

How Western media lies to protect Israel from the consequences of Haniyeh's killing

Covering an Assassination

Hezbollah targets new Israeli settlement for first time

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN- Lebanon's Hezbollah announced on Sunday that it had targeted a new settlement inside occupied Palestine as part of ongoing operations in solidarity with Gaza.

In a statement, the Lebanese resistance movement explained that it had added the settlement of Beit Hillel to its current range of fire and targeted it for the first time with dozens of Katyusha rockets.

Beit Hillel is a settlement in the north, about five kilometers away from Kiryat Shmona, which is closer to the Lebanese border and has been under constant Hezbollah fire.

The extent of attacks on Kiryat Shmona saw Israelis flee the settlement to Tel Aviv and elsewhere. They have been replaced by the Israeli occupation forces who have gone into hiding amid ongoing precision strikes by Hezbollah.

The Lebanese resistance emphasized that targeting Beit Hillel for the first time was a response to Israeli assaults "on the steadfast southern villages and safe homes". ▶ Page 5

Global protests grow against Israeli crimes following Haniyeh assassination

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN - Protests against Israel's war on Gaza and the regime's crimes have gained momentum following the assassination of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh.

A growing number of people have taken to the streets in cities across the world to condemn the Israeli genocide in Gaza over the past 300 days and Haniyeh's killing.

Thousands of Moroccans protested in Rabat on Saturday to express support for Palestinians as they were holding portraits of Haniyeh who was killed in an Israeli strike in Tehran in the early hours of Wednesday.

Demonstrators in Morocco also denounced normalization of ties between their country and Israel.

Morocco established official ties with the regime as part of the US-led Abraham Accords.

Elsewhere in Indonesia, thousands of demonstrators marched to the heavily guarded US embassy in the capital Jakarta on Saturday to protest the assassination of the Hamas political chief. ▶ Page 5

Debunking a skewed article in Western media

By Zahra Akbari

TEHRAN- On August 2, 2024, Newsweek published an article titled "Israel Reestablished Deterrence. It Should be Praised, Not Admonished" by Arsen Ostrovsky and John Spencer. The following points will discuss the content of this article.

Over the past decades and since the establishment of the Zionist regime, Western media have faced challenges in maintaining their reputation. On one hand, the occupation and numerous crimes of this regime have been undeniable, and on the other hand, what has kept these media outlets afloat is the substantial budget flowing from Zionist capitalists, making it impossible for them to present accurate narratives.

After the daily killing and abduction of Palestinians in all the past years, for the first time on October 7, the Zionists felt real insecurity in their territory. Consequently, Western media set aside their masks and, by trampling on the most basic media principles, openly supported Zionist terrorism. They did not retreat from these positions despite ten months of brutal massacres of children and civilians and the commission of genocide by the Zionist regime. ▶ Page 3

IRGC ex-intelligence chief says attack on Israel will be 'surprising'

TEHRAN - The former head of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Intelligence Organization has said that the imminent Iranian response to Israel will be surprising.

Hossein Taeb, who is currently an advisor to the IRGC chief commander, said revenge for the assassination of the Hamas leader, Ismail Haniyeh, will be unpredictable and surprising.

Hossein Taeb made the remarks during a meeting with officials and members of the Basij force in the shrine city of Mashhad, on Sunday.

He emphasized that revenge against Israel will be executed through the design of a new and surprising scenario and that the enemies of the Islamic Revolution must understand that Iran is always prepared to confront threats and defend its rights.

Regarding Netanyahu's efforts to secure U.S. support by emphasizing military threats involving Lebanon and Iran, Taeb emphasized, "Any new conflict in the region would only exacerbate pressures and internal challenges for the United States."

He stated, "For this reason, Biden's efforts to persuade Netanyahu towards a diplomatic solution have so far been fruitless." ▶ Page 2

Iranian parliamentary committee denies security infiltration regarding Haniyeh assassination

TEHRAN - The spokesperson for Iran's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee on Sunday revealed insights from a high-ranking Quds Force official regarding the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh, emphasizing that the assassination was not the result of an infiltration.

The committee convened for its second meeting to deliberate on Haniyeh's assassination.

Present at the meeting were key figures including the deputy intelligence chief of the Quds Force, the deputy intelligence minister for security affairs, the IRGC deputy chief for parliamentary affairs, and the chief of the Intelligence Ministry Department in charge of legal and Parliamentary Affairs.

During the session, Ebrahim Rezaei, the committee spokesperson, reported that the Quds Force Deputy provided a thorough analysis of the regional impact following Al-Aqsa Storm Operation on October 7 of the last year. The official characterized this operation as a major strategic advancement for the Resistance Front, claiming it has significantly accelerated the potential downfall of the Israeli regime. ▶ Page 3

International forum on Iran's petchem industry kicks off in Tehran

TEHRAN - The 15th International Forum on Iran's Petrochemical Industry (IPF) kicked off in Tehran on Sunday.

During the two-day event, which is organized by the National Petrochemical Company (NPC), more than 40 Iranian and foreign speakers, and the representatives of 70 domestic and foreign companies are participating.

As NIPNA reported, seven specialized workshops and several business promotion sessions are also scheduled to be held during the forum.

With the slogan of "clean technology", the international event seeks to discover new horizons in achieving sustainable development in the petrochemical industry with the effective participation and support of the private and public sector. ▶ Page 4



Pezeshkian vows revenge for Haniyeh in meeting with Jordanian FM

TEHRAN - Israel's assassination of Hamas Political Chief Ismail Haniyeh was a "major mistake" that "will not go unanswered, Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian said in a meeting with Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi.

Haniyeh was assassinated in his temporary residence in Tehran, hours after he attended Pezeshkian's inauguration ceremony. Reports suggest that Safadi decided to travel to Iran after he failed to persuade its officials to refrain from retaliation during two phone calls with Acting Foreign Minister Ali Baqeri Kani. Safadi rejected those claims in statements to the media upon arrival in Tehran. ▶ Page 2

Another nail in the coffin of the wrong state

By Batool Subeiti

BEIRUT - The actions of the resistance front over these past 10 months have put the Israeli occupation entity in danger of total collapse.

Today Israel is a manifestation of sharp contradictions. Its master the United States is also in such a situation. The irreversible strategic shifts and loss of deterrence for the Israeli occupation entity led to the escalatory provocative bombing attack on Yemen's Hodeida, the killing of Hashd al-Shaabi fighters in Iraq, and the high-profile assassinations in Lebanon and Iran, breaking the existing rules of engagement.

The aim of the Israeli occupation regime, along with America, is to restore some deterrence and boost the morale of its forces, in contrast to the realities of its failures on the ground. ▶ Page 5

TEHRAN PAPERS

A more complicated revenge

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

In a note, Kayhan dealt with CNN's report. It wrote: CNN quoted American officials and reported that Iran's response to the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh will probably be bigger and more complicated than the True Promise.

Prominent Western and American media outlets have put the assassination of martyr Ismail Haniyeh, the late political leader of Hamas, as well as Iran's anger and possible revenge for this criminal act of the Zionist regime, at the top of their news, reports, and analyses in recent days.

These media outlets acknowledged the power of Iran in a devastating and heavier attack on the occupied territories than before, and by maneuvering the American forces in the region and also supporting Israel, they unintentionally admitted the weakness of the failed Zionist regime against Iran.

They also confirmed that Iran's possible revenge, response, and attack this time will be much more severe and lead to a more fundamental blow to the Zionist regime. Israel should expect bloody revenge in the coming hours and days.

Sharh: The assassination of diplomacy

In a commentary, Sharh investigated the effect of the assassination of martyr Haniyeh on the de-escalating foreign policy of the Pezeshkian administration.

The paper said: The assassination of Ismail Haniyeh has acted as a turning point in the developments of the region. Undoubtedly, this operation can lead to unpredictable events in the Middle East.

Therefore, doing analysis has become very difficult for observers to the point where almost no one can evaluate the future with certainty.

On the other hand, just as the new president of Iran is preparing to run the country, the shadow of tension and even war with Israel has caused most analysts to believe in some kind of unwanted crisis in the foreign policy of the 14th government.

According to this view, it seems that Israel is trying to diplomatically block the 14th government before its inauguration by assassinating Haniyeh.

According to Ali Majedi, Iran's former ambassador to Germany and Japan, with the crisis caused by Haniyeh's assassination, the Pezeshkian government can hardly carry out its declared plans in interaction with the West.

Arman-e-Melli: Response to terrorist operations at several levels

In an interview with Ahmad Dastmalchian, the former Iranian ambassador to Lebanon, Arman-e-Melli discussed Iran's reaction against Israel and wrote: Although Israel has not yet claimed responsibility for this assassination, everyone acknowledges that Netanyahu was the cause of this assassination.

It is possible that Iran will directly launch rockets at Israel like in the True Promise operation, or that this time the Axis of Resistance will take revenge for Israel in Iran. It seems that the second scenario is serious and the first scenario is certain, and probably the entire Axis of Resistance in the region will independently attack Israel.

Tehran should deal with Israel on two levels. First of all, Tehran's engagement should be at the political level, and secondly, it should put pressure on Israel from other levels as well.

At the political level, it should be made clear in international forums, in Europe, and in other countries that the Israeli regime is a clear example of state terrorism and does not believe in any international law, and its actions should be condemned. On other levels, Israel should be punished now, as it was punished in the True Promise operation.

Iran: American media is the terrorist arm of Mossad

In an article, the Iran newspaper addressed the denial of the lies of the New York Times and said: The IRGC announced in a declaration that the terrorist operation that led to the martyrdom of Ismail Haniyeh by firing a short-range projectile with a warhead of about 7 kg was carried out from outside the accommodation area of the guests. The importance of the IRGC's third declaration is that it rejects the claims of the New York Times newspaper because this American media tried to confuse not only public opinion, but also the accurate narrative of this assassination with stories like Haniyeh's martyrdom with a bomb, or the existence of a human agent.

The fact is that in every terror where traces of the Zionist regime are seen, the American newspaper New York Times immediately intervenes. The point is that this American newspaper never investigates these assassinations from moral, human, or political aspects. Rather, it deviates from the issue of terrorism and always tries to give an epic form to these heinous and political murders of the Zionist regime by providing unconfirmed technical and military details.

Iran to hold Israel accountable for destabilizing the region: acting FM

TEHRAN- Iranian acting Foreign Minister Ali Baqeri Kani has declared Iran's firm determination to hold Israel accountable for its actions that jeopardize regional stability.

In a series of posts on X early Sunday, Baqeri Kani revealed that he had engaged in discussions with senior diplomats from Jordan and Egypt during his second phone call with them within the last 48 hours.

Baqeri Kani emphasized the escalating crisis in West Asia, attributing it to the "continued crimes and reckless behavior of the ruling criminal gang in Tel Aviv." He urged Muslim countries in the region to unify their stance and coordinate efforts to halt the genocide in Gaza and the broader aggression of the Zionist regime.

His comments followed a recent high-profile incident where Ismail Haniyeh, the leader of the Palestinian Hamas Resistance group, was reportedly killed in an Israeli attack on his residence in Tehran.

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) condemned the attack, describing it as a terrorist act involving a short-range projectile with a seven-kilogram warhead. The IRGC criticized Israel for executing the attack with U.S. support and warned of impending severe retaliation.



Hours before the Tehran attack, Israel had also targeted and killed Fuad Shukur, a senior commander of the Lebanese Resistance group Hezbollah, in Beirut. These dual attacks occur amidst ongoing Israeli operations in Gaza, which have resulted in the deaths of approximately 39,550 Palestinians, predominantly women and children, over the past ten months.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has emphasized the dire and chaotic conditions in Gaza, describing the situation as "total lawlessness."

Israel stands accused of genocide at the International Court of Justice, which ordered Tel Aviv to immediately halt its military operation in the

southern city of Rafah, where over a million Palestinians had sought refuge from the war before it was invaded on May 6.

