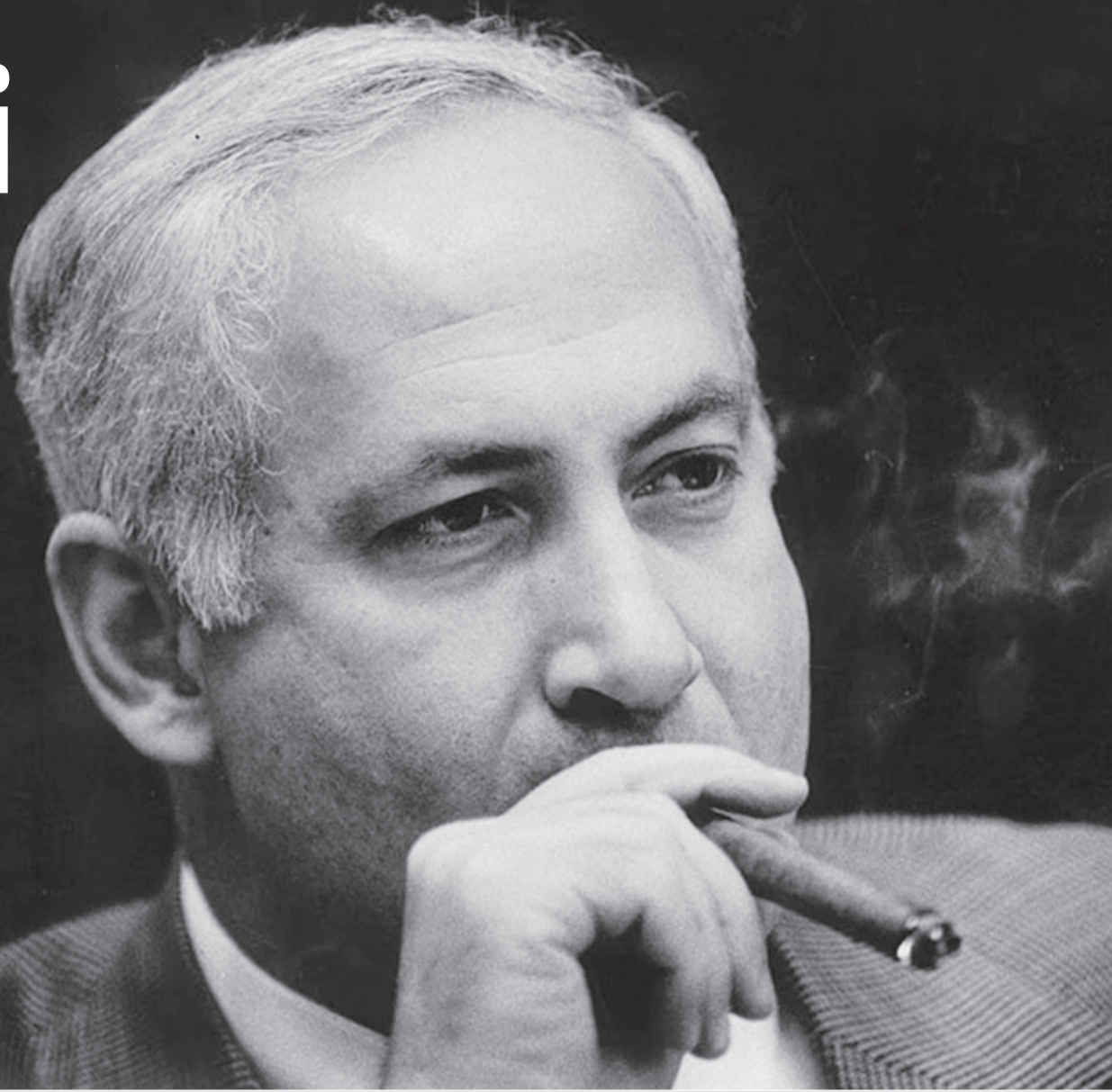


# Behind 'The Bibi Files'

## The West leading Netanyahu to guillotine for Israel's survival

File photo



### US and Germany: Main culprits of lethal arms to Israel

TEHRAN - A recent report by the German state-owned broadcaster Deutsche Welle revealed that Germany covers 30% of Israel's arms imports, with the United States and Germany being the two major suppliers of weapons to the Israeli regime.

Amid the widespread and unprecedented killing campaign in Gaza, both countries have come under heavy scrutiny. Yet, they have not passed any legislation to limit the ongoing flow of weapons to Tel Aviv.

#### US arms exports to the Israeli regime

In 2023, the U.S. exported thousands of MK-84 2,000-pound (907kg) bombs to Israel and has been Tel Aviv's most important arms supplier for decades.

The MK-84 bomb is capable of causing widespread destruction of concrete and metal structures over a very wide area, which makes it the most unsuitable munition for urban warfare.

According to a report from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), 99% of arms imports for Israel between 2019 and 2023 came from the U.S. (69%) and Germany (30%).

### The Sisyphean task: Why Israel's political landscape remains stuck in a cycle of gridlock

By Ehsan Etesam

TEHRAN - It's become a familiar ritual, this frantic scrolling through the endless feed of news updates. The world, it seems, is a whirlwind of events, each headline vying for attention, each story competing for our fleeting interest. But sometimes, amidst the chaos, a particular issue catches our eye, a narrative that pulls us in, demanding deeper understanding. Today, I find myself drawn to a story unfolding in the heart of West Asia, a story of political paralysis of an unlawful entity struggling to find its footing in a world of ever-shifting sands: The story of the Zionist regime, and its Sisyphean task of finding a stable government.

It started with a headline, quoting from the Israeli opposition leader, Yair Lapid, reading "as long as this government subsists, the war subsists. They don't know how to bring peace and they don't want to do so". Question: why the current government in Occupied Palestine, despite failing to serve the interests of its people in every assumable sense, does not cease to exist? What stands between the settlers and changing their government?

### The House of Cards: The Rise and Fall of Benjamin Netanyahu

By Soheila Zarfam

TEHRAN - "The Bibi Files" is not merely a documentary; it's a harrowing exposé, a cinematic indictment of a man who, for over a decade, held Israel in his iron grip. It's a story of ambition unchecked, of political gamesmanship masquerading as statesmanship, and ultimately, of a society fractured by the relentless pursuit of power.

This film, meticulously crafted with archival footage, damning interviews, and expert analysis, paints a stark portrait of Benjamin Netanyahu, a leader whose legacy is marred by a toxic cocktail of political manipulation, blatant disregard for ethical conduct, and a dangerous penchant for playing on the deepest fears of the Israeli public.

From the outset, "The Bibi Files" doesn't shy away from exposing Netanyahu's manipulative tactics. It showcases his chilling mastery of fearmongering, his calculated use of divisive rhetoric, and his cynical exploitation of the media to create a climate of perpetual crisis, all designed to consolidate his own power.

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### Iran security chief attends BRICS meeting in Russia

TEHRAN- The secretary of Iran's National Security Council is in Russia to attend the 14th Meeting of BRICS High-Ranking Officials responsible for security matters in St. Petersburg.

Ali Akbar Ahmadian's journey commenced on Tuesday, as he headed to St. Petersburg for discussions among senior representatives from BRICS nations regarding security concerns, scheduled for September 10-12.

During his visit, the prominent official will engage with senior Russian authorities to deliberate on significant regional developments.

Ahmadian is anticipated to share insights with the Russian delegation on various political, security, and economic topics.

Notably, on August 5, Sergei Shoigu, the secretary of the Russian Security Council, visited Tehran for discussions with Iranian officials.

The BRICS organization conducts annual summits to convene the leaders of its member countries. These gatherings serve as a forum for addressing significant global economic and political challenges.

Moreover, they offer an opportunity for BRICS nations to enhance bilateral collaborations in areas such as finance, energy, agriculture, and technology.

As of January 1, 2024, Russia has taken on the presidency of BRICS and will maintain this role throughout the year. Iran officially joined the BRICS international group at the start of 2024.

### Araqchi highlights strong ties with Iraq, calls Israel a common enemy

TEHRAN - In an interview with Iraqi media, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi emphasized the close and fraternal relationship between Iran and Iraq, noting that the bond between the two countries goes beyond simple geography.

He also pointed to Israel as a shared adversary for both Tehran and Baghdad.

"Iraq is more than just a neighboring country for Iran; it is our friend and brother," Araqchi stated during the interview with Al Forat News. He stressed the numerous shared interests and commonalities between the two nations, highlighting the deep cultural, historical, and political ties that bind them together.

Araqchi also praised the significance of Iranian President Pezeshkian's decision to choose Iraq as the first destination for his foreign visits. Page 3

### Gharibabadi will lead nuclear talks, report says

TEHRAN - Kazem Gharibabadi, the current secretary of Iran's High Council for Human Rights, is set to spearhead potential nuclear negotiations with the P4 + 1 group of countries, according to reports from Agaah Newspaper.

Agah says Gharibabadi will oversee a dedicated table for nuclear negotiations and sanctions relief at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He will also be designated as the Deputy for Legal and International Affairs in the coming days.

The official has been serving as Iran's top rights official and the Iranian Judiciary's International Director since 2021. Previously, he was Iran's permanent representative to the UN office in Vienna, Iran's representative at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and the country's ambassador to the Netherlands.

As Iran's top nuclear negotiator, a role previously held by current Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi and former acting top diplomat Ali Baqeri Kani, Gharibabadi will be overseeing potential talks with the remaining signatories to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

The JCPOA was a deal signed between Iran and the P5+1 group of countries (the U.S., UK, France, Germany, China, and Russia) that limited Tehran's nuclear program in exchange for the termination of sanctions. The pact was scrapped by Washington in 2018 when then-President Donald Trump announced Washington's withdrawal and reinstated sanctions against Iran.

Multiple rounds of revival talks were held after Washington's exit from the deal when Joe Biden came to office in 2021, but none came to fruition. The last round of negotiations was held in 2022.

### Iran can be West Asia's energy transit gateway: oil minister

TEHRAN - Iranian Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad has said the country can be a suitable gateway and crossroad for energy trade and transit in the region, given its geopolitical position.

Paknejad made the remarks on Monday in a meeting with the Secretary General of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) Mohamed Hamel, who is in Tehran to discuss and coordinate holding the 26th Ministerial Meeting of the forum in late October.

During the meeting, Paknejad said that Iran is one of the main founders of this forum, adding "We consider the hosting of the 26th Ministerial Meeting in Tehran at the start of the 14th administration office as positive." Page 4



Mehry/Fatemeh Amoozad

### US elections marred by partisanship and democratic erosion: American activist

TEHRAN- Tehran hosted a seminar on analyzing U.S. foreign policy and the November presidential election.

The event titled "From Fighting Terrorism to Global Intimidation: An Inside Perspective on America," showcased American political activist Ajamu Baraka, the founder of the Black Alliance for Peace.

The event was hosted at the Hispano TV facility of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting. Page 3

## TEHRAN PAPERS

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

## America's triple goals of the big missile lie

In an analysis, Jam-e-Jam discussed the goal of spreading lies that Iran has sent short-range ballistic missiles to Russia. It said: American media claimed that Iran has sent short-range ballistic missiles to Russia, which can be a game changer in the Ukraine war.

The purpose of this propaganda was to spread a lie that Iran was stepping up its support to Russia in the war with Ukraine. Considering the simultaneity of this issue with issues such as Iran's alleged interference in the U.S. elections and the repetition of the IAEA director general's political game about Iran's nuclear program, some points can be pointed out.

First, it seems that the West is seeking to involve Iran in a series of crises to force Iran to accept its ambitious expectations in the form of a new agreement. Secondly, to hide and finally justify the recent step of granting tens of billions of dollars in military assistance to Ukraine, false accusations against Iran are considered the best way to divert the world's public opinion.

Thirdly, by repeating this propaganda against Iran, the West is clearly trying to dissuade Tehran from taking revenge for the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh and prevent the Islamic Republic from becoming a successful model in confronting the hegemonic system.

### Hamshahri: What are Grossi's excuses?

In an interview with Abolfazl Zohrevand, a member of the Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, Hamshahri sought answers about the repeated usual claims about Iran's peaceful nuclear activities by the director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency. It wrote: At the beginning of the quarterly meeting of the Governing Council, Raphael Grossi repeated the previous claims that Iran's uranium reserves are increasing by 20% and 60%.

He continues to create a political and non-technical atmosphere against Iran under "Western-Zionist" pressure. What has become more evident in the current situation is the pursuit of the "carrot and stick" policy by the Western parties.

