Tahnoun bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Shamkhani called for goodwill to resolve "family differences" and emphasized that in order to address the current challenges, which do not advantage any regional party, cooperation must take the place of hostilities.

The top Iranian security official reaffirmed Tehran's unwavering foreign policy stance, which favors collective, enduring, and productive cooperation with neighbors,

saying that cooperation and convergence must replace hostility and divergence in order to find a solution to the region's troubles.

Shamkhani highlighted the need to resolve family conflicts via conversation, goodwill, and compromise so that all nations might work together to build a strong and prosperous region.

He compared regional governments to members of a large family who share a common fate.

He forewarned that rivalries and distrust among the nations of the Persian Gulf are a significant barrier to the region's eco-



and the development of a maritime community with a shared future.

It is the fourth time that Iran, China, and Russia are holding joint drills.

Iran asks the West to press Ukraine to verify drone supply charges

TEHRAN- The Iranian foreign minister on Thursday asked the West to press Kiev to hold "formal dialogue" rather than continuing to level "unsubstantiated charges" that Tehran is providing drones to Russia in its war against Ukraine.

"We have previously addressed the core cause of the present crisis in Ukraine as well as Iran's opposition to war," Hossein Amir Abdollahian told Josep Borrell, the head of the EU foreign policy, over the phone.

Iran has been charged with supplying Russia with military drones for use in the conflict with Ukraine by Western nations.

The accusations have been unequivocally denied by Tehran.

"Instead of making baseless accusations against Iran over and over again, the West should encourage Ukraine to present substantiated proof at an official meeting of the political and military delegations of the two countries,



replace baseless and repeated accusations with formal negotiations and get the point that Iran has always supported peace, not war," Iran's top diplomat insisted.

The minister also stated that Iran is prepared to assist in bringing about peace during his scheduled trip to Moscow later this month.

Last year, representatives from Iran and Ukraine held technical talks about the accusations. But the Ukrainian side was unable to offer any proof that Moscow had used Iranian drones in the conflict.

Iran has admitted that it had transferred several drones to Rus-

sia, although the shipment was made before the conflict started in February 2022.

Notwithstanding rumors of the suspected deployment of Iranian drones in the conflict, Borrell said he is appreciative of Iran's attempts to promote peace in the region.

They also discussed the most recent state of Iran's cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Amir Abdollahian emphasized that the negotiations are "on the right track," around two weeks after IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi's visit to Tehran, which re-

sonic progress and a target for foes from outside the region.

"It is necessary to prevent the aliens from playing an unconstructive role and try to enhance the security, calm and welfare for the people of the region through dialogue, interaction, and the promotion of political, security, economic and cultural cooperation," Shamkhani suggested.

Al Nahyan, for his part, emphasized the value of collaboration and goodwill with Iran as a significant and strong nation in the region.

Shamkhani calls for goodwill to resolve "family differences".

The UAE official congratulated Iran for striking an agreement with Saudi Arabia to resume diplomatic ties and said the appeasement will help advance peace, stability, and long-term security throughout the region.

He said one of the UAE's key aims is to strengthen the cordial and fraternal relationships between Abu Dhabi and Iran.

Iran blasts Berlin 'hypocrisy' about Israeli nuclear weapons

TEHRAN - Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Nasser Kanaani on Friday branded as "hypocritical" Germany's approach toward Iran's peaceful nuclear program while remaining mute on Israel's nuclear arsenals which are a "danger to the region and the globe."

"It is strange that German officials introduce Iran's peaceful nuclear program, which is under the strictest supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency, as a threat but say no word about the extensive nuclear arsenal of the fake, occupier, and the anti-human Zionist regime which threatens the region and the world," he continued.

In a joint press conference with Israeli Prime



TEHRAN- An individuals charged with assisting the key terrorists in the Shah Cheragh terrorist assault in October, which the Daesh Takfiri group claimed responsibility for, has admitted to taking part in the heinous act and membership to the group.

He made remarks on Wednesday during the most recent session of the court hearing in Shiraz.

An armed terrorist entered Shiraz's famed

holy shrine on October 26, 2022, shooting 15 pilgrims—including women and children—and wounded many more before being apprehended by security personnel.

After suffering injuries in the attack that shocked the nation, the terrorist was eventually declared dead at hospital.

Two weeks after the incident, the Intelligence Ministry reported the arrest of 26 Takfiri terrorists for participating in the attack. A few individuals were promptly apprehended.

According to the statement, the men were all citizens of Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and the Republic of Azerbaijan; none of them were Iranians.

The third suspect, an Afghan man named Naeim Hashem Qetali, confessed to have joined the terrorist Daesh group while still living in Afghanistan.

He arrived in Iran in quest of job but was subsequently invited to receive a visitor by Abdullah Saeed, one of the top Daesh figures

in Afghanistan.

He admitted planning to assist the main attacker in Tehran and accepted a guilty plea to actively facilitating the attacker and providing financial assistance to other group members.

Yet, he purportedly said that he was unaware of the specifics of the terrorist attack.

The court has charged him with inciting "corruption on earth" by contributing financially to and supporting Daesh members sneaking into Iran.

Iranian officials have promised to punish all those responsible for the vile crime, and the court hearings are expected to continue in the upcoming weeks.

Daesh has been looking for a chance to make up for the losses it has suffered lately after taking significant hits from Iranian forces in Syria and Iraq.

This chance was given to the group by the recent violent riots in Iran that were sponsored by the West.

Assad hails Iran-Saudi deal as ‘wonderful surprise’

From Page 1 ▶ Assad added, “There is a four-decade-old loyalty between Syria and Iran. This issue is no longer a problem in the Arab arena.”

He continued, “The Saudi-Iranian agreement must reflect positively on the region in general, and it will undoubtedly affect Syria. how? It’s hard to tell now.”

Assad said that Syria is open to bilateral cooperation with Arab countries, and that it does not see returning to the Arab League as an end in itself or more important than bilateral relations.

Assad made it clear that his country is no longer an arena for the Saudi-Iranian conflict, as was the case during some stages, and that Riyadh took a different direction in its relationship with Damascus years ago.

Responding to a question about bilateral relations with Arab countries and the possibility of his meeting with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Assad said, “This is another issue.”

He pointed out that Damascus does not see that bilateral cooperation is less important than returning to the Arab League. Assad also noted that returning to the League is not an end



in itself if Syria is not a place of consensus and not a place of division, stressing that the goal is joint Arab action.

He said the resumption of relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia is a positive development.

The Chinese-brokered deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia was announced on March 10. They issued a joint trilateral statement saying that Tehran and Riyadh will reopen embassies within two months.

According to the joint statement put out by Iran, Saudi

Arabia, and China, “The three countries announce that an agreement has been reached between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Republic of Iran, that includes an agreement to resume diplomatic relations between them and re-open their embassies and missions within a period not exceeding two months, and the agreement includes their affirmation of the respect for the sovereignty of states and the non-interference in internal affairs of states.”

The statement added, “They

also agreed that the ministers of foreign affairs of both countries shall meet to implement this, arrange for the return of their ambassadors, and discuss means of enhancing bilateral relations.”

Ali Shamkhani, the secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council, travelled Thursday to the United Arab Emirates in line with Iran’s new diplomatic push.

In Abu Dhabi, Shamkhani met UAE National Security Advisor Sheikh Tahnoun bin Zayed, and UAE President Sheikh Mohammad bin Zayed.

Iran FM dismisses disagreement in foreign policy apparatus

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian has reacted to rumors of disagreement among Iranian institutions in charge of the country’s foreign policy, rejecting any kind of disagreement in this regard.

Amir Abdollahian implied that the visits by Ali Shamkhani, the secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council, to the United Arab Emirates and Iraq were done in full coordination with the Iranian foreign ministry.

“The trips by Admiral Shamkhani to the UAE and Iraq are being done within the existing security framework. They are not a new phenomenon. A representative from the foreign ministry is accompanying him during the visits,” the Iranian foreign minister said on Twitter.

He added, “There is coordination in foreign policy. Everything is within the framework of the establishment and is under the supervision of the president. Enemies should know that there is no disagreement.”

Shamkhani paid a visit to the UAE on Thursday and met with several Emirati leaders, including President Mohammad bin Zayed, UAE National Security Advisor Tahnoun bin Zayed,



and Ruler of Dubai Mohammad bin Rashed.

Shamkhani and Mohammad bin Zayed reviewed the latest regional and international developments, according to Iran’s official news agency IRNA.

The top Iranian security official referred to the enhanced politico-economic relations between Iran and the UAE, and said that the two countries can take major steps in expansion of mutual cooperation and boosting the neighborhood diplomacy.

Shamkhani also said that the problems in the Persian Gulf region are mainly due to the interference of trans-regional countries, the United States and the Zionist regime in particular, urging the need for collective efforts

of regional countries to ensure the security of the region.

The UAE president, for his part, appreciated a recent historic agreement for restoring relations between Tehran and Riyadh which he said was a decisive step to further help bring convergence among regional countries.

He expressed hope that the visit to Abu Dhabi by Iran’s top security official will turn a new page in the relations between Iran and the UAE.

The UAE president voiced his country’s readiness to solve the misunderstandings so as to promote bilateral relations with Iran to the highest level.

In his meeting with the UAE national security advisor, Shamkhani said the existence of differences and mistrust among the countries of the strategic ? Persian Gulf region is a main obstacle to economic growth of this part of the world.

He stressed the need for further dialogue among regional countries in different political, security, economic and cultural areas to bring about security and welfare to the people of the region.

Iraqi PM meets family members of Iranian martyrs

TEHRAN – Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammad Shia al-Sudani received a delegation of families of the Iranian martyrs who died in the war against the terrorist ISIS group.