Baqeri Kani warns of widening scope of Israeli crimes

Ali Baqeri Kani also spoke with Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, about the Israeli assassination of Ismail Haniyeh.

During their conversation, Baqeri Kani praised Pakistan's support for Palestinians and criticized the widening scope of Israeli actions, which have now affected Yemen, Beirut, and Tehran.

He stressed that these actions have crossed a critical line for Iran, promising two outcomes: a strong

Iranian response and a call for Islamic and regional countries to counteract the destabilizing actions of Israel.

Baqeri Kani also suggested convening an extraordinary meeting of Islamic nations and sought Pakistan's backing for this initiative, urging it to help prevent further Israeli aggression.

He further called for increased collaboration to support Gaza and address the Israeli regime's actions in the region.

In response, the Pakistani Foreign Minister offered his condolences for Haniyeh's assassination and supported the idea of an extraordinary meeting of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). He emphasized the need for the Islamic world to remain alert to Israeli actions and condemned the assassination in Tehran as a clear breach of international law and Iranian sovereignty.

The assassination of Ismail Haniyeh on Wednesday, has intensified tensions. Haniyeh, who was in Iran to attend the inauguration ceremony of the newly elected President Masoud Pezeshkian, was targeted in an attack that has been widely condemned by many countries. The Iranian government has vowed a decisive and regretful response to Israel's actions.

Pezeshkian vows revenge for Haniyeh in meeting with Jordanian FM

"The assassination of martyr Haniyeh is against all international laws. Iran expects all Islamic countries and the freedom-seeking people of the world to strongly condemn such atrocities," Pezeshkian told Jordan's top diplomat on Sunday, emphasizing that the "major mistake" will receive a response from Tehran.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Pezeshkian highlighted the importance of peace and stability in the region, reiterating that the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran under his administration is focused on fostering cooperation among nations.

Safadi, for his part, said Amman will work closely with Tehran to "create greater stability,

and peace in the region." he also condemned the assassination of Haniyeh, characterizing it as part of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's strategy to "expand the scope of conflicts in the region."

The Jordanian top diplomat also discussed regional issues in a separate meeting with Iran's caretaker foreign minister.

Israel's crimes worse than those committed in Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib: Foreign ministry

TEHRAN- The spokesperson for Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the crimes of the Zionist regime's army in response to reports of the torture of Palestinian prisoners.

Nasser Kanaani stated in his official account on the X platform,

"A Washington Post report on July 29, 2024, revealed medieval torture of Palestinians at the Zionist regime's prisons, which is just the tip of the iceberg."

"The leaks about some torture techniques and crimes at a prison inside Sadieh Timan base in Negev

desert, 30 kilometers from the Gaza Strip near the city of Be'er Sheva, indicate that the Zionist regime has set a new record in comparison to the notorious US-run prisons of Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib," he added.

Following Hamas's attack on the

occupied territories on October 7, 2023, the United Nations Human Rights Council received multiple reports of the torture of Palestinian prisoners being tortured by the Israeli regime's army. The Council condemned these actions in its official statements.

Iran judiciary chief warns of global Israeli threat

TEHRAN - Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Ejei, the Head of Iran's Judiciary, has raised concerns about the global threat posed by the Israeli regime and stressed the importance of preventing further errors by adversaries.

Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani, and other prominent resistance martyrs.

Ejei also remembered Imam Khomeini, the founder of the Islamic Republic, who warned of the dangers posed by the Israeli regime over 60 years ago.

He underscored that this threat extends beyond Palestinians to a global level and commended the leadership's efforts to unite various resistance groups against Israeli injustices.

In conjunction with World Human Rights Day, Ejei highlighted humanity's potential for both light and darkness. He urged a unified response to counter those who claim to seek peace while continuing aggressive actions. Ejei called for increased global solidarity to establish deterrents against future aggression.

The Judiciary Chief also urged Islamic human

rights organizations to educate the public on Quranic principles and challenge Western think tanks that justify violence. He condemned the recent war in Gaza, which has resulted in nearly 40,000 deaths and 91,000 injuries, along with widespread destruction and displacement.

Ejei criticized supposed human rights advocates who, under the guise of protection, have contributed to infrastructure destruction and crimes. He called for robust deterrence to prevent further atrocities and ensure that such crimes are not repeated.

Concluding, Ejei noted that the Leader of Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has urged Islamic countries to halt trade with nations supporting Israeli actions. He warned that if Israel's aggression in Gaza goes unchecked, it could spread to Lebanon and other regions.

IRGC ex-intelligence chief says attack on Israel will be 'surprising'

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Revolution must understand that Iran is always prepared to confront threats and defend its rights.

Regarding Netanyahu's efforts to secure U.S. support by emphasizing military threats involving Lebanon and Iran, Taeb emphasized, "Any new conflict in the region would only exacerbate pressures and internal challenges for the United States."

He stated, "For this reason, Biden's efforts to persuade Netanyahu towards a diplomatic solution have so far been fruitless."

Taeb emphasized, "Despite Netanyahu believing he could draw the U.S. into war, the Americans did not allow him to do so. American politicians

only provided a limited green light for targeting Hezbollah and Hamas commanders. However, Netanyahu sought to transform these limited actions into a regional war, which faced strong opposition from the U.S."

Taeb asserted, "Netanyahu and his opponents have both come to believe that Israel is on the brink of collapse and that if the situation continues as it is, the current government of the Zionist regime may cease to exist by 2028. Netanyahu and the far-right and conservative factions all share the view that Israel will not survive its eightieth anniversary and must seek new solutions to address the challenges ahead."

INVITATION TO ONE STEP INTERNATIONAL TENDER
Second Announcement
55/03/1119
08/05/2024

AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES COMPANY

The Agricultural Support Services Company, hereinafter will be referred as ASSC, affiliated to Ministry of Agriculture-Jihad of I.R of Iran, is considering the purchase of the below item of technical, through renewal of one step international tender.

	Name	PACKING	Quantity/ KG
1	Deltamethrin Tech Min 98.5 pct.	50 kg drums	1800

All of the qualified and interested companies are invited to receive tender documents from **Monday** dated **5/8/2024** until **Sunday** dated **11/8/2024** (5 working days) from our purchasing committee (located at the 9th floor, no. 1, fourth alley, Gandhi St., Tehran, Iran).

The bidders are requested to submit their letters of introduction, along with remittance bill of IRI. Rials 1,200,000 to ASSC's account no. 4001039704005791 with SHEBA no. IR250100004001039704005791 at the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran through payment order of SATNA or PAYA with the 30-character identification code of 339039782263500650000000000008.

The bidders are requested to submit their sealed and stamped envelopes containing offers latest on **Monday** dated **9/9/2024** (to the end of official working hours) to our security office located on the 8th floor. Meanwhile the meeting for the opening of the envelopes will be held on **Tuesday** dated **10/9/2024** at **14:00** with the presence of bidder's representatives at our purchasing committee (9th floor, no. 1, Fourth Alley, Gandhi St., Tehran, Iran).

We would like to emphasize that the value of the bid bond amount must be only submitted by the bidders in bank guarantee as follows:
The value of the bid bond: **€5184** is equivalent to Iranian Rials **2482145856**.

- The bid bond value should be in Euro or in equal value of any other foreign currencies, except US dollars, based on the exchange rate of Telegraphic Transfer on CBI's ETS website, www.fxmarketrate.cbi.ir, on **27/7/2024**.

-The bidders are also permitted to submit the bid bond in Iranian Rial.

- After approval of ASSC's Financial Manager, the bidders are permitted to use their previous and definite outstanding claims as the bid bond.

For more information, you may refer to our website www.assc.ir, and <http://iets.mporg.ir> or contact us by phone no. 00982188776325.

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Covering an assassination

How Western media lies to protect Israel from the consequences of Haniyeh's killing

By Mona Hojat Ansari

TEHRAN – The specter of an imminent Iranian retaliation hangs heavy over Israel as the regime scrambles to contain the fallout from the assassination of Hamas Political Chief Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran. With that, Western media has returned to its familiar playbook, spreading unfounded claims like wildfire to protect Israel from facing the consequences of its actions.

On August 1, a day after Haniyeh was assassinated in his temporary residence in Tehran, the New York Times became the first Western media outlet to push the train of lie and deceit out of the station. It released an article that claimed Haniyeh was killed by a bomb planted in his room – a bomb that had been hidden inside the room two months earlier.

The NYT relied solely on anonymous sources described as “seven Middle Eastern officials” to make the claims. When the narrative was rejected by Iranian officials, the paper doubled down on its fabricated narrative with a second article instead of offering evidence.

The second article released on August 3 once again relied on unidentified sources to assert that Iran had “arrested more than two dozen people” including senior intelligence officers, and military officials for the “humiliating security breach” that enabled the assassination of Hamas’ political chief. No details were provided on the identities or roles of the two dozen individuals who the NYT claimed had been detained.

After the American paper set the trend, other Western media outlets began to parrot the narrative it was trying to build. The Telegraph, for instance, said bombs had been hidden in three



rooms instead of one and also claimed that Mossad was initially planning to assassinate Haniyeh in May when he attended the funeral of the late President Ebrahim Raisi.

Like the NYT, other Western outlets reporting on the circumstances of Haniyeh's death have failed to produce any concrete evidence to support their assertions.

How was Haniyeh assassinated?

The Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) released three separate statements after Haniyeh's assassination, the last of which explained that the Palestinian leader was martyred by a “short-range projectile” launched from outside his residence in Tehran.

Every other account provided by Iranian and Hamas officials, as well as eyewitnesses, aligns with the details released by the IRGC.

“I personally inspected the place where Ismail Haniyeh was martyred. The walls showed signs of destruction from the outside, while the ceiling had collapsed inwards. Had a bomb exploded within the room, the aftermath would have appeared entirely different,” Khaled Al-Qaddumi, the head of Hamas' bureau in Iran,

told the Tehran Times.

“We all know that Western media is always trying to copy the narrative of the Zionist regime. Western media always try to deceive the audience with fabricated and well-orchestrated scenarios. They have turned into experts in doing that.” He added.

What game is Western media playing?

Western media has a long history of peddling lies and fabrications that serve Israeli interests. The infamous story of the 40 beheaded babies, the alleged rapes by Hamas forces on October 7, and the fabricated story of a Palestinian rocket striking the Al-Ahli Arab hospital are just a few examples of the blatant misinformation spread by American and European outlets in the past 10 months.

Western media of course, never feels the need to provide evidence for its claims. This is largely because they are rarely held responsible for their intentional falsehoods. Even when they eventually recognize or amend their inaccuracies, the damage is already done, as the lie has taken root in public belief.

This time around, it seems that Western media is trying to diminish public support for Iran's

retaliation against Israel.

“When Iran conducted Operation True Promise after Israel attacked its embassy in Syria, different countries and their people supported the operation even though it was unprecedented in its kind. That's because the world believed that Tehran had the legal right to respond to Israel's aggression,” Mahdi Khanalizadeh, a West Asia analyst and former director of the Press TV Website, told the Tehran Times.

Khanalizadeh noted that public opinion has once again aligned with Iran, supporting the belief that the country has the right to respond to the regime's terrorist attack targeting a Palestinian leader on Iranian soil. “When the New York Times and other media outlets suggest the incident was due to a security and intelligence failure rather than an attack, they are implicitly arguing that military action in response to Haniyeh's assassination would be unjustified. This serves to undermine the righteousness of Iran's retaliation against Israel.”

Western media could have a difficult time getting people on Israel's side of the ledger, given the growing misgivings people hold about the accuracy of their reports after 10 months of blatant misinformation on Gaza. But even if their latest propaganda campaign comes to fruition, it is unlikely to affect Iran's will to punish Israel.