They have now passed the stick to Grossi. The point that Grossi does not consider is that such pressures have not produced a favorable result for them so far. They must understand that the policy of "pressure on Iran" is no longer effective. Iran has continued technical cooperation with the Agency within the framework of the Safeguards agreement and

is still ready to continue such an approach. But if it is based on unilateral expectations from Iran, the Islamic Republic will not obey such an approach.

### Iran: The West afraid of the decline of the dollar's influence

The Iran newspaper wrote: The fall of the dollar's dominance is something that Donald Trump had previously described as the defeat in a world war.

This view is expressed by a person who during his presidency had started the project of weakening the hegemony of his country by stopping implementing the security and economic commitments of America and restoring the economic sanctions against Iran.

In this regard, the countries that have been targeted by the wave of American sanctions in recent years have turned to monetary agreements with partners and allies to neutralize these sanctions.

Iran, Russia, China, India and Brazil, as members of BRICS, have taken steps to reduce using the dollar in their foreign trade. These countries are trying to gradually omit the dollar from their international trade interactions and become a model for other countries that are always worried about U.S. sanctions as Washington is using the dollar as a weapon.

### Kayhan: The false claim of Iran's interference in the U.S. elections

In a note, Kayhan discussed the claims of Nikki Haley, the former representative of the United States in the United Nations during the Trump administration, regarding claims of Iran's interference in the American elections. It wrote: Nikki Haley claimed that there was a threat of interference in the U.S. election from "foreign enemies" such as China, Russia, and to some extent North Korea, and there was also a claim of threat against her life by Iran.

This false claim is made by someone who has obvious close relations with the Zionist regime and has a hostile attitude toward Iran and the resistance groups in the region. In response to the claim of Iran's attempt to influence the American elections over the past few days, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran has considered these repeated claims as "baseless, biased that are made for domestic political use in the United States".

However, Nikki Haley has considered claims about "threats from Iran" against her life and her election campaign as part of a foreign influence operation.

## Pezeshkian congratulates DPRK on 76th founding anniversary



TEHRAN – Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian has extended his congratulations to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on the occasion of its 76th founding anniversary.

In a message delivered on Monday, the Iranian

president reached out to DPRK leader, Kim Jong Un, and the citizens of North Korea in recognition of their National Day, celebrated on September 9.

Each year, the DPRK commemorates its founding with a grand military parade and a variety of cultural festivities.

DPRK National Day, also known as the Day of the Foundation of the Republic, is a public holiday observed in North Korea every September 9th, marking the establishment of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in 1948.

On this day, the North Korean government organizes numerous events, including military displays, cultural performances, and public addresses to celebrate the nation's history and accomplishments.

## Saudi interior minister felicitates Momeni on appointment

TEHRAN – The Saudi Arabian Minister of Interior congratulated Eskandar Momeni on his recent appointment as the Minister of Interior of Iran through a formal message.

As reported by ISNA, Abdulaziz bin Saud bin Nayef bin Abdulaziz conveyed his best wishes to Momeni, expressing hope for his success in his new role within the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In his message, he highlighted his aspirations for enhanced success, progress, and prosperity for the "brotherly nation" of Iran.

In a responding message, Momeni expressed optimism that the relationship between the two countries would strengthen further through constructive collaboration in the evolving circumstances.

# Tehran says trio islands integral part of national sovereignty

TEHRAN – The spokesperson for the Iranian Foreign Ministry has reaffirmed that the three southern islands of Iran are integral parts of the nation and will remain so indefinitely.

On Tuesday, Nasser Kanaani criticized the persistent and unproductive assertions made by members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (PGCC) in their concluding statement from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Iran categorically rejects the section of the statement that pertains to the Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf, labeling it as an unconstructive assertion, as emphasized by the spokesperson.

He condemned any comments regarding Iran's development activities in its territories, the visits of Iranian officials to the southern islands, and the conduct of military exercises near its borders, asserting that Iran views these claims as interference in its internal matters.

Additionally, the spokesperson addressed Kuwait's assertion regarding the Arash joint gas field, emphasizing that this unilateral claim lacks legal significance and does not substantiate Kuwait's rights to the field.

He underscored this by stating, "The only viable path to resolving the issue of the Arash field is through negotiations aimed at achieving a lasting agreement that reflects mutual interests."

Additionally, he reaffirmed the Iranian government's ongoing commitment to fostering neighborly relations.

Kanaani emphasized that Iran views cooperation and engagement with its neighbors as essential for resolving regional issues, expressing Tehran's openness to constructive initiatives aimed at enhancing both multilateral and bilateral relationships.

He also remarked that the position taken by the PGCC is counterproductive to regional cooperation and interaction.

On September 9, the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council issued a statement in an informal action



asserting that the three islands—Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb, and Bumusa—are part of the UAE, thereby excluding Iran from the discussions regarding the Arash gas field.

The Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (PGCC) is a regional alliance focused on political and economic collaboration, founded in 1981. The council comprises six member countries including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman.

### Iran condemns Israeli massacre of Palestinians in al-Mawasi

In another statement, Kanaani strongly condemned a recent Israeli airstrike on a tented encampment in southern Gaza, near Khan Yunis, which resulted in the deaths of over 45 Palestinians and left dozens more injured.

The strike, which targeted displaced civilians sheltering in the al-Mawasi camp, has been described as one of the deadliest attacks in the ongoing conflict between Israel and Gaza.

The spokesperson for the Iranian Foreign Ministry criticized the Israeli government, accusing it of showing complete disregard for international law and moral principles.

"With its relentless and brutal assaults on Palestinian civilians and refugee camps, the Israeli regime has once again demonstrated its blatant disregard for legal, international, and humanitarian standards," Kanaani stated.

Kanaani specifically condemned the use of bunker-buster bombs in

the airstrike, which created large craters and left several victims unaccounted for. Rescue teams, according to local Palestinian media, are struggling to recover bodies from the devastation caused by the attack, with fires still burning and Israeli reconnaissance drones flying overhead.

The Iranian diplomat also called on the United Nations Security Council and other international organizations to take immediate action, urging them to enforce international law and prevent further atrocities.

He framed the ongoing Israeli military operations in Gaza, and its broader aggression across the West Asia region, as a direct threat to global peace and security.

Kanaani condemned Israel for committing war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity, warning that the situation amounts to genocide. Witnesses to the airstrike described scenes of chaos in the al-Mawasi camp, with fires raging and people desperately trying to flee as explosions continued.

According to initial reports, the attack is being regarded as "one of the most heinous massacres" since the outbreak of renewed violence between Israel and Gaza.

Since the start of the conflict, more than 41,000 Palestinians have been killed, the majority of whom were women and children. Over 94,000 have been injured, leaving Gaza's already fragile humanitarian situation in a critical state.

As the death toll continues to rise, there are growing calls from across the international community for a ceasefire and a renewed push for diplomatic solutions to end the bloodshed. Despite this, the Israeli government has shown no signs of halting its military campaign.

### 'U.S. military support for Israel unacceptable'

The spokesperson for Iranian Foreign Ministry also condemned the United States' continued military support for Israel, accusing Washington of fueling war crimes in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

In a note on his social media account on X, formerly known as Twitter, Kanaani criticized U.S. military aid to Israel.

Citing newly released data, Kanaani noted that Israeli forces have dropped an average of 36 kilograms of bombs and missiles on each Palestinian resident of Gaza, calling this an unprecedented level of violence even by historical standards.

He also criticized other Western nations, particularly in Europe, which have also supplied Israel with weapons, accusing them of complicity in the ongoing genocide.

The spokesperson further argued that the continuous flow of arms to Israel from the U.S. and its allies is in direct violation of the 1948 Genocide Convention.

This international treaty obliges countries to prevent genocide and ensure their weapons are not used to commit such atrocities. Iran called on the global community to hold the U.S. and other Western countries accountable for their role in perpetuating the violence.

Additionally, the note dismissed recent reports of Iranian arms transfers to certain countries as baseless propaganda, accusing the U.S. and its allies of spreading false information to divert attention from their own involvement in the Gaza conflict.

Kanaani urged the international community to focus on stopping Israel's military actions and hold its supporters responsible for the ongoing bloodshed.

## Takht Ravanchi appointed deputy foreign minister for political affairs

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has designated Majid Takht Ravanchi to serve as his political deputy.

Majid Takht Ravanchi brings a wealth of experience to this role, having previously held various significant positions, including the deputy head of International Assemblies, head of the United Nations Office, and ambassador and deputy permanent representative of Iran to the

United Nations.

Takht Ravanchi's extensive background also includes serving as a special aide to Iran's foreign minister, ambassador of Iran to Switzerland and Liechtenstein, deputy head of department for Europe and America at the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and political deputy chief of the president's office.

Additionally, in a separate decree, the foreign



minister appointed Ali Bagheri Kani, who previously served as the political deputy of the foreign ministry, to the position of political advisor.

## 'Tehran capable of crushing any threat in Persian Gulf': commander

TEHRAN – Rear Admiral Shahram Irani, the Iranian Army Navy commander has declared that Tehran is unafraid to confront any regional or external powers in the Persian Gulf.

Admiral Irani made the comments in remarks to the Army's naval forces on Monday.

He stated, "The strength and

dignity we possess today in the Islamic system is unparalleled," emphasizing that Iran stands firm against any regional or extra-regional power in the Persian Gulf.

The Admiral pointed out that Iran has effectively safeguarded its maritime interests in the Gulf of Aden with a single combat group, contrasting this with the United

States, which has encountered difficulties in protecting its fleet from the fire of Resistance forces.

Irani also reflected on the development of the Iranian Navy since the Islamic Revolution and the eight-year Sacred Defense period.

The Iranian admiral continued by referring to the role of the Navy in ensuring the security of the

waterways of the Indian Ocean, stating, "Today, the responsibility for ensuring the security of the naval forces of the countries bordering the Indian Ocean has been entrusted to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and we have a significant presence there on behalf of the Iranian people and the heroic Army."

## Closure of Afghan embassies in Europe signals bolstering relations with Taliban: advisor

TEHRAN – An advisor to Iran's foreign ministry has addressed the recent closure of Afghan embassies in several European countries, suggesting that this move may ultimately lead to stronger ties between European capitals and Afghanistan's interim government.

Seyed Rasoul Mousavi, who serves as the director general of the Iranian Foreign Ministry's West Asia department, expressed his views through a post on the X media platform in light of the embassy closures.

Mousavi noted, "While this may appear contradictory, it reflects the direction Europe has chosen to pursue."

Mousavi further stated that the embassies will soon be removed from Taliban control and will eventually reopen as consular services in collaboration with Kabul.

Reports indicate that on July 30, the Taliban's foreign ministry sent a letter to all nations that had not yet transferred control of Afghan embassies to the group.

On September 9, the Afghan Embassy in Oslo announced it would cease operations effective September 12 and would transfer the embassy building, which belongs to Afghanistan, to the Norwegian Foreign Ministry.

Additionally, the Taliban declared that it no longer recognized diplomatic missions established by the previous Western-backed government, rendering documents issued by embassies in Britain and 13 other predominantly European countries invalid.

# Europe, U.S. to sanction Iran over rejected allegations of missile supply to Russia

TEHRAN – The UK, Germany, France, and the United States are preparing to impose new sanctions against Iran, accusing the West Asian country of supplying Russia with missiles for use in the Ukraine war.

In a joint statement on Thursday, Paris, Berlin, and London said the unsubstantial reports of Iran's alleged missile transfer to Moscow is a "further escalation of Iran's military support to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine".

They said they will be taking immediate steps to cancel bilateral air services with Iran. "In addition, we will pursue the designations of significant entities and individuals involved with Iran's ballistic missile



program and the transfer of ballistic missiles and other weapons to Russia," the statement added.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken also announced similar acts by the U.S. during a Tuesday

visit to London. "Russia has now received shipments of these ballistic missiles and will likely use them within weeks in Ukraine," he said without citing any evidence.

The latest accusations against

Iran regarding its involvement in the Ukraine war follow a pattern of unsubstantiated claims from the West.

For months, Western states have been alleging that Russia is using Iranian-made drones to hit targets inside Ukraine.

Iranian authorities have rejected providing weapons to Moscow for use in the Ukraine war multiple times while condemning Europe and the U.S. for their double standards, as the West continues to arm Israel amid the regime's ongoing genocide in Gaza.

The West has also been sending more sophisticated weapons to Ukraine, instead of helping Kyiv sit at the negotiating table with Moscow.

