

Israel started war

We Will

Seal Its

Fate

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Martyr Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah
(1960 - 2024)

Iranian officials say resistance will continue in reaction to Nasrallah's martyrdom

TEHRAN – Several Iranian officials have issued messages after Hezbollah Secretary-General Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah was assassinated in massive Israeli airstrikes on residential buildings in Beirut's densely populated southern suburb of Dahiyeh on Friday.

It is believed that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ordered the attacks as he was delivering a speech to the UN General Assembly, where he claimed the regime is looking for "peace" and "prosperity" in the region.

The exact number of casualties from the attacks remains unknown, as the heavy bombardment has made it extremely difficult to identify or even locate bodies amidst the destruction.

'Nasrallah's assassination decided in New York'



Iranian President Pezeshkian has condemned the assassination of Nasrallah, noting that Washington is complicit in the crimes committed by Israel.

In a statement released on Saturday, Pezeshkian said that Nasrallah's passing fulfilled his "lifetime dream" of becoming a martyr in the path of sacrifice.

The President asserted that the order for Nasrallah's assassination was given by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu while he was in New York addressing the United Nations General Assembly.

"No one will forget that the order for the assassination of Nasrallah had been issued by the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu when he was in New York to address the United Nations General Assembly. This is only a sign that the United States government was complicit in the crime committed by the Israeli regime."

Despite Nasrallah's absence, Pezeshkian expressed confidence that Hezbollah will continue its "fight against oppression."

'Supporting Resistance Front Iran's parliament policy'



In a letter to Lebanon's Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri on Saturday, Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf condemned Israel's attacks in Beirut and across Lebanon, calling them acts of "brutality and state terrorism" that disregard all human rights laws.

Qalibaf described the attacks, which followed the brutal genocide in Gaza, as a "disaster against humanity, peace, and stability of the region and the world." He emphasized that the international community's silence in the face of Israel's "child-killing regime" is a betrayal of human rights. Qalibaf is a seasoned Iranian politician who used to serve as a top commander in the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC).

'Nasrallah's blood will lead to destruction of Israel'

First Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref said Iran warns Israeli officials that the blood of the oppressed martyrs of the path of Resistance, particularly the Hezbollah chief, will lead to the regime's destruction.



In a message expressing condolences over Nasrallah's assassination, Aref declared that "today is the day of an important test for all in the world, including nations and governments."

He emphasized the significance of the international community's reaction to Israel's "acts of crimes and genocide."

Reiterating Iran's unwavering support for the Resistance, Aref expressed confidence that Nasrallah's legacy will continue.

'Resistance will become more forceful'



Iran's Vice President for Strategic Affairs, Mohammad Javad Zarif, says Resistance against Israel will intensify following the martyrdom of Nasrallah.

In a post on X, Zarif referred to the Hezbollah leader as a "symbol of the fight against oppression" and a "refuge for the oppressed people in Lebanon and the whole region."

Zarif said Israel and its Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have a "chaotic plan" for the region and the world, which in his words, will ultimately fail.

He expressed condolences to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, the Lebanese people and government, and all Resistance forces, as well as "freedom-seekers across the world."

'Nasrallah now greater than ever'



In a Saturday message on X, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi said the assassination of Hezbollah's leader is only indicative of the fact that Israel does not belong in the West Asian region.

"Assassinating resistance leaders only reconfirms the unchanging fact that evil and genocidal occupying entities will never take root in our region. It only confirms it."

Araqchi added that Nasrallah who led Lebanon's fight against occupation and aggression for three decades is now "greater" than ever.

"[Nasrallah is now] a great martyr whose blood will guarantee the continuation of Hezbollah's just cause."

'Proud path of Hassan Nasrallah will continue'



Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Nasser Kanaani issued a statement expressing condolences on the martyrdom of Hezbollah's Secretary General.

While expressing sorrow, Kanaani highlighted that Nasrallah's legacy will continue.

"The glorious path of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah of resistance will continue and his holy goal of liberating Holy Quds will be realized, God willingly," he wrote.

'Determination of Resistance forces will not falter'



Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Mohammad Baqeri has warned the "murderous, racist, and child killing" Israeli regime that it would not manage to change the resolution of Resistance forces by its heinous crimes.

General Baqeri noted that the assassination of Nasrallah happened after a year of powerful resistance by Palestinians in Gaza, and the humiliation of Zionists at the hands of Hamas on October 7.

"Meanwhile, the Zionists had the backing of criminal American and European leaders all this time."

"Israel should know that this heinous act will not cause any harm in the determination of the Resistance fighters to create new and proud milestones in the anti-Zionist battlefield, but it will double the strength and authority of Hezbollah and make them more determined in the fight against Zionist criminals."

"Martyr Nasrallah's path will continue to be more prosperous and powerful, and according to God's will, the fate of the region and dear Palestine will be determined in the near future with the steely will of the fighters of the Resistance and the support and companionship of the faithful mujahideen of the Islamic Ummah, with the banner of dear Hezbollah and the fighters of the great organization of Resistance," the General said, before offering condolences to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei as well as the Lebanese people and government.

Resistance will deal more crushing blows to Israel: Leader

TEHRAN – In a message published on Saturday, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei announced five days of mourning over the martyrdom of Hezbollah Secretary-General Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah, while stating that Resistance forces will be dealing heavier blows to the Zionist regime in the future.

Ayatollah Khamenei, in his message, mourned Nasrallah's loss, declaring him a "great fighter," a "bearer of the Resistance in the region," a "religious scholar," and a "wise political leader."

He highlighted Nasrallah's dedication to defending the people of Lebanon against the Israeli regime's crimes.

The Leader emphasized that Nasrallah's life was also dedicated to the cause of the oppressed Palestinian people, fighting for their occupied cities and villages, their shattered homes, and their murdered loved ones.

He declared that Nasrallah's martyrdom was a "blessing"



earned through a lifetime of tireless effort.

He also expressed his conviction that the foundations laid by Nasrallah in Lebanon, and his guidance for other Resistance movements, will endure despite his loss.

This foundation, he asserted, will only be strengthened by the blood of Nasrallah and the other martyrs of the Beirut attack.

Addressing the Zionist regime directly, Ayatollah Khamenei declared that their act of violence had not achieved victory.

He emphasized that Nasrallah was not merely an individual, but a symbol of a path, a school of thought, and that this path will continue.

He further asserted that the Resistance Front, unified in its cause, will continue to deal crushing blows to the

"dilapidated and decaying body" of the Zionist regime.

The loss of Nasrallah, Ayatollah Khamenei stated, is a profound loss for the Muslim world, the Resistance Front, and Hezbollah in Lebanon.

However, the Leader said, the blessings of Nasrallah's prudence and jihad over decades will not be erased by his martyrdom.

In a separate message released on Saturday, the Leader said that the Resistance will determine the fate of West Asia with Hezbollah leading the way.