“Iran and Resistance forces are going to avenge martyr Haniyeh's blood no matter what,” Al-Qaddumi declared. “Even the international community needs to take action and join the Axis of Resistance because the Zionist regime has violated every international law out there and created chaos in every corner of the region.”

Iranian parliamentary committee denies security infiltration regarding Haniyeh assassination



From Page 1 ▶ According to the Quds Force Deputy, this operation has posed an unprecedented threat to the existence and identity of the Israeli regime. The Deputy also

noted that the Israeli regime is now closer to collapse, facing defeat as it has failed to achieve its recent objectives and has been weakened by a prolonged conflict.

Rezaei shared that the Deputy highlighted the regime's unsuccessful attempts to meet its goals, including securing the return of prisoners and dismantling Hamas. He also reported that at least 200,000 Israelis have been displaced due to Al-Aqsa Storm Operation, prompting the Israeli regime to resort to assassination attempts in an effort to shift the narrative

following its setbacks in Gaza.

The spokesperson reiterated that the ongoing investigation into Haniyeh's death is thorough and requires time for detailed examination.

In addition to the discussion on Haniyeh's assassination, the Iranian Parliament held a closed-door session chaired by Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf. During this session, the Speaker and several parliamentarians provided updates on the ongoing investigations and discussed other parliamentary matters, including welfare provisions for members of the legislative body

Debunking a skewed article in Western media

From Page 1 ▶ The August 2 article in Newsweek is an example of a note published in a well-known Western media outlet, in which the authors shamelessly continued to praise and support terrorism, a path that their country's politicians have taken against the Palestinian people throughout these years.

The authors of this Newsweek note, referring to the assassination of the martyrs Haniyeh and Shukur, write: “The elimination of these arch-terrorists and murderers was entirely legal, just, and moral. The world today is a safer place without them and Israel ought to congratulate for their elimination.” They describe the operation to assassinate Ismail Haniyeh as “daring, audacious, and brilliantly executed.”

What is clear is that the Zionist regime's assassination squads have destroyed a part of the intellect of these two writers who are capable of understanding words like law, justice, and morality!

The writers also state: “In the last 72 hours, Israel not only regained its deterrence, but has taken it to a new level, with the potential to permanently alter the landscape of the Middle East.”

It seems that the writers

are enthusiastic about these assassination operations. They claim that Israel has regained its deterrence and taken it to a new level, where attacks on Israeli soil in response to the brutality of this regime are now a routine news item for followers. The imminent response of the Axis of Resistance to these assassinations - following similar attacks carried out against the Zionist regime in April 2024 - will once again change the strategic equations of the region and make attacks on occupied lands a normal and enforceable matter.

In another part of the text, the writers claim that: “Israel's renewed deterrence can also have a positive impact on the hostage negotiations. Although there will be some uncertainty with respect to the negotiations in the short-term, in the medium term, it should place greater pressure on Hamas to accept a deal.” Only the Zionist regime can simultaneously sit at the negotiating table and kill sixty members of the negotiator's family (including children and grandchildren) and then, kill him who traveled to another country officially and with a diplomatic title, and then think about continuing the negotiation. Such a form of negotiation probably did not exist

even in barbarian societies, and barbarians also realized that saving the negotiator's life is one of the basic principles of negotiation.

The writers also state: “There is no denying that Hamas has been utterly decimated and embarrassed. Their leadership is destroyed, its military dismantled into a fraction of its former self, and Sinwar has never been so isolated.” The writers actually write as if it is the first time that an assassination has occurred at the level of the leaders of resistance movements. The assassination of Sheikh Ahmad Yassin and Martyr Seyyed Abbas Mousavi is just two of the thousands of assassinations committed by this regime. Also, about 30 hours after the Tehran assassination, the Leader of Iran and other top resistance officials held a memorial procession for Ismail Haniyeh in the center of Tehran, with the presence of hundreds of thousands of people, without any concern for their own security. In reality, the news of another assassination by the Zionist regime did not come as a surprise to many, but it deeply saddened supporters of anti-occupation resistance.

It is worth noting that the Zionist regime's history of assassinations

predates its formation, and instead of diplomats or politicians, this regime employs trained terrorists who engage in activities beyond mere killings. With substantial financial resources and ongoing support from Western nations, the assassination apparatus of this regime conducts its operations, and anyone who takes a step to fight against the Zionist occupiers prepares themselves to confront these murderers.

The authors conclude: “Israel's audacious targeted operations this past week only underscore that the path to stability in the region and return of the hostages, will come from renewed Israeli deterrence and strength.” In fact, the Zionist regime has found itself in a defensive stance following the assassination, repeatedly reaching out to its allies for assistance in safeguarding its territory. While the Zionists themselves know well that they will pay the price for the assassinations they have committed, talk of deterrence is meaningless. It is noteworthy to mention the words of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the Secretary-General of Hezbollah, in response to the assassinations in Beirut and Tehran: Be a little happy and smile; soon you will cry a lot.

IRAN IN FOCUS

AUGUST 5, 2024

Straight Truth
TEHRAN TIMES

3

SPORTS

Assistant Rezaei heaps praise on Inter new signing Taremi



TEHRAN – Assistant coach of Iran's national football team Rahman Rezaei is happy for his compatriot Mehdi Taremi, who has recently joined Italy's Inter Milan.

Taremi, 32, saw out his contract with Porto to sign for the Italian champions as a free agent.

The striker has been showing his credentials in the club's pre-season friendlies, and will be looking to do likewise in official fixtures once the season kicks off.

For his part, Rezaei insists that the Nerazzurri have found themselves a leader and an excellent player in Taremi.

“Mehdi is an excellent player, a true leader,” said the former Perugia and Livorno defender in his interview with Tuttosport via FcInterNews.

“He's capable of holding the group together, he is always close to all his teammates. In Iran, he is considered the strongest of all, together with Sardar Azmoun.

“I believe he did well to join Inter. In fact, this is a late move, as he should have arrived earlier. Never mind, he will prove himself now with the Nerazzurri,” Rezaei added.

The Iran assistant coach then talked about Taremi's attributes, explaining how Simone Inzaghi will be able to utilize him.

“We're talking about a player who moves a lot on the pitch. He goes forward, left, right, and even tracks back. Marking him is very difficult.

Inzaghi will be able to deploy him in any position in the attack. And even as a second striker if he wants.

He will certainly do very well for Inter. Taremi is technically strong and has a strong mentality.

He has speed, he takes penalties well, and he knows how to free himself,” Rezaei explained.

“Inzaghi is very intelligent, tactically strong. His team usually dominates the league. The midfielders and the wingbacks push forward. This can help Taremi score many goals,” he stated.

Finally, Rezaei praised Inter for their style of play, considering them an exemplary European club.

“Inter's attacking football, can help Taremi thrive. Inzaghi uses the qualities of his players to the fullest.

“The team plays very well and scores a lot. They are an exemplary club for all of Europe.

“With Lautaro, Taremi can do very well. The Argentine holds the ball well, and makes the team move up the pitch, while Taremi's movements can be useful to the whole team.

Maziar Zare no longer Shams Azar coach: IPL

TEHRAN – Maziar Zare has stepped down as head coach of Shams Azar football team.

Zare, who had been appointed as Shams Azar coach in July, has informed the Qazvin-based club's officials he cannot work under the current conditions.

Zare replaced Saied Daghighi in Shams Azar.

The former Malavan coach had previously announced that he would resign from his job if the situation doesn't improve.

Shams Azar has not so far reacted to the news.

Martinez to return for Inter to replace Taremi

TEHRAN – Inter captain Lautaro Martinez is set to cut his holiday short and return to Italy later in this coming week to replace the injured Mehdi Taremi.

The 2023-24 Capocannoniere had originally been due to return to the city of Milan on August 8, however, following the injury that Taremi picked up earlier this week, he will now return on Tuesday instead, two days earlier than originally planned.

After a strong start to life in Nerazzurri colors, scoring five goals in his first three appearances for the club, Taremi had been in line to begin the Serie A season in the starting line-up.

However, the club confirmed that he has picked up a muscular injury and will be sidelined for a few weeks, which will likely keep him out of the season opener against Genoa on Saturday week.

Inter will now rely on 2023-24 starters Martinez and Marcus Thuram to be fit and ready to go in time for the Genoa clash on August 17.

Iran beat Nepal in CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League

TEHRAN – Iran beat Nepal 3-2 (25-16, 16-25, 25-23, 15-25, 15-13) in the CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League on Sunday.

The Persians had started the campaign with a 3-1 loss against India but defeated Sri Lanka 3-2 and the Maldives 3-0.

Team Melli moved up top of the table.

The competition kicked off at the National Sports Council in Kathmandu, Nepal, on Aug. 1.

According to the competition format, all five participating teams contest a single round robin and will be ranked first to fifth places respectively according to performances of each team.

After that, team finishing on the bottom fifth place will leave the competition.

The teams finishing first to fourth places will contest the cross semifinals on Aug. 6, with the first-ranked team challenging the fourth place and the second-ranked side fighting it out with the third place. The two winning teams will then advance to the showdown and fight for the eventual crown on Aug. 7.

The CAVA Women's Nations League promises to be an exciting event, showcasing top-tier volleyball talent and fostering international sportsmanship.

Iran gymnast Olfati happy with his result in 2024 Olympics

TEHRAN – Iranian gymnast Mahdi Olfati says that he is satisfied with what he has done in the 2024 Olympic Games.

Olfati, 23, finished in seventh place with a score of 14.266 in the vault.

The Philippines' Carlos Yulo secured his second gold of the Games (15.116) having topped the podium in the floor event on Saturday, while silver went to Armenia's Artur Davtyan (14.966).

Harry Hepworth (14.949) became the first British man to win an Olympic vault medal with bronze in a high-quality final in Paris.

“I'm happy with my result in the Games because it was my first Olympics. I hope to show a better performance in the next Olympic Games,” Olfati said.

“The level of the competition in Olympics is high and it affected on my performance,” he added.

Hamid Pour-Mohammadi appointed as new PBO head

TEHRAN – Iran's new President Masoud Pezeshkian appointed Hamid Pour-Mohammadi as the new head of Planning and Budget Organization (PBO).

Pour-Mohammadi, who has previously served as the deputy head of PBO and the deputy governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI), replaced Davoud Manzour.

In a decree to appoint Pour-Mohammadi to the new post, the president has urged him to fulfill the organization's long-term vision and follow the general policies approved by the Leader of the Islamic Revolution while fulfilling the goals of the country's seventh National Development Plan.

Export of technical, engineering services rises 18% in 4 months yr/yr

TEHRAN – Iran's export of technical and engineering services exceeded \$200 million in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-July 21) from the same period of time in the previous year, an official with the Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) announced.

Mohammadreza Karimzadeh, the director-general of TPO's Knowledge Based Products and Technical and Engineering Services Office, said the exports of the mentioned services increased by 18 percent compared to the previous year's same period.

According to the official, the implemented projects in other countries were in various fields including oil and gas, energy transmission lines, information and communication technology as well as water and sewage projects.

Back in April, the chairman of the Board of Directors of the Iran Water Industry Federation said the country exported \$1.8 billion worth of technical and engineering services over the past two years.

Stressing the importance of exporting technical and engineering services, Reza Haj Karim said giant steps have been taken in

the administration of late President Ebrahim Raisi in the field as compared to the previous years.

Domestic knowledge-based companies have a high potential to export technical and engineering services and can do even better with due support from the government, he underscored.

Haj Karim further noted that Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and East Asian countries are among those whose economic growth is higher than the world average so this Asian market can be a lucrative market for Iranian domestic companies.

As a leading country in the water and electricity industry, Iran stands in the first rank in the region in the export of technical and engineering services in this industry, and this shows the high technical and engineering knowledge and ability of Iranian specialists and companies.

Thanks to the efforts of the country's specialists in the years after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, Iran is now among the top five power plant turbine manufacturing countries in the world.