The Iranian delegation traveled to Iraq at the invitation of the Iraqi Martyrs Foundation.

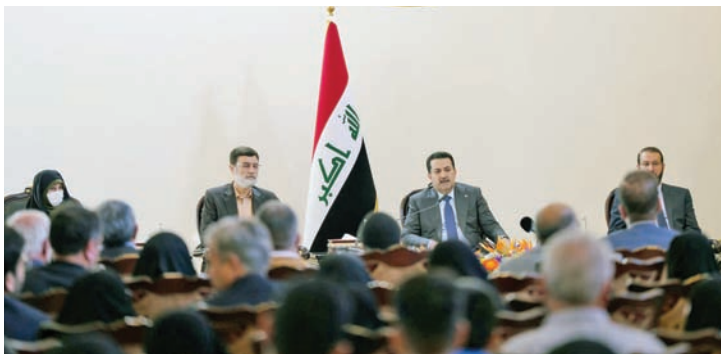
In his meeting with the family members of the Iranian martyrs, the Iraqi prime minister “expressed the appreciation of the Iraqi government and Iraqi people for the courage and sacrifice made by the martyrs in the war on terrorism. In that battle, the Iraqi and Iranian martyrs bled together in their honorable stand against the evil and barbarism of ISIS,” according to a statement by the office of the

Iraqi prime minister.

According to the statement, al-Sudani highlighted the social, religious, and historical ties that unite the two friendly peoples, pointing out that the Islamic Republic of Iran had previously stood and still stands by Iraq in its war on terrorism, indicating that the honorable stand of those free martyrs is respected and appreciated by all Iraqis and all the forces of good in the world.

He also expressed the need to highlight the martyrs’ stories of martyrdom that must be present in the collective memory of future generations.

“The delegation of families of the Iranian martyrs handed to the Prime Minister the banner



of the shrine of Imam Ali al-Rida (peace be upon him); in appreciation of His Excellency’s leadership,” the statement said.

The Iraqi prime minister honored the families of the martyrs to demonstrate respect and gratitude for their sacrifices.

The delegation included the

vice President of Iran and the Head of the Foundation of Martyrs and Veterans Affairs, Amir Hossein Ghazizadeh Hashemi, and the Iranian Ambassador to Iraq, Mohammad Kazem Al-Sadeq. From the Iraqi side, the head of the Martyrs’ Foundation, Abdul-Ilah Al-Naili, and several officials attended the meeting.

Friendly: Iran football team to play Kenya

TEHRAN – Iran will play Kenya in a friendly match on March 28 in Tehran.

Team Melli has been also scheduled to meet Russia on March 23 at the Azadi Stadium in Tehran.

Amir Ghalenoei, who was appointed as Iran football team head coach on Sunday, will lead Team Melli in two friendly matches.

Iran’s training camp for the warm-up matches will start on March 19.

Iran will also participate at the 2023 CAFA Championship in June as part of preparation for the 2023 AFC Asian Cup.

Iran start 2023 AFC Beach Soccer Asian Cup on high

TEHRAN – Iran defeated Malaysia 14-5 in their opening AFC Beach Soccer Asian Cup™ Thailand 2023 Group B match on Thursday.

It was an impressive performance by the two-time champions as they signaled their intent to challenge for the Thailand 2023 title.

The action came thick and fast at the Jomtein Beach Arena with Iran dominating the early possession, with Moslem Mesigar scoring from a free-kick in the first minute.

Malaysia responded through Mohamad Norazman’s effort a minute later but Iran went ahead again in the third minute with Amir Hosein Akbari scoring with an overhead kick.

Iran continued to press and scored two quick goals through Ali Mirshekari off a free-kick and Abbas Rezaei’s effort from distance.

Malaysia fought back with Mohd Faisal Saharudin scoring in the sixth minute when he raced down the right flank before slotting home from a tight angle, the-afc.com reported.

Iran, however, responded with goals through Reza Amir Zadeh’s grounded effort and Moslem Mesigar’s close range header to give the Central Asian side a 6-2 lead going into the break.

Mahdi Shirmohammadi widened the advantage with a wonderful strike in the 13th minute, while Movahed Mohammadpour made it 8-2 a minute later with a long range free-kick.

Rezaei scored Iran’s ninth in the 16th minute but an undaunted Malaysia came fighting back to score twice in quick succession courtesy of Mohd Hasrol Ali (18th) and Muhammad Qushairie Asaari (20th).

Iran, however, continued to press with Mirshekari scoring in the 23rd minute with Mohammadali Mokhtari ??(28th) and Mahdi Shirmohammadi (30th) then adding to their haul.

Mohd Ridhwan Zainal narrowed the deficit in the 34th minute but Iran had the final say with Movahed Mohammadpour and Javad Khosravi scoring to cap a phenomenal win.

Paco Jemez pens four-year Tractor extension

TEHRAN – Spanish coach Paco Jemez signed a four-year contract extension with Tractor football team.

Jemez, 53, was appointed as Tractor coach in December 2022 and fulfilled the expectations in the Iranian top-flight club.

Tractor sit sixth in the table at the moment, while the team was in serious danger of relegation.

The Spanish coach had been also linked with Iran national football team.

Iran runners-up at 2023 CAFA U17 Women’s Championship

TEHRAN – Iran football team finished in second place in the 2023 CAFA U17 Women’s Championship.

Iran lost to Uzbekistan 4-1 in the first match but defeated Tajikistan 7-0 and Kyrgyzstan 2-0 in the following matches.

Defending champions Uzbekistan, who had won the inaugural tournament in 2021, won the title for the second time.

The tournament was held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan from March 12 to 16.

Turkmenistan down Iran at 2023 IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Asia

TEHRAN – Turkmenistan defeated Iran 14-1 in the 2023 IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Asia and Oceania Championship in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on Friday.

Iran started the campaign with a 5-0 loss against hosts Mongolia but lost to Uzbekistan 14-1, Thailand 8-0 and the UAE 7-2 in their following matches.

The IIHF Asia and Oceania Championship is a series of international ice hockey tournaments in the continent of Asia.

The purpose of the tournament is to provide competitive opportunities for Asian and Oceania teams that are either in the lower divisions of the IIHF World Championships or did not compete in any IIHF World Championships.

The first edition was held in Hong Kong from 24 to 26 April 2008, with the second edition held a year later in the United Arab Emirates. The third edition took place from 29 March to 4 April 2010 in the Republic of China.

Iran fail to reach IHF Men’s Beach Handball World Championships

TEHRAN – Iran lost to Oman 2-0 (23-11, 22-20) in the 9th Asian Men’s Beach Handball Championship on Friday.

Iran defeated Saudi Arabia 2-1 and South Korea 2-1 in Group A, but lost to Qatar 2-0 and Oman 2-0.

Iran will play Vietnam in the third place match while Qatar meet Oman in the final.

The 9th Asian Men’s & Women’s Beach Handball Championship started on Friday (March 10) in Bali, Indonesia and will run until March 19.

The winners will qualify for the beach handball competition of the 2nd ANOC World Beach Games, which will be held in Bali, Indonesia, from Aug. 5 to 12, 2023.

The top two teams (Qatar and Oman) advanced to the 11th IHF Men’s Beach Handball World Championships, to be held in June/July 2024.

Iran’s Sarkhosh crowned at Asian Snooker Championships

TEHRAN – Iran’s Amir Sarakhosh won the title of the Asian Snooker Championship for men.

He defeated his Malaysian rival, Thorchuan Leong, with a score of 5-1 in the final match.

The competition brought snooker players from 25 Asian countries together in Doha, Qatar for six days.

Sarkhosh defeated rivals from Syria, Jordan, and the UAE in his group, and then beat other rivals from Afghanistan, Hong Kong and India in the Round of 16, quarterfinals and semifinals, respectively.

Infantino re-elected unopposed as FIFA president

TEHRAN – Gianni Infantino has been re-elected as president of FIFA for four more years, after running unopposed at the congress of world football’s ruling body.

The 52-year-old Swiss-Italian lawyer was confirmed in office by acclamation at the gathering in Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, on Thursday.

It is officially his first re-election since he initially took over the remaining term of his suspended predecessor, Joseph Blatter, in 2016.

This means he can seek another term in 2027 until 2031, according to FIFA statutes.

Raisi underlines need to revive Iranian-Islamic identity

TEHRAN – Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi met with members of the Board of Trustees of the Iranology Foundation and urged them to revive the concept of Iranian-Islamic national identity.

In the meeting, Raisi stressed the necessity of providing a comprehensive definition of the concept of “Iran” with its political, cultural and civilizational geography, reviving the Iranian-Islamic national identity using cultural and media tools, according to a readout by the official website of the Iranian presidency.

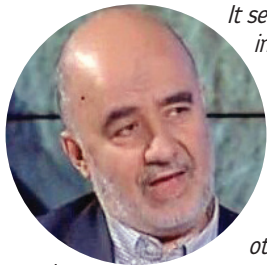
He considered the content analysis of textbooks related to the knowledge of Iran, the original and proud identity of our country and introducing it to students and future generations as one of the missions of the Iranology Foundation, and emphasized the support of the government and the officials of the country, especially the provincial officials, for the efforts of the Iranology Foundation.

In this meeting, the issue of establishing and forming the centrality of the Iranian-Islamic national identity was discussed and

opinions were exchanged, and it was decided that the relevant institutions should expand their activities in this field with the focus and follow-up of the Iranology Foundation.

Also, while approving the design and establishment of the comprehensive exhibition and museum of Iran’s civilizational periods, it was decided to hold annual festivals in anticipation of the awarding of the Year of Iranology Award at the national and international levels.