"The Zionist criminals need to know that they are far too weak to be able to inflict any significant damage on the solid structure of Lebanon's Hezbollah."

All the Resistance forces in the region stand with and support Hezbollah."

Ayatollah Khamenei added, "It is an obligation for all Muslims to stand with the people of Lebanon and the honorable Hezbollah, offering their resources and assistance as Hezbollah confronts the usurping, cruel, malicious [Zionist] regime."

U.S. complicit in Israeli war crimes in Lebanon: Iran FM

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi has vocally condemned the recent lethal assaults by the Israeli regime on Beirut, while also criticizing the United States for its complicity in these actions.

His remarks came during a United Nations Security Council meeting in New York on Friday.

"This morning, the Israeli regime launched several 5,000-pound bunker-busting bombs—provided by the United States—targeting residential areas in Beirut," Araqchi stated, highlighting the severity of the situation. He emphasized that one cannot overlook the U.S. role in these atrocities.

Earlier that day, Israeli airstrikes hit at least six residential buildings in the Dahiyeh neighborhood, specifically Haret Hreik, resulting in at least eight fatalities and injuring around 80 others.

The Israeli bombardment continued into Saturday, with multiple airstrikes on the al-Hadath and Laylaki neighborhoods, totaling at least 15 strikes.

These attacks are part of a broader escalation that has been ongoing since October 7, when Israel initiated a genocidal campaign against the Gaza Strip. Since Monday, this escalation has resulted in the deaths of over 700 people across Lebanon.

Araqchi criticized the United Nations Security Council and the international community for their failure to intervene, suggesting that this inaction has empowered Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his administration to pursue further violence. He warned that they seem intent on repeating the "massacres" of Gaza in Lebanon, potentially dragging the entire region into a full-scale war.

"The criminal actions of the Israeli regime are being rewarded due to the global inaction, and their crimes are being normalized before our eyes," Araqchi remarked.

He pointed out that Israel's aggressive actions are heavily reliant on U.S. military aid and political support, thus implicating the U.S. in these atrocities.

He criticized the U.S. for supplying the majority of the munitions used against Gaza, asserting that its influence in the Security Council often prevents accountability for Israel's actions.

Araqchi called on Washington to reconsider its support for Israel if it genuinely cares about the loss of life in Gaza.

"The Security Council must act decisively to halt Israel's brutal plan to exterminate a nation that has suffered under occupation for eight long decades," he urged.

Furthermore, Araqchi cautioned the American public that Netanyahu is attempting to draw the U.S. into a broader conflict in the region, potentially to bolster his political position and influence the upcoming elections in the U.S.

He concluded by warning that the ongoing violence from the Israeli regime would only solidify the perception of Israel as a "nasty element" in a colonial project designed to perpetuate cycles of war and violence in the region.

Iran, Russia, and Turkey hold Syria talks on sidelines of UN meeting



TEHRAN – The foreign ministers of Iran, Russia, and Turkey have united to discuss the ongoing crisis in Syria.

The meeting took place on the sidelines of the 79th United Nations General Assembly summit in New York, where

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, and Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan convened for a trilateral discussion.

Held on Saturday morning, this meeting focused on the ongoing

Astana Process, which aims to foster diplomatic resolutions to the Syrian crisis.

During their discussions, the ministers expressed strong disapproval of the Israeli regime's military actions in the region, noting them as a blatant violation of international law.

According to a statement released by the Russian Foreign Ministry, the ministers highlighted the detrimental effects of the escalating Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the unrest in Lebanon, stressing how these issues further complicate the already fragile situation in Syria.

During the meeting, Fidan expressed Turkey's ongoing support for reviving the political process in Syria and stressed the significance of the Astana Process in achieving peace and stability.

The Astana Platform, involving Turkey, Russia, and Iran, has been central to efforts aimed at de-escalating the conflict in Syria since it was established.

A recent meeting reaffirmed the platform's role in promoting peace and preventing further deterioration of the humanitarian and political situation in the region.

Araqchi urges accountability, cooperation in Afghanistan during UN meeting

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi participated in a crucial meeting with high-ranking officials from Russia, China, and Pakistan in New York, where they addressed the pressing situation in Afghanistan.

This meeting marked the third round of discussions among the four nations, held on the sidelines of the 79th United Nations General Assembly on Friday.

During the quadrilateral talks, Araqchi, alongside Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, and Pakistani Defense Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, reviewed the current developments in Afghanistan and issued a comprehensive statement outlining 19 key points.

Araqchi did not hold back in his criticism of the United States and NATO, condemning their destructive influence in Afghanistan. He emphasized the need for accountability for the dire circumstances the country faces today, as reported by the Iranian Foreign Ministry's website. He highlighted the long-term consequences of the U.S. military presence, asserting that it has only led to widespread suffering and instability.

The Iranian minister detailed the impact of the U.S. intervention, noting that it resulted in significant loss of life among innocent Afghans, exacerbated health crises, and fueled issues like terrorism, drug trafficking, corruption, poverty, and displacement. He remarked that although the U.S. and its

allies withdrew in August 2021, they left behind chaos and turmoil affecting not only Afghanistan but also its neighboring countries.

Araqchi expressed grave concern over the humanitarian and economic situation in Afghanistan, warning that terrorist groups, particularly affiliates of Daesh, are exploiting the current instability to strengthen their influence. As a close neighbor, Iran has been significantly affected by the influx of Afghan refugees and illegal immigrants. He noted that since the U.S. withdrawal, Iran has faced tremendous pressure due to massive migration, all while dealing with the challenges posed by international sanctions.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Iran mourns Nasrallah with nationwide rallies



Tehran



Hamedan



Mashhad

TEHRAN – A wave of grief and anger swept through Iran, as citizens in Tehran and other major cities rallied to honor Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah and denounce the Israeli airstrike that claimed his life.

The heart of the demonstrations lay in Tehran's Palestine Square, where on Saturday, a sea of mourners from all walks of life gathered.

They held aloft images of the revered Hezbollah leader and chanted slogans asking for "revenge".

"This is not the first time the regime has committed such crimes and I think they will attempt more such acts in the future. But none of this will stop the current that will drown Israel.

Zionists are on the fall no matter how many of us they martyr," said a 21-year-old university student who had attended the rally with several of his male and female classmates.

Protesters talking to reporters all condemned the Friday Israeli airstrike, a brutal assault that

targeted a cluster of residential buildings in Dahiya, a densely populated area south of Beirut, as an act of unprovoked aggression.

"They used 2,000-pound bunker-buster bombs to martyr our Seyyed. My heart hurts and at the same time, I know his blood will give birth to hundreds more Nasrallahs," A woman said while holding onto her toddler's hand.

The news of Nasrallah's martyrdom resonated in other parts of Iran as well. In the holy

city of Mashhad, a somber silence descended as a mourning flag was raised over the dome of Imam Reza's shrine, a powerful symbol of grief and defiance.