Basic commodities unloading at ports increases 14%

TEHRAN – As announced by the Iranian Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO), the unloading of basic goods at the ports of country rose 14 percent during the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-July 21), as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

The PMO announced that 7,453,720 tons of basic commodities were loaded at the ports during the four-month period.

Based on the data released by the organization, some 76,330,052 tons of goods were loaded and unloaded at the country's ports in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year.

As reported, during the mentioned four months more than 8.949 million tons of oil products and over 17.484 million tons of non-oil goods were unloaded at the Iranian ports, while the loading of oil products in ports was reported to be 25.4 million tons, and the loading of non-oil goods was 24.494 million tons.

Totally, more than 26.434 million tons of oil- and non-oil goods were unloaded at the Iranian ports in the said four months, and over 49.896 million tons of oil- and non-oil products were loaded.

During the said period, loading and unloading operations in the container sector reached 924,886 TEUs, which was four percent more than the 886,378 TEUs in the first four months of the past year.

While Iran is combating the U.S. unilateral sanctions on its economy, the country's ports as the major gates of exports and imports play a significant role in this battle. This role makes all-out support to ports and more development of them serious and vital.

Such necessity has led the government to define projects for more development of the ports and also take some measures to encourage investment making in ports, in addition to facilitating the loading and unloading of goods, especially basic commodities, there.

It is worth mentioning that Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization has defined a high number of projects to develop and improve the country's ports, as the country aims to double the capacity of its ports in five years.

Ports and Maritime Organization has put



it on the agenda to attract 300 trillion rials (about \$600 million) of investment from the private sector in the country's ports by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (late March 2025).

As reported by the PMO portal, the mentioned investment is going to be used to develop the infrastructure and operational capacity of the country's ports.

Last month, PMO Head Ali-Akbar Safaei said over the past few years the organization has managed to attract nearly \$1.7 billion of foreign and domestic investment in the country's ports and maritime sector.

Speaking in a press conference on July 10, Safaei said some 620 trillion rials (about \$1.24 billion) of domestic investment and \$470 million of foreign investment have been attracted in the mentioned sectors.

"The attraction of this amount of private sector investment is significant compared to the total budget of the government in the sea and port sectors," he said.

According to the official, regarding the foreign investment, PMO has signed contracts with five countries including India which has so far invested \$120 million in the port sector and \$250 million in the rail, roads and infrastructure sector.

Referring to the growth of maritime trade in the country, Safaei continued: "Maritime trade increased from 215 million tons in [the Iranian calendar year] 1401 (2022-2023) to 237 million tons last year (ended on March 19, 2024)."

"In the first quarter of the current year, 60 million tons of maritime trade was recorded, which shows a 10 percent growth compared to the same period last year, and even a 70 percent growth was recorded in some ports of the Caspian Sea," he added.

Petchem output to reach 80m tons by late March 2025

TEHRAN – Head of Iran's National Petrochemical Company (NPC) has said the country's petrochemical output is estimated to reach 80 million tons in the current Iranian calendar year (ends in late March 2025), Shana reported.

Noting that one of the main objectives of the Oil Ministry in the current year has been the sustained supply of feed to petrochemical complexes, Morteza Shahmirzaei put the country's petrochemical exports in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 19) at 30 million tons.

Back in May, Ahmad Mahdavi Abhari, the director general of the Association of Petrochemical Industry Corporation (APIC), said Iran's petrochemical output has increased by 15 million tons over the past two years.

Abhari put the country's current petrochemical output at 82 million tons.

He said Iran's petrochemical output stood at 67 million tons before late President Raisi took



office in August 2021.

The official also noted that the Iranian petrochemical industry has created as many as 143,000 direct jobs in the mentioned period.

He put the current growth of Iran's petrochemical industry at 40.6 percent up from 27.5 percent in the country's third five-year development plan.

Earlier in April, Shahmirzaei said the company was planning to complete 13 new petrochemical projects by the end of the

current Iranian calendar year to further increase the country's petrochemical output.

"One of the strategies of the petrochemical industry in the year 'production leap with people's participation' is to put 12 new petrochemical projects into operation by the end of [the current Iranian calendar]1403 and use all available capacities," the official said.

He stated that the completion of 12 petrochemical projects by the end of this year will have a

significant impact on the growth of production and economic development of the country.

The NPC head had previously put the country's petrochemical production capacity at over 92 million tons, and said: "Today we are almost self-sufficient in the main petrochemical sectors including products and equipment."

Iran's petrochemical industry accounts for 28 percent of the region's petrochemical capacity and 2.7 percent of the world's petrochemical capacity, he announced.

The petrochemical industry plays a crucial role in Iran's non-oil economy, as petrochemical export is the second-largest source of revenue for the country after crude oil. Petrochemical exports already constitute nearly 33 percent of the country's non-oil exports.

According to Shahmirzaei, the company plans to increase its annual petrochemical production capacity to 200 million tons over the next 10 years.

International Forum on Iran's petchem Industry kicks off in Tehran

TEHRAN – The 15th International Forum on Iran's Petrochemical Industry (IPF) kicked off in Tehran on Sunday.

During the two-day event, which is organized by the National Petrochemical Company (NPC), more than 40 Iranian and foreign speakers, and the representatives of 70 domestic and foreign companies are participating.

As NIPNA reported, seven specialized workshops and several business promotion sessions are also scheduled to be held during the forum.

With the slogan of "clean technology", the international event seeks to discover new horizons in achieving sustainable development in the petrochemical industry with the effective participation and support of the private and public sector.

Also, in the current year's IPF, this opportunity has been provided for some of the companies active in this industry to showcase their capabilities in the form of an exhibition.

According to Head of Iran's National Petrochemical Company (NPC) Morteza Shahmirzaei,

"The achievements and latest developments of Iran's petrochemical industry are tried to be presented in the 15th Iran Petrochemical Forum (IPF) to improve the position of this industry in the world."

Making the remarks in a press conference at the place of the company on July 23, the official mentioned presenting the achievements of the four continents of the world in the petrochemical industry, improving processes, identifying environmental pollution and avoiding their release in this industry, meaningful cooperation and strengthening of the petrochemical industry and financial institutions, commercial companies and manufacturers, unveiling advanced processes and sharing technological plans and ideas as some of the goals of holding this conference.

According to Shahmirzaei, almost all of the need for petrochemical catalysts in the country is met by domestic producers, and the company is taking final steps to fully indigenize the knowledge for the production of such catalysts.

He has said that the NPC is seriously pursuing the plan for localizing petrochemical indus-

try catalysts.

He further said Iran's petrochemical industry is moving on the way of progress and growth by relying on its capable infrastructures.

Referring to the government's strategy of relying on sea-oriented development, Shahmirzaei has said that the petrochemical industry is being expanded across the shores of the Persian Gulf and Sea of Oman which will result in diversity in the basket of petrochemical products, economic growth and employment in the area.

Elsewhere in his remarks he said that "we should be determined to move toward providing our needs from within by relying on domestic capabilities, cutting the country's dependency to foreign-made products."

He announced that about 550 grades of petrochemical products are being produced inside the country at the moment which by making new investments, the capacity to produce different petrochemical products will grow; consequently, not only will meet domestic needs but increase the potential for exports as well.

Iran Invest Expo 2024 to provide finance, investment for export projects

By Mahnaz Abdi

TEHRAN – Iran Invest Expo 2024 is aimed at providing financing and investment in export-oriented projects in order to provide infrastructure for export-aimed production, an official with Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) stated.

Speaking in a press conference on Sunday, Mahmoud Bazari mentioned the objectives of holding this exhibition as the introduction of the country's investment opportunities and capacities, as well as the projects in different economic sectors of the country, and creating an environment for multilateral negotiations between domestic and foreign entrepreneurs.

The official also stated that developing business interactions

with neighbors and persuading them to invest in Iran can be considered as one of the goals of this exhibition.

He considered the attraction of foreign investment and financing as one of the country's priorities and added: "There is no doubt that activities in all sectors need financing in order to realize mid and long-term goals."

Iran Invest Expo 2024 is planned to be held at the Tehran Permanent International Fairgrounds during September 26-October 1.

Addressing the same press conference, Mohammad-Sadeq Qanadzadeh, another TPO official, introduced the attraction of foreign investment as one of the main drivers of economic development of countries and added: "Abundant

resources, suitable infrastructure, cheap and expert labor force, and geopolitical position can be considered as the main indicators in making Iran attractive to attract foreign investors."

Referring to the growth of attracting foreign resources, he emphasized: "In recent years, the attraction of foreign investment has taken an upward trend, but it is not very impressive compared to Iran's production and export capabilities."

The exhibition introducing Iran's investment opportunities will be held with the method of Iran's expos and with the aim of attracting domestic and foreign investment, the official stated, emphasizing: "This event is our first experience in this sector and we want to em-



Mohammad-Sadeq Qanadzadeh (C) and Mahmoud Bazari (R)

phasize the importance of attracting large-scale investment."

Referring to Iran's prominent presence in international agreements, Qanadzadeh stated: "Iran is now a member of BRICS, D8, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, etc., which strengthens our ties and can help attract foreign investment.

TEDPIX drops 1,000 points on Sunday

TEHRAN – TEDPIX, the main index of the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), fell 1,057 points to 2,005,608 on Sunday, which is the second day of the Iranian calendar week.

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

The head of Iran's Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO) has said that the capital of the companies active in the stock market increased by 5.0 quadrillion rials (about \$10

billion) in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 19).

According to Majid Eshqi, the capital of listed companies increased from 15 quadrillion rials (about \$30 billion) two years ago to 20 quadrillion rials (about \$40 billion) in the previous year, IRNA reported.

He expressed hope that by formulating the necessary guidelines and setting up the institutions that are seen in the production financing law, the government will be able to address the issue of capital formation, which is one of the serious challenges of the economy."

Eshqi had said in June 2023 that attracting capital for the companies active in the stock market is a priority of the organization which is being seriously pursued.

"Funding through the capital market should be facilitated and achieved in a short period of time," Eshqi stressed.

According to the SEO head, development of IT infrastructure is also considered one of the priorities of the stock exchange organization.

"We will have serious improvements in the transaction system and follow-up processes," he noted.

Global protests grow against Israeli crimes following Haniyeh assassination

From page 1 ▶ Elsewhere in Indonesia, thousands of demonstrators marched to the heavily guarded US embassy in the capital Jakarta on Saturday to protest the assassination of the Hamas political chief.

They waved Indonesian and Palestinian flags while holding posters of Haniyeh alongside placards reading: "The blood of our leaders is not more valuable than the blood of Palestinian children."

Police blocked off the embassy's compound by concrete road separators and razor wire. More than 1,300 officers were deployed around the site.

Demonstrators chanted pro-Palestine slogans calling for the liberation of the Palestinian land from the Israeli occupation.

The protesters further condemned the US support for Israel's genocidal war on Gaza that began on October 7 last year.

South Koreans also staged a pro-Palestine rally at the weekend. Protesters in downtown Seoul slammed Haniyeh's assassination as they called for ending the genocide in Gaza.

The Turkish city of Istanbul also saw anti-Israel protests. The demonstrators condemned Haniyeh's murder and Israel's atrocities in Gaza.



Similar protests were also held in Lebanon, Jordan and some other countries including the UK.

At a weekend rally in Toronto, Canada, pro-Palestine protesters carried a banner saying, "Long live legal armed resistance to occupation"

Tens of thousands of protesters in the British capital con-

demned their country's support for Israel.

Londoners demanded that the government stop arming the regime of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Holding banners, they chanted slogans such as "End the genocide," and "No Middle East war."

Solidarity with Palestine at Paris Olympics

Protesters in the French capital expressed solidarity with Palestinians during the Olympic Games on Saturday.

As cyclists passed the 20th arrondissement of Paris, demonstrators displayed Palestinian flags and some wore keffiyehs, a well-known symbol of Palestinian nationalism.