The language of resistance is the only way to address the enemy



It seems that the situation in Israel has never been as dangerous as it is today; on the one hand, the internal turmoil that has severely shaken this regime, and on the other hand, the growth expansion of resistance from Gaza to the West Bank, as well as the increasing power and influence of the resistance axis around the Zionist regime.

Are these preludes to disintegration? In this regard, "Warda Saad" conducted a journalistic interview with Professor "Ali Haider," an expert in Israeli affairs, and the text of the interview came as follows:

What is the role of resistance in this situation? And did balances imposed by resistance forces and sacrifices made by Palestinian people contribute to escalating this crisis?

The main factor in producing the internal crisis that the enemy entity is experiencing is due to internal dynamics without conflicting with external factors, as is the case with any society. The existence of resistance is also a major factor in exacerbating the overall crisis of the entity, as internal conflict is dangerous due to its repercussions, as it occurs under increasing external threats from within Palestinian territories and throughout all areas of the resistance axis. Against this background, voices within the entity have risen warning of the consequences of this crisis on Israel's image in the minds of its enemies (the spider's house) and the resulting implications for Israeli national security from a perspective of erosion of national immunity based on social solidarity. In light of Iran's escalating threat as a determined regional power, US support wavers and Israel's internal unity erodes, and in such circumstances Israel will pay a heavy price in facing external threats. It is impossible to separate the direction, pace and crystallization of internal dynamics from its regional environment and from the defeats that this entity has suffered in the past two decades specifically. And it is certain that if the enemy entity continued its victories that occurred during the first three decades, many of its dynamics would have moved in other directions.

In any case, the future direction for the enemy entity is determined by the interaction between its internal and external paths. According to Brigadier General Yaakov Bengo, head of the planning department in the enemy army, Israel is experiencing a deep

erosion in its three privileges (international, regional, and domestic). He adds that with the escalating threat from Iran as a determined regional power, American support is wavering and the internal unity of Israeli society is eroding. In such circumstances, Israel will pay a high price in confronting external threats.

What is your evaluation of the reactions we have seen to the terrorist measures taken by the occupation government and its ministers' racist statements against the Palestinian people, their properties and homes? Do you think they rise to the level of challenge both regionally and internationally?

The more resistance improves its capabilities and performance, the more it imposes itself on the region and world. The more it becomes capable of extracting many positions that serve the Palestinian cause. The truth that should not be absent from our minds is that all global institutions and leaderships' positions do not alleviate injustice or heal wounds unless they are translated into tangible steps to curb Zionist aggression against the Palestinian people. It is not expected - essentially - to achieve this under embracing and arrogant support for this entity. In parallel, it is required to continue exposing Zionist crimes at an international level as part of a broader plan rather than an alternative to resistance.

On the other hand, it is clear that many regional and international positions differ in their approaches and goals, including the fear of the widening of confrontations and their impact on their interests in the region. Some may have felt embarrassed and wanted to record positions that try to cover up the reality of their policies that conspire against the Palestinian people. In any case, the more resistance rises in its capabilities and performance, the more it imposes itself on the region and the world, and the more it becomes capable of obtaining many positions that serve the Palestinian cause.

The New York Times referred in an article to the growing popularity of Al-Areen Al-Aswad (Black Den) and other new formations of resistance in the occupied West Bank. What is your evaluation of this phenomenon, which invents different methods to resist Zionist occupation? Do you see it as a real revolutionary alternative to illusory peace projects?

The emergence of many resistance groups with diverse names distributed in several Palestinian areas is an expression of the will of the Palestinian people to confront occupation. It is an extension of a path of creativity and determination that has been shown by Palestinians throughout their history of resistance.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Um Eyad, mother of Ibrahim Nabulsi

Ibrahim: The Lion of Nablus

An 18-year-old martyr whose death still scares Israel

By Ali Karbalaei

TEHRAN- Ibrahim Nablusi is the symbol of a new armed resistance led by the youth of the occupied West Bank.

Born after the second intifada in 2001, his life in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus only saw the brutality and massacres that comes with the Israeli forces and its settlers.

This led him to take up arms and join the Palestinian struggle against Israel by playing a role in organizing the retaliatory operations against the Israeli occupation.

At such a young age, he was one of Israel's most wanted people and survived several assassination attempts, making him a popular figure among the residents in his home town of Nablus, in particular the youth, who describe him as a humble yet fearless and brave person, not seeking fame and popularity.

But those were the features that has made him so popular before his death on August 9, 2022 and after his death.

His fearlessness and martyrdom earned him the nickname the Lion of Nablus as well as the newly formed Lions' Den resistance movement in the occupied West Bank.

"Ibrahim was hunting them, not the other way around. Whenever he heard about an Israeli army raid, he was the first to go out and confront them. This was his fate. We praise God," Nabulsi's father said.

At one point Israel thought it had killed him, after shooting dead three Palestinians.

The following day, he was seen at their funeral procession.

The manner of his martyrdom is unique in that he refused to surrender to Israeli special forces and this has inspired other young Palestinians to do the same.

Sa'd Nimr, a professor of political science at Birzeit University in Ramallah, told Tehran Times, "There were so many attempts to assassinate him and he escaped".

The 18-year-old was under so much Israeli surveillance in an attempt to capture him until the regime's intelligence located a house where he had spent the night and dispatched special forces before dawn to that location.

Nimr says "they surrounded the house in the morning and ordered



Nablusi to hand himself over, but he refused".

"Israeli troops opened fire and Nabulsi along with two other teenagers chose to resist, fight back and shoot at the Israeli forces. Clashes broke out. At the end of the day, the Israeli troops could not do anything but to fire rockets at the house and destroyed it totally to kill all the three inside" Nimr stated.

But why did his martyrdom become so important and still scares the Israelis?

Nimr explains that before his death, Nabulsi sent a phone message saying "we are going to be martyred and I hope all the Palestinians will follow us in our way of resisting and I am urging all the Palestinians not to drop your weapons and continue the resistance".

After his message, Israeli missiles (a barrage of rocket propelled grenades - RPGs) killed him but Nimr says Nabulsi's voice went viral on social media and in every house in the occupied West Bank and beyond, all the Palestinians heard it.

That message has "inspired many Palestinians to do the same, follow his lead and it lifted the morale of the Palestinian resistance. Contrary to Israeli calculations who wanted to send a message to the Palestinians

that anyone who resists us will be killed, it had the opposite effect." Nimr pointed out.

"The Israelis failed to weaken the morale of the Palestinians; on the contrary, I think his martyrdom became the inspiration for the Palestinians whose morale became stronger and stronger and now more Palestinians want to follow his lead and join the armed resistance."

Nimr points out how his martyrdom led to the expansion of the Lion's Den and other resistance factions, not just in the flashpoint areas of Jenin and Nablus.

"Now there is resistance in the Balata refugee camp, Tulkaram, Aria (Jericho). The phenomena of the young Palestinians who are resisting - non-officially - by the Palestinian Authority but on their own merit is now expanding to many cities in the West Bank, which had made the Israelis really crazy about this," he noted.

"This is why Nabulsi's martyrdom was so significant and so important. It created all these other resistance groups to the point that the Israelis cannot enter any city in the West Bank without facing resistance; it's not easy for them like it was before, they have to calculate every minute when they arrive at any city that

there will be resistance and shooting. It's not an easy task like they used to have," Nimr explained.

He also said the younger generation see no hope for their future under occupation.

"They see atrocities every day, they don't know if they are going to be killed on the streets or at a military checkpoint. They are being ruled by a fascist, colonial, racist, apartheid regime that is based on hatred and violence."

No negotiations with Israel will work. On the contrary the settlements are expanding, settlers are now armed, if this is left for a few years there will be no space for the Palestinians. Reports indicate there will be one million Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank and east-al-Quds (Jerusalem).

"The younger generation have realized that and understand it more than the Palestinian Authority and have decided to take on the responsibility" Nimr pointed out.

The message being sent by the young men influenced by Nabulsi to the regime is that "we are going to die anyway, so we refuse to die silently, the only thing the occupation understands is armed resistance."

The new dynamic is that Nabulsi led the younger generation to take matters into their own hands.

While the Palestinian Authority calls for peaceful resistance, younger Palestinians can see the reality of ethnic cleansing. They are not stupid.

Nabulsi left behind a generation of young Palestinians who seek to join the armed struggle before they are all ethnically cleansed by Israel, including the Palestinian Authority.

These were the words of Nabulsi's last message before his martyrdom along with two other teenagers on that day, the youngest of whom was 16 years old.

"I love you so much ... I've been martyred ... Please take care of our homeland after me ... and my will to you is never put down the rifle ... with your honour ... I am currently cornered and I am going to be martyred."

During his funeral procession, Nabulsi's mother said, "They thought they killed my son, but they didn't."

Nablusi may have died, but he left behind a legacy that has made the Palestinian West Bank Resistance stronger than when he was alive. And this is what frightens Israel.

Why Ibrahim?

From Page 1 ► What matters about the Nablus martyr is his legacy. A legacy that can be found in his last words before martyrdom: "I will become a martyr, my mother loves you, defend our homeland after me, I am besieged and smell the scent of martyrdom, I request you not to drop your weapons."

"Not to drop weapon" is what the occupiers fear. Although Ibrahim is

gone, his legacy lives on. His mother, who had placed her shoulder under the coffin of her young son on the day of the funeral with Ibrahim's gun, has now become an inspiring source and a guide. His father, who once believed that peace could be achieved with the occupiers, now says that this is the path that every free and noble human being walks.

Ibrahim's photo shines like a

beacon of freedom on pillar no. 824 from Najaf to Karbala. A few months after his martyrdom, a baby was born in Al-Khalil that his father named "Ibrahim Nabulsi". These are a few examples of the living signs of this young Palestinian fighter's name and memory.

Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, Leader of the Islamic Revolution, said in his speech on Quds Day this

year that "today, 'unbreakable will' has replaced 'unbreakable army' in Palestine and throughout West Asia." This great and destiny-making change has been achieved with the blood of brave young people like Ibrahim Nabulsi.

Ibrahim is gone. Long live the Ibrahims.



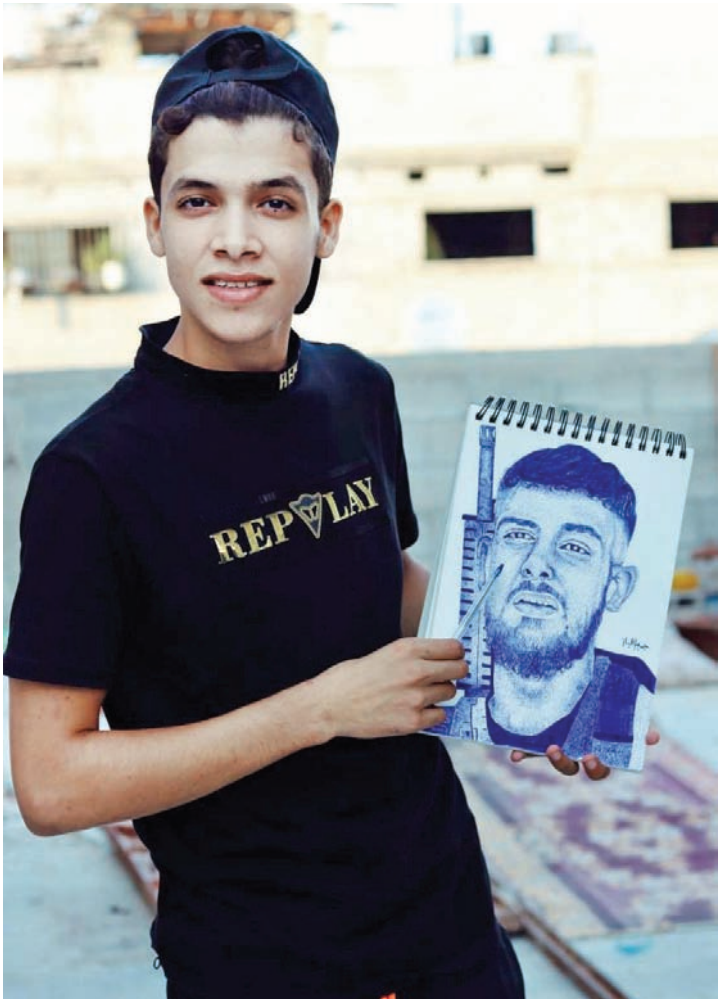
The place of Ibrahim's martyrdom. After the Israeli terrorists failed to confront Ibrahim and his comrades, they targeted the house with anti-tank missile



The burial of Ibrahim's body was one of the most magnificent funerals



A painting of Ibrahim's last will on the wall of a house in Lebanon: Do not drop your weapon



From page 1 ▶ known as the Third Intifada, were considered by some to be a complete reflection of the post-Oslo generation in Palestine. However, in 2022, a new generation saw itself in the world of Palestine; a generation that has begun with its new thoughts and perspectives. They are now 20 years old and have not seen Oslo or understood the last serious outcry and uprising of Palestinians in 2000. Some have chosen the familiar

name “Generation Z” for the new generation, a choice that seems intelligent and brings us closer to a more accurate understanding. For example, Hitham Al-Jassmi, a columnist for the English-language Al Jazeera website, introduces the new generation of Palestine in an article titled “Generation Z will free Palestine.” This generation faced different conditions in Nablus, Jenin and Jerusalem in 2022. The Palestinian Generation Z has several prominent features: liberation from leaders and political developments, love for past myths, all-out struggle from media to arms, belief in the possibility of struggle and freedom and regained self-esteem from the path of Palestinian resistance and struggle. The attitudes and thoughts of Palestinian Generation Z can be found in various operations and events of 2022 and 2023. They are a generation that is independent from political movements and even resists their leaders, even those from the resistance movement. Palestinian Generation Z is proud of its armed and intelligent path. They are exactly like Generation Z around the world in 2022; they are fashionable, recreational, virtual beings who see their lives as part of the struggle. Like other generations before them, Palestinian Generation Z criticizes fearlessly and follows its own separate revolutionary path from its past. The youth of the Z generation in Palestine are becoming role models for their peers. Ibrahim Nabulsi is an example of this Z generation in Palestine. They are no longer lost and alone in a joint operation, but their lives, resilience, attitude, and even moments of martyrdom are exposed and modeled. Ibrahim’s images and words have been widely reflected in Palestinian media. So much so that Zionist media have dubbed martyr Ibrahim Nabulsi as the “TikTok terrorist” and are concerned that he will become a role model for young people. The Z generation in Palestine is fearless and even radical, but on the other hand, the Sheikh Jarrah hashtags are not alone; they keep other Z generations around the world at the top of global trends for weeks. The Z generation in Palestine is a challenge without a solution for Zionists; it seems that their struggle and suppression is different from previous generations. They live differently, think differently, and fight differently. The youth of the Z generation in Palestine have found their own path; they have not come solely to fight or fulfill their duty to their homeland or ideology but to seek results, to seek freedom - freedom without some of the traditions of their fathers or political considerations. The youth of the Z generation in Palestine will create a southwestern horizon with their future, free from any fear or consideration.

vengeful lion



neighborhood where Nabulsi and a group of fighters were located. Nabulsi managed to escape alive after heavy fighting, while two other fighters, 25-year-old Mohammad Azizi and 28-year-old Abdul Rahman Jamal Suleiman Sobbh, were struck by live ammunition in the chest and head. Both were killed on the spot. He attended his friends’ funeral and became known as the “lion of Nablus” Nabulsi’s appearance at that funeral alarmed the Israeli media, and the official Israeli channel “Kan” said at the time: “After escaping from army forces, the Palestinian wanted man for whom the military operation in Nablus was dedicated arrived to attend the funeral of Palestinians who were killed during clashes.” Israeli authorities accuse Nabulsi of being behind “dozens” of shooting attacks on their soldiers, which led to one Israeli officer’s injury and several settlers. He and his friends were surrounded in the old town of Nablus. The Israeli Army had announced that it had surrounded Ibrahim Nabulsi’s house in the Old City of Nablus. According to the Israeli army, they used a shoulder-fired missile in their raid, leading to the killing of the Palestinian commander. The assassination immediately resulted in mass protests and clashes in Nablus between Palestinians and Israeli troops. Several Palestinians were reportedly wounded as a result. It is difficult to explain how popular Ibrahim Nabulsi was and how many people wanted to be like him - a hero and brave. The young commander became a national symbol for daring to show up unmasked to funerals in defiance of the Israelis every time they tried to kill him. The words of al-Nabulsi’s mother, Um Eyad, were inspiring. She said, “I don’t even want to afford them my tears. Ibrahim is a martyr, al-hamdulillah.” The words didn’t console her heart, but at least they allowed for a placement of her grief on a hope for change. At the hospital, as the doctor apologetically said her hero “was martyred,” Um Eyad told a throng of mourners: “They are mistaken if they think they killed Ibrahim. Everyone is Ibrahim.” Ibrahim’s last words

From page 1 ▶ Islam Sabbouh and Hussein Jamal Taha, were killed in an Israeli raid on their barricaded home in Nablus.

Mr. al-Nabulsi grew up in his family’s century-old house on a hill and was an accomplished swimmer. His father, Alah, is a junior major in the preventive security agency. A former prisoner in Israel, he joined the force tasked with suppressing opposition to the 1994 Oslo peace accords. “I believed in something great: a state, the peace that Israel never wanted to give us,” said Alah. “My son’s generation is angry with us, and their resistance is legitimate.” When he was a schoolboy, Ibrahim used to throw stones at soldiers in the south of Nablus. He followed in the footsteps of his older brother, Adham Mabrouka. The early years of al-Nabulsi’s life coincided with Israeli military crimes in Jenin refugee camp and Nablus between 2001-2004. In adolescence, people called him “Namrood.” According to those who knew him, before becoming a resistance fighter, al-Nabulsi was a typical teenager who was both just and fierce. As a child, al-Nabulsi was remembered as a “Nimrood,” a term borrowed from the biblical story of Nimrod to signify the spirit of a rebel that refused to submit to authority.

Avenger

Ibrahim joined his two friends in a cell at the age of 15 in the spring of 2019. He was wanted by Israel, and they told their friends that they had been tortured. Ibrahim’s mother, Houda, found him “more aggressive” when he was released. “He wanted to take revenge on Israel.” Ibrahim wasn’t yet 16 years old and escaped. He went into hiding. 18-year-old Nabulsi was assassinated along with another fighter, Islam Sbbouh, after Israeli forces invaded the city of Nablus and besieged a house where they were located in the Old City of Nablus in the northern occupied West Bank. Israeli forces and special forces (Yamam) infiltrated the old city of Nablus, hidden in civilian merchandise trucks, while large numbers of reinforcements stormed the city from several entry points. The forces surrounded a house in the Al-Yasmina

Ibrahim’s last words were, “I love you so much. If I am martyred, guys, I love my mother. Take care of the homeland after I’m gone, and my final will to you, on your honor: don’t let go of the rifle - on your honor. I’m surrounded, and I am going towards my martyrdom. Pray for me.” One journalist reflected on these words and how they impacted him deeply. He noted that while thousands of Palestinians have been killed by Israel, Ibrahim’s death felt different because we seldom hear the last words of our martyrs. Instead, we are left with only their dismembered bodies and pale faces to imagine their thoughts. According to Ibrahim’s father, he was hunting the Israeli Occupation Forces rather than being hunted by them. Whenever he heard about an Israeli army raid, he was the first to go out and confront them. This was his fate, and his family praises God for it.