## US elections marred by partisanship and democratic erosion: American activist

From Page 1 ▶ Baraka commenced his presentation by sharing his insights on the American electoral system, stating, "I participated in the 2016 election campaign with the Green Party. A primary motivation for our movement in the U.S. is the urgent need to expand the democratic process and transcend the limitations of the two-party system. We have been systematically marginalized in American elections."

He further emphasized, "The American populace must recognize the link between the pursuit of U.S. interests abroad and the neglect of domestic policy issues. There are avenues to discuss matters that can dismantle the artificial divisions that have been established."

The American political activist discussed the significance of the Green Party in the United States, highlighting its status as one of the oldest independent parties in the country and the efforts to undermine it.

"The Green Party aims to foster structural change in America; however, its movements have been marginalized by the actions of the two dominant parties.

The Democratic Party views the Green Party as a competitor," stated Baraka, the leader of the Black Alliance for Peace.

"Following the difficulties encountered by the Green Party, the Democratic Party took legal action against us. For instance, in Nevada, they filed a lawsuit and initiated court proceedings against our organization," he explained.

In response to a question about the potential for a third party to arise in America, Baraka stated, "While the emergence of a third

party is conceivable, it is unlikely to happen in the immediate future due to the entrenched dominance of the two major parties."

On July 21, U.S. President Joe Biden told Americans in a televised address that he had decided to end his faltering re-election campaign in a bid to save U.S. democracy.

When influential factions decided to seek a new candidate, Joe Biden found himself unable to act.

"Although Biden claimed that only God could remove him, it has become evident that in America, wealthy individuals wield significant power and can easily marginalize him," he added.

Baraka added the Green Party aims to be impactful under current conditions, yet faces significant challenges due to a democracy heavily influenced by financial resources.

The American political activist emphasized that the candidate with the most electoral votes ultimately secures victory, noting that financial interests can undermine all aspects of the electoral process.

Concerning protests and movements in the United States backing Palestinians in the face of Israel's carnage in Gaza, Baraka remarked that there is ongoing resistance to addressing the atrocities committed against Muslims.

He noted, "This topic has gained traction in academic circles, where students have

**Baraka says the Green Party faces significant challenges due to a democracy heavily influenced by financial resources.**

recognized their ethical obligation.

As a result, students have taken a stand against genocide, which has led to increased activism against the violence occurring in Palestine."

He pointed out that the real situation in Palestine has often been misrepresented in the United States, stating, "During my visit to the region, I was deeply disturbed by the atrocities I witnessed.

The genuine nature of the Zionist agenda is now becoming clearer, which has contributed to a growing movement in support of Palestine."

On the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan and its policies towards the country, Baraka stated that the current situation in Afghanistan reflects the consequences of prolonged U.S. military involvement.

"This pattern has been observed in other regions as well, highlighting the fundamental flaws in U.S. strategies regarding Afghanistan," Baraka underscored.

He also addressed the Ukraine war and the U.S. involvement in the conflict, saying the war has enabled the U.S. to advance its geopolitical objectives.

"As a result, Ukraine has become increasingly dependent on the U.S., losing its autonomy. The economic repercussions of this conflict in Ukraine are evident," he emphasized.

## Araqchi highlights strong ties with Iraq, calls Israel a common enemy

From Page 1 ▶ "This choice reflects the depth of the brotherly relations between our two countries," Araqchi noted, underscoring the importance of the visit, which will include stops in Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Najaf, and Karbala.

During the interview, the Iranian foreign minister expressed support for Iraq's efforts to mediate regional tensions. He specifically praised Iraq for hosting five rounds of

talks between Iran and Saudi Arabia aimed at reducing tensions between the two key players in the Middle East.

"Iran welcomes Iraq's initiatives to mediate in reducing tensions in the region," Araqchi stated, adding that Iran is closely monitoring Iraq's development and progress.

On the economic front, Araqchi mentioned that any regional economic project with broad effects requires thorough discussions among neighboring

countries, signaling Tehran's interest in working closely with Iraq on such ventures.

Turning to the security situation, Araqchi highlighted the Tehran-Baghdad security agreement signed in 2021.

He expressed satisfaction with Iraq's efforts to prevent hostile groups from launching attacks on Iran from Iraqi territory.

"We are pleased with Iraq's actions against groups that

target Iran, and we are in constant consultation with our Iraqi counterparts to ensure the optimal implementation of the security agreement," Araqchi said.

He further emphasized that the stability of Iraq is directly linked to the security of Iran.

"Security and stability in Iraq mean security and stability for Iran," he declared, before reiterating that the Zionist regime, referring to Israel, is a common enemy for both nations.

## Iran holds 17th trial session of MKO terrorists



TEHRAN – On Tuesday, an Iranian court held the 17th session in the trial of 104 members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO) in Tehran, a group long accused of carrying out acts of terrorism against Iran.

The proceedings took place publicly at the 11th Branch of the Criminal Court of Tehran Province, continuing what has become a significant case in the country's legal battle against terrorism.

Presiding over the trial, the judge

emphasized that the Iranian people have been primary victims of terrorism for decades, with the crimes of the MKO at the forefront. He stressed that the day's hearing was centered around holding the MKO members accountable for the violent acts attributed to them, which have caused immense harm to the nation.

The judge also highlighted the broader implications of terrorism, stating that it poses a serious threat to peace, justice, and global security. He added that the Islamic Republic of Iran, through its judiciary, has been working diligently to combat these dangers and to foster an environment of greater peace, justice, and stability, both within its borders and in the international community.

He argued that Iran has been a victim of terrorism long before major global incidents, such as the September 11 attacks in the United States, and that the Iranian judiciary had been

actively fighting terrorism well in advance. This long-standing commitment, according to the judge, is rooted in Iran's own experiences with terrorist violence, particularly from groups like the MKO.

The judge further noted that although there are numerous international frameworks aimed at combating terrorism—such as UN resolutions, including the 1994 resolution and Resolution 2011 from the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee—some international bodies have displayed a double standard in their approach.

He pointed out that certain UN observers, rapporteurs, and representatives have not applied the same level of scrutiny or justice when dealing with different victims of terrorism, suggesting that Iran's own efforts to fight terrorism have not always been acknowledged on the global stage.

### Esteghlal in turmoil as coach Nekounam faces imminent sacking

TEHRAN – Esteghlal, one of Iran's representatives in the 2024/25 AFC Champions League Elite, are currently facing a tumultuous period marked by internal strife and the looming threat of a managerial change.

A deep rift between head coach Javad Nekounam and the club's ownership, Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industries Corporation (PGPIC), has escalated to the point where Nekounam is on the brink of being sacked after just three matches of the new Persian Gulf Pro League season.

Following Esteghlal's defeat to Esteghlal Khuzestan last Thursday, rumors have been swirling about the club's future, but neither club officials nor Nekounam have made any substantial public comments. The club has issued a vague statement acknowledging the team's shortcomings and promising to address the issues, but has offered little support for the embattled head coach.

The loss to Esteghlal Khuzestan exacerbated the existing tensions between Nekounam and the PGPIC, prompting the club's owners to accelerate their search for a new manager. Nekounam, sensing his days at the helm were numbered, broke his silence and publicly criticized club CEO Farshid Samiei, blaming him for the recent turmoil.

Despite promising to deliver a league title this season, Nekounam's fate appears sealed and he is on the verge of imminent sacking. The owners are reportedly poised to terminate his contract and appoint a replacement.

Three foreign coaches are rumored to be in contention for the job, with Ricardo Sa Pinto, the Portuguese manager who previously led Esteghlal to the Iranian Super Cup and the final of the Hazfi Cup, considered the frontrunner. There were also reports that a deal had been reached with Bulgarian coach Ivaylo Petev, but a strong backlash from fans on social media forced the club to reconsider.

With Esteghlal's crucial AFC Champions League Elite match against Qatar Al-Gharafa scheduled for September 16th, the club find themselves in a state of uncertainty. The managerial instability is a major concern for fans and pundits alike, as Esteghlal strive to make a positive impact on the continental stage.

### Milad Vaziri satisfied with archery performance at 2024 Paralympic

PARIS – Para archery head coach Milad Vaziri is satisfied with the Iranian representatives' performance in the 2024 Paralympic Games.

Fatemeh Hemmati won a silver medal at the women's individual compound open and Iran's compound team also claimed a silver medal in the Games.

Mohammadreza Arabameri also seized a bronze medal in Paris at the men's individual recurve. "I was appointed as head coach of Para archery team six months ago and we suffered lack of preparation time," Vaziri said in an interview with Tehran Times' correspondent Masoud Hossein in Paris. "I believe that our archers have a bright future ahead. Hemmati and Arab Ameri experienced their first Paralympic Games. They will improve in the coming years by participating in the more Asian and world events," he added.

"As you know, the best Para archers come here to do their best because this is Paralympic Games. You need to be in your best form and I think our athlete are capable of being better in the future," Vaziri concluded.

Iran sent four archers to the 2024 Paralympic Games.

### Iranian judge Khazaei attends Central Asia NPC Show

TEHRAN – Iranian judge Akbar Khazaei attended the second round of Central Asia NPC Show was held in Yerevan, Armenia.

Khazaei is the first and only professional bodybuilding judge from Iran.

In 2007, Khazaei received Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Federation (ABBF) after completing IFBB amateur refereeing courses hosted by Thailand in Bangkok.

He was able to become the youngest Iranian referee at the age of 27.

In 2015, he was appointed as an international referee of the International Fitness and Bodybuilding Federation (IFBB).

In 2022 he received his professional refereeing from the Mr. Olympia organization and became the first and only referee of Iran.

Khazaei's name was recorded in the history of bodybuilding in Iran.

### Lucas Joao joins Persepolis

TEHRAN – Portuguese forward Lucas Joao joined Persepolis football club.

The 31-year-old striker was a member of Qatari side Umm Salal last season and scored three goals in 10 matches.

He started his playing career in Portuguese team Nacional and has also played at English sides Blackburn Rovers and Reading.

Lucas Joao made his full debut for Portugal in 2015, before changing his allegiance to Angola in 2022.

Persepolis sits fifth in the 2024-25 Iran Professional League (IPL) after three weeks.

### Iran finish sixth at 2024 FIBA U18 Asia Cup

TEHRAN – Iran finished in sixth place, losing to South Korea 66-57 in the 2024 FIBA U18 Asia Cup on Monday at the Prince Hamza Hall in Amman, Jordan.

Korea's Gu Seungchae led the way with 20 points on a 5-of-7 clip from deep, 4 rebounds, 3 assists, and a steal and finish with an efficiency of 23 as he sparked the second-quarter breakaway on the way to beating their West Asian counterparts anew.

It could be recalled that both teams faced each other back in the Group Phase, with the East Asian side coming out victorious by way of an 83-60 win to repeat after owning their Quarter-Final duel in 2022 – an edition which they went on to rule.

Now, the erstwhile defending champions have written another chapter of this budding rivalry in their favor to ensure themselves at least a Top 5 finish for the fifth time in the last seven editions of the biennial continental youth competitions.

That's big thanks to Gu, who gave Korea a 16-13 lead late in the first quarter before pouring 11 points in the following period to lead his side to a 35-22 halftime lead. Gu did outscore Iran by himself in the as the latter only had 9 in that frame.

Mohammad Heydari and Amir Mahyar Keramati, on the other hand, were the only bright spots for the young Team Melli with 16 and 12 points, respectively.

Australia won the title after defeating New Zealand 96-33.

China used a scorching fourth quarter to finish off Jordan, 84-63, and took home the bronze medal.

### Persepolis complete signing of Saeid Mehri

TEHRAN – Former Esteghlal football team midfielder Saeid Mehri joined Persepolis on Monday.

The 26-year-old player has penned a two-year deal with Persepolis.

Mehri started his playing career on Machine Sazi in 2016 and was a member of Persepolis' archrival Esteghlal from 2021 to 2024.

He has most recently played for Cypriot team APOEL.

## Tehran hosting 34th Islamic Banking Conference

TEHRAN – Iran's 34th Islamic Banking Conference kicked off at the place of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) in the capital Tehran on Tuesday, Tasnim News Agency reported.

The two-day annual event is attended by the managing directors of the country's banks, university professors, and monetary analysts, as well as senior government officials including the CBI Governor Mohammadreza Farzin and the Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs Abdolnaser Hemmati.

As reported, in this conference, issues such as banking governance, reform of banking laws, banking business model, and the role of banks in supporting domestic production are discussed in specialized roundtables.

### Iran's Q1 GDP growth stands at 4.2%

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the conference, Farzin pointed to the recent upward trend of the country's economic growth and said the growth of non-oil Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has reached 4.2 percent in the first quarter of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-June 20).