Protesters wearing T-shirts in the colors of the Palestinian flag chanted: "Free Palestine."

Hundreds of demonstrators also gathered at the Place de la Nation calling for an end to the Gaza onslaught. They held banners with pictures of Palestinian children killed in Israeli strikes.

Israel has slaughtered about 39,600 Palestinians, including more than 16,000 children in Gaza during the nearly 10-month-long war. More than 91,000 Palestinians have also been wounded in the onslaught.

Since the start of the war, protests have been held across the world in solidarity with Palestinians.

But growing protests following the assassination of Haniyeh have clearly shown that sentiment against Israel's brutalities is still on the rise.

Israel currently stands accused of genocide by the International Court of Justice (ICJ). The International Criminal Court (ICC) has also requested arrest warrants for Netanyahu and his war minister Yoav Gallant over committing war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza.

The continuation of Israel's atrocities amid the position of international organizations and global protests will definitely deepen the regime's isolation and its main backer, the United States.

Haniyeh assassination intended to drag US into war: commentary

TEHRAN - In a commentary on August 1, the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft said Israel's assassination of Hamas's political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran "around Pezeshkian's inauguration is unlikely a coincidence."

The Quincy Institute also said Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu ordered the assassination to kill any chance of dialogue between Tehran and Washington and drag the U.S. into a war with Iran.

Following is the text of the article:

There is little doubt that Israel was behind the assassination of Hamas' hostage-deal negotiator and political head Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran on Wednesday. By deliberately maximizing Tehran's embarrassment—Haniyeh was killed only hours after the inauguration of Iran's new reformist President Masoud Pezeshkian—the Israeli government also maximized the likelihood of Iranian retaliation. That is—at least in the view of a former deputy head of the Israeli National Security Council—because Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wants to spark a larger war and drag the U.S. into it.

Though Israel itself would pay a high price in a region-wide war, it would serve Netanyahu's interests in numerous ways.

Firstly, Haniyeh's assassination kills the prospect of an imminent ceasefire deal. Netanyahu has consistently opposed a deal that would end the war. The Israeli daily Haaretz revealed that, in prior rounds of negotiations, he strategically leaked sensitive information to the media at crucial moments to sabotage talks. As President Biden told TIME when asked whether Netanyahu was prolonging the war for the sake of his polit-

ical career, "There is every reason to draw that conclusion." Netanyahu knows that a hostage deal will collapse his government and end his reign as Prime Minister. It would also likely mean the expedition of his ongoing corruption trial, which may very well land him in jail. Nothing kills these talks more effectively than ending the life of the negotiator on the other side of the table.

Secondly, Haniyeh's killing may corner a future President Kamala Harris. While the Biden administration has consistently blamed Hamas for the failure to reach a deal, there are signs Harris could take a different approach to Biden's near-complete deference to Israel. "As I just told Prime Minister Netanyahu, it is time to get this deal done," she said after he visited Washington on July 26, pinning the blame for the lack of progress at his feet. Her cold body language, her expression of empathy for the suffering of Palestinians, and her willingness to publicly point to Israel's obfuscation were hard for Netanyahu to miss.

Thirdly, killing Haniyeh also killed another line of potential negotiation: between the U.S. and Iran. The surprise election of Pezeshkian—who campaigned on a platform of restarting talks with the U.S.—created a small window for renewed diplomacy. But the escalation sparked by the assassination has severely undercut Pezeshkian's prospects of creating political space in Tehran for such an outreach. This is particularly true since Tehran believes that Israel acted with the Biden Administration's blessing. In a letter to the President of the UN Security Council, Iran's UN ambassador wrote that the attack "could not have occurred without the authorization and intelligence support of the Unit-

ed States."

Given Israel's longstanding opposition to improved U.S.-Iran relations, choosing to assassinate Haniyeh around Pezeshkian's inauguration is unlikely a coincidence.

Indeed, Netanyahu has for two decades sought to get the U.S. to go to war with Iran. The last four American presidents have all at various times faced pressure from Israel to attack Iran. Though much focus has been on Iran's nuclear program, the desire for a direct U.S. attack goes deeper than uranium enrichment. Israel sees Iran as threatening a regional arrangement that otherwise provides Israel with maximum maneuverability, including the ability to strike Syria and Lebanon with almost complete impunity. A nuclear deal that prevents Iran from building a bomb would not shift the regional balance away from Iran, the Israelis believe. In fact, through the sanctions relief that Iran was promised under Obama's nuclear deal, Iran's conventional capabilities would probably grow. Obama's rapprochement with Iran edged the regional balance of power away from the Persian Gulf states and Israel.

Israel's apparent attack appears designed to elicit an Iranian response, one that could easily spiral into a larger war that draws in the U.S. In April, the Biden Administration prevented an uncontrollable escalation by helping choreograph an exchange of fire between Iran and Israel following Israel's bombing of Iran's consulate in Damascus on April 1.

Today the U.S. can still stop the region from descending into chaos, but only if it is willing to put clear and public red lines in front of Netanyahu.

Another nail in the coffin of the wrong state

By Batool Subeiti

BEIRUT - The actions of the resistance front over these past 10 months have put the Israeli occupation entity in danger of total collapse.

Today Israel is a manifestation of sharp contradictions. Its master the United States is also in such a situation. The irreversible strategic shifts and loss of deterrence for the Israeli occupation entity led to the escalatory provocative bombing attack on Yemen's Hodeida, the killing of Hashd al-Shaabi fighters in Iraq, and the high-profile assassinations in Lebanon and Iran, breaking the existing rules of engagement.

The aim of the Israeli occupation regime, along with America, is to restore some deterrence and boost the morale of its forces, in contrast to the realities of its failures on the ground. America sees that if the war ended prior to the provocative attacks on Yemen, Iraq, Lebanon and Iran, it would have been a full defeat for the entity. This has very big implications for the region itself. For this reason, America sought, alongside the occupation regime, to get an image of victory through

the attacks.

If America had to choose between collapsing the occupation entity's deterrence or expanding the war, it would have chosen to extend it. That is why it signaled a green light for the entity to carry out the attacks, despite the pending escalation.

The red line for America is that the Israeli occupation entity cannot collapse at the hands of the resistance axis - America wishes to remain in the driver's seat through leading its policies in the region, seeking to determine and limit the role of the entity according to the necessity of its existence and size.

To maintain new levels of deterrence in favor of the resistance, it is expected the response be harsh and equal in weight. If the Israeli occupation entity responds to the resistance attacks strongly, the war will expand. That is why America will press the entity not to respond strongly since it cannot tolerate repercussions without direct American help. For this reason, Washington seeks to close this round of escalation.

The red line for America is that the occupation

entity will not drag it to a war they are not ready for. It is America that is leading the strategy for war. America is not ready for a big war and Biden has told Netanyahu that America will 'defend' the entity against attacks but will not support it in future adventurous actions.

All of America's efforts are now directed at pressuring Netanyahu to reach a compromise agreement in the backdrop of this superficial victory, that will end the war on the northern front and reduce the magnitude of Iran's awaited response. This is unlikely before the upcoming Iranian response since Netanyahu doesn't seek to end the war at this moment. In any case, the resistance axis will not accept reaching a deal on the ruins of this facade of victory and there will be a strong response that will blow this facade of victory out of the water. The resistance is likely to hit sensitive strategic important targets and Iran will attack based on the attack on its sovereignty - without the intention of leading to further escalation.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

WORLD HEADLINES

Israeli strike kills Gazans sheltering in schools

An Israeli strike killed dozens of Palestinians sheltering in schools in the Gaza Strip.

The Palestinian news agency Wafa said at least 25 Palestinians were injured when the strike hit several schools in the Gaza Strip.

Mahmoud Basal, spokesperson of the Palestinian Civil Defense in Gaza, told Al Jazeera that Israeli forces had committed "a massacre in every sense of the word" by bombing the al-Nasr and Hassan Salama schools.

Basal described the scenes as "difficult and tragic," noting that at least 80 percent of the casualties were children.

Yemeni army downs US drone over Saada

Yemeni air defenses have shot down another US MQ-9 Reaper drone over Yemeni airspace, amid escalated tensions with the Israeli regime.

The spokesperson for the Yemeni Armed Forces Yahya Saree said the country's air defense units had successfully shot down the American drone while it was conducting hostile activities in the airspace over the Yemeni province of Saada.

Saree said in a televised statement on Sunday that the unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) was targeted with a locally made surface-to-air missile, Press TV reported.

According to Saree, this is the seventh aircraft of this kind that the Yemeni air defenses have shot down since the start of the operations in support of the defenseless Palestinian people trapped in the Gaza Strip.

More than 1,000 attacks on healthcare recorded in Gaza, West Bank

Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) has thrown a spotlight on the severe impacts of Israel's attacks on health facilities in the Gaza Strip and the occupied West Bank since October 7.

"More than 1000 attacks on doctors, patients, clinics, and health infrastructure have fueled a public health catastrophe in the OPT [Occupied Palestinian Territory]. This grim milestone has few if any precedents for the

scale and magnitude of attacks on health in the OPT," said Houssam al-Nahhas, PHR's Middle East and North Africa researcher, according to Al Jazeera

"These are not only attacks on brick-and-mortar buildings, but acts that take away hospital beds, essential medications, surgeries, and life-saving care from women, men, boys, and girls," he said.

The New York-based group called for independent investigations into the attacks on healthcare and warned Israel that the moves could constitute a violation of international humanitarian law.

59 killed in Bangladesh protests

At least 59 people have been killed in Bangladesh amid worsening clashes between police and anti-government protesters.

The unrest comes as student leaders have declared a campaign of civil disobedience to demand that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina step down, the BBC reported.

Thirteen police officers were killed when thousands of people attacked a police station in the district of Sirajganj, police said.

The student protest started with a demand to abolish quotas in civil service jobs last month, but have now turned into a wider anti-government movement.

Gaza resistance fighters launch rocket barrage toward Israel

Palestinian resistance fighters have fired a barrage of rockets from the Gaza Strip towards targets in Israel.

The Saraya al-Quds Brigades, the armed wing of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad resistance movement, released footage on Sunday, showing its fighters targeting settlements in the occupied city of Asqalan.

Meanwhile, Israeli media reported that several rockets impacted Gan Yavne near the occupied city of Ashdod.

The rockets were launched simultaneously from multiple locations in Gaza, according to local sources.

The resistance groups based in Gaza have long launched rocket attacks on the occupied lands in response to Israel's blockade on the Palestinian territory, as well as its crimes against the Palestinian people.

Hezbollah targets new Israeli settlement for first time

Dozens of Katyusha rockets land on Beit Hillel

From page 1 ▶ Hezbollah reaffirmed that targeting a new settlement also comes alongside its support for Gaza and the Palestinian resistance.

According to the Lebanese news agency NNA, the Lebanese resistance has said its fighters carried out a "direct hit" on Israeli surveillance equipment in the settlement of Ramya, destroying the equipment.

The ramifications of the Lebanese resistance's moves against the Israeli occupation regime have been covered by The Financial Times, the British newspaper. Based on satellite images, the newspaper said, the Israelis have sustained severe damages after ten months of confrontations with Hezbollah.

The newspaper pointed out that Hezbollah's operations led to the largest evacuation in the north (northern occupied Israeli territories) since the "establishment of Israel" more than 75 years ago, reporting that Hezbollah's fire caused damage to buildings, crops, and commercial activities.

Reports have also cited data from the Israeli

Classic car show opens in Alborz province



TEHRAN – On Sunday, a permanent exhibition of classic and vintage cars was inaugurated in Alborz province situated west of Tehran.

“It is the largest-ever permanent exhibition of historical, classic, vintage, sports, safari, and unique vehicles being inaugurated in Alborz province,” a local official said.