Everything, everywhere, the West Bank

From page 1 ▶ When less than 24 hours after the grief and sorrow in Jenin and Palestine due to the martyrdom of 9 Palestinians as a result of unprecedented attacks by the Zionist army inside Jenin camp since 2000, this side of the camp changed and turned into slogans and joy. Much earlier than Zionist expectations, despite army readiness and iron domes for fear of retaliation by resistance forces, Palestinians’ sense of revenge became operational and 8 Zionists were killed. In the final hours of Friday, February 17th while only 27 days had passed since the new year of 2023 AD began, Jerusalem witnessed an operation that was unprecedented in recent decades according to Zionist media reports to such an extent that after attending the scene of an armed operation in Jerusalem, the chief of police for Zionist regime emphasized that “this was one of the worst attacks we have faced in recent years.” In less than 24 hours, two unprecedented events have occurred in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, affecting both sides. This is an example of the momentous events that show the West Bank is going through a period of fate-making. This period began with the establishment and consolidation of armed struggle groups in Jenin, Nablus, and even Hebron against Zionist efforts to create a new order called annexation of the West Bank to occupied territories. Netanyahu has pursued this strategy in recent years and intends to annex 30% of what is called Area J in the West Bank to make it part of the fake state of Israel so that another part of Palestine’s land is called fake Israel in domestic and foreign documents. Legally, this event is similar to Trump’s recognition of



Israel’s occupation of Syria’s Golan Heights as Israeli territory. In this plan, Zionist extremists seek to formalize settlements built on the West Bank as part of fake Israel’s land. Therefore, this plan is very important. If this event becomes operational, it can boldly be said that achieving a Palestinian state in Palestine’s land will no longer be possible. It should be noted that Israel has so far occupied 85% of Palestine’s land. One of the significant obstacles to achieving a Palestinian state is the presence of some cities and areas near Nablus, Hebron, and East Jerusalem. Now with extremist and religious Zionists coming into power, pressure on Palestinians in the West Bank is increasing. But resistance on the western border has disrupted all equations. Former officers of the Zionist regime’s army admitted that the Palestinian resistance’s fighting tactics have made significant progress during the Israeli military’s raids on Palestinian territories.

Security officers of the Zionist regime believe that there are plenty of weapons and ammunition on the western border, and the Palestinians’ fighting tactics have also made considerable and remarkable progress. They stated that there is no longer a need for experienced and trained fighters to shoot, as even 14-year-old children with the weapons they have can shoot at Israeli soldiers. In the first 72 days of 2023, 84 Palestinians have been martyred. Gaza has only two martyrs, but Jenin has 31 martyrs, Nablus has 21 martyrs, and Hebron has seven martyrs who have sacrificed themselves for Palestine. The statistics show a change in conditions on the western border more than ever before. The current situation on the western border is a real battle between two strategies: annexation by Zionists and armed resistance by Palestinian youth. A confrontation that has made the situation on the western border inspiring for all freedom-seekers.



The photo of Martyr Nabulsi in the hands of an Iranian girl



Ibrahim is the hero of Palestinian children and they will fill his place



Ibrahim’s parents at the funeral of one of the resistance martyrs

Export from North Khorasan rises 123% in 11 months on year

TEHRAN- The value of export from North Khorasan province, in the northeast of Iran, rose 123 percent during the first 11 months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21, 2022-February 19, 2023), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, according to a provincial official.

Nasser Fakhr Movahedi, the province's deputy governor-general for economic affairs, said that commodities worth over \$124 million were exported from the province in the 11-month period.

He also announced that goods valued at more than \$56 million were imported to the province in the first 11 months of this year, showing 21 percent growth year on year.

As previously announced by Mehrdad Davoudzadeh, the deputy head of the province's Industry, Mining and Trade Department for commercial affairs and trade promotion, commodities valued at over \$173 million were exported from North Khorasan during the previous Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20, 2022).

Davoudzadeh named Afghanistan, Iraq, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Germany, India, Turkey, Ukraine,

Pakistan, Poland, Syria, Russia, Kuwait, Austria, Oman, Indonesia, United Arab Emirates, and Canada as the main destinations to them the products were exported from North Khorasan in the previous year.

Putting the province's worth of imports at \$42 million in the past year, the official further named China, Russia, Sudan, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, Germany, South Korea, Turkey, India, Netherlands, Ethiopia, Denmark, Austria, Oman, United Kingdom, Taiwan, Italy, Turkmenistan, Sweden, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Brazil, Azerbaijan and France as the major sources of imports.

As announced by the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), the value of Iran's non-oil exports rose 12.22 percent during the first 11 months of the current Iranian calendar year, as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

According to Mohammad Rezvani-Far, Iran exported about 111.3 million tons of non-oil goods valued at \$48.8 billion in the mentioned 11 months, registering a 1.16-percent decline in weight.

(see full text at tehrantimes.com)

Over 206,000 tons of alumina powder produced in 11 months

TEHRAN- Iran has produced 206,887 tons of alumina powder during the first 11 months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21, 2022-February 19, 2023), according to the data released by Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO).

As reported, the figure shows a two percent drop as compared to the output in the 11-month period of the previous year, which was 211,499 tons.

Aluminum oxide, which is commonly called alumina, is an inert, odorless, white amorphous material often used in industrial ceramics.

Alumina is an important ceramic material for industrial applications. The numerous fields of application range from construction materials, to filling materials, as well as abrasives and catalysts.

In plants and mechanical engineering, alumina ceramics are mainly used for wear and corrosion protection.

The particle size distribution largely determines the application range and the quality of an alumina powder. Reliably identifying the differences in particle size is therefore an essential requirement of the measuring instrument.

Iran, Iraq plan to establish 3 joint industrial parks

From page 1 ► serious will of the two countries to implement the projects that have been talked about for years," the minister said.

According to the official, the Shalamcheh-Basra railway is one of the projects that the two sides have agreed to complete soon.

Khandouzi further mentioned the exports of technical and engineering services as another subject that the two countries have discussed in the joint economic committee meeting and said: "During my stay in Iraq, I also held a meeting with Iranian businessmen active in the field of technical and engineering services and discussed their problems about which I talked to the Iraqi side."

Referring to the 20 percent

Iran rises 3 places among world's largest automakers in 2022: OICA



TEHRAN - The International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (known as OICA), in its latest annual report, has ranked Iran as the world's 16th largest automaker in 2022, IRNA reported.

TEHRAN- Production of red meat in Iran stood at 38,974 tons in the eleventh month of the current Iranian calendar year (January 21-February 19), showing 24 percent fall compared to the same month in the past year.

As reported, beef and veal had the lion's share in the country's red



growth in the volume of trade between Iran and Iraq over the last 11 months, Khandouzi said: "The achievements and agreements

reached in Iraq have created the hope that we will be able to break the record of increasing trade with this country in the upcoming year."

According to the OICA report, Iran's position among the world's top automakers has improved by three places in 2022 compared to the previous year making the country stand above industrial countries like the UK, Russia, and the Czech Republic. The Islamic Republic was ranked 19th in the OICA list of the world's top automakers in 2021.

Based on the mentioned report, Iranian automakers managed to manufacture 1,064,298 vehicles in 2022 to register a 19-percent growth compared to the previous year.

Based on the OICA data, in 2022, more than 85 million cars were produced worldwide, indicating a six percent growth compared to 2021.

According to the data released by the Iranian

Nearly 39,000 tons of red meat produced in a month

meat output during the eleventh month with 20,563 tons, followed by lamb and mutton with 14,986 tons, goat meat with 2,554 tons, and red meat from other livestock with 871 tons.

As reported, the amount of red meat supply in the official slaughterhouses of the country in the

eleventh month of this year has also dropped five percent compared to the tenth month.

Iran is among the leading consumers of red meat in the West Asia region with lamb being the most sought after.

However, the consumption per person is around a third of what is

The fifth meeting of the Iran-Iraq joint economic committee kicked off on March 12 with the purpose of shoring up economic cooperation between the two countries.

On the sidelines of the meeting, Khandouzi met with Iraqi Minister of Trade Atheer Daoud Al-Ghuraيري and discussed ways of expanding economic ties.

Speaking at the meeting, Khandouzi underlined the capacities of the two countries for developing trade and said: "The capacity of exchanges between Iran and Iraq is far beyond the numbers recorded in the joint trade between the two countries."

The Iran-Iraq Joint Economic Committee meeting was wrapped up on March 14.

Ministry of Industry, Mining, and Trade, car manufacturing in Iran increased by 25 percent during the first eleven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21, 2022-February 19, 2023), as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

Based on the ministry's data, over 1.126 million vehicles were manufactured in the 11-month period of this year. Officials from the Industry, Mining, and Trade Ministry have repeatedly emphasized that car production will reach 1.6 million vehicles in the current year, however, the production this year is almost 30 percent behind the projected schedule.

As reported, the ministry's auto manufacturing target for the next Iranian year 1402 (begins on March 21) is 1.8 million vehicles.

normally seen in countries like the U.S. and Australia, mainly due to the prohibition of pork in Islamic law.

The major part of Iran's red meat imports comes from countries like Brazil, where Iranian supervisors directly control culling methods to ensure they comply with religious rules.

Expanding economic diplomacy should be a priority: TCCIMA

TEHRAN - Head of the Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) has outlined the priorities that the country's authorities should pursue in the upcoming year (begins on March 21) among which economic diplomacy is mostly stressed.