Within the sacred walls of the shrine, people gathered in the Imam Khomeini portico, their voices joining in a chorus of condemnation against the Israeli regime and its actions.

The Israeli airstrike, they declared, was not just an act of violence, but a blatant violation of international law and a barbaric attack on innocent civilians.

Tehran calls for emergency OIC meeting to address Israeli aggression



TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi has urgently called for an extraordinary meeting of the leaders of Islamic countries in response to the ongoing crimes committed by the Zionist regime in Palestine and Lebanon.

This announcement came during a crucial meeting with Hissein Ibrahim Taha, the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), held on Saturday in New York.

Araqchi condemned the brutal actions of the Israeli regime, particularly highlighting a recent attack on densely populated areas of Beirut using large bunker-busting bombs, which he described as a clear crime against humanity.

He expressed concern over the lack of decisive

action from global institutions like the United Nations Security Council, which, according to him, are failing to address the issue effectively. He criticized the unwavering political and military support provided by the United States to the Israeli regime.

Additionally, the Foreign Minister referenced the recent assassination of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the Secretary-General of Hezbollah, calling it a cowardly act that underscores the urgent need for solidarity among Islamic nations.

He emphasized the role of the OIC and urged member states to convene without delay to discuss these pressing matters. Araqchi reassured that the resistance against oppression would continue to grow stronger, despite such losses.

Secretary-General Hissein Ibrahim Taha echoed these sentiments, recognizing the severity of the situation and the continuous aggressions by Israel in the region.

He confirmed that consultations with member countries regarding the emergency leaders' meeting would be initiated promptly to determine appropriate actions.

The call for unity and collective action comes

at a pivotal moment for the Islamic world, as it grapples with significant challenges, notably the Palestinian issue, which remains a top priority.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs, Kazem Gharibabadi, reiterated Iran's commitment to supporting the rights of the Palestinian people and emphasized the need for an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Gharibabadi also stressed that all Palestinians, whether in their homeland or abroad, should have the right to decide their future through a referendum.

He expressed hope that such democratic mechanisms could pave the way for lasting peace, allowing Muslims, Christians, and Jews to coexist peacefully.

Highlighting the regional threats posed by the Israeli regime, he condemned its recent terrorist attacks, including assaults on Iranian diplomatic facilities and the targeting of Hamas leaders.

Gharibabadi concluded with a call to end the brutality and crimes perpetrated by Israel, emphasizing the urgent need for a unified Islamic response.

Israel must be sanctioned, Iranian diplomat tells UNSC

TEHRAN – The Iranian deputy foreign minister for legal and international affairs has called on the UN Security Council to implement effective sanctions against the Israeli regime following Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

Kazem Gharib Abadi during his address at the 6th Ministerial meeting of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations pointed out that it is imperative that the rule of law is reinstated and that justice, which has long been delayed, is finally served. The UN Security Council must take decisive action by imposing effective sanctions on the Israeli regime under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, he said.

The complete text of Gharib Abadi's statement in the UN is as follows:

"Mr. Chair, Esteemed Colleagues,

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its outstanding leadership of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations, which has facilitated the Group's active and meaningful participation in various

significant processes within the UN.

We acknowledge the focus of this meeting on the dire situation in Palestine, which is unfortunately worsening at the moment. The UN Security Council has been unable to halt this violence and horror, largely due to the unwavering support of the United States for the Israeli regime.

The United States is complicit in the perpetration of heinous crimes; both the US and the Israeli regime must be held accountable for their violations of international law and for every life lost due to their actions.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has exercised considerable restraint in response to Israeli provocations; however, the Israeli regime continues its brutal campaign, now threatening to extend its aggression into Lebanon, which could lead the region into an irreversible escalation. Such provocations and violence will not deter our collective resolve to confront the Israeli regime.

Restoring the rule of law and ensuring that overdue justice is served is paramount. The UN Security Council must take decisive action by

imposing effective sanctions on the Israeli regime following Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

Furthermore, all States need to refrain from providing any form of aid, or assistance, or engaging in economic transactions with this regime to halt its genocidal actions and end its occupation. This aligns with the recent advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice, which explicitly prohibits any aid or economic dealings that could support the continuation of the Israeli occupation.

We deeply appreciate the Group's commitment to uphold the fundamental principles of the Charter amidst ongoing challenges and threats, particularly those arising from attempts by a few to alter the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations and from self-serving unilateralism, especially in the form of unilateral coercive measures.

Such measures undermine the sovereign and inalienable rights of states to determine their own economic, political, social, and cultural systems without external interference or coercion.

We must respond to these illegitimate actions effectively and proportionately. We should strengthen our coordination and collaboration within the Group to counter unilateral coercive measures, guided by our shared objectives.

Presenting unified positions in the relevant United Nations discussions the General Assembly's pertinent agenda items are crucial steps toward this aim. In this regard, we also recognize the Group's ongoing support for the Islamic Republic of Iran's proposal on countering unilateral coercive measures, which was submitted to the UN Charter Committee and revised earlier this year.

We are pleased to acknowledge the Russian Federation's decision to host the upcoming meeting of national coordinators of the Group. We anticipate productive discussions and exchanges of perspectives during this forthcoming gathering. Again, I would like to thank our Venezuelan colleagues for their outstanding efforts in organizing this meeting and leading the Group."

coexistence of followers of various divine religions in Yazd serves as a model for the world.

Additionally, the Elcano Royal Institute previously concentrated on matters concerning international relations, security, and the economy in Iran, expressing a keen interest in engaging with Iranian researchers, policymakers, and think tanks on topics of shared significance.

Iran, Spain hold talks to strengthen think tank collaborations

TEHRAN – Spain's ambassador to Iran has emphasized the importance of enhancing collaboration between Iran and Spain's think tanks. During a joint meeting with the board of representatives from the Yazd Chamber of Commerce on Saturday, Sánchez-Benedito stated his commitment to fostering academic ties with Tehran.

The ambassador highlighted the necessity of strengthening the relationship between

Iran and Spain.

He noted that several memoranda of understanding (MoUs) have already been established between the two nations and urged for the execution of these cooperative agreements.

According to Benedito, Iran and Spain share many similarities, and both nations take pride in their historical connections.

Benedito also remarked that the peaceful

Saipa come 7th in 2024 Asian Women's Club Volleyball Championship

TEHRAN – Iran's Saipa Club took the 7th place of the 2024 Asian Women's Club Volleyball Championship after winning 3-0 (25-20, 25-20, 25-17) against Hong Kong Kwai Tsing on Saturday afternoon at Chartchai Hall.

Mahtab Rahmani was the top scorer of the match, contributing 18 points in the straight-sets victory.

Saipa Club had the luxury of a taller lineup, which gave them the advantage to in attacks and blocks. Mahtab and Aytak Salamat ran the wings and connected with good percentage.

Wing Ting To and Wing Man To were Kwai Tsing's main hitters, who posted by the flanks and helped surprise the opponents with some key blocks.