The exhibition, located at the Asa-Center complex in Mehrshahr, promises to be a captivating destination for car enthusiasts, collectors, and tourists interested in automotive history and heritage, the official explained.

The opening ceremony of this prestigious exhibition was accompanied by an impressive inner-city parade of vintage and classic cars.

The parade saw over 500 classic and historic vehicles gather in the parking lot of the complex.

According to organizers, the exhibition has received an overwhelmingly positive

response from the public, with hundreds of visitors attending the opening day. Classic car enthusiasts and the general public alike marveled at the vast array of meticulously maintained vehicles, each telling its own story of engineering prowess and aesthetic elegance from different eras.

The age of the classic cars

According to Brinatica, the decade 1925–35 was notable not only for the appearance of many new small automobiles but also for the building of many ultra-large ones. The years from 1925 to 1948 are cited by collectors of automobiles as the “classic years,” a period that saw the rise of the luxurious fast motorcar to a peak it seems unlikely to reach again.

The first name in this field was Rolls-Royce Ltd., founded in 1906. Most Rolls-Royce chassis are designed for limousine and large sedan bodies, but the firm once made a comparatively light car (called the Twenty), and it has throughout its history produced fast models in addition to its regular line—e.g., after World War II, the Continental, built under the Bentley Motors Ltd. label.

Other motorcars of this type included the Hispano-Suiza of Spain and France; the Bugatti, Delage, Delahaye, Hotchkiss, Talbot (Darracq), and Voisin of France; the Duesenberg, Cadillac, Packard, and Pierce-Arrow of the United States; the Horch, Maybach, and Mercedes-Benz of Germany; the Belgian Minerva; and the Italian Isotta-Fraschini.

Age-old treasures recovered in Fars

TEHRAN – Authorities in Fars province, have seized some historical artifacts dating back to different periods, preventing their smuggling in Pasargad county.

“Acting on a tip-off from cultural heritage enthusiasts about the transport of antiques in Pasargad, a skilled team conducted a search of the traffickers’ vehicle,” the commander of Iran’s Cultural Heritage Protection Unit told CHTN, adding that the team recovered 28 artifacts, including coins, bracelets, and necklaces.

According to the Fars province’s cultural heritage experts, the recovered items are of historical value, originating from the Parthian, Sassanid, Elymais, and Islamic eras, Hasan Mehri emphasized. Although some artifacts, he continued, were genuine but lacked historical significance.

Commander Mehri also mentioned that two suspects were apprehended during the operation. They have been handed over to the provincial judicial authorities for further legal proceedings, he wended up.

Glimpses of World Heritage sites: Island of Gorée

Island of Gorée lies off the coast of Senegal, opposite Dakar. It was the largest slave-trading center on the African coast from the 15th to the 19th century.

The UNESCO-designated property testifies to an unprecedented human experience in the history of humanity.

Indeed, for the universal conscience, this “memory island” is the symbol of the slave trade with its cortege of suffering, tears and death.

The painful memories of the Atlantic slave trade are crystallized in this small island of 28 hectares lying 3.5 km off the coast from Dakar. Gorée owes its singular destiny to the extreme centrality of its geographical position between the North and the South, and to its excellent strategic position offering a safe haven for anchoring ships, hence the name “Good Rade.”

Thus, since the 15th century it has been prized by various European nations that have successively used it as a stopover or slave market.

First terminus of the “homeoducs” who

drained the slaves from the hinterland, Gorée was at the centre of the rivalry between European nations for control of the slave trade. Until the abolition of the trade in the French colonies, the Island was a warehouse consisting of over a dozen slave houses.

Amongst the tangible elements that reflect Gorée’s universal value are, notably, the Castle, a rocky plateau covered with fortifications which dominate the Island; the Relais de l’Espadon, former residence of the French governor; etc...

The Island of Gorée is now a pilgrimage destination for the African diaspora, a foyer for contact between the West and Africa, and a space for exchange and dialogue between cultures through the confrontation of ideals of reconciliation and forgiveness.

Listed as a historic site by the colonial administration in 1944, with specific safeguarding measures, Gorée has recorded no major construction since then that might adversely affect the authenticity of the site, the major components of which have remained almost intact.

Valencia joins Barcelona with licensing plans to halt over-tourism

The Valencia region in Spain is to impose fines of up to €600,000 on unlicensed and black-market short-term rentals and Airbnb-style apartments. This is in an attempt to stop overtourism in the area, which has also been putting added pressure on local public facilities and driving rental prices up in key European tourist destinations.

On the past few months, there has been a surge of black-market rentals, driven both by local landlords, as well as foreign expatriates wanting to get into Spain’s lucrative short-term rental market.

Nuria Montes, a Valencia tourism official said regarding these black-market rentals, as reported by Financial Times: “We cannot allow any kind of underground economy in accommodation. They escape any type of control. Obviously, they don’t pay taxes. We don’t know whether the owners are fulfilling their obligations to their workers.”

According to Montes, there could very well be 50,000 or more of these unregulated short-term rental apartments across the Valencia region.

(Source: Euronews)

Baba Taher Mausoleum: a harmonious blend of Persian poetry and architecture

TEHRAN – Atop a serene hill in the ancient city of Hamedan, stands the exquisite mausoleum of Baba Taher Oryan, a tribute to the illustrious Persian poet and Sufi mystic of the 11th century.

Overlooked by the majestic Alvand peak and lush landscapes, the mausoleum offers a breathtaking blend of nature and culture, drawing visitors from across Iran and beyond.

Baba Taher is mostly celebrated for his profound and mystical Do-beyti (quatrains), which have left an indelible mark on Persian poetry. His works are renowned for their simplicity, emotional depth, and spiritual insight, reflecting the essence of Sufism that emphasizes love, unity, and the search for truth.

Living during the era of Tugril and the Seljuk dynasty, Baba Taher is believed to have penned his quatrains in the local Hamadani dialect, offering a unique glimpse into the linguistic diversity of ancient Persia.

The current Baba Taher Mausoleum, completed in 1970, is a masterpiece of modern Persian architecture, designed by the esteemed engineer Mohsen Foroughi.



The mausoleum stands on a sprawling field of over one hundred thousand square meters, presenting a harmonious fusion of traditional and contemporary design elements. Its octagonal base, a common motif in Islamic architecture symbolizing balance and harmony, rises to a

height of approximately 25 meters, creating a striking silhouette against the skyline.

The mausoleum contains a series of prisms with cleverly designed entrances and light holes, allowing natural light to illuminate the interior in a play of shadows and brightness, creating an ethereal atmosphere.

Many tour operators say the mau-

soleum is more than just a historical site; it is a place of spiritual reflection and cultural appreciation. The carefully manicured gardens and tranquil pathways invite visitors to pause and absorb the tranquility of the environment, offering a peaceful retreat from the hustle and bustle of daily life.

Baba Taher’s quatrains are inscribed throughout the mausoleum, allowing visitors to engage with his work in a deeply personal way. These inscriptions serve not only as an artistic embellishment but also as a testament to the enduring influence of Baba Taher’s poetry, which continues to resonate with those who seek wisdom and enlightenment.

In addition to the mausoleum, the surrounding area is home to several other historical sites and attractions that make Hamedan a vibrant cultural hub. Visitors can explore the nearby tombs of other famous figures, delve into the rich history of the region, and experience the hospitality of the local community.

Iran to launch tourism roadshow in India

TEHRAN – Iran is set to hold a tourism roadshow in India, spanning three major cities: Delhi, Mumbai, and Hyderabad, scheduled to take place in early September.

“Following some successful roadshows in Southeast Asia, as indicated by reports, we have planned the roadshow in India running for five days from September 5,” Moslem Shojai, who presides over the ministry’s foreign tourism marketing and development office, told ISNA.

During this event, he further elaborated, the private sector representatives from both countries will engage in face-to-face meetings, videos and clips showcasing Iran will be displayed, and government tourism officials will be present to sign cooperation documents.

The five-day roadshow builds on previous events held in Southeast Asian countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, and Vietnam, from June 29 to July 6.

“We have carefully selected these countries and have been consulting on this for months,” Shojai highlighted, adding that the execution has been



entrusted to the tourism industry community, and the ministry will serve as the policymaker and planner while also providing financial support for part of these roadshows.

As mentioned by the event organizers, the neighboring Arab countries, Iraqi Kurdistan region, and Russia are among the future destinations to host tourism roadshows.

This initiative marks a continuation of Iran’s efforts to boost its tourism sector following the recent visa waiver agreements with a number of countries, including India.

Tehran meeting to discuss Assyrian civilization

TEHRAN – The ancient civilization of the Assyrians and their influence in western Iran is set to be the focal point of a meeting that will be held in Tehran next week.

A number of historians, archaeologists, and other scholars have been invited take part in the meeting to delve deep into Assyrian history and its impact on the region.

Organized by the History and Archaeology Group at the House of Humanities Scholars, the symposium titled “Assyrians in Western Iran” will take place on August 10, Mehr reported.

The gathering is aimed to provide insights into a key period in ancient Iranian history through a series of discussions and presentations from esteemed scholars and archaeologists.

The meeting will feature several prominent speakers who will cover a range of topics related to Assyrian civilization and its interactions with neighboring cultures:

Kamyar Abdi will discuss Assyrians, Elamites, and Persians as well as Assyrian written sources in ancient Iranian history.

Mehrdad Malekzadeh will present proposals on the location of Assyrian provinces in Median territory, exploring archaeological and historical evidence that suggests potential sites of Assyrian settlements and administrative regions within the Median Empire.

Sajad Alibeygi and Iraj Rezaei will lead discussions on Archaeological discoveries and their significance in understanding Assyrian presence and influence in western Iran.

The Assyrian Empire, one of the most powerful and influential empires of the ancient Near East, played a crucial role in shaping the history and culture of Mesopotamia and its surrounding regions. Originating from the city of Ashur, located on the western bank of the Tigris River in present-day Iraq, the Assyrians were known for their military prowess, administrative capabilities, and monumental architectural achievements.

Ashur served as the capital during several significant phases of Assyrian history, including the Old Assyrian city-state (2025–1364 BC), the Middle Assyrian Empire (1363–912 BC), and the Neo-Assyrian Empire (911–609 BC). The Assyrians emerged as a dominant power in the 14th century BC, extending their influence over Mesopotamia,

Armenia, and parts of Syria. Despite a period of decline after the death of Tukulti-Ninurta I around 1208 BC, Assyria regained prominence under leaders like Tiglath-pileser I and continued to expand its territory.

The empire reached its zenith between the mid-8th and late 7th centuries BC, with formidable rulers such as Tiglath-pileser III, Sargon II, Sennacherib, and Esarhaddon uniting much of the Middle East, from Egypt to the Persian Gulf, under Assyrian control. The last great Assyrian king, Ashurbanipal, is remembered for his vast library in Nineveh, which housed thousands of clay tablets and texts.

The Assyrians were not only renowned for their military and administrative acumen but also for their contributions to art and architecture.

Kermanshah attractions captivate millions of visitors

TEHRAN – Some five million visits to the wide array of attractions across Kermanshah province have been recorded so far this year, a local official brought to light.

“About five million visits to natural, historical, religious, cultural, and man-made places of interest within the province have been registered since the very first day of the current Persian year (started on March 20),” Dariush Farmani told ISNA.

Natural marvels, such as Sarab-e Niloofar, Quri Qal’eh cave, and Parishan waterfall attracted the highest number of visitors, according to the official.

Farmani further elaborated that approximately 385 thousand visits to historical sites across the province have been also registered in four months.

“Ta’q-e Bostan emerged as the top historical attraction within the province, drawing



236 thousand visitors,” he highlighted. “Bisotun ranked second with over 110 thousand of explorers.”

Takyeh Moaven-ol-Molk, Anahita Temple, and Takyeh Beyglarbeygi were among the other most sought-after destinations across Kermanshah.