The three most important priorities that the policymakers should pursue are to get the economy out of stagnation with the help

of collective wisdom, improve foreign relations and expand economic diplomacy while improving public trust, Masoud Khansari said in a statement published on the TCCIMA portal on Friday.

"By accepting the realities about the economic bottlenecks of Iran, the authorities should put proper planning and strict implementation of these plans on the agenda, and by delegating the work to the private sector and remov-

ing production obstacles, create a space for economic prosperity, increase in production and exports, and domestic and foreign investment," the official said.

"Considering our national interests, we should simultaneously expand our diplomatic relations with both the East and the West, and of course the neighboring countries, and prioritize de-escalation to improve the country's [economic] situation," he stressed in

another part of the statement.

Iran is a country with great potential, and with efficient management and relying on its social capital, especially the young generation, and women, the country can move in the direction of development and become one of the largest economies in the region within a few years, but to reach this goal, there is a serious need for extensive reform, Khansari said.

Alborz province a main supporter of plan to plant 1b saplings in country

TEHRAN- Alborz province is a main supporter of the plan to plant one billion saplings in the country over the course of four years, the deputy agriculture minister stated.

Referring to the ministry's plan to plant one billion saplings in the country, the Deputy Minister for Water and Soil Affairs Safdar Niazi said Alborz province with the annual production of 40 million saplings is one of the important supports of this big plan in the country.

Making the remarks on the sidelines of the ceremony of tree and sapling planting in the Agriculture Depart-



ment of the province, the official said in order to increase the green space per capita and preserve the environment and clean air, the Ministry of Agriculture has decided to plant one billion saplings in the next four years.

In this regard, the Water and Soil Department of the ministry has also

Railway fleet receives 500 domestically made, renovated wagons, locomotives

TEHRAN - Iranian railway fleet received 500 new domestically-made and renovated wagons and locomotives worth 21.7 trillion rials (about \$47.1 million) in a ceremony attended by Transport and Urban Development Minister Mehrdad Bazrpash on Wednesday.

As reported by the Transport Ministry portal, of the mentioned 500 wagons and locomotives, 453 were new freight wagons, six were new locomotives, and nine were renovated locomotives.

The railway fleet also received 10 new passenger wagons as well as 22 renovated ones.

This was the fourth round of addition to the country's railway fleet in the current Iranian calendar year (ends on March 20).

Overall, 1,660 wagons and locomotives have been added to the country's railway fleet in the current year.

The development of the railway sector has been one of the macro policies of the Iranian government as it has been emphasized by the general policies of the country's national development plans.

In this regard, the national railway fleet has constantly received new domestically-made locomotives and wagons in the

past and current Iranian calendar years.

As the first stage of the program for the renovation of the country's railway fleet in the current Iranian year, 156 freight wagons, three locomotives including two renovated ones and a newly made one by MAPNA Group, as well as 10 renovated passenger wagons had joined the railway fleet in early July 2022.

In the second stage of the program, 413 new domestically-made locomotives and wagons worth over \$35 million were added to the railway fleet in late October last year.

(see full text at tehrantimes.com)

Second Announcement



IRAN TOBACCO COMPANY

ONE TIER GENERAL INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE FOR PURCHASE OF NON-TOBACCO RAW MATERIALS REQUIRED BY IRAN TOBACCO COMPANY

Iran Tobacco Co , intends to purchase below non tobacco raw materials through one tier international tender, all eligible applicants will be invited to receive the tender documents from 14th March 2023 until the end of office hours on 3rd April 2023 , after payment the amount of 1 million Rials to the account No, 47000701336609 of Parsian bank, Azadi branch and receive the bid documents from ITC tender secretariat located at 1st floor, Education building, Qazvin Ave, Iran Tobacco Company or from the national tender website : www.iets.mporg.ir after registration process and receive tender documents:

Table (1) Description of bidding items

Item	Description of goods	Unit	Total quantity for different sizes
1	Different size of cigarette paper	Bobin	54,240
2	Different size of tipping papers	Bobin	35,700
3	Different size of plug Wraps	Bobin	6,975
4	Different kinds of acetate cellulose tow	Kg	1,455,000
5	Different kinds of filter rods	Rod	1,558,700,000
4	Max Glue	Kg	147,100
5	Cocoa powder	Kg	70,000

All applicants who do not have approved sample in the bid line in the last one year period must send reinforced samples of each item and the related data sheet and safety data sheet packing format to Iran Tobacco Company security department, 1st floor, Shahid Golchin building, Qazvin Ave, Qazvin square, Tehran, Iran from 14th March 2023 until 19th April 2023. Exact and complete information of seller should be indicated on each samples.

Table (2) Description of required sample for laboratory and applicability test

Description	Quantity of sample for applicability test	Quantity of sample for laboratory test
Different size of Cigarette paper	2 Bobins of each size	1 Bobins of each size
Different size of Tipping paper	2 Bobins of each size	1 Bobins of each size
Plug Wrap Paper	2 Bobins of each size	1 Bobins of each size
Different kinds of acetate cellulose tow	1 Bale of each kind (200 kgs)	-
Different kinds of filter rods	1tray (10,000 rods)	1 tray (10,000 rods)
Max Glue	40 Liters	1 Liters
Cocoa Powder	-	1 Kg

Details of the bidding items and the amount of required guarantees are available on the tender documents separately. The deadline for submitting offers and envelopes to the security secretariat office located in, 1st floor, Shahid Golchin building, Qazvin Ave, Qazvin square, Tehran, Iran, is the end of office hours on 25th May 2023. In addition, the meeting of the technical and commercial committee of the aforementioned tenders will be held on May 27, 2023. The offers will be opened in Iran Tobacco Company located at Qazvin Sq. Qazvin Av, Tehran. Islamic Republic of Iran, at 9:00 on 28 May 2023.

Note 1: Participating applicants in each row of tender items can apply for the guarantee of participating in the tender of the same row and submit the price offer in the same row based on the table in the tender conditions sheet.

Note 2: The cost of inserting the entire ad in the newspaper of 1 million Rials to 500 million Rials will be responsible for the tender winners according to the number of win items.

Note 3: In order to guarantee participation in the tender and fulfill the obligations, the bidders can provide a valid bank guarantee or cash deposit or obtain a certified clear claim certificate and complete the form listed in the tender conditions sheet.

For more information, you can contact to 0098 21 51261651 and 51261920

The management of Communications and International Affairs,
Iran Tobacco Company

From page 1 ► The CyberKnife system is a non-invasive, robotic delivery system for radiation therapy that treats some cancerous and noncancerous tumors and other conditions.

Tomotherapy is a type of therapy in which radiation is aimed at a tumor from many different directions.

The Ministry of Health has launched a plan aimed at preventing the three most common cancers among women, namely breast, colorectal, and cervical cancers, Ali Qanbari-Motlaq, a health ministry official, said in February.

These cancers are the most preventable cancers and at the same time they account for 40 percent of cancers among women and 25 percent of cancers both among men and women, ISNA quoted Qanbari-Motlaq as saying.

The pilot phase of the plan was carried out in 2016 and 2017, he said, adding that in 2018, the development plan of the first phase started.

He pointed out that almost 150,000 people in the country are diagnosed with cancer every year.

Countries are divided into five categories for cancer incidence, and Iran is at the average level in this regard, he noted.

With the support of the World Health Organization, the national cancer control program has been developed, which sets out the Ministry of Health's roadmap up to the Iranian calendar year 1404 (March 2025-March 2026).

Iranian universities in Webometrics world ranking 2023

TEHRAN – The Webometrics Ranking of World Universities 2023 has ranked 457 Iranian institutions among around 32,000 top universities across the world.

The University of Tehran tops the list of Iranian universities included in this ranking, followed by Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Sharif University of Technology, Amirkabir University of Technology, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, Iran University of Science and Technology, Iran University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, and Mashhad University of Medical Sciences.

The University of Tehran has improved its ranking from 308 in 2022 to 295 in 2023.

Harvard University, Stanford University, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology are the top three ranking universities worldwide in Webometrics.

Also known as Ranking Web of Universities, the Webometrics Ranking of World Universities is a ranking system for the world's universities based on a composite indicator that takes into account both the volume of the Web content (number of web pages and files) and the visibility and impact of these web publications according to the number of external inlinks (site citations) they received.

The original aim of the Ranking is to promote academic web presence, supporting the Open Access initiatives for increasing significantly the transfer of scientific and cultural knowledge generated by the universities to the whole Society. In order to achieve this objective, the publication of rankings is one of the most powerful and successful tools for starting and consolidating the processes of change in academia, increasing the scholars' commitment, and setting up badly needed long-term strategies

The objective is not to evaluate websites, their



Advanced cancer treatment center inaugurated

The purpose of the program is to reduce cancer prevalence and mortality while improving the quality of patients' lives, which can serve as a model for other countries, especially in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

The program includes two important documents, namely, "development of national cancer care network" and "development of cancer human resources", which resulted in the establishment of the early diagnostic centers.

In November 2022, the first phase of a national project aiming to take advantage of gene therapy for the treatment of children with cancer, known as "CAR T-cell therapy", came on stream.

Chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy is a way to get immune cells called T cells (a type of white blood cell) to fight cancer by changing them in the lab so they can find and destroy cancer cells.

CAR T-cell therapy has been successful on a five-year-old boy suf-

fering from chemotherapy-resistant leukemia.

The project took nearly seven years to be implemented, Amir Ali Hamidiyeh, head of the gene, cell, and tissue research institute of Tehran University of Medical Sciences said.

After passing cell studies and preclinical studies on animals and obtaining a license and code of ethics from Tehran University of Medical Sciences, a gene therapy product was used for a patient for the first time in the country, he added.