The Iran club later returned to form, running their plays successfully to take the opener.

Kwai Tsing surged in the second set with a good lead, doing all they could do to run their transitions well. Captain Ying Chi Yu proved to be a real trooper, contributing both in the passing and attack units.

Saipa Club's frontline started to get more aggressive as they firmed up their block formation. Zahre Poursan also activated the middle attack which helped close the gap.

Their opponents' errors further helped the Iran club take the second set.

The Iran club intended to ride upon the crest of their momentum going to the third set. They completely dominated the set and pulled away with a sizeable lead and a high morale.

The fighting Kwai Tsing club continued to battle with each sideout, as they sparked a scoring run, asianvolleyball.net reported.

Saipa Club regained their composure and closed out the match, to take their best possible finish of 7th place in 2024. They have recorded their best finish in the competition's history as fourth placers in the 2021 edition, also held in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand.

10-man Tractor edge past Sepahan: PGPL

TEHRAN – 10-man tractor edged past Sepahan 1-0 in Matchweek 6 of 2024/25 Iran's Persian Gulf Professional League (PGPL).

Tractor went down to 10 men in the 31st minute after their midfielder Mehdi Torabi was shown a straight red card.

Just before the halftime, unmarked Amirhossein Hosseinzadeh found the back of the net in Isfahan's Fooladshahr Stadium.

Goal Gohar and Havadar shared the spoils in a goalless draw in Sirjan, Chaharmahal and Kohgiluyeh. Sepahan edged past Esteghlal Khuzestan 1-0 in Bandar Anzali and Aluminum beat Kheybar 1-0 in Arak.

Tractor moved top with 13 points thanks to a superior goal difference, followed by Sepahan and Malavan.

Persepolis sit fourth with 11 points and one game in hands.

Iran into 1st World Beach Kabaddi Championship semis

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Iran defeated Iraq 51-27 to advance to the 2024 World Beach Kabaddi Championship semifinals.

Team Melli had previously defeated Nepal, Turkmenistan and Denmark in Group A.

Group B consists of Pakistan, Palestine, Kenya, Germany and Lebanon.

Iran will meet Kenya on Sunday.

The event is being held in Bandar Anzali, Iran from September 25 to 30.

Match officials confirmed for Uzbekistan, Iran match

TEHRAN – Australian referees will officiate the match between Uzbekistan and Iran in the 2026 FIFA World Cup qualification – AFC third round.

The match has been scheduled for October 10 at the Milliy Stadium in Tashkent.

Shaun Evans has been chosen to referee the match and will be assisted by his countrymen Owen Goldrick and George Larkindis.

Uzbekistan and Iran lead the Group A with six points out of two matches.

Iranian forwards score for Kalba in UAE Pro League

TEHRAN – Mehdi Ghaedi and Shahriyar Moghanlou scored for Al-Ittihad Kalba as the team defeated Khor Fakkan 2-0 on Saturday in UAE Pro League.

Ghaedi opened the scoring for Kalba in the 43rd minute at the Saqr Bin Mohammad AlQassimi Stadium and Moghanlou made it 2-0 in the 74th minute.

Kalba moved to eighth place in the 14-team table.

Khor Fakkan remained 12th after three weeks.

Iran crowned champions at World Bodybuilding Championships

TEHRAN – Iran has been crowned champion at the 78th World Men's Bodybuilding Championships, securing a total of 158 medals at the competitions held on the Persian Gulf Kish Island, southern Iran.

Iran hosted the international games for the first time, which were held from September 23 to 27.

The Iranian national team won a total of 153 medals including 51 gold, 52 silver, and 50 bronze, securing victories in all three age categories.

Iran seizes 11 medals in 2024 Asian Karate C'ships

TEHRAN – Iranian karatekas have claimed eleven medals in the 20th Asian Senior Championships held in Hangzhou, China.

Iranian athletes achieved a total of eleven medals at the 2024 Asian Senior Championships in Hangzhou, China from September 20 to 22.

The medals included one gold, one silver, and nine bronzes.

Saleh Abazari (+84kg) and Mehdi Khodabakhshi (-84kg) grabbed gold and silver medals respectively in the sporting event.

Fatemeh Sadeghi claimed a bronze medal in the Individual Kata competition.

Additionally, Iranian karate athletes including Bahman Asgari (-75kg), Behnam Dehganzadeh (-55kg), Taravat Khaksar (-55kg), Atousa Golshadnejad (-61kg), and Mobina Heidari (-68kg) each earned bronze medals.

Moreover, the Iranian men's karate kumite, men's Kata, and women's Kata teams all received bronze medals.

Iran secured fifth place behind China, while Japan dominated the medal tally with 5 gold, 3 silver, and 3 bronze medals, followed by Vietnam and Kazakhstan in second and third places.

The tournament brought together 370 athletes from 31 countries.

Muscat to host Iran-Oman business forum in mid-October

TEHRAN- An Iran-Oman business forum will be held in Muscat and Batinah North of Oman on October 15 and 16, the deputy head of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) for the international affairs announced.

Hesameddin Hallaj said that this event will be held with the presence of the traders and businessmen of the two countries, and during it, the strengthening of bilateral trade and economic relations, the investigation of new investment opportunities and the development of the presence of Iranian companies in Oman will be discussed, the TCCIMA portal published.

He said attracting Omani investors to participate in Iranian projects and cooperating in the introduction of marketing agencies in order to expand the market of Iranian products in Oman, Africa and Saudi Arabia are among the other goals of this event.

The priority areas for Tehran Chamber members to attend the event will be construction, oil and energy, medicine, food, health and health tourism sectors, Hallaj added.

As reported by the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), the value of non-oil trade between Iran and Oman stood at \$938.004 million in the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-August 21).

The IRICA report put the weight of the non-oil trade between the two countries at 2.962 million tons.

As reported Iran-Oman five-month non-oil trade indicates one percent fall in value and 37 percent rise in weight, year on year.

Oman was the sixth top trade partner of Iran among the Islamic Republic's neighbors in the first five months of the present year.

In early July, the former Head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Mehdi Zeighami met the director of trade, industry, and investment development from the Sultanate of Oman to discuss areas of joint investment, industrial matters, and financial affairs between the two countries.

Zeighami said at the time that the first round of the talks to establish a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) between Iran and the Sultanate of Oman was held in Muscat.

The trade and economic relations between the two countries have been consistent-

ly improving in recent years, he said, adding that the conclusion of the Preferential Trade Agreement and the establishment of close trade and economic relations in all fields are of paramount importance.

He characterized the trade volume between the two countries in the last Iranian calendar year (ending March 19, 2024) as "unprecedented".

He noted that the initiation of the PTA between the two countries aligns with objectives like bolstering economic relations, augmenting trade volume, creating a safer environment for trade growth, diversifying traded goods, fostering greater competition among businesses, and eliminating trade obstacles faced by both countries.