"GDP in spring was 4.2 percent. The combination of the growth shows that we are in a better situation in agriculture, we also had



good growth in the oil sector, however, we faced a decrease in growth in the mining and services sectors," he said.

According to the CBI governor, the inflation in the country is also expected to be curbed to 30 percent in the current calendar year.

Referring to the role of CBI in economic growth, he said: "Since last year, we faced political and security shocks, but fortunately, with the proper leadership in the country and the cooperation of the people and the national unity, we are currently in a stable situation.

We managed the impulses in monetary and currency variables, although we still have some concerns."

Farzin finally noted that the CBI expects the country's GDP growth to stand at 3.7 percent by the end of the current year.

## Over 9,000 persons working in Kordestan province's apiaries



tion per capita at 1.397 kilograms.

He has also said that 155,000 people are working in the apiaries of the country, adding this number of people are working in 94,932 apiaries.

Based on the data released by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Iran is the third-largest producer of honey in the world.

The chairman of the Animal Science Research Institute has said that the amount of honey production in the country should be increased by three to four kilograms per colony.

Mokhtar Mohajer said, "According to the Seventh National Development Plan (2022-2026), the amount of honey production should be increased by at least three to four kilograms per colony according to the diversity of plants and the area of pastures that we have in the country".

He announced that 8,300 kilograms of royal jelly, 406 tons of pollen, 2,536 tons of beeswax, 247 tons of propolis, and 3,917 grams of bee venom are produced annually in the country.

TEHRAN- As announced by a provincial official, 9,212 persons are working in the apiaries of Kordestan province, in the west of Iran.

Mohammad Bayani, the deputy head of the province's Agriculture Department for improving livestock products, also said that 7,431 apiaries are active in the province.

As announced by an official with Iran's Agriculture Ministry, the country's honey production per capita stands at 1.415 kilograms.

Mohammad-Ebrahim Hassan-Nejad, the deputy minister for livestock products affairs, also put the country's honey consump-

## TEDPIX drops 7,700 points on Tuesday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), lost 7,748 points to 2,088,301 on Tuesday, which is the fourth 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 Central Bank of Iran (CBI) has approved a directive allowing the banks of the country to provide up to 100 trillion rials (about \$200 million) of funding to support the stock market.

The mentioned directive was approved on August 20, in a meeting of the CBI Supreme Council chaired by the CBI Governor Mohammadreza Farzin.

As reported, the CBI governor has urged the Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO) to consider the concerns of the shareholders when injecting these resources into the capital market and to plan in such a way that the funding has an effective role in the capital market.

Farzin has also announced the CBI's new measures for supporting the capital market.

Referring to the central bank's three new measures to support the stock market and



small shareholders, the official said these plans are mainly focused on financing listed companies to accelerate their development.

"The first step is to guarantee 3.6 quadrillion rials (about \$7.2 billion) of bonds of the operating banks to issue Riyal financing bonds to supply working capital to companies listed in the stock market," Farzin said.

The official also mentioned the issuance of 2.0 billion euros of foreign currency sukuk bonds to support the development plans of listed companies active in the field of petrochemicals and mining as the second measure to support the stock market.

The third measure is to grant 1.5 billion euros in foreign currency loans to listed companies that have foreign exchange income and quick-return plans, in order to increase their exports, according to the CBI governor.

# Iran can be West Asia's energy transit gateway: oil minister

TEHRAN – Iranian Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad has said the country can be a suitable gateway and crossroad for energy trade and transit in the region, given its geopolitical position.

Paknejad made the remarks on Monday in a meeting with the Secretary General of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) Mohamed Hamel, who is in Tehran to discuss and coordinate holding the 26th Ministerial Meeting of the forum in late October.

During the meeting, Paknejad said that Iran is one of the main founders of this forum, adding "We consider the hosting of the 26th Ministerial Meeting in Tehran at the start of the 14th administration office as positive."

"Just as the first Ministerial Meeting of the forum was held in Tehran in 2001 and brought positive outcomes for the members, it is expected that this meeting will also yield valuable collective achievements with the maximum participation of the members," he added.



Elsewhere, the oil minister said: "Considering the geopolitical situation of the world and the specific conditions of global gas markets, especially during energy crises, special support should be given to the GECF Secretariat, so that this forum can play a prominent role in stabilizing global energy security through the comprehensive participation and cooperation of its members."

Referring to the GECF's specialized reports, such as the gas market outlook, and its important place in depicting an outlook

of the gas market, the minister stated: "Given its geopolitical position, Iran can play the role of a crossroad for energy trade and transit in the region."

Paknejad further emphasized that the role of natural gas is crucial not only for energy security but also for advancing global climate policies, especially during the transition to clean energy noting that the GECF Secretariat, in coordination with the OPEC Secretariat, can effectively participate in the meetings and negotiations of the United Na-

tions Climate Change Conference (COP 29) which is planned to be held in Azerbaijan Republic.

Expressing gratitude for the efforts of the GECF Secretariat in recent years, he continued: "Among these initiatives is the establishment of the Gas Research Institute (GRI), which can provide a significant foundation for member countries to cooperate in the fields of technology, education, and human resources."

"I hope the collaboration between the GECF Secretariat and Iran's Research Institute of Petroleum Industry will progress, and research cooperation will take place in emerging areas such as hydrogen, artificial intelligence, and other contemporary issues," Paknejad emphasized.

"We have made great efforts so that the Ministerial Meeting of GECF in Tehran will be effective and fruitful," he said.

According to Shana, the 26th Ministerial Meeting of GECF will be held in late October in Tehran.

## Iran, China ink MOU on geological co-op

TEHRAN – The geological survey bodies of Iran and China have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to cooperate in various areas, IRNA reported.

The MOU was signed between Iran's Geological Survey and Mineral Explorations Or-

ganization (GSI) and China Geological Survey (CGS) on the sidelines of the 37th International Geological Congress 2024 in Busan, South Korea.

As reported, the MOU, signed by the GSI Head Alireza Shahidi and CGS President Li

Jinfa, includes joint geological and exploration surveys, green development in mineral resources, training and exchange of scientific and technical information, construction and sharing of geoscience databases, and joint organization of meetings, workshops, and seminars, etc.

## Bank loans to knowledge-based firms rise 63%

TEHRAN – Iranian banking system paid 927 trillion rials (about \$1.854 billion) of facilities to knowledge-based companies in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-July 21), to register a 63 percent rise compared to the same period in the preceding year.

According to the Central Bank of Iran (CBI), Iranian banks also paid 2.7 quadrillion rials (about \$5.4 billion) of facilities to more than 2930 knowledge-based companies in the previous Iranian calendar year.

Iranian banks paid 16.57 quadrillion rials (about \$33.14 billion) of facilities to various economic sectors in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-July 21), registering a 20.6 percent rise from the figure in the same period of the previous year, according to the CBI data.

As reported, of the total facilities, 13.57 quadrillion rials (about \$27.1 billion) equivalent to 78.3 percent, was paid to the business owners (real and legal), and 3.6 quadrillion rials (about \$7.3 billion) equivalent to 21.7 percent, to the final consumers (households).

The significant and fast-paced growth in the number of knowledge-based companies with over 200 percent increase in their number just over the past year (March 2023 – March 2024), shows the solid foundation, dynamism, and growth of the country in innovation and technology and the productive atmosphere which have been made available in line with the goal of boosting domestic production with public participation.

The Iranian government underscores the quantitative and qualitative development of knowledge-based companies. The number of



companies, which was around 5,000 in 2021, has now reached 10,000 with a total value of two billion dollars.

The law on supporting knowledge-based companies and institutions, and commercializing innovations and inventions, was approved by the parliament in Iranian year 1389 (2010 -2011), to achieve a knowledge-based economy.

## New govt., private sector dialogue council holds 1st meeting

TEHRAN – The 124th dialogue council of the government and the private sector, which was the first meeting of the council after the new government has taken office, was held in Tehran on Monday, in which the country's recent economic issues were discussed and attendees shared their views.

The meeting was attended by senior officials including Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Abdolnaser Hemati, Head of Iran

Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) Samad Hassanzadeh, and Agriculture Minister Gholamreza Nouri Ghezleh at the place of ICCIMA, the ICCIMA portal reported.

In his opening speech as the secretary of the council, Hassanzadeh referred to the first meeting of this council after the beginning of the 14th government administration, and expressed hope that the dialogue

council can increase its effective role with the stable presence of its members in the meetings and the follow-up of the issues.

He noted that the dialogue council of the government and the private sector is the biggest forum in which the private sector directly interacts with the country's decision-makers to raise their concerns and find solutions for the country's economic challenges.

Elsewhere in the meeting,

Economy Minister Abdolnaser Hemati underlined the importance of the dialogue council and said: "The dialogue council has the necessary capacity to address a significant number of existing challenges, so the ministers who are members of the council must have a strong presence in the council meetings. On the other hand, it is necessary for provincial governors to regularly organize council meetings in the provinces."

## Agricultural export from Mazandaran province increases 100%

TEHRAN- As announced by a provincial official, export of the agricultural products from Mazandaran province, in the north of Iran, rose by 100 percent during the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-August 21), as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

Amir Jamshidi, an official with the province's Customs Department, said that over 15,000 tons of agricultural products worth \$6 million were exported from the province in the five-month period.

As previously reported by the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), the value of Iran's agricultural products export increased by 33 percent during the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year, as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

According to the IRICA report, the country exported 2.657 million tons of agricultural

products worth \$1.453 billion in the five-month period of this year, also indicating 22 percent rise in terms of year on year.

Also as previously announced by the IRICA, Iran exported about 2.226 million tons of agricultural products valued at \$1.18 billion in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-July 21), registering an increase of 32 percent in value year on year.

According to the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration, the exports of the mentioned products also increased 22 percent in terms of weight.

The value of Iran's exports of agricultural and foodstuff products increased by 22.5 percent in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 19), the spokesman of the International Relations and Trade Development Committee of Iran's House of Industry, Mining and Trade has said.

According to Ruhollah Latifi, Iranian producers managed to export about \$6.3 billion worth of the mentioned products in the said year.

As reported, agro-food products accounted for 12.8 percent of the country's total non-oil exports in the previous year.

Iraq was the top destination for Iran's agro-food products in the mentioned year importing \$1.986 billion worth of the said items. The Arab neighbor accounted for 31.5 percent of the total exports of food and agricultural products from Iran.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) stood in second place, importing \$751 million of the mentioned products, followed by Russia with \$521.5 million.

The value of Iran's total foreign trade including oil and technical engineering services reached \$153.178 billion in the last Iranian calendar year.

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN- Ulterior motives lurking behind the screening of a documentary that unveils leaked footage of the Israeli police questioning Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have come to the fore.

The documentary called The Bibi Files was premiered as a work-in-progress at the 2024 Toronto Film Festival this week.

The film, directed by Alexis Bloom and produced by Alex Gibney, features never-before-seen footage of the police interrogations of Netanyahu, his family and his inner circle on corruption allegations. The graft charges were recorded between 2016 and 2018, and have never been released in Israel due to privacy laws.

According to Variety magazine, the recordings of Netanyahu being questioned by police between those years were leaked to Bloom in early 2023.

When he received the tapes, Israel was witnessing mass demonstrations against Netanyahu's push for his controversial judicial reforms. The recordings consist of thousands of hours of interviews.

The documentary depicts Netanyahu as a leader facing multiple criminal convictions, including for bribery, and how his actions since being indicted have affected his decision-making, including around the Al-Aqsa Storm, a surprise military operation carried out by Hamas in southern Israel on October 7 last year.

Netanyahu, known as Bibi, is on trial for fraud and breach of trust in three separate cases filed in 2019. These cases are listed as 1,000, 2,000 and 4,000, which include bribery charges.

Netanyahu's first trial was suspended due to the Al-Aqsa Storm Operation and the ensuing Israeli genocidal war in Gaza. The



## Behind 'The Bibi Files'

The West leading Netanyahu to guillotine for Israel's survival

Israeli prime minister has flatly rejected any wrongdoing describing the charges as complete fabrication and a witch hunt.

### Political maneuvering

The Bibi Files that made its debut at the Canadian festival took the lid off Netanyahu's leaked police interrogation videos for the first time but it seems to be a strategic chess move by the West within the grand theater of public perception.

Israeli media have already leaked the incriminating evidence in the interrogation videos. Hence, the film doesn't reveal new information.

Western countries, in particular the United States, are under fire for feeding Israel's war machine in Gaza by providing the regime with unwavering military support. Large protests have been held in the United States, Canada and European countries against the Gaza war and the West's support for the onslaught over the past months.