The method is currently in the clinical trial stage and was used on a child with leukemia who was resistant to all treatment methods, he highlighted.

In July 2021, Iran inaugurated an advanced ion therapy center for the first time in West Asia, with the aim of providing definitive treatment for all types of cancer.

Ion therapy is a unique and innovative form of radiation therapy in the world for the treatment of cancer, as the radiation can be focused exactly on the area of the tumor, ensuring that radiation-sensitive organs are best protected.

Ali Akbar Salehi, head of the Atomic Energy Organization, said some 200 million Euros have been allocated to equip the center.

The center is unique in West Asia and is the seventh hospital in the world to be built with advanced equipment, he added.



Webometrics has ranked 457 Iranian institutions among around 32,000 top universities across the world.

design or usability, or the popularity of their contents according to the number of visits or visitors.

Web indicators are considered proxies in the correct, comprehensive, deep evaluation of the university's global performance, taking into account its activities and outputs and their relevance and impact.

Launched in 2004, the ranking is updated every January and July.

The 2023 ranking of the Times Higher Education has placed a number of Iranian universities among its top institutes in terms of education.

Kurdistan University of Medical Sciences comes first among the Iranian universities with a rank in the range of 351-400.

Islamic Azad University, Najafabad Branch, comes next with a rank in the range of 501-600.

Azarbaijan Shahid Madani University, Iran University of Medical Sciences, University of Kashan, University of Kurdistan, University of Mohaghegh

Ardabili, University of Tabriz, and The University of Tehran are in the range of 601-800.

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023 include 1,799 universities across 104 countries and regions, making them the largest and most diverse university rankings to date.

The University of Oxford tops the ranking for the seventh consecutive year. Harvard University remains in second place, but the University of Cambridge jumps from joint fifth last year to joint third.

A total of 63 universities from Iran have been listed in the Islamic World University Rankings 2022 announced by the Islamic World Science Citation Center (ISC), compared with 51 universities in 2021.

In the 2022 ISC ranking, there were 347 universities from 28 Islamic countries, where Turkey with 90 universities, and Iran with 63 universities had the largest number, IRNA reported.

ISC is the third internationally accredited citation center established in Iran based on a resolution adopted in 2008 by the 4th Meeting of the Islamic Ministers of Higher Education (ICMHESR) in Baku, the capital of the Republic of Azerbaijan, to index, evaluate and publish scientific productions in Islamic countries.

In the ISC 2022 world ranking, there are 2,422 universities from 111 countries and 6 continents, of which the Islamic Republic of Iran has 63 universities.

The University of Tehran and the Tehran University of Medical Sciences are in the first place (401-450), Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Sharif University of Technology, Iran University of Medical Sciences, and Tarbiat Modares University are in second place (601-700).

The Amir Kabir University of Technology and Mashhad University of Medical Sciences are in third place (701-800).

Comprehensive fertility network providing services



TEHRAN – The Ministry of Health has formed a comprehensive network for providing fertility services at three levels all over the country.

For infertility treatment patients go to level-one centers and are referred to levels two and three if they need specialized treatments, deputy health minister Saeed Karimi said.

Previously, there were no level-two centers for infertility treatment services in the country, ISNA quoted Karimi as saying.

"Health minister has announced that 64 level-two infertility treatment centers should be set up in the country by next year. There are currently 16 level-two centers in the country."

Some 85 percent of infertility cases can be treated in level-two infertility treatment centers, he said, adding that 103 level-three infertility treatment centers are currently active in the country.

About 90 percent of hospitalization costs and 70 percent of outpatient costs for infertility treatment services are covered by insurance, while the

services had not been covered by insurance in the past, he concluded.

A total of 5 trillion rials (around \$15 million) has been spent on infertility treatment and population youth law in the first six months of the current Iranian calendar year which began on March 21, the deputy head of the Health Insurance Organization has said.

Iran's universal public health insurance scheme, known as Salamat Health Insurance, covers hospitalization, para-clinical and outpatient services, including doctor's visits, radiology, lab tests, and medication costs at any public hospital affiliated with the Ministry of Health.

At present, 63 items of special medicine and 28 items of medical supplies that are needed for infertility treatment are covered by insurance companies, ISNA quoted Mehdi Rezaei as saying.

He stated that some 56 government centers, 44 private centers, and about 30 independent and non-independent public centers are contracting parties with Health insurance, which has increased compared to last year.

WORLD RAMSAR SITES

Biological diversity

This site is of high biodiversity. In this hotspot of regional biodiversity, 278 species of plants, 96 species of birds and 31 species of mammals are found.

The ecosystem here combines the features of wetland ecosystems of highland cold desert and extremely arid desert, which is rarely seen even in local biogeographic region.

Many endemic species of Tibetan Plateau live here. For instance, *Gymnocypis eckloni*, *Triplophysa brevicauda*, and *Triplophysa leptosoma* are endemic fishes in Tibetan Plateau, which is the important food source of some birds like *Grus nigricollis*.

Diversified habitat types provide various living environments for rare and threatened wildlife, such as *Aythya baeri*, *Aquila nipalensis*, *Grus nigricollis*, *Przewalskium albirostris*, and *Felis bieti*, which is of great importance in maintaining regional biodiversity.

Ecological character

The major wetland types in the site are permanent freshwater herb-dominated marshes, permanent rivers, and saline/brackish water.

Influenced by plateau topography and relative closed geographical environment, vegetation of the site, mainly made up by meadow vegetation, marsh vegetation and aquatic vegetation, has typical closed-structure features of inland ecosystem.

Examples of grassland vegetation are *Stipa purpurea* - *Artemisia* community and *Stipa purpurea* - *Iris lactea* community, which provide habitats for rare animals, such as *Equus kiang* and *Procapra picticaudata*. Example of meadow vegetation is *Blysmus sinocompressus* community, which provides shelters and foraging grounds for birds, such as *Grus nigricollis*, and *Anser indicus*.

In addition, the site plays an important role in adjusting regional climate and providing water resources for downstream areas.

Source: Ramsar.org

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Special plan prepared to attract overseas Iranian researchers

The Vice Presidency for Science and Technology has prepared a special plan to attract scientists and researchers living abroad, IRNA news agency reported on Saturday.

The project aims to promote "supporting technological activities and startups", "postdoctoral facilities", "supporting employment in innovation centers and accelerators as a trainer and consultant", "providing facilities for opportunity studies", "providing housing facilities", "supporting employment in reputable domestic companies", "support for lectures and specialized workshops" and "support for cooperation as invited and appointed professors".

It is estimated that about one percent of all Iranian students are studying abroad, which is not above the international average of around 3 percent.

طرح ویژه برای جذب پژوهشگران ایرانی مقیم خارج

جذب محققان و پژوهشگران خارج از کشور یکی از اولویت‌های کشور محسوب می‌شود و در این راستا معاونت علمی و فناوری ریاست جمهوری طرحی ویژه پیشنهاد کرده است.

به گزارش ایرنا، معاونت علمی و فناوری ریاست جمهوری، این طرح شامل «حمایت از فعالیت‌های فناورانه و ایجاد شرکت‌های نوپا»، «تسهیلات پسا دکتری»، «حمایت از اشتغال در مراکز نوآوری و شتابدهنده‌ها به عنوان مربی و مشاور»، «تسهیلات دوره فرصت مطالعاتی»، «تسهیلات مسکن»، «حمایت از اشتغال در شرکت‌های معتبر داخلی»، «حمایت از برگزاری سخنرانی و کارگاه‌های تخصصی» و «حمایت از همکاری به عنوان اساتید مدعو و معین» است.

بر اساس برآوردها نزدیک یک درصد از کل مجموع دانشجویان ایرانی در خارج از کشور تحصیل می‌کنند. این رقم در مقایسه با میانگین بین‌المللی که حدود ۳ درصد است، رقم بالایی محسوب نمی‌شود.



Buying flowers to celebrate Noruz

In the run-up to Noruz, people are searching for decorative items, including flowers, to celebrate the new year that starts on March 21.

Many Iranians put hyacinth flowers on their Haft Sin table in Noruz.

TEHRAN TIMES



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MARCH 18, 2023

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

The greatest Jihad is to battle your own soul. To fight the evil within yourself.

Prophet Muhammad (S)

Prayer Times» Noon:12:12 Evening: 18:33 Dawn: 5:47 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:10 (tomorrow)

Seljuk literature

Part 1

The term ‘Seljuk literature’ is used here to refer to literary works in Persian produced between 1040 and 1220.

The beginning of Seljuk literature is conventionally associated with the decisive defeat of the Ghaznavids at Dandanqan by the Seljuk army (1040), and it ends with the Mongol invasion of Kharazm under the leadership of Genghis Khan (1220).

The designation ‘Seljuk’ is used to indicate the dominance of that dynasty over a large part of Persia throughout those two centuries, even though other dynasties also had their courts and literary circles in the bordering areas in the same period.

Some of these, such as the court of the Ghaznavid Bahramshah included in this survey, were of major significance in the literary history of Persia.

The Seljuk period adopted the cultural model and courtly etiquette of the great Ghaznavid sultans, but was also influenced by historical and social factors, most notably Ismailism and Sufism and the growth of many urban centers, and by political decisions, including the decentralization of power, which gave rise to a substantial differentiation of the literary output of this period from the previous ones.

In a territory that extended from Khorasan to Anatolia, the Seljuks entrusted their internal politics to viziers and secretaries of Iranian stock and adopted Persian as the official language of the administration and of much of the court correspondence.

The most important and immediate effect of these decisions was the very widespread diffusion of Persian as a literary language alongside Arabic.

The Seljuks, who had no comparable cultural and literary heritage of their own in Turkish to counter Persian, accepted and cultivated the prestigious literary tradition provided by Persian language and culture.