Also, a business delegation from Oman visited Iran's Imam Khomeini Port in southwestern Khuzestan province in early September during which they expressed interest in using the commercial capacities of the port for expanding economic ties with Iran.

According to Head of Ahvaz Chamber of Commerce Mohammad-Javad Amani, the business delegation, who arrived in Khuzestan on Saturday, visited Khorramshahr and Arvand Free Trade Zone in order to explore trade opportunities in the area, the portal of Iran Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) reported.

During the visit, the two sides concluded several cooperation agreements, and the Omani side emphasized increasing cooperation between the private sectors of the two countries, Amani said.

Referring to the delegation's visit to the Special Economic Zone of Imam Khomeini Port as the country's largest grain trading center, he added: "Port capacities for the supply of goods, transit, the possibility of re-exporting, as well as making large private sector investments in this area were among the issues that were discussed during the visit."

According to the head of Ahvaz Chamber of Commerce, visiting the factories located in the special economic zone of Imam Khomeini Port, familiarizing with the processing products, and examining the available resources and investment requirements in this area, were also among the goals of this economic delegation's trip to Imam Khomeini Port.

(See full text at www.tehrantimes.com)

Over 100 smart irrigation pilot projects implemented in Iran

TEHRAN - The project manager of the Iranian Agriculture Ministry's modern irrigation systems development program has said over 100 smart irrigation pilot projects have been implemented across the country, IRIB reported.

Fariborz Abbasi made the remarks at a specialized meeting on smart irrigation held on the sidelines of the 7th International Agriculture, Horticulture, Greenhouses, Inputs, and Agriculture Machinery Exhibition of Iran (IFarm 2024).

According to Abbasi, the Agriculture Ministry has taken many new measures for modernizing and smartening of irrigation systems in the country among which identifying 10 knowledge-based and technological companies, using the capacities of research centers and institutions, and evaluating various smart irrigation technologies can be mentioned.

"So far, more than 100 smart irrigation pilot projects have been carried out in the country on more than 10,000 hectares of lands," he said.

The official noted that the mentioned projects have been carried out in large industrial and pioneering farms in different climates, for different plants, and with various irrigation methods.

"Significant results have been obtained from the implementation of these projects in terms of increasing performance and reducing water consumption," Abbasi said.

He pointed out that some indicators have been considered to identify capable companies in the field of implementing smart irrigation systems, and said: "The number of

companies identified in this field does not meet all the needs of the country, and, the distribution of the 10 existing companies is not even in all the provinces of the country, so it is necessary to increase the capabilities in this field."

Back in August, Iran's Deputy Agriculture Minister Safdar Niazi said the ministry has allocated 18.5 trillion rials (about \$35 million) to be provided as facilities to farmers across the country for establishing modern irrigation systems.

According to Niazi, over 50,000 hectares of farmlands are expected to be equipped with modern irrigation systems by the end of the current crop year (late September).

Stating that more than eight million hectares of land in the country can be equipped with modern irrigation systems, the official said that 4.3 million hectares of farmlands have been equipped with such systems so far.

He further noted that under the framework of the seventh National Development Plan (2023-2027) over 1.75 million hectares of farmlands should be equipped with modern irrigation systems by the end of the mentioned plan which brings the total area of established irrigation systems in the country to 2.1 million hectares.

He stated that currently, 40 percent of the farmlands in the country are equipped with modern irrigation systems 10 percent of which are irrigation networks.

"The irrigation efficiency in the country is 50 percent and the productivity percentage is one and a half kilograms of product for every one square meter of water consumption," Niazi explained.

Iran's trade with OIC member states rises 14%

TEHRAN - The value of the trade exchanges between Iran and the other 56 members of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) reached \$32.2 billion in the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-September 21), registering a 14 percent increase compared to the same period a year earlier, the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) announced.

According to the IRICA, the volume of the trade exchanges between Iran and OIC member states in the mentioned six months reached 48.8 million tons, also four percent more compared to the previous year's same time span.

Iran exported 38.4 million tons of non-oil goods worth \$15.6 billion to OIC member countries and imported 10.4 million tons of commodities valued at \$16.6 billion from them in the first six



months of the current Iranian year.

IRICA report added that the country's exports to OIC members registered 10 percent and one percent increase in value and weight respectively in the mentioned period, while the import of products from the mentioned countries also increased by 18 percent and 16 percent in terms of value and weight.

Back in May 2023, the former head of the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines, and Agriculture (ICCIMA) stressed the need for establishing a joint Islamic market among OIC members over the next 10 years.

Addressing a gathering of the heads of OIC member chambers of commerce on the sidelines of the «Russia - Islamic World: Kazan Forum 2023» in Russia, Gholam-Hossein Shafeie said:

"An important issue that has been discussed a lot in the past and the organization should pay attention to it in the current situation is the creation of a common Islamic market in the next 10 years, which can be achieved by concluding a free trade agreement among Islamic countries and removing tariff and non-tariff barriers."

"Experts have worked on the Islamic market plan, and using the experiences and studies of these experts can definitely be a way forward," he added.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which was formed in 1972, today has reached a position where, according to statistics, the future of the world's energy would be in the hands of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Shafeie said in his speech.

Iran, South Africa stress expansion of energy cooperation

TEHRAN- Iranian Energy Minister Abbas Ali-Abadi and South African Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy Samson Gwede Mantashe emphasized the expansion of energy cooperation between the two countries.

In a meeting on the sidelines of the BRICS energy ministers' meeting in Moscow the two sides stressed the development of cooperation within the framework of this group as well as the strengthening of bilateral cooperation in the field of energy.

Referring to Iran's capabilities and capacities in the field of energy, the Iranian minister said in this meeting: "We are ready to share these technical and specialized capacities with BRICS member countries, including South Africa."

In this meeting, which was held in the presence of the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran and members of the delegations of the two countries, the two ministers emphasized the expansion of bilateral cooperation in the field of using the knowledge and expertise of Iranian engineers in the South African electricity industry.

The parties also discussed the cooperation in the smartening of the electricity generation and consumption chain, the exchange of experiences in the field of using renewable and sustainable energy, including solar and wind energy generation, as well as the use of

new technologies.

At the meeting of the BRICS energy ministers in Moscow, Iran's Energy Minister has proposed the development of cooperation among the member countries of this group, including the connection of the power grid of Russia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia.

In this meeting, Ali-Abadi pointed out the great importance of Iran's geo-economics and reminded that the Islamic Republic has the second largest gas reserves in the world and high oil resources and shares water and land borders with 15 countries.

While referring to Iran's experience in paying energy subsidies and its consequences, the minister said: "Iran has significant capabilities in electrical equipment production in the distribution, transmission, and production sectors, including high-efficiency thermal power plants, renewable farms, electric power plants, refineries, and petrochemicals."

"Relying on this capability, Iran can cooperate with BRICS countries in these sectors and plans to attract capital with attractive formulas from the financial resources available in the BRICS nations," he said.