Kermanshah, situated in western Iran, is

a region celebrated for its profound historical and cultural significance. Set against the backdrop of the Zagros Mountains, Kermanshah has been an important center of civilization since ancient times.

The province boasts remarkable archaeological treasures, including the monumental rock reliefs of Taq-e Bostan and the ancient inscriptions at Bisotun, which are UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Beyond its historical allure, Kermanshah features breathtaking natural landscapes, such as the serene Sarab-e Niloofar spring, the dramatic Quri Qal’eh water cave, and the picturesque Parishan waterfall.

With its blend of historical marvels and natural wonders, Kermanshah offers a rich tapestry of experiences that continue to captivate visitors and highlight Iran’s diverse heritage.

Armenia interested in purchasing Iranian medical, relief items

TEHRAN –The president of the Armenian Red Cross Society, David Nersisyan, has expressed interest in buying the medical and relief products manufactured by the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS).

“We are willing to use Iranian-made products,” he said, acknowledging that the products are of high quality.

He made the remarks in a meeting with the head of the IRCS, Pirhossein Kolivand, in Tehran on Sunday.

The Armenian official attended the International Congress of Relief and Rescue, Health and Mass Gatherings Management in Arbaeen which was held in Tehran on August 1 and 2.

Highlighting that “all national societies share the same objectives,” Nersisyan went on to express readiness to enhance collaborations with the IRCS in different sectors.

Kolivand, for his part, announced the IRCS's readiness to share knowledge, expertise, as well as products with the Armenian Red Cross Society.

The Iranian Red Cross Society has high capacities for manufacturing medicines, rehabilitation, and medical equipment, as well as other relief items, Kolivand added.



IRCS is a top organization

In May, Kolivand said the IRCS is recognized as one of the five prominent societies worldwide thanks to its wide range of activities and great achievements both nationally and internationally.

He made the remarks on the occasion of the World Red Cross Day which is celebrated on May 8.

He highlighted the capabilities, dedication, and selflessness of the IRCS women, who work hard in different sectors.

The official went on to elaborate on the IRCS's effectiveness.

A total of 300 ambulances and 600 rescue vehicles have been purchased. It is planned to add 1,500 more rescue vehicles to the IRCS fleet, Kolivand stated.

Equipping mountain rescue bases, providing insurance for rescuers, and increasing their incomes were among the other measures to enhance the services.

“The Iranian Red Crescent Society has also been active and successful in international missions like helping earthquake victims in Syria and Turkey which made the organization receive the Turkish government's award for its sacrifice and help,” he further noted.

The official attributed the organization's achievements to the unwavering dedication of volunteers, whose number has already reached 3 million.

Initiatives to develop and empower Crescent houses in remote, deprived areas and enhance pre-

vention and education programs are other parts of the society's effort to expand its services.

In this regard, some programs and maneuvers are put on the agenda to be conducted during the week, Kolivand noted.

The IRCS offers public education and relief services courses in universities, schools, seminars, and barracks to improve the whole society's resilience in the face of disasters.

Health, treatment, and rehabilitation are another part of the IRCS activities, the IRCS hospitals, pharmacies, and clinics meet the medical and therapeutic needs of thousands of citizens every day.

The IRCS medical centers abroad are reputable worldwide. Soon, the Red Crescent Medical Center will be opened in Tajikistan.

As a humanitarian organization, the IRCS is trying to alleviate the suffering of the people involved in accidents, emergencies, and conflicts.

Referring to cooperation with knowledge-based companies, Kolivand said, “Today, collaborations with knowledge-based firms have resulted in advancements in manufacturing orthoses, prostheses, artificial organs, and new medications, with plans to extend cooperation to rescue and relief efforts as well.

Thousands of Iranian healthcare workers ready to help Gaza

TEHRAN –Since the beginning of the Gaza war in October 2023, over 15,000 healthcare workers have announced readiness to help Palestinian people, a health official has said.

The medical staff are willing to be dispatched to Gaza provided that access to the region is secured, IRNA quoted Mohammad-Hossein Zarezadeh as saying.

The Palestinian Ministry of Health in the Gaza Strip announced on August 3 that the number of people martyred since the outbreak of the Zionist regime's attacks on the Gaza Strip on October 7, 2023, has reached 39,550.

Also, the Palestinian institution stated that more than 91,280 people have been wounded in the wake of the attacks so far.

Form Doctors Without Borders to help Gaza

In November 2023, Health Minister Bahram Einollahi asked member countries of the World Health Organization Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO) to form a Doctors Without Borders organization of Islamic countries to provide essential medical services to Palestinians in Gaza.

Einollahi made the remarks while attending the extraordinary meeting of health ministers of the member countries of the WHO EMRO titled ‘Intensification of conflicts in the occupied Palestinian territories’.

The meeting was held virtually with the presence of health ministers of 22 countries, IRNA reported.

Condemning the actions of the notorious Zionist regime, especially the bombardment of hospitals and the killing of sick and defenseless patients and wounded in medical centers, he called for the formation of a Doctors Without Borders organization of Islamic countries to provide relief and humanitarian medical care for the victims of the war in Gaza.

HIGHLIGHT: In November 2023, Health Minister Bahram Einollahi called for a Doctors Without Borders organization to provide services to Palestinians in Gaza.

Addressing the health ministers of 22 member countries of the WHO EMRO, he said, “According to the information received, hospitals are overwhelmed and low on fuel and electricity.”

“Also, drinking water and food for sick and pregnant women are not sufficient in Gaza,” he added.

“The health and medical forces in the Gaza Strip are doing their best to reduce the sufferings of the people in Gaza, despite being

under the most difficult conditions with hospitals being critically low on supplies.”

He went on to say, “We, the health ministers, must take all necessary action to help the oppressed people of Gaza in order to prevent the genocide and massacre of the innocent people.”

Iran is ready to immediately send medical forces to provide health and medical services in Gaza, and we also ask the member countries of the EMRO to speed up the delivery of aid to Gaza and to open a permanent and reliable route to dispatch medical staff, rescuers and aid to Gaza since every single day delay is associated with the death of hundreds of oppressed women and children in this region.

Einollahi also urged the member countries of the EMRO to issue a joint statement condemning the crimes of the Zionist regime and its violations of international laws.

In the end, he said, “The crimes of the barbaric Zionist regime in shedding the blood of Palestinian civilians including women and children are a violation of all international laws and fundamental principles of human rights.

We welcome any action and cooperation that is carried out at the regional level of Islamic countries or at the international level to establish a ceasefire and prevent the child-killing Zionist regime from killing innocent and oppressed people of Gaza with the support of the United States and its allies.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

به گزارش ایرنا، چانگ هوا روز دوشنبه در حاشیه دیدار با محمودرضا پیروی دبیرکل جمعیت هلال احمر ایران گفت: ما باور داریم که با ارسال کمک های انساندوستانه از سوی دوستان دولت ایران از بحران این بیماری عبور خواهد کرد.

دیپلمات ارشد چین در ادامه ضمن قدردانی از جمعیت هلال احمر ایران به عنوان نخستین سازمان بشردوستانه عضو جمعیت های ملی صلیب سرخ و هلال احمر که محموله های کمک را برای مردم چین ارسال کرد، گفت: ما هم با شدت گرفتن ویروس کرونا در کنار ایران هستیم.

Belarus envoy, SMUMS president explore avenues of cooperation

TEHRAN –The president of the Smart University of Medical Sciences (SMUMS) and the ambassador of Belarus in Tehran have discussed potential ways to enhance bilateral educational and scientific relations.

“The meeting primarily aims to explore opportunities for expanding collaboration with Iranian universities, particularly Smart University of Medical Sciences,” the health ministry website quoted the Belarusian envoy, Dmitry Koltsov, as saying.

He also highlighted the significance of boosting cooperation in medical and technological sectors and suggested signing a memorandum of understanding.

Referring to the successful experiences of Belarus in advancing physician expertise and developing educational systems, the official expressed his country's willingness to share experiences and conduct joint educational courses with Iran.

The SMUMS president, Hassan Bakhtiari, for his part, stated that the cooperation can provide an opportunity for joint progress in medicine and modern technologies.

He went on to suggest potential areas of collaboration like holding scientific courses for Belarusian professors, and educational courses for students, as well as participating in international congresses of artificial intelligence.

The official also expressed optimism that signing a MoU would serve as a roadmap for developing scientific and educational ties between the two countries.

During the meeting, Ahmad Ahmadi, vice chancellor for international affairs, highlighted the university's prominent role in advancing cutting-edge technologies, including artificial intelligence, and its impact on improving educational and research processes.

“With the expansion of artificial intelligence across all fields, especially in health and medical sciences, the university has received a special mandate from the Ministry of Health to promote AI in health issues and medical education,” he added.

Babak Sabet, vice chancellor of academic affairs of the university, suggested the possibility of conducting virtual doctoral programs in artificial intelligence and e-learning, as well as granting joint degrees.

Furthermore, he referred to the potential collaboration with Belarusian professors on the editorial board of the Journal of Visualized Medicine.

Smart University of Medical Sciences (SMUMS) is the first and only specialized university in e-learning and new technologies in the field of Medical Science in Iran.



SMUMS was established in 2016 in alliance with the Ministry of Health and Medical Education policies. Since its founding, the university has contributed to the growth of the virtual education approach in the country, by developing software, introducing new teaching strategies, and developing guidelines and regulations on virtual education.

SMUMS collaborates with several national and international health organizations to create, produce, and deliver virtual and blended programs to audiences around the world.

The creation of a national Learning Management System (LMS) known as the NAVID platform is a major accomplishment of the Smart University of Medical Sciences and is being used by almost 70 medical universities nationwide.

Another major project that was successfully designed and implemented by SMUMS is the first standard national Massive Open Course (MOOCs) platform, ARMAN, to provide nationwide equal educational opportunities. This platform has a wide range of interactive courses to choose from.

The Smart University of Medical Sciences has provided a virtual master's degree in “Medical Education,” exclusively for faculty members of medical universities. To date, over 1500 professors have participated in this program. A virtual residency program of “Family Medicine” has been created in the SMUMS in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, and Medical Education. And since 2020 the SMUMS has launched a Ph.D. program for “e-learning in Medical Education.”

Due to medical advancement and significant modifications to the health care delivery system, education, and research are almost impossible without the use of artificial intelligence, the Internet, and computer connections.

The introduction of new information technologies into educational, research, health-care, and treatment facilities has altered how learning generally is done and how health treatments are delivered. Users are now exposed to a wide range of fresh information.

Over \$45m in zakat collected in a year

TEHRAN – Benevolent people across Iran donated 27 trillion rials (about \$45 million) in zakat (alms) in the past Iranian calendar year which ended on March 19, an increase of 25 percent year on year, ISNA reported.

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

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

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

As much as 80 percent of the collected zakat is spent to provide basic foods for the needy and the rest is allocated for development projects in underprivileged areas, Habibollah Asoudeh, the deputy director of the Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation, has said.

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

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

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



time.

Benefactors have also donated money to free prisoners of unintentional crimes and help develop the health sector.

As an annual tradition, benefactors come together in a ceremony to raise funds for releasing prisoners of unintentional crimes during the holy month of Ramadan (which started on March 12 this year).

On January 5, with the participation of al-truists and benevolent people, a total of 2,548 prisoners of unintentional crimes were released from prisons nationwide.

Freeing prisoners of involuntary crimes is done in three ways. The first way is granting prisoners leave and the second way is providing a number of them with loans to be paid inside the prison.

The third way of assistance is the release of unintentional convicts by paying their debt.



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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

The mind of a wise man is the safest custody of secrets; cheerfulness is the key to friendship; patience and forbearance will conceal many defects.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon:12:10 Evening: 19:24 Dawn: 3:41 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 5:16 (tomorrow)

Tehran museum to review “Dog No. 24” in new discussion series



TEHRAN- The artwork “Dog No. 24” from the series “Animals in Motion” by Serbian painter Vladimir Veličković will be showcased at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art on Monday.