Besides, Israel's brutalities in Gaza have deepened the regime's international isolation. Israel is 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.

Resentment against Israel and the regime's growing isolation has raised deep concerns among its Western allies.

They fear the growing anti-Israel sentiment will pose a grave danger to the regime's existence.

Undoubtedly, all Israeli officials including Netanyahu along with the regime's Western allies have the blood of Palestinians on their hands.

But it appears that the West seeks to cast Netanyahu in the role of the sacrificial lamb, a scapegoat for the heinous crimes that the regime has ostensibly committed.

The Bibi Files toes the line of such a scheme. In fact, the documentary vilifies the protagonist to preserve the power structure of the antagonist.

Zionist lobbies in the US and certain Western leaders act as

puppeteers who pull the strings from behind the curtain.

By focusing the spotlight on Netanyahu, they hope to appease growing opposition against Israel's barbarism and whitewash its atrocities in the Palestinian territories, in particular during the Gaza war.

Shows like The Bibi Files use a cinematic narrative to shield true villains. But as the curtains fall and the lights come up, the audience will wake up to the fact that the masterminds have used their comrade to protect themselves.

The Bibi Files ends with Netanyahu's late July speech to a joint session of the US Congress where he received massive applause. By weaving a web of deceit and playing the innocent, he tried to justify his army's carnage in Gaza. When Netanyahu returned to Israel, he butchered more Palestinians including women and children.

Now Bibi's US masters have concluded that the butcher of Gaza should be sacrificed to ensure that the apartheid and bogus Israeli regime will continue to exist in the future.

Israeli airstrikes and shelling in Rafah have killed many refugees and displaced Palestinians, prompting the International Court of Justice to order Israel to "immediately cease its military attack or any other action in Rafah".

Although the U.S. suspended the delivery of heavy bombs for several weeks only, it did not stop the continuous flow of U.S. weapons to Israel.

Reuters recently reported that the U.S. delivered "at least 14,000 MK-84 2,000-pound bombs, 6,500 500-pound bombs, 3,000 Hellfire air-to-ground missiles, 1,000 bunker-buster bombs, and 2,600 small-diameter air-to-ground bombs and other munitions" to Israel by the end of June 2024.

It is noteworthy that the MK-84 2,000-pound bomb is one of the largest conventional unguided or free-fall bombs in the U.S. arsenal.

This bomb is filled with over 945 pounds of highly explosive material and is often reserved for use against heavily fortified targets or underground bunkers.

Its use in densely populated areas has seen horrifying scenes of massacres across the Gaza Strip.

### German arms exports to the Israeli regime

In 2023, the German government authorized arms exports worth a total of €326.5 million (\$355.3 million) to Israel.

Of this amount, €20 million was allocated for war weapons, while the remaining €306.3 million was for defense equipment.

This equipment included 3,000 portable anti-tank weapons, 500,000 rounds of ammunition for automatic and semi-automatic weapons, other propellants, armored vehicles, military trucks, and bulletproof glass.

By fall 2023, only €38.5 million of German military exports to Israel had been approved, but this figure increased sharply after October 7, 2023.

In November 2023, the Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (BAFA) announced that "plans for exporting military equipment to Israel" were prioritized following the October 7 attack.

As a result, Germany's share of arms exports to Israel rose from 2% in 2022 to nearly 6%.

## U.S. and Germany: Main culprits of lethal arms to Israel

From page 1 ▶ Before Hamas' Operation al-Aqsa Storm on October 7, 2023, Washington exported an average of \$3 billion worth of weapons to Israel annually.

However, compared to other countries in the region, Israel purchases fewer weapons from America.

Over the past five years, Israel received 3.6% of U.S. arms exports, while Saudi Arabia purchased 15%, Qatar 8.2%, and Kuwait 4.5%.

U.S. fighter jets played a key role in Israel's extensive military attacks on Gaza and also in strikes against alleged Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon.

According to SIPRI, the U.S. exported thousands of guided weapons and missiles to Israel by the end of 2023. However, the total volume of Israel's arms imports in 2023 was not significantly higher than in 2022.

What has become controversial is the supply of heavy weapons to Israel, especially in 2024, with protesters taking to the streets and blocking supply lines to stop military shipments.

In May 2024, U.S. President Joe Biden suspended the delivery of 2,000-pound and 500-pound bombs after expressing concern over the high number of civilian casualties in Gaza and the conduct of the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF).

Biden's move came after the IOF was accused of human rights violations against Palestinians in Gaza and the occupied West Bank.

According to the Gaza Health Ministry, since Israel launched its military operation in 2023 in response to the October 7 attacks, the death toll in the besieged area has surpassed 41,000. Nearly 95,000 others have been injured.

More than two million people (almost the entire population of Gaza) have been displaced, and according to UNICEF, over 50,000 children face acute malnutrition due to the ongoing blockade.

A blockade that UN experts say has caused famine to spread across the Gaza Strip.

After it was announced that the delivery of 500-pound bombs to Israeli forces would resume, an anonymous U.S. official told Reuters that they were "concerned about the potential use of 2,000-pound bombs in Rafah and other parts of Gaza".

## The House of Cards: The Rise and Fall of Benjamin Netanyahu

A closer look into the controversial documentary on "The Bibi Files"

From page 1 ▶ The film unravels the myth of Netanyahu as a strongman, revealing the hollowness beneath his image of resolute leadership. It exposes his willingness to sacrifice unity on the altar of political expediency, turning a society once advertised to be a "vibrant democracy" into a fractured landscape of mistrust and suspicion.

"The Bibi Files" doesn't shy away from the allegations of corruption that have haunted Netanyahu's career. The film dives into the murky world of "Case 1000," "Case 2000," and "Case 4000," showcasing how these scandals, fueled by a culture of entitlement and a blatant disregard for ethical boundaries, reveal a leader who saw power as a personal entitlement rather than a public trust.

The film goes beyond mere accusations, offering a chilling glimpse into how Netanyahu's political strategy has systematically undermined the Zionist regime's institutions. It reveals how he cultivated a culture of fear within the media, using his influence to silence critics and control the narrative surrounding his actions. "The Bibi Files" exposes the insidious influence of a leader who, rather than seeking to unify his society, deliberately sowed discord to maintain his own grip on power.

The documentary doesn't spare Netanyahu's handling of the Palestinian conflict, exposing how his policies, often driven by political opportunism

rather than a genuine desire for peace, have only deepened the cycle of violence and mistrust. The film showcases the detrimental impact of his approach, highlighting the lost opportunities for peace and the ever-widening chasm between Israelis and Palestinians.

"The Bibi Files" is not merely a collection of facts; it's a visceral experience, a testament to the devastating consequences of unchecked power. It's a warning to all, specifically those who believed in propagandic notion of "the only democracy in the Middle East": a stark reminder that when a leader prioritizes his ambition over the well-being of their people, the results can be catastrophic.

The film leaves viewers with a sobering sense of unease, prompting them to consider the long-term damage inflicted by a leader whose actions have been driven by a relentless pursuit of power. It serves as a potent reminder of the need for robust institutions that hold those in power accountable.

"The Bibi Files" is not simply a film about one man; it's a chronicle of a political system that has allowed the pursuit of power to override the pursuit of peace. It's a film that compels us to ask: what are we willing to sacrifice in the name of political stability? And is there a price too high to pay for the pursuit of power?

## The Sisyphean task: Why Israel's political landscape remains stuck in a cycle of gridlock

From page 1 ▶ The air in Tel Aviv is thick with a palpable tension, a sense of frustration simmering beneath the surface of everyday life. The news cycles are dominated by political machinations, a constant stream of negotiation breakdowns and accusations hurled across the aisle. The frustration is palpable: five elections in four years, a record-breaking cycle of political instability that has left many Israelis yearning for a semblance of normalcy. Yet, despite this widespread discontent, the possibility of another election appears distant, a cruel irony in a system supposedly built to serve the people.

This cycle of gridlock, this Sisyphean task of navigating the treacherous terrain of Israeli politics, is a complex tapestry woven with threads of political ambition, ideological differences, and a deeply ingrained fear of instability. While many yearn for a fresh start, the very system which was designed to ensure stability - a complex coalition government requiring the cooperation of multiple parties - ironically fuels the paralysis.

Since Israel is a big "military base" in nature, its effort for formation of a stable government is a precarious balancing act requiring the coordination of disparate ideologies and the navigation of a fractured political landscape. The current Knesset, the Israeli parliament, is a microcosm of this fragmentation, a mosaic of political parties representing diverse interests, each vying for a place at the decision-making table.

This fragmentation, a symptom of Israel's vibrant long-advertised "democracy", creates a paradoxical situation: a robust political system that thrives on dissent and diverse voices, yet struggles to find common ground to govern effectively. The result is a perpetual game of musical chairs, a constant shuffle of alliances and betrayals, as parties jockey for power, often at the expense of national unity.

The current political stalemate is a stark reminder of the illusiveness of Israel's "democracy". This cycle of gridlock is a potent cocktail of conflicting interests, a potent brew of ambition and ambition, of ideologies clashing in the crucible of compromise. It is a testament to the inherent difficulty of forging a consensus within a quasi-political ecosystem where the lines between political parties are often blurred, where the spectrum of beliefs is as diverse as the landscape itself.

While the electorate yearns for a government that can address the pressing issues facing the settlers - from the rising cost of living to the security situation - the political machinery seems hopelessly stuck in neutral. The prospect of a fresh mandate, a new government born from the will of the people, appears elusive, a phantom of hope dancing on the horizon.

The reason for this political inertia is multifaceted, a web of interconnected factors, each contributing to the current impasse. The role of the President, a figurehead in the Israeli political system, is crucial yet fraught with challenges. While

the President theoretically has the power to dissolve the Knesset and call for new elections, this decision is often a political minefield.

Acting unilaterally, defying the will of the Knesset, could be seen as a violation of the "democratic" process, potentially exacerbating the political crisis rather than resolving it. The President, a figure bound by protocol and tradition, becomes a silent observer in this political stalemate, a spectator in a drama unfolding with no clear resolution in sight.

The financial and political costs of repeated elections are another significant deterrent. Every election cycle, a hefty price tag is attached, a drain on the treasury, and a significant diversion of resources that could be allocated to addressing critical social and economic issues. The political costs are equally substantial, as the focus shifts away from governance towards campaign strategies, exacerbating the very divisions that fuel the political gridlock.

The political climate is further poisoned by the pervasive cynicism, the disillusionment that permeates the Israeli psyche. The constant churn of elections, the seemingly unending cycle of negotiations and breakdowns, feeds a sense of apathy and cynicism among the electorate. The public grows weary of the political circus, losing faith in the system's ability to deliver on its promises.

This disillusionment is a double-edged sword. It weakens the resolve for political engagement, driving voters away from the ballot box, yet simultaneously fuels a desire for radical change, for a shake-up of the system that seems to be failing them. This dynamic creates a volatile situation, a powder keg of frustration that could erupt at any moment, potentially pushing Israel towards a more extreme political landscape.

The path towards resolution, towards a break from this political stalemate, is shrouded in uncertainty, a labyrinth with no clear exit. The solutions proposed often seem like Band-Aid solutions, temporary measures aimed at stemming the bleeding while ignoring the underlying issues. Constitutional reform, a potential path towards a more stable and representative system, remains a contentious issue, fraught with ideological and practical challenges.

Finding common ground on issues of collective importance, bridging the chasm between political ideologies, appears to be an insurmountable hurdle, a challenge that seems to defy any easy solutions.

Amongst many other existential threats, the future of politics in Occupied Palestine is also a huge question mark, a blank page awaiting the next chapter in this complex narrative, if there is any. Whether the Zionist regime will break free from this cycle of gridlock, finding a way to forge a government that truly represents the will of the settlers, remains to be seen. As of this moment, the hope for a stable and unified future under a common vision, is a flickering light that is fading away.

## Tourism festival to honor lotuses bloom in northern Iran



TEHRAN – Mazandaran province is set to host Otiti (which means blossoms in water in local dialect) tourism festival, a celebration inspired by the enchanting bloom of the Babol's rare lotuses.

"Babol's lotus wetland is one of the most picturesque natural attractions in Mazandaran," said a local tourism official, adding that the city's lotuses are a rare attraction in Iran, blooming in a limited area and turning into a popular tourist destination during their flowering season.

The blooming season of these lotuses, Mahdi Eshaqi further explained, begins in early July and lasts until late September.

He outlined that the wetland, listed as a national heritage, with its unique scenery, is equipped with various amenities to serve visitors in the best way possible. The Otiti tourism festival, scheduled

to run for five days from September 16, aims to promote Mazandaran's natural beauty and cultural heritage, tourists to experience the province's unique offerings, according to the official.