Iran's Minister of Energy further emphasized: "We believe that ensuring everyone's access to affordable, reliable, sustainable,



Iranian Energy Minister Abbas Ali-Abadi (L) and South African Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy Samson Gwede Mantashe

and modern energy for sustainable development is a priority and should be on the agenda of this group and other countries."

The BRICS group should provide the most efficient ways to eradicate energy poverty and ensure universal access to energy, through the modernization of national energy systems, diversification of energy sources, and efficient use of all fuels and advanced technologies, he said.

"In this framework, Iran has diversified its energy production portfolio and intends to benefit from the BRICS group's capacity in this field," the official added.

Steel products export stands at \$2.9b in H1

TEHRAN- The value of Iran's steel products export stood at \$2.9 billion in the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-September 22), the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) reported.

As reported, the country exported 5.7 million tons of steel products in the six-month period.

Steel products export in the first half of this year indicates 14 percent drop in value and 13 percent fall in weight, as compared to the first half of the previous year.

The World Steel Association (WSA) announced in its latest report that steel production in Iran during the first quarter of 2024 registered a 16.3 percent growth compared to the same period

last year.

The report added that the volume of steel production in the world in the 3-month period has risen by 0.5 percent.

More than 469 million tons of steel was produced across the world in January-March 2024, 161.2 million tons of which was produced in March 2024.

Iran has produced 7.6 million tons of steel from January to March 2024, showing a 16.3 percent growth compared to the same period last year, according to Mehr news agency.

China, India, Japan, the US, Russia, South Korea, Germany, Turkey, Brazil and Iran were the world's top 10 steel producers in the first quarter of 2024.

Production of steel in Iran increased by 5.8 percent in the

previous Iranian calendar year 1402 (ended on March 19), as compared to the preceding year, according to the ISPA.

According to the latest data released by the ISPA, the country's steel production reached 29.334 million tons in the previous year.

Of the mentioned amount, 18,452,000 tons were billet and bloom and 10,882,000 tons were slabs; Billet and bloom production increased by 9.2 percent and slab production increased by 0.7 percent in the previous year.

According to the ISPA data, the production of sponge iron also increased by 8.5 percent in the previous year in comparison to the figure for the preceding year.

Iran improved its global standing in steel production, becoming

the ninth-largest producer in January 2024, according to new data released by the WSA.

The Islamic Republic produced 31.1 million tons of crude steel in 2023 to account for 58.4 percent of West Asia's total production in the mentioned year, according to the WSA.

The West Asian nations reviewed in the WSA report, including Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen, managed to produce 53.2 million tons of steel in 2023.

The country's steel production increased by 1.8 percent in 2023 as compared to the previous year, when the production stood at 30.6 million tons, based on the WSA data.

Renewable energy issues discussed in ICCIMA press conference

TEHRAN- During a press conference held between the Energy Committee of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) and Iran Renewable Energy Association, the issues related to the renewable energy sector were discussed.

In the press conference, held at the place of ICCIMA on Saturday, Arash Najafi, the chairman of ICCIMA Energy Committee, Davoud Madadi, the head of Iran Renewable Energy Association, and Mohammad-Amin Zanganeh, the secretary of the association, talked about the power imbalance in the country, the problems in the field of renewable energy

and the solutions ahead.

They said that solving the problems of the renewable sector requires the creation of stable financial resources.

Based on the Energy Ministry data, renewables, currently, account for nearly seven percent of the country's total electricity generation capacity.

Of the country's total renewable capacity, 44 percent is the share of solar power plants while the share of wind farms stands at 40 percent and small-scaled hydropower plants generate 13 percent of the total re-

newable capacity.

Over the past few years, the Iranian government has taken serious measures to accelerate the growth and development of renewable energies in the country.

Diversification of financing models for renewable projects, increasing the ceiling of guaranteed electricity purchase, providing the possibility of buying and selling renewable electricity in the green board of the Iran Energy Exchange (IRENEX) and providing the possibility of exporting renewable electricity have been the most important measures taken for this purpose.

Israel started war resistance will seal its fate

Nasrallah's assassination to haunt Israel, US forever

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN- Israel's savage attacks on residential areas in the Lebanese capital and the assassination of Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah have once again exposed the true colors of the apartheid regime and its main supporter, the United States.

Israel launched brutal strikes on the southern suburbs of Beirut late on Friday.

Huge explosions rocked the neighborhood of Dahiyeh, which had already been hit by air raids in recent days. Israel had launched a massive bombing campaign in Lebanon on Monday killing hundreds of people, including dozens of children.

According to Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV, the Israeli deadly strikes on Friday leveled at least seven buildings in Dahiyeh's Haret Hreik.

The Israeli air force dropped more than 80 bombs on Dahiyeh's residential buildings.

The Hezbollah movement announced on Saturday that the movement's chief lost his life in the Israeli raids.

In a statement, Hezbollah vowed that it will "continue its fight to confront the enemy" after confirming Nasrallah's assassination.

The Lebanese resistance movement described Nasrallah as a "sacred martyr", saying he was killed in a "treacherous Zionist airstrike on the southern suburbs" of Beirut.

"The leadership of Hezbollah pledges to the most supreme, sacred, and dearest martyr in our journey, filled with sacrifices and martyrs, that it will continue its fight to confront the enemy, in support of Gaza and Palestine, and in defense of Lebanon and its steadfast and honorable people," the statement said.

It added, "His Eminence Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, Secretary-General of Hezbollah, has joined his great and eternal martyred companions, whom he led for nearly thirty years, guiding them from victory to victory."

Israel assassinated Nasrallah after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivered a speech at the United Nations General As-



sembly in New York.

Netanyahu's office circulated a photograph of the prime minister using a landline telephone to approve the strikes, the New York Times reported.

Friday's attack has once again exposed Washington's complicity in Israel's warmongering.

A military analyst told Al Jazeera that the ordnance used by Israel in its attack on Beirut was a "very new type of bomb" – the GBU-72.

Elijah Magnier added that the weapon was "an advanced 5,000-pound [2,200kg] bunker buster that was created in 2021".

He said Israel used these US-supplied bombs to "confirm the kill and wanted to make sure nobody is going to be alive".

US media have already acknowledged that Israel had used American-made bombs during its deadly strikes on residential areas in the Gaza Strip.

Hezbollah retaliation

In response to Israel's attacks, Hezbollah intensified its retaliatory operations.

The resistance movement's reprisal strikes have spread a growing sense of panic among Israelis keeping the regime on its toes.

Such developments have raised fears of a full-scale war between the regime and Hezbollah.

But it remains to be seen whether Israel would be able to survive in case of such a conflict amid its previous setbacks at the hands of the resistance movement's fighters.

Hezbollah ends Israeli occupation

Hezbollah dealt a major blow to Israel after ending the re-

sistance movement's nearly 20-year occupation of Lebanon.