The piece will be discussed during a session that is part of the “One Work, One Session” series, which focuses on visual arts, particularly photography.

Hadi Azari, an Iranian photographer, researcher, critic, and writer, will attend the gathering to discuss the features of the artwork.

Vladimir Veličković (1935–2019) was a celebrated Serbian painter who spent a significant portion of his life in Paris. He graduated from the Faculty of Architecture at Belgrade University and later served as an assistant in Krsto Hegedušić’s master workshop in Zagreb from 1963 to 1966.

In 1965, Veličković received notable recognition at the Biennale in Paris, and the following year, he relocated to the city. His exhibition in 1967 at the Galerie du Dragon in Paris propelled him into the limelight, marking him as a prominent figure in the Narrative Figuration art movement.

In 1983, he became a professor at the École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris, a position he held until 2000. His accolades include being elected a member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SANU) in 1985 and receiving an honorary doctorate from the University of Kragujevac.

He was also distinguished with the Commander of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, France’s highest cultural award. Veličković’s works have been displayed in numerous exhibitions across Europe and the Americas since 1951.

In addition to his artistic contributions, he became a member of the Académie des Beaux-Arts on December 7, 2005, taking seat number 7 in section I.

In 2017, he signed the Declaration on the Common Language of the Croats, Serbs, Bosniaks, and Montenegrins. His legacy endures through his impactful contributions to art and culture, reflected in his extensive body of work and his influence on future generations of artists.

Throughout his career, Veličković held numerous solo exhibitions in Europe, Asia, and North America.

Notable exhibitions include his shows at Koroška galerija in Slovenia in 2012, Galerie Anna-Tschopp in Marseille in 2013, and the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Belgrade in the same year.

His work was also displayed at Zepter Muzej and the Espace d’art contemporain André Malraux in Colmar, both in 2013, as well as at the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Rijeka that year.

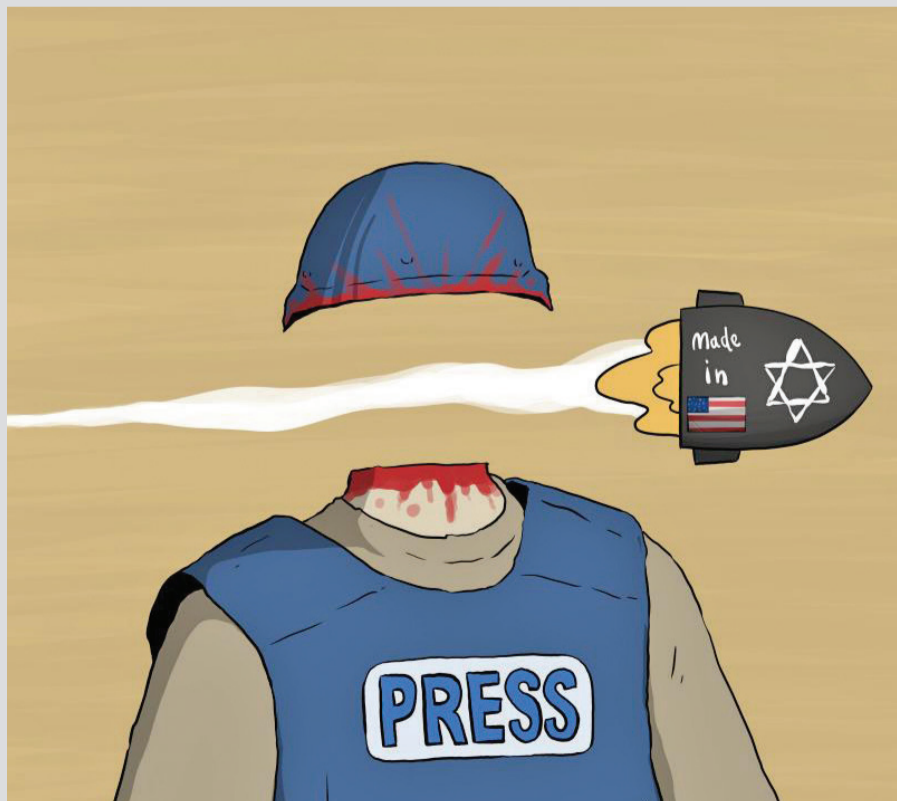
Other significant exhibitions took place at the Biennale internationale de l’Estampe in Varna, the Galerie Jane Griffiths in Val d’Isère, and the Galerie Nicole Buck in Strasbourg, all in 2014.

He concluded this impressive series of exhibitions with a presentation at the Centre d’art le 1700 La Poste in Montreal in 2015.

The Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art plans to critique and review one piece from its collection every Monday under the title “One Work, One session,” employing a research-oriented and intertextual approach.

Admission is free for all interested attendees.

Cartoon of Day



Israel Targets Journalists in Gaza

Cartoonist: Kamal Sharaf from Yemen

Short animation “In the Shadow of the Cypress” wins at LA Shorts Film Festival

TEHRAN-The Iranian short animation “In the Shadow of the Cypress” by Hossein Molayemi and Shirin Sohani has won an award at the 28th LA Shorts International Film Festival, which was held in Los Angeles, California, from July 17 to 28.

The Iranian flick grabbed the Best Animation Award at the closing ceremony of the event, IRNA reported on Saturday.

Winning the award made the animation eligible for the next round of the Oscars although it had already been introduced to the Academy Awards in the category of short animation after receiving top awards from two other festivals.

Co-produced by the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, the 20-minute animation is the story of an ex-captain suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder who lives with his daughter in a modest house by the sea.

They have to face the challenges of a difficult life.

One day, something



unexpected happens and their lives change forever.

LA Shorts International Film Festival ranks among the most prestigious and largest international short film festivals in the world.

It is accredited by the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences OSCAR, the British

Academy of Film and Television Arts BAFTA, the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television (ACCT), the Canadian Screen Awards, and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences of Spain (Goya Awards).

LA Shorts is the longest-running short film festival in Los Angeles. The festival screens

over 350 films and attracts over 10,000 attendees each year including Hollywood industry professionals and emerging independent filmmakers.

The film programming screens all genres from a wide spectrum of categories with high to low-budget films 40 minutes or under.

Vocalist Mostafa Ragheb to give free concerts in Vahdat Hall

TEHRAN- Iranian pop singer Mostafa Ragheb is set to hold free concerts at Tehran’s Vahdat Hall to mark the beginning of Safar, the second month of the lunar Islamic calendar, during which Shia Muslims observe special mourning services.

Inspired by the Chahar-Payeh Khani ritual, a traditional method of reciting mourning eulogies in Iran, the concert will take place on Tuesday and continue until August 10, with free admission for the public, Mehr reported on Sunday.

An orchestra of 25 musicians will perform a selection of familiar and nostalgic eulogies, along with Ragheb’s original works centered around Imam Hossein (AS).

Traditionally, in the lunar month of Safar, thousands of Shias Muslims commemorate Arbaeen, which marks an end to the 40-day mourning period following the martyrdom of Imam Hussein (AS) and his loyal companions at the Battle of Karbala on Muharram 10 in the year 61 AH (680 CE).

Chahar-Payeh Khani is a traditional mourning practice from old Tehran during



the days of Muharram, which can now only be found in the Tehran’s Grand Bazaar and the Shemiran neighborhood.

Over the years, Chahar-Payeh Khani in the Bazaar has evolved into one of the most unique mourning customs in Tehran, attracting many residents of the capital to participate in these commemorations.

For years, Chahar-Payeh Khani has been intertwined with the Bazaar, drawing its enthusiasts to the narrow alleys of the market on special days during the mourning period of Muharram and the month of Ramadan to witness this ancient tradition.

Although this custom is still practiced

in old tekyehs and neighborhoods such as Tajrish, Darakeh, and Evin, the Bazaar remains its heart.

Chahar-Payeh Khani is a form of mourning where the mourners or reciters stand on a chair and showcase their skills through reciting eulogies and chanting.

In this style, the reciter positions themselves among the crowd rather than in front of them, as the audience encircles the chair reader.

The Chahar-Payeh Khani ceremonies are held in various ways across different parts of Tehran.

For example, in some tekyehs in Shemiran where this tradition still thrives, the chair always has a designated place right in the center of the mourning hall.

In contrast, in the Tehran Bazaar, mourning groups move through the alleys and courtyards, stopping at specific locations along the way. There, a reciter climbs onto a chair to lead the mourning, after which the procession continues, making way for the next group to follow.

Shahzad Theater Complex hosting Martin McDonagh’s “A Behanding in Spokane”

TEHRAN-The play “A Behanding in Spokane” by British-Irish playwright Martin McDonagh is being performed at Shahzad Theater Complex in Tehran.

Renamed as “Invitation to a Behanding,” the 70-minute play is directed by Eila Tehrani and has Alireza Jalali-Tabar, Mohammad Naderi, Vida Javan, and Mohammad-Hadi Atai in the cast.

It is a 2010 black comedy play set in the fictional town of Tarlington, Ohio. It is McDonagh’s first play to be set in the United States.

The play is about a mysterious man named Carmichael who has been searching for his missing left hand for 27 years.

Two bickering lovebirds, Toby and Marilyn, claim to be in possession of his long-

ago severed appendage, and look to collect the reward that Carmichael is offering for its return.

An eccentric hotel clerk, Mervyn, gets in the middle of the transaction, and his presence threatens to spoil the proceedings.

Martin McDonagh, 54, is known for his absurdist dark humor which often challenges

the modern theater aesthetic.

He has won numerous accolades including an Academy Award, six BAFTA Awards, two Golden Globe Awards, and three Olivier Awards, with nominations for five Tony Awards.

Shahzad Theater Complex, located at No. 76, Neauphle-le-Château St., Hafez St., will host the play until August 31.

William Damon’s “A Round of Golf with My Father” published in Persian

TEHRAN-The Persian translation of the book “A Round of Golf with My Father” written by William Damon has been released in the book market across Iran.

Narges and Fatemeh Hagh-Moradi have translated the book, which has been published by Doxa Cultural Institute in Tehran, Mehr reported.

Viewing our past through the eyes of maturity can reveal insights that our younger selves could not see. Lessons that eluded us become apparent.

Encounters that once felt like misfortunes now become understood as valued parts of who we are. We realize what we’ve learned and what we have to teach. And we’re encouraged to chart a future that is rich with purpose.

In “A Round of Golf with My Father,” the author introduces us to the “life review.”

This is a process of looking with clarity and curiosity at the paths we’ve traveled, examining our pasts in a frank yet positive manner, and using what we’ve learned to

write purposeful next chapters for our lives.

One of the world’s leading scholars of human development, William Damon is Professor of Education at Stanford University and the Director of the Stanford Center on Adolescence.

Prior to joining Stanford in 1997, he was University Professor and Director of the Center for the Study of Human Development at Brown University.

Iranian play “The Rectangle” performed in Moscow

TEHRAN-The play “The Rectangle” written and directed by Sahra Ramezani was staged in Moscow during the 7th International Inspiration Festival of Russia.

A production of Rectangle Art Group, the play was staged twice

on July 31st in the VDNKH Park Culture Hall, ILNA reported.

The cast includes Iman Esfahani, Amir Bahador Oraei, Nazanin Tafazoli, Kimia Nahrain, and Amir Mahmoud Nouraei.

This play participated in the festival with the cooperation of

Albert Begijanian, director of Deemak Theater Group.

“The Rectangle” previously participated in the 20th HIGH FEST International Performing Arts Festival in Yerevan, Armenia, in 2022, where it was well received by the audience.

The 7th International Inspiration Festival of Russia was attended by 10 foreign projects – from Argentina, Armenia, Brazil, Greece, Spain, France, Chile, South Africa besides Iran. Also 18 Russians attended the event. This year’s edition of the festival concluded on August 4.