Mazandaran, located in northern Iran along the Caspian Sea, is renowned for its diverse tourist attractions and natural beauty. The province boasts approximately 2,500 historical and natural sites, including ancient buildings and picturesque landscapes. Its diverse terrain ranges from lush coastal plains to verdant mountains, providing a variety of outdoor activities and scenic vistas.

The region's appeal is further enhanced by its eco-lodges and rural tourism options, which offer a unique experience of traditional Iranian hospitality and natural surroundings.

The province's coastline along the Caspian Sea features 15 cities with beach access, attracting tourists looking to enjoy the sandy shores and maritime activities.

Additionally, Mazandaran's array of museums, waterfalls, and mountainous resorts provide further opportunities for exploration and relaxation. This combination of historical richness, natural beauty, and diverse accommodations makes Mazandaran a key destination for both domestic and international tourists.

## Hamadan's handicraft exports hit \$10 million in five months

TEHRAN – Exports of Hamadan's handicrafts have generated some \$10 million in revenue throughout the very first five months of this Persian calendar year (started on March 20), as revealed by a local official.

"Hamadan's handicraft exports have earned \$10.38 million in five months," Mohammadreza Khalaji told IRNA on Tuesday. "Notably, 90% of this revenue came from informal and suitcase trade."

Khalaji highlighted that Hamadan's main handicraft exports include ceramics, glassware, traditional embroidery, and mosaic work. The primary destinations for these exports, he elaborated, are Iraq, Azerbaijan, Turkey, and the Netherlands.

The official further noted that informal and suitcase trade from the province brought in \$38.73 million last year. Addressing the challenges faced by local artisans in marketing and product distribution, Khalaji emphasized that the provincial department prioritizes these issues.

He also mentioned the establishment of 16 permanent and 12 temporary handicraft markets

during Nowruz (Persian New Year holidays) in various counties to boost sales.

Currently, 26 handicraft associations and cooperatives are registered in Hamadan, with eight actively involved in sectors such as furniture and carving, ceramics, and leather goods, according to the official. "The country's handicrafts and intangible heritage are crucial to an identity-based economy," Khalaji wined up, highlighting that to support employment and enhance the quality of production and exports, 142 works by local artisans have been awarded the "seal of excellence".

Hamadan, a historic city in western Iran, is renowned for its rich tradition in handicrafts, reflecting its deep cultural heritage. The province's artisanal history spans centuries, with techniques and styles passed down through generations.

Key crafts from Hamadan include intricate pottery and ceramics, famous for their unique designs and high-quality craftsmanship. Traditional weaving, including carpet-making and mosaic work, also holds a significant place in the local culture. Additionally, Hamadan is known for its traditional embroidery and glassware.

# Pilgrims flock to St. Thaddeus for Badarak ritual

TEHRAN – St. Thaddeus Church, also known as Qareh Klise ("the Black Church"), a UNESCO World Heritage site located in Chaldoran, northwest Iran, is set to host the 70th annual Badarak ritual from October 13 to 15.

The church, believed to be one of the oldest in the Christian world, holds special significance for the Armenian community as the burial site of St. Thaddeus, one of the apostles.

The sacred observance, which is a UNESCO-registered intangible heritage shared by Iran and Armenia, is expected to draw more than three thousand pilgrims from Iran and worldwide.

Traditionally, Christians from Iran, Armenia, Syria, Lebanon, the Netherlands, France, Austria, Germany, and Canada, among other countries gather at the church to celebrate the ritual.

Iranian-Armenians pilgrims mostly come from Tabriz, Urmia, Tehran, Isfahan, and Qazvin, accompanied by their families, pitching tents around the church grounds and participating in



prayers, candle-lighting, and the ritual sacrifice of sheep for vows.

The Governor of Chaldoran, Mohammadreza Abdollahnejad, has announced that the county is fully prepared to host the event, IRNA reported on Tuesday.

"In close collaboration with the local Christian diocese, we have established a mobile clinic, deployed road emergency teams, fire and road safety crews, and arranged food stalls to ensure the safety and comfort of the pilgrims," Abdollahnejad said.

They say the three-day ritual, which is one of the holy sacra-

ments of Christianity, commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ with His disciples.

The baptism of children along with performances of traditional songs and dances are among the highlights of the pilgrimage.

Besides, participants commemorate the martyrdom of St. Thaddeus, one of the twelve disciples, killed while he was preaching the Gospel.

The legend says a church dedicated to him was first built in 68 CE there, where Qareh Klise is standing. Thaddeus was an apostle of Christ, and the ceremony is rooted in the last supper

with Jesus Christ on the night of his arrest and execution by the Roman soldiers.

According to IRNA, the gathering of thousands of pilgrims at this ancient church is not only a testament to the site's enduring religious significance but also a powerful reminder of Iran's historical role as a crossroads of faith and culture.

"This year's event will once again demonstrate the country's commitment to religious freedom and cultural diversity, as it continues to provide a safe and open environment for religious observances."

St. Thaddeus, together with St. Stepanos Monastery and the Chapel of Dzordzor, were placed on the UNESCO World Heritage list in 2008 under the name "Armenian Monastic Ensembles of Iran."

All three sites are located in West Azarbaijan province and are of high significance from historical and cultural perspectives.

As mentioned by UNESCO, these churches are examples of the outstanding universal value of Armenian architectural and decorative traditions in Iran.

## Iran promoting tourism in India with multi-city roadshow



TEHRAN – Iran is currently staging a roadshow in India as part of a series of promotional roadshows to attract tourists, and strengthen tourism ties with foreign countries.

The roadshow takes place from September 10 to 14, with presence of Ali-Asghar Shalbafian, the Iranian deputy tourism minister, in three major Indian cities: Mumbai, Hyderabad, and New Delhi, as CHTN reported on Tuesday.

The event aims to highlight Iran's tourism potential and will feature the participation of key private sector players from Iran's outbound travel agencies, along with government officials from both countries, the report added.

As part of Iran's marketing efforts, led by

the deputy of tourism at the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts, the roadshow aims to achieve several key objectives, including promoting a positive image of Iran by highlighting its cultural, historical, and natural diversity, increasing the number of international tourists, creating new business opportunities, and introducing new destinations and attractions.

As revealed by the roadshow organizers, one of the main focuses of the event will be facilitating direct interaction between the tourism professionals of the two countries through B2B meetings.

These sessions aim to establish direct, face-to-face contact between the tourism sectors of both nations to facilitate practical tourism exchanges.

In addition to fostering ties between tourism professionals, the event also offers a platform for identifying and collaborating with new business partners, such as tour operators, airlines, social media influencers, and other stakeholders in the tourism industry.

This approach aims to create a network of international partners and open new avenues for future cooperation. It is expected

that over 100 tourism companies and professionals will participate in each city during the event.

India, with a population of over 1.4 billion, recently surpassed China to become the world's most populous country.

As such, the Indian tourism market holds significant importance for Iran, given its substantial number of potential travelers.

Additionally, India's growing middle class and rising per capita incomes make it one of the world's largest sources of outbound tourists, who increasingly seek new cultural experiences and international destinations.

New Delhi, with its vast and influential population, Hyderabad, known for its rich cultural heritage, and Mumbai, as India's economic hub, all provide unique opportunities for promoting Iranian tourism.

Furthermore, cultural and ethnic ties between the two nations offer another advantage for Iran's tourism sector, underscoring the importance of this roadshow in India.

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

## 5,200-year-old remains unearthed at Tape Bor in western Iran

TEHRAN – Archaeologists have discovered 5,200-year-old cultural remains at Tape Bor, an ancient site near the city of Javanrud in Kermanshah province.

The findings, which include artifacts and possible architectural structures, shed new light on the region's historical significance and suggest a long history of human settlement dating back to the Chalcolithic period.

Farhad Fattahi, head of the Tape Bor archaeological team, announced the discovery during an interview with ISNA.

He explained that the excavation

was part of a project aimed at determining the boundaries and buffer zone of the Tape Bor site, which is located in a village of the same name, about five kilometers from Javanrud.

**Preservation efforts amid urban expansion**

Tape Bor was first identified in 2005 by Dr. Yaghoob Mohammadifar, a prominent Iranian archaeologist, and has since been registered as a significant historical site. However, the proximity of the site to the village has led to damage over the years, as residential construction has encroached on the ancient mound and its surrounding area.

Fattahi noted that there had been numerous requests from local villagers to build [houses] around the site, prompting cultural heritage authorities to take action.

"To prevent further encroachment on this valuable archaeological site, we decided to conduct exploratory excavations to establish clear boundaries. This will allow villagers to continue their construction activities according to regulations without damaging the site," he said.

The excavation project, which began in July with authorization from the Research Institute of Cultural Heritage and Tourism, has now been completed. A total of 23 test trench-

es, each measuring 1.5 by 1.5 meters, were dug, allowing archaeologists to determine the boundaries of the Tape Bor site.

**Uncovering a rich archaeological legacy**

The discoveries at Tape Bor include various cultural materials such as pottery shards, which indicate that the earliest evidence of human set-

tlement at the site dates back to the Chalcolithic period, around 5,200 years ago. "We also found evidence of habitation from the second millennium BC, as well as from the Parthian and Sassanian periods," Fattahi added.

In addition to the artifacts, the team encountered remains of architectural structures in some of the

trenches. However, the quality and exact period of these structures remain undetermined, necessitating further archaeological excavation and study.

Tape Bor, which was registered as a national heritage site in the winter of 2023, holds immense potential for uncovering more information about ancient human activities in the region.

## Police seize haul of historical artifacts from smugglers at Tehran airport

TEHRAN – Iranian police forces have recently confiscated 1,956 historical relics from local and international smugglers at Imam Khomeini Airport in Tehran.

The seizure was made just before they were able to leave the country, according to the commander of the Protection Unit of Iran's Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Ministry.

In a statement reported by Mehr news agency, Brigadier General Hassan Mehri revealed that the discovery was the result of intelligence operations indicating that two international smugglers were involved in the illegal purchase and sale of antiquities in Tehran.

Upon verifying the information, the Heritage Protection Unit swiftly launched an investigation, the commander noted. "An expert team was assembled, and with the coordination

of the judiciary and airport police, officers conducted a search of the smugglers' luggage," said Mehri.

The operation led to the seizure of 1,956 artifacts, including valuable and semi-precious stone beads made from agate and glass paste, which were hidden in the smugglers' suitcases. According to Mehri, experts from the Cultural Heritage Ministry have assessed the confiscated items, determining that they date back to various historical periods and hold significant cultural value.

Six suspects were arrested in connection with the case and have been handed over to judicial authorities for further legal proceedings.

This seizure underscores the ongoing efforts by Iranian authorities to combat the smuggling of the nation's cultural heritage, the report said.



### INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

Since ESFAHAN MOBARAHEH STEEL COMPANY intend to purchase 600 tons of Tin Ingot with tender no. 48584407, hereby informs whom is interested in that tender documents can be received by sending a request to below contact details (Email or WhatsApp), the sealed and closed envelopes according to what has been mentioned in tender documents must be submitted to ESFAHAN MOBARAHEH STEEL COMPANY- Raw Materials Purchasing Department (RMP) until 1:00 PM (According to Tehran time) Monday 16. Sep.2024 (Monday 26.06.1403).

#### Contact Details:

Contact Person: Mr. Aghaebrahimian Email: [m.ghaebrahimian@msc.ir](mailto:m.ghaebrahimian@msc.ir)

Cell Phone/WhatsApp: 00989131888827

#### Note:

ESFAHAN MOBARAHEH STEEL COMPANY reserves the right of return or rejection of those tender documents in which haven't observed at least one of items of covering letter.

ESFAHAN MOBARAHEH STEEL COMPANY PUBLIC RELATONS(1403-26)

# Strategies to fight narcotics need to be revised: president

TEHRAN –As long as there is demand for narcotic drugs, their supply and distribution cannot be restricted, so the strategies for dealing with illicit drugs have to primarily focus on controlling and lowering demand, President Masoud Pezeshkian has announced.

Referring to addiction as one of the significant concerns of society, which is a root cause of many crimes and social corruption, he highlighted the inefficiency of the methods implemented so far in dealing with addiction in the country in the past years.

The president made the remarks on Monday in a meeting with the officials of anti-narcotics headquarters, IRNA reported.

“Despite the many efforts that have been made in the country, we are still a long way from optimal conditions which makes it necessary to review and change the current methods by learning from the successful experiences of other countries,” Pezeshkian added.