Israel launched an offensive in Lebanon in 1982, sending its tanks all the way to Beirut. It occupied southern Lebanon until it was driven out by Hezbollah in 2000.

Israel carried out the assault after coming under attack from Palestinians in Lebanon.

Sporadic clashes between Israel and Hezbollah continued even after it was forced to leave southern Lebanon.

Israel's humiliation in 2006 war

Tensions boiled over in 2006 when Israel went to war with Hezbollah in southern Lebanon.

The war started on July 12, 2006 – days after the Lebanese resistance movement captured two Israeli soldiers.

The conflict ended in mid-August after Israel failed to defeat Hezbollah.

Israel killed more than 1,000 Lebanese, mostly civilians in the 34-day conflict. More than 120 Israeli soldiers were also killed.

The martyr Hezbollah leader said on multiple occasions that the 2006 war, known as the July War, was a success for the resistance movement.

In August 2021, an Israeli inquiry acknowledged the regime's failure to achieve its goal in the 2006 war, describing the conflict as "unsuccessful" and "missed opportunity".

"Israel initiated a long war, which ended without its clear military victory," the inquiry found.

Hezbollah stronger than ever

The military capability of the Lebanese resistance movement has grown since then.

Hezbollah's martyred chief had already said that the resistance movement has 100,000 fighters.

Hezbollah has also increased its stockpile of missiles from 14,000 in 2006 to about 150,000 and has developed precision-guided missiles and its drone programs.

Presently, Israel has sealed its fate by killing Nasrallah and hundreds of Lebanese people.

Anti-Israel sentiment had already been on the rise over Israel's genocidal war in Gaza which has claimed the lives of more than 41,500 Palestinians since October 7.

Israel's foolish act in Lebanon and the assassination of Nasrallah has given rise to deep resentment against the regime and its Western and regional allies.

The administration of President Joe Biden has thrown its full military weight behind Israel and certain Arab states have refused to cut ties with the regime amid its war of genocide in Gaza.

Israel has not only massacred Palestinian and Lebanese people, but it has also targeted regional resistance groups such as Yemen's Ansarullah.

The regime has also killed Iranian military advisors in Syria, assassinated Iranian nuclear scientists, and carried out acts of sabotage in the country.

Israel's military adventurism amounts to playing with fire amid growing resistance against its malicious acts in West Asia.

Israel has started the war against the Axis of Resistance, but the regime should know that it would not be able to determine its fate.

Besides, Israel's military adventurism comes amid the regime's growing international isolation over its appalling atrocities in Gaza.

Rising anger toward Israel will undoubtedly lead to another Al-Aqsa Storm, the surprise military operation carried out by Hamas on October 7 that humiliated Israel and revealed its vulnerability.

But a new version of Al-Aqsa Storm will result in the annihilation of the Zionist regime and disgrace its enablers for good.

Hezbollah is indefatigable

Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah fostered resistance against Israeli occupation

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN - Hezbollah is not just an organization that was founded in 1982. It is an idea and an ideology built on the foundation of serving the Lebanese nation.

History has proven that the martyrdom of its leaders and commanders has only made the movement stronger and more resilient.

The party provides education, health and welfare services, as well as security to the people of Lebanon. The duty to protect the Lebanese from Israeli occupation is enshrined in Hezbollah's doctrine.

On the battlefield, the Lebanese resistance movement succeeded in forcing the Israelis to leave southern Lebanon in 2000.

In July 2006, when Israel launched a 33-day war on Lebanon, Hezbollah again defeated the Israeli occupation forces as admitted by the committee set up in Tel Aviv to investigate the defeat.

Israel can start a war against Hezbollah but the Lebanese resistance has proven time and again that it determines the fate of the war and emerges victorious.

Hezbollah's security policy has always been focused on countering the Israeli occupation and defending the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. How Palestine shrunk in territory to Israeli settlements is the reason Hezbollah does not trust the West or the international community to come to Lebanon's assistance. It firmly believes strong resistance is required.

The resistance movement has made many other achievements. The landmark agreement to secure Lebanon's natural resources in the Mediterranean is a concrete example.

US-supplied jets are Israel's only superiority

By our staff writer

TEHRAN - For decades Israel was considered the unrivalled military power in the West Asia region. However, that concept has eroded.

The myth of the invincibility of Israel shattered in Israel's 34-day war against the Hezbollah of Lebanon.

If it defeated Egypt, Syria and Jordan in just six days in 1967, now after the passage of nearly a year it has failed to overwhelm the new generation of guerrilla fighters in Gaza.

Israel's only superiority is its airpower. It is just because the United States supplies the most sophisticated fighter jets that it has in its possession to Israel. It can only massacre civilians by dropping 2000-pound bombs from these fighters that are also supplied by the United States.

However, it seems that more deadly weapons are being used. A military analyst told Al Jazeera that the ordnance used by Israel in its attack on Beirut late on Friday that killed Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah was a "very new type of bomb" – the GBU-72. Elijah Magnier said the weapon was "an advanced 5,000-pound [2,200kg] bunker buster that was created in 2021".

In its new decision to enter a large-scale war with Hezbollah, its reliance is on the air force.

However, now the occupation regime is in its worst nightmares. Every moment it expects ballistic missiles launched from Yemen's

Hezbollah pressured Israel to accept a maritime deal on offshore energy exploration in October 2022. This allowed the Lebanese state to drill for energy resources in the eastern Mediterranean. This was only achieved after months of military threats by Hezbollah. It helped alleviate the Lebanese economy.

All these achievements have come despite the assassinations of many top Hezbollah leaders and commanders.

Seyyed Abbas al-Mousavi, who led the Hezbollah movement before Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, was assassinated with his wife and child in a car in an Israeli airstrike in February 1992.

Nasrallah took over the post of the movement's secretary general at the age of 32. He greatly strengthened the resistance movement.

The spirit of Hezbollah's most senior commander Imam Mughniyeh, who was assassinated in Damascus in February 2008, was the driving force in aborting efforts by Daesh terrorists to expand their scope of terror from Syria to Lebanon in 2016 and 2017.

Hezbollah also succeeded in forcing Israel to release many Lebanese citizens who had been kidnapped by the occupation regime since the early 1980s. They were released after the 2006 war.

The Israelis have tried many times to undermine the Lebanese movement by assassinating its leaders. However, the movement has turned into an unquenchable flame that cannot be extinguished by bombs or missiles.

The movement has seen numerous persons rising to replace Hezbollah leaders and commanders who have been martyred.

Ansarullah movement from 2000 kilometers away from the south or Hezbollah in the north. Add to this drone attacks earlier by the resistance forces from Yemen, Lebanon, and Iraq.

Its two most important cities, Tel Aviv and Haifa, are now being seriously threatened by Ansarullah and Hezbollah. Ansarullah first fired a ballistic missile at Tel Aviv on September 15 and again on September 27. Hezbollah also for the first time fired a surface-to-surface ballistic missile at the Mossad headquarters near Tel Aviv. It has also fired missiles at military installations near Haifa more than once.