By so doing, they played a significant role in the diffusion of the Persian literary language and of the culture expressed by it, and this in turn led to a reappraisal and partial rejection of the dominance of Arabic as the lingua franca of educated society in the Middle East.

On the basis of this prestige, the Persian of authors from the Seljuk period played a fundamental role in the standardization of the classical language, continuing a process already put into motion by the Samanid and Ghaznavid authors before them.

The literature produced during the 11th and 12th centuries, while revealing some common traits due, among other things, to the frequent migration of poets from one province to another in pursuit of new patrons, was enriched by quite diverse experiences which were crucial for the evolution of style, both in prose and in poetry.

Other courts were culturally active alongside the Seljuk ones and were able to provide original contributions in the literary field for the purposes of establishing their prestige.

Indeed, the intellectual circles of the semi-independent dynasties (Kharazmshah, the later Ghaznavid, Ghurid, Qarakhanid,

Ildeguzid and Sharvanshah) were able to compete with the pomp of the Great Seljuks of Hamadan, Isfahan, and Marv (Merv) with the wealth and refinement of their own literary output.

The Seljuks never governed the vast conquered territories as a centralized empire. The main power centers were Hamadan and Isfahan in the west, and Marv and Nishapur in the east, but their courts changed location several times over the decades.

There were also branches of the Seljuk dynasty in Kerman, Syria, and in Anatolia, and the dynasty's strong tendency towards decentralization led in the 12th century to the establishment of the atabak, or ‘parallel’ dynasties of Turkish slaves, put in government in some areas (Maragha, Tabriz, Shiraz, etc.) ‘external’ to the main centers of power.

This phenomenon favored the development of a vigorous cultural life in cities such as Ray, Shiraz, and Yazd and especially in the urban centers of Azerbaijan and Arran such as Tabriz and Shervan.

As far as the Great Seljuks of Iran are concerned, the first great patrons were Alp Arslan (r. 1063–72), Malekshah and Sanjar. Poets, men of letters, and scientists of great eminence were well received at their courts.

Alp Arslan was the first great patron of the dynasty. He entrusted his chancellery to Nezam al-Molk and encouraged panegyrists such as Abd al-Malek Borhani (d. ca. 1072, father of the more famous Moezzi, ca. 1048–1127, Lame’i (d. ca. 1063) and occasionally Am’aq Bokhara’i (b. ca. 1048), who wrote both for the Qarakhanids and the Seljuks. At the same time, Shams al-Dawla Toghan Shah, a son of Alp Arslan and governor of Khorasan, offered his patronage in the court of Herat to the poet Azraqi Heravi (d. ca. 1072) who was not only a panegyrist but also a nadim (boon companion). Azraqi also wrote a great many panegyrics for Amiranshah of the Seljuks of Kerman.

Malekshah (r. 1072–92), during whose long reign the Seljuk empire reached the zenith of its power and territorial extension, was also an enlightened and generous patron of the sciences and literature.

He chose Isfahan as the capital of his kingdom and was buried in its madrasa. His chancellery could count on the activities of Nezam al-Molk who, after serving under his father, Alp Arslan, dedicated the Siar al-muluk or Siyasat-nama, a magisterial treatise on statecraft, to Malekshah.

The great panegyrist Moezzi was active at the court of Malekshah. One of the most significant authors of the time, he was praised by Awfi (d. after 1232) who referred to him as the greatest poet in the court of Malekshah and compared him to the Samanid Rudaki and to the Ghaznavid Onsori.

The style of Moezzi was in fact an example of what is known as the ‘second Ghaznavid school’. Another figure of note was Omar Khayyam (1047–1123), astronomer, mathematician, and poet.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica
To be continued.

“Graveyard” wins award at Hong Kong festival

TEHRAN – “Graveyard” by Iranian director Ali Darai has won an award at the 28th IFVA Awards in Hong Kong.

The short film was one of the three films honored in the Asian New Force Category.

The film tells the story of a young mother who has lost her baby due to negligence. Furthermore, since the presence of the father is required to obtain burial permission in Iran, the young mother is striving to find her missing husband and, with the passage of time, she becomes more involved in a plethora of serious issues.

The Incubator for Film and Visual Media in Asia Awards, formerly the Hong Kong Independent Short Film and Video Awards, is organized annually by the Hong Kong Arts Centre.

“Grey Solar Game”, a drama by Indian director Seemanta Halder also was awarded in the Asian New Force Category.

This is a story of three siblings. Changing times change situations, and, along with that, change people, in ways which might not always be for the better. The siblings are plunged into one such time in which living, rather than accepting change, marks catastrophe.

The Chinese drama “I Have No

A scene from “Graveyard” by Iranian director Ali Darai.

Legs, and I Must Run”, winner of the BFI London Film Festival 2022 Short Film Award, won an award in this section.

Directed by Yue Li, the film is about a major athlete with an injury and a talented new recruit raises the specter of jealousy.

“As I Imagine My Body Moving” by Elysa Wendi from Hong Kong received the gold medal of the festival, the organizers announced last week.

The film follows a former dancer encountering a sudden health issue. She unveiled a deeper scar that was concealed inside her for over 20 years. The film explores the notion of kinesthetic separation between the body and its stream of consciousness, sometimes dislocation, or disconnection. Her immobilized body-bearing illnesses somehow is wandering in distorted time and space. The depersonalization is perhaps a detachment one could have learned

about one's body and its autonomy.

The silver medal went to “Lucky Cat” by Yeung Kwong-Chung from Hong Kong.

Fut, a parking attendant who believes in gods and Buddha, meets a mute one day during worship who reveals a secret to him. From that day onwards, Fut gets very lucky and wins a windfall. Meanwhile, massage girl Fei Fei and her friend Mei want to blackmail Fatty, a lustful taxi driver...

Iranian piano prodigies honored at 2023 American Music Talent Competition

Iranian piano prodigies Selina Sadat Shekrabi (L), Roham Abdolhosseini (C) and Barsam Akbari pose in an undated photo.

TEHRAN – Three piano prodigies from Iran have been awarded at the 2023 American Music Talent Competition.

Selina Sadat Shekrabi and Barsam Akbari were among the third-place winners in the 5-10 age

category, and Roham Abdolhosseini took a third prize in the 11-14 age category as the organizers announced winners last week.

All the children were taught by Mohammadreza Ajdari.

Nine-year-old Selina selected “Faryad” (“Cry”), composed by Anushirvan Rohani, to play for the competition.

“I practiced playing the piece every day for two months and I'm very happy that I could take the place for the first time for my country,” said nine-year-old Selina.

Ten-year-old Barsam performed “Zepiur”, composed by Andre Arzumian, for the competition.

12-year-old Roham recorded “Revolutionary Étude” or “Étude on the Bombardment of Warsaw”, a solo piano work by Frederic Chopin, to send to the competition.

He thanked his teacher, Ajdari, and his parents for their support after winning the prize.

“Amusing Ourselves to Death” at Iranian bookstores

Front cover of the Persian edition of Neil Postman's book “Amusing Ourselves to Death”.

“It's unlikely that Trump has ever read ‘Amusing Ourselves to Death’, but his ascent would not have surprised Postman,” CNN previously wrote.

Postman's groundbreaking polemic about the corrosive effects of television on our politics and public discourse has been hailed as a twenty-first-century book published in the twentieth century.

Now, with television joined by more sophisticated electronic media—from the Internet to cell phones to DVDs—it has taken on even greater significance.

“Amusing Ourselves to Death” is a prophetic look at what happens when politics, journalism, education and even religion become subject to the demands of entertainment.

It is also a blueprint for regaining control of our media, so that they can serve our highest goals.

“A brilliant, powerful and important book. This is an indictment that Postman has laid down and, so far as I can see, an irrefutable one.” Jonathan Yardley wrote in a review published in The Washington Post Book World.

The story of an Iraqi woman and a portion of her nation’s history

A review of the book “Unfinished Dreams”

According to IBNA, the most recent publication by Elaheh Akherati, “Unfinished Dreams,” tells the story of Atyaf Zubeidi, the martyr Muhammad Shaybani's wife. This book covers not just Atyaf Zubeidi's life but also a portion of the history of the Iraqi people.

In the unveiling ceremony of the book, Atyaf spoke Persian fluently because she spent a portion of her childhood here and has recently visited Iran multiple times. Her family has made a significant number of martyr sacrifices, and the book includes a detailed account of each one's life.

Muhammad Shaybani, as a character, first emerges practically in the second part of the book and is only there during moments when he is with his wife or even during those times when he is not. In this book, Muhammad is Atyaf's husband rather than a combatant who served as Abu Mahdi's bodyguard or a soldier who fought in Syria and Iraq.

The book tells the tale of a young woman who encountered many difficulties as a Shiite, but whose culture and way of life are distinct from those of us

Iranian Shiites. The author of this book employed the parallel narration style, whereby the first part of each chapter focused on Atyaf's current life and the remaining portion on her past life. Her past is discussed beginning before her birth and ending with Muhammad's martyrdom.

The story's prose is fluid and emotive in line with the narrative's style. A big part of the text's charm comes from the author's extensive vocabulary.

The author did a great job of handling the detailed life adventures of this martyr's wife. The author might have been overwhelmed and unable to manage it given the extent of her family and the number of influential people in Atyaf's life, but the author has successfully managed to overcome this challenge.

The fate of every character in the story is predetermined to the extent that is necessary for the plot, leaving no one in doubt.

Despite the book's positive and negative qualities, one of its noteworthy aspects is the examination of Iraqi culture in addition to

the narratives. It's incredibly intriguing and informative to learn about subcultures that are occasionally very different from our Persian traditions and sometimes very similar.