Failing to monitor and curb demand for narcotic drugs, and focusing mainly on preventing drug supply are among the mistakes in the fight against narcotics, he further noted.

Identifying the population in risk of addiction, developing preventive strategies as well as educational programs for the target group, supporting addicts to control and reduce their consumption, treating and finally empowering them to reintegrate into the society are among proven successful methods, the president stated.

He went on to underscore the significance and necessity of utilizing the capacity of health centers saying that if health centers across the country, in the form of



a codified and coherent program, accurately diagnose addicted people in their target society and support them to monitor and minimize their consumption, they will be gradually cured. Consequently, the drop in demand will reduce supply of narcotic drugs, as well.

In addition to providing social work services, the government regards itself responsible and obliged to take measures that will treat addicts, and help them earn a living by creating employment opportunities for them.

\*\*\*\*Effective implementation of anti-narcotics programs

In March, the secretary general of the anti-narcotics headquarters stressed the need for effective implementation of anti-narcotics programs in the region free from political considerations.

“One of the most important challenges of the present era is the narcotic drugs, industrial substances and new psychedelics and the sufferings that I would like to refer to as the quiet war against humanity,” IRIB quoted Eskandar Momeni as saying.

He made the remarks in the

67th UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs, urging all countries to be committed to the sustainable and effective implementation of international drug control conventions.

“In the past five years, adopting a balanced strategy in the fight against drugs, the Islamic Republic of Iran has taken effective measures to promote security and public health in alignment with the implementation of the 2019 Ministerial Declaration, international treaties, and conventions,” Momeni added.

He referred to the compilation and implementation of the comprehensive document on treatment and harm reduction; the expansion of treatment centers both quantitatively and qualitatively, the maximum use of the private sector and non-governmental organizations (7,200 centers), employing diverse treatment methods including pharmaceuticals and psychological and social interventions, ensuring access to medicinal substances for medical and scientific purposes, boosting harm reduction programs by providing various services to people at risk and managing the spread of AIDS and Hepatitis C as other mea-

sure taken by the country.

Momeni underscored the need to stop the unilateral sanctions and foster cooperation between the United Nations, international communities, and Iran to strengthen the global fight against drugs.

Iran has been the only country on the front line of the war against narcotics for over 45 years despite oppressive sanctions of the U.S., the economic problems ahead, and the limited contribution of other countries.

In June 2023, the UNODC representative in Tehran, Alexander Fedulov said Iran should provide other countries of the world with its experiences in dealing with narcotics.

“The successful experiences of Iran’s anti-narcotics police in the field of combating drug transit should be made available to all countries in the region and the world in different ways,” he added.

The international community, while becoming more familiar with the countermeasures of the Islamic Republic of Iran, should provide more support for the fight against narcotics in this country, the UNODC official stressed.

## Tehran to host ‘women and national production exhibition’

TEHRAN – The 21st exhibition on women and national production is scheduled to kick off in Tehran’s Goftegoo park on September 11 and conclude on September 20.

Like previous editions of the event, more than 3,000 female heads of household will showcase and sell their products including clothing and handicrafts directly to customers attending the exhibition, Mehr news agency reported.

On the sidelines of the 21st edition, several other programs such as sustainable employment working group, supportive counseling services working group, and health working group will be held.

Establishing sales markets across the country are among empowerment programs for women heads of households which will lead to the self-sufficiency of many Iranian women.

**Over 126,000 women heads of household become self-sufficient**

The empowerment programs of the late President Raisi’s administration resulted in the self-sufficiency of more than 126,000 women heads of household.

Female entrepreneurs have expanded business, resulting in the creation of sustainable employment for women, as well as the support

for job-creating skills, IRNA quoted Ensieh Khazali, the then vice president for women and family affairs, as saying.

The empowerment programs covered women with abusive husbands, women breadwinners, single girls aged over 45, women suffering from social harm, and women who are heads of household.

Also, the national sustainable family-oriented business plan, with the assistance of women entrepreneurs managed to empower women seeking employment.

In this project, women entrepreneurs support the employment of

women for four years from the raw material preparation stage to the end product sales stage to ensure their sustainable employment.

In addition, the late president’s administration for the first time established an entrepreneurship fund for supporting women heads of household.

After the victory of the Islamic Revolution in February 1979 by toppling the Pahlavi regime [the last Iranian royal dynasty, ruling for almost 54 years between 1925 and 1979], women were given equal rights to shape their futures.

The status of women in various

fields was improved after the Islamic Revolution and women, as half of the country’s population, have been leading in many fields.

The Islamic Revolution provided them a chance to build their distinct identity and they have been tremendously successful in doing that.

There were extensive changes in the fields of science, education, economy, employment, and presence in management positions for women. Now a large part of activists in various fields of academia, business, and management are made up of capable Iranian women.

Education as a social value for wom-

en is seen as real freedom for them. Illiteracy among women and girls has been nearly eradicated as the literacy rate reached 99.3 percent and the ratio of female to male students has increased by 28 percent.

According to the latest data, nearly 60 percent of all university students are females today. The percentage of women in higher education has increased nearly 21 times since the Revolution.

The notable presence of women in the education sector has had a remarkable impact on the job market of the country as well, with women taking more jobs in both the public and private sectors.

## ENGLISH IN USE

### LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

## Afghanistan thanks Iran for free services to refugees during COVID-19

Afghanistan has appreciated Iran for offering health and treatment services to Afghan refugees infected with coronavirus free of charge.

The Afghan Foreign Ministry in a statement on Saturday announced its gratitude and appreciation to Iran for its humanitarian efforts to address the issue of Afghan refugees in the country.

All measures, especially the recent decree by the Iranian president to provide free medical treatment to Afghan refugees in Iranian public hospitals, have assured the Afghan government, IRNA reported on Sunday.

According to the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, providing transportation services to transit trucks and providing the necessary health assistance to vulnerable Afghan nationals are among the measures that are highly appreciated.

## افغانستان از همکاری ایران برای مداوای مهاجران مبتلا به کرونا قدردانی کرد

افغانستان از کمک و همکاری جمهوری اسلامی ایران به مهاجران افغانی مبتلا به ویروس کرونا و مداوای رایگان آنها قدردانی کرد. وزارت امور خارجه افغانستان روز شنبه در اطلاعیهای اعلام کرد: مراتب امتنان و سپاسگزاری خود را از جمهوری اسلامی ایران در رابطه به اقدامات بشردوستانه آن کشور درباره رسیدگی به مهاجرین افغان در آن کشور ابراز می‌دارد.

تمام اقدامات به ویژه صدور حکم اخیر رئیس جمهوری ایران برای درمان رایگان مهاجران افغان در بیمارستان‌های دولتی ایران موجب خاطر جمعی رهبری دولت افغانستان شد.

ایجاد تسهیلات در رفت و آمد کامیون‌های ترانزیتی و فراهم آوری مساعدت‌های لازم بهداشتی برای مهاجران در مناطق آسیب پذیر آن کشور اقداماتی هستند که از جانب دولت افغانستان به چشم قدردانی نگریسته می‌شوند.

## Gaza is hell for aid workers – and it is doubly difficult if you are a woman

I will not hide from you that I suffer from anxiety. Like most humanitarian workers, I can’t sleep. I can’t have sound, uninterrupted sleep as a result of the fear. Fear haunts us in every step. I am one of the founders of the Wafaq Association. Since 2010, the most important work we do is provide protection, economic, legal and psychological support, for women who have been victims of violence and for children at risk.

As the war in Gaza began, I continued to work due to my belief in women’s rights as human rights. This is what inspired me in the first place and is the reason I continue. We face big challenges, especially for us as women, going out to provide humanitarian aid. We live in a state of tension. When we leave the house, we entrust our home and our children to God: only God knows if we will be returning to them.

Our work exposes us to many violations and a feeling of disbelief. Imagine that you are going to help people but you think that you will not return to see your children and loved ones. This is a terrifying feeling that makes you live in conflict: between protecting yourself and your family, and your humanitarian duty that requires you to go out and help.

On a personal level, I’m a resident of Rafah, and in our house we were hosting 30 to 35 people who had lost their homes, and each person was in a different psychological state. Our home was also the centre for the association because we cannot go to an office, so the administrative work was done from my house, and this led to mixed feelings around duty and responsibility – and also panic, especially since the occupation was targeting those providing humanitarian services.

At every moment, I expected that they would bomb the house. After the sixth month, I was overcome by fear for my children because of how much we see outside and on TV. This forced me to leave, to go to Egypt with my daughter and secure a place for the rest of the family to follow. But the invasion of Rafah happened before my young sons came from Gaza to Egypt. This is my fifth month without them and I feel unbalanced because half of me is in Egypt and the other half is in Gaza, especially after the invasion of Rafah.

My children and husband were forced to go to the Mawasi area in Khan Younis to live in tents. This is very scary. A month ago, my house was completely destroyed. This house was a dream of a lifetime and it is gone.

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](http://tehrantimes.com))

## From genes to therapy: AI predicts your cancer risk with a DNA swab

By Soroush Saki

TEHRAN – Imagine a world where a simple DNA test, coupled with the power of artificial intelligence (AI), could predict your risk of developing cancer.

This isn’t science fiction anymore. Researchers are harnessing the power of AI to analyze genetic data, potentially paving the way for personalized cancer prevention and early detection.

### Unlocking the secrets in your DNA

We all carry a unique genetic code, and certain variations, called mutations, can increase the risk of developing cancer.

Traditionally, doctors relied on family history to assess cancer risk.

But AI is changing the game. By analyzing vast amounts of genetic data from cancer patients and healthy individuals, AI can identify subtle patterns in genes that might be linked to an increased risk of specific cancers.

### A personalized risk assessment

This is not a one-size-fits-all approach. AI can analyze your unique genetic makeup and provide a personalized risk assessment for different types of cancer.

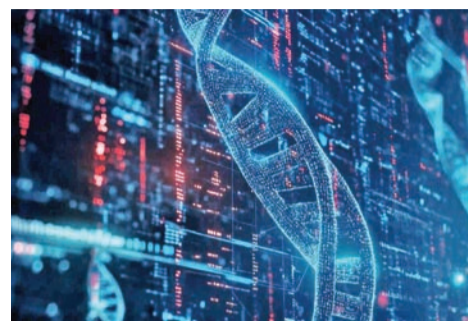
This information empowers you to work with your doctor to create a proactive plan.

Depending on your risk level, this plan might include more frequent screenings, lifestyle modifications to reduce risk factors, or even preventive medications in certain cases.

### Early detection saves lives

Cancer detected early is often easier to treat. With an AI-powered risk assessment, individuals with a higher risk can undergo more frequent screenings like mammograms or colonoscopies.

This can lead to earlier detection, when the cancer is still in its early stages and treatment is most effective.



### Beyond prediction: Paving the way for prevention

The ultimate goal isn’t just predicting cancer, but preventing it altogether. AI can help identify individuals with a high genetic risk who might benefit from preventive measures. This could include lifestyle changes, dietary modifications, or even participation in clinical trials for promising new cancer prevention drugs.

### Challenges and considerations

While exciting, it is important to acknowledge the challenges. Privacy concerns regarding genetic data need to be addressed with robust security measures in place.

Additionally, not all cancers have a strong genetic component, and AI is still under development. However, the potential benefits are undeniable.

### A new era of personalized cancer care

The future of cancer care lies in personalization. AI-powered genetic analysis is a powerful tool that can empower individuals to take charge of their health.

By understanding their own unique risk factors, people can work with their doctors to create a proactive plan for early detection and potentially even prevention. With continued research and responsible use of AI, we can move closer to a future where cancer is no longer a looming threat, but a disease we can manage and even prevent.



SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

## GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

*Time wears out bodies, renews hopes, brings death nearer and takes away aspirations. Whoever gets anything from the world lives in anxiety for holding it and whoever loses anything passes his days grieving over the loss.*

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon:12:01 Evening: 18:35 Dawn: 4:20 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 5:45 (tomorrow)

## “The Italian” at Iranian bookstores

TEHRAN- “The Italian” written by Tunisian critic and author Shukri Mabkhout has recently been published in Persian.

Translated by Maryam Nafisrad, the book has been published by Adeh Publications in Tehran.

“The Italian,” winner of the 2015 International Prize for Arabic Fiction, is a poignant exploration of the tumultuous socio-political landscape of Tunisia during the late 1980s and early 1990s, a period marked by significant governmental repression and the rise of political Islam.

The novel unfolds through the eyes of a childhood friend and narrator who recounts the life of Abdel Nasser, a young man whose journey embodies both the fervor of youthful idealism and the sobering disillusionment brought about by an oppressive society.

The story begins at the emotionally charged moment of Abdel Nasser’s father’s funeral, where he commits an act of defiance by assaulting a person, signaling his rebellion against established norms and authority. Through a series of flashbacks and narrative digressions, we follow Abdel Nasser from his early years as an outspoken adolescent to his emergence as a dynamic leader in the student activism scene and his eventual career as a journalist.

The backdrop of these events is a Tunisia rife with societal upheavals, as the population grapples with the tensions between rising Islamism and governmental repression. At the center of the narrative lies the poignant love story between Abdel Nasser and Zeina, a bright philosophy student filled with dreams of making a mark in academia.

Their relationship encapsulates the clash

between passionate aspirations and harsh realities as they navigate a world where systemic corruption and misogyny pervade. The ideals that first united them gradually become undermined by the brutal societal constraints, leading to their respective disillusionments.

As the tale progresses, the vibrant dreams of the protagonists reveal the stark truth of a society where individual aspirations are often stifled by broader socio-political forces. Abdel Nasser’s transformation—from an idealistic youth to a weary journalist—reflects the broader tragedy of a generation caught in a cycle of repression that crushes ambition. The novel masterfully weaves together personal anecdotes, societal critiques, and emotional depth, presenting a rich tapestry of life in Tunisia during this critical period.

Published in 2014, the book was translated into English by Karen McNeil and Miled Faiza and was published by Europa Editions in 2021. It was also translated into Italian by Barbara Teresi and published in 2017. Shukri Mabkhout, born in 1962, is a distinguished Tunisian academic, critic, and novelist. Mabkhout earned his PhD in literature from Manouba University in Tunis, where he later served as a professor and Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

He also held the presidency of Manouba University from 2011 to 2017. In addition to his academic roles, he has directed the Tunis International Book Fair and is involved with several literary journals, including “Ibla” and “Romano Arabica”. In 2016, Mabkhout was appointed by the Tunisian President to the Higher Committee for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, reflecting his commitment to promoting cultural and human rights issues in Tunisia.

## Cartoon of Day



Hunger and War

Cartoonist: Sheida Sardashti from Iran

By Ali Hamedin

### Part 1

TEHRAN—Since the creation of comic books in the midst of the Great Depression in the 1930s, superheroes have been used to entertain and inspire readers, as well as to address important events. During the Depression, they were a symbol of hope for a better world. As the United States entered World War II, superheroes encouraged soldiers on the battlefield and united the public by praising patriotic ideals and mocking their enemies.

In the 70s, 80s, and 90s, superheroes were used to help young people navigate crises, including the U.S. entry into Vietnam, Watergate, and the Cold War. Whenever the United States faced a challenge, superheroes were organized to meet them. Obviously, the September 11, 2001, attacks were no different.

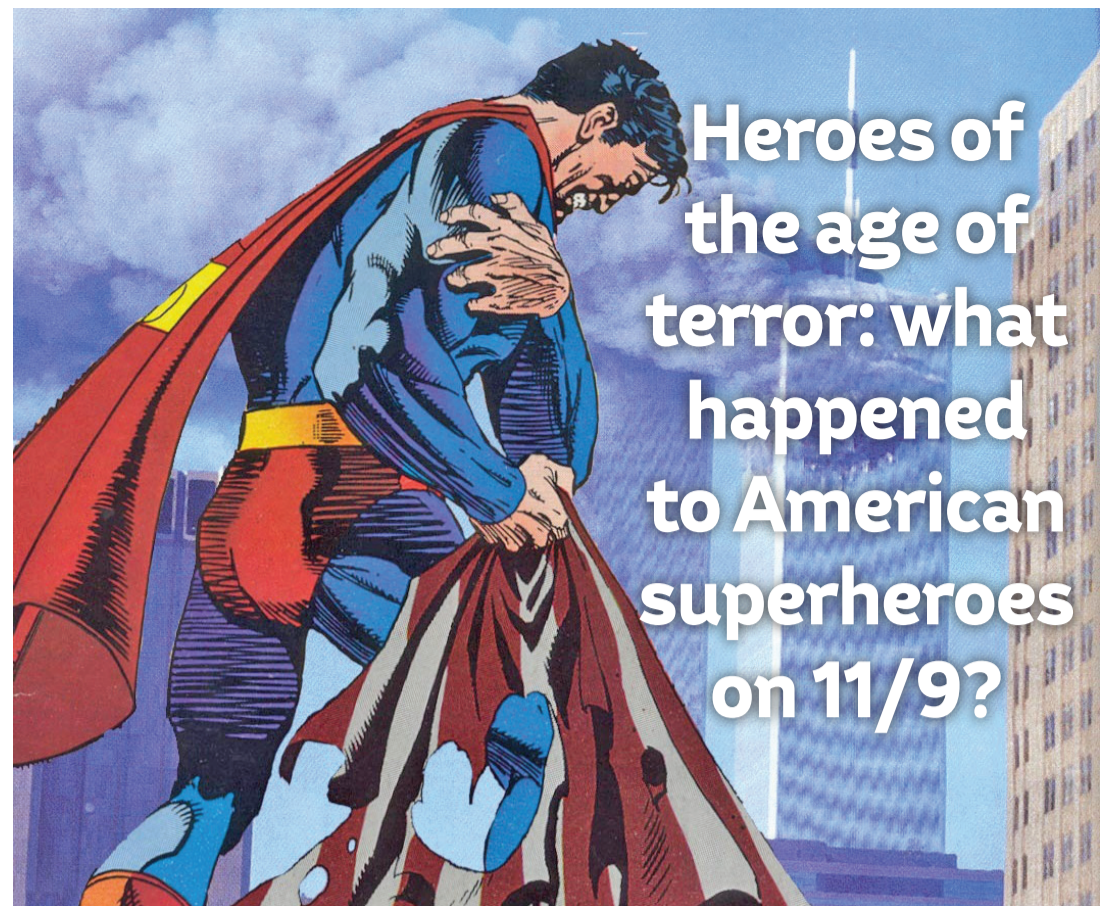
After these attacks, the superhero genre changed significantly—changes that were a reflection of the situation in the U.S. during that time. Superheroes became more vulnerable than before. The old supervillains also transformed into urban terrorists who not only intended to kill the superheroes but also aimed to harm a significant portion of the population. In short, the post-9/11 world was as harsh to superheroes as it was to the American public—perhaps even harsher!

### New York and the green terrorist

“Spider-Man” (2002) (Raimi) was released shortly after the 9/11 attacks. The movie tells the story of the teenage Spider-Man’s fight against the “Green Goblin,” a supervillain who tries to terrorize New York and endanger human lives. After only sixty-four days of release, the film’s earnings topped \$400 million, placing it among Hollywood’s top-grossing films. But what made “Spider-Man” so successful?

As the modern comic book movie trend gained momentum when “Spider-Man” broke box-office records in the summer of 2002, many commentators and filmmakers were quick to link the unprecedented popularity of comic book adaptations and superhero movies with post-9/11 sentiment in the United States.

In his book ‘Hollywood 9/11: Superheroes, Supervillains, and Super Disasters’, Tom Pollard



# Heroes of the age of terror: what happened to American superheroes on 11/9?

writes about this situation: “Post-9/11 audiences gravitate to superheroes who save humanity. In an age of uncertainty these powerful characters make audiences feel less vulnerable to unexpected, violent acts of aggression against U.S. targets.”

“At the same time, the superheroes themselves have darkened and grown more vulnerable. These new characters, as potent as their predecessors but vulnerable and more attuned with contemporary styles, make audiences feel secure,” he adds.

### Traumatized American society

After the attacks, instead of alleviating the prevalent fear in society, the Bush administration attempted to control it and use it to their advantage. When the government needed support for its policies, it would intensify the fear within the public.

American film theorist David Bordwell mentions this ‘culture of fear’ as a factor in the flourishing of the superhero movie genre in Hollywood in the 2000s. “Obviously 9/11 so traumatized [Americans] that [they] feel a yearning for superheroes to protect [them].”

Although “Spider-Man” was written before the 9/11 attacks, Spider-Man’s battle with his green enemy was, for many Americans, associated with the

“War on Terror.” People could empathize with Peter, who lost his uncle, and praised Spider-Man’s efforts to save the city from a fictional terrorist.

### Muslims as villains

One of the topics that has always been discussed in comic books is the presence of Muslim and Arab characters. Muslims are often portrayed in a stereotypical and violent manner, and in most cases, they play the roles of villains in the stories. After 9/11, this type of villain became an integral part of comic book narratives.

In her book, “Muslim Comics and Warscape Witnessing”, Esra Mirze Santesso discusses some aspects of this issue.

In an interview with the Tehran Times, Santesso discussed the continuity and representation of Muslim characters in comic books: “While the popularity of the Muslim as a villain in comics predates 9/11, after the terrorist attacks, the figure of the jihadi became a dominant trope. The Muslim, once merely an exotic adversary, was now perceived as an existential threat.”

She explained that the Muslim character has remained a fixed staple in most Western superhero narratives. “No book can come close to the hyperbolic representation of Muslims in

Frank Miller’s “Holy Terror” (2011), which weaponizes the image of the bloodthirsty jihadi. Furthermore, the fact that the book was released on the 10th anniversary of 9/11 lays bare his intent to capitalize on this national trauma.”

The author mentioned that, at the same time, there were genuine efforts to include Muslim characters by moving away from the jihadi trope. “The character ‘Dust’ in the X-Men series and Simon Baz in Green Lantern are good examples of early articulations of likable and relatable Muslims. This showed that not everyone in the comic industry was willing to perpetuate the two-dimensional characterization of Muslims.”

In this book, Santesso points out that various political events related to the United States have caused Muslims and Arabs to become an expression of the “other” and the stereotype of the Middle-Eastern enemy. “By the 1960s and 1970s, in the wake of the Suez Canal crisis and the oil embargo, Arabs and Muslims generally had become easy picks for villains. The decline of Arab-American relations during the Six Day War helped inspire the appearance of the Arab Villain Ra’s al Ghul in Batman.”

To be continued.

## Iran’s “Khalil” wins awards at Lessinia film festival

TEHRAN— Iranian director Payam Hosseini’s short film “Khalil” wins two awards at the 30th edition of Lessinia Film Festival, which was held last week in Verona, Italy.

The short flick received best short film award as well as special jury award in its global premiere.

The film is set in a small village on the Iranian plateau and follows the journey of a 13-year-old boy named Khalil, who has recently lost his father.

Overwhelmed by the fear of his father’s fate in the afterlife, Khalil is deeply troubled by the possibility that his father may not receive God’s forgiveness and could end up in Hell.

In a desperate attempt to save his father’s soul, Khalil seeks forgiveness from everyone around him, hoping their answers can sway divine judgment.

However, their collective reassurances do little to ease his distress. With encouragement from his school teacher and



support from his friends, Khalil takes a bold step: he decides to write a heartfelt letter to God, pleading for mercy. The combination of Khalil’s innocence and determination give rise to a story of tenderness, which tests the faith and love of a son.

Founded in 1995, the Lessinia International Film Festival is the only Italian film competition dedicated exclusively to short, documentary, and feature films focusing on the lives, history, and traditions of mountainous regions.

## Tehran center to host reading performance of

### Anton Chekhov’s “The Bear”

TEHRAN— Neauphle-le-Chateau Theater in Tehran will be playing host to a reading performance of the renowned Russian author Anton Chekhov’s play “The Bear: A Joke in One Act” on Saturday.

The performance will be directed by Soheila Mofidi with a cast composed of Somayyeh Hosseini, Alireza Kiani, and Salim Najafi.

The play is set in Elena

Popova’s drawing room, seven months after her husband’s death, during which she has remained isolated in mourning.

Her footman, Luka, urges her to come out of her seclusion, but she insists on honoring her promise to her late husband. Their conversation is interrupted by Grigory Stepanovitch Smirnov, who demands repayment of a debt of 1,200 roubles owed by

Popova’s husband.

Frustrated by her inability to pay immediately, Smirnov mocks her prolonged mourning, sparking a heated argument that touches on themes of love and fidelity.

As their conflict escalates, Popova calls Smirnov a “coarse bear” and insults him, provoking him to challenge her to a duel. To his surprise, Popova accepts his challenge and retrieves her

late husband’s guns. Meanwhile, Smirnov finds himself inadvertently falling for her boldness. When she returns with the pistols, the tension shifts from hostility to attraction.

As Luka returns with the gardener and coachman, they witness this unexpected turn of events. Thus, the play explores themes of love, loss, and the transformative power of confrontation.