Though Israel's army has claimed it has intercepted missiles launched at these two landmarks, each time sirens have been sounded and millions fled to bomb shelters.

How many missiles can Israel intercept if one day it faces numerous missile attacks from Ansarullah and Hezbollah? Now with the assassination of the Hezbollah leader, that day seems more likely.

So far missile attacks by these two powerful resistance movements have been quite prudent primarily intended not to exacerbate the situation. However, if the situation gets out of control, which seems it is moving in that direction, air superiority cannot save Israel from a total collapse.

Now Israel has turned into a glass house and those who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

Resistance is primarily existential battle for Hezbollah

By Xavier Villar

MADRID - One of Hezbollah's most striking and, at the same time, least theorized practices is the martyrdom of some of its members. Most analyses focus on a material perspective, overlooking the potential political dimensions of this practice. At the same time, these analyses are based on an absolute distinction between politics and violence, driven more by ideological assumptions than by descriptive accuracy.

This article, therefore, aims to shed light on what could be termed Hezbollah's concept of

martyrdom and its discursive foundations. It also seeks to question the notion of a complete separation between violence and politics, following the work of Roxanne Euben in "Jihad and Political Violence".

First, it is important to note that for Hezbollah, resistance against Israel—viewed as the ultimate oppressor—is seen as a duty both on national and Islamic grounds. From an Islamic perspective, Hezbollah's justification for this resistance is rooted in the paradigm of so-called defensive jihad.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)



Iraq's top Shia cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, expressed sorrow on Saturday over the assassination of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah.

Ayatollah al-Sistani noted that Nasrallah played "a distinguished role in liberating Lebanese territories" and had shown support for Iraq's fight against the ISIL terror group. He noted that Nasrallah "took notable positions in supporting the oppressed Palestinian people, even paying with his life for that cause."



The leader of Iraq's National Wisdom Movement expressed his condolences on the martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah.

Seyyed Ammar Hakim said, "The martyrdom of this distinguished scholar and great mujahid is an irreparable loss, but the path of resistance will continue until victory is achieved." He added, "The Islamic community is alive and will not die; death cannot prevent it, because martyrdom is precious to us."



Hamas condemned the Israeli assassination of the Hezbollah leader as "barbaric Zionist aggression" and "a cowardly act of terrorism".

Hamas added, "History has proven that the resistance against the Zionist enemy, in all its factions and places of presence, whenever its leaders go as martyrs, has a generation of leaders to lead them on the same path."



Yemen's Ansarullah has mourned the Israeli assassination of Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah.

"The resistance will not be broken, and the Jihadist spirit of the Mujahideen brothers in Lebanon and on all fronts of support will grow stronger and bigger," it said. Over the past months, the Yemeni army has carried out strikes against Israel to express solidarity with Palestinians in Gaza.



Lebanon's Amal Movement, Hezbollah's political ally, described Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah as "a unique and courageous figure".

The movement said Israel's "terrorism and its aggression" has exceeded all limits and moral as well as humanitarian rules. It said, "Killing and aggression will only increase our steadfastness in defending Lebanon."



A left-wing French politician and former Member of the European Parliament (MEP), said, "Netanyahu is violating the sovereignty of states throughout the region with the complicity of Europe and the USA. The genocide in Gaza is spreading without limits." Pointing to Nasrallah's assassination, Jean-Luc Melenchon added, "Netanyahu's crimes will continue since they are unpunished. The danger is extreme for the region and the world."



The Turkish president said Lebanese people are the new target of "Israel's policy of genocide, occupation and invasion" that started last October. Recep Tayyip Erdogan said children were among Lebanese civilians who have been "murdered" by "brutal" Israeli strikes.

"No one with a conscience can accept, excuse or justify such a massacre," he wrote in a post on X.



Russia's Foreign Ministry has strongly condemned "yet another political assassination" by Israel.

Referring to the assassination of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the ministry said, "This forceful action is fraught with even greater dramatic consequences for Lebanon and the entire Middle East." It added that Israel "took the step of killing Lebanese citizens, ... it bears full responsibility for the subsequent escalation."



Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas offers his condolences to Hezbollah over the Israeli assassination of its leader.

Abbas "offered his deep condolences to the Lebanese government and the brotherly Lebanese people, on the martyrdom of the civilian victims who fell as a result of the brutal Israeli aggression." Abbas also harshly criticized the United States for its continued support of Israel.

Ruins of defensive fortress in central Iran undergo restoration



TEHRAN – Work has commenced to restore and strengthen Mohammadieh Fortress, which once served as a defensive refuge in the heart of Iran during ancient times.

Located atop a hill overlooking the Mohammadieh neighborhood of the Nain city of Yazd province, the fortress has historical significance dating back to the pre-Islamic and early Islamic eras.

Over the years, natural elements have caused considerable damage to the structure, especially after it was fully vacated in modern times, CHTN quoted Mahmoud Madanian, Nain's tourism chief, as saying on Saturday.

Madianan noted that the first step in preserving the fortress was the registration of the site as a national heritage monument in 2019.

Following extensive efforts, ownership of the site was officially transferred to the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts in 2023, allowing for the launch of restoration efforts.

The current phase of the project focuses on reinforcing the walls of the western side and the towers with traditional mudbrick methods. Other efforts include restructuring the water drainage system and applying protective coatings to the walls.

Covering an area of about 1,400 square meters, the fortress is uniquely positioned near many of the region's historic and natural attractions, making it a prime candidate for future tourism investment and development as a cultural site.

According to Madanian, the Mohammadieh Fortress, built during the Sassanid era, served as a strong and defensive fortification against attacks by bandits and invaders.

Defensive fortresses in the past were seen as solid barriers against attacks from invaders and bandits, which is why such fortresses were often constructed on high ground, he explained.

He added that in the city of Nain and its surrounding villages, there is usually a defensive fortress or tower that was used in the past to protect against bandit attacks. The Mohammadieh Fortress served this critical role, providing shelter to the townspeople during such raids. Each family had a designated room within the fortress, stocked with enough provisions in advance.

The official explained that outside the city of Nain, a few kilometers away, watchtowers were strategically placed. During enemy attacks, the guards in these towers would signal the townspeople with smoke, giving them time to take refuge in the Mohammadieh Fortress. These fortresses often had a secret passage connected to an underground water channel (qanat), ensuring sufficient water supply during enemy sieges.

He also mentioned that the height of the fortress walls varies at different points, ranging from five to eight meters.

Glimpses of World Heritage sites

Memphis and its necropolis



The capital of the Old Kingdom of Egypt has some extraordinary funerary monuments, including rock tombs, ornate mastabas, temples and pyramids. In ancient times, the site was considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

Memphis is located in the center of the floodplain of the western side of the Nile. Its fame comes from its being the first Capital of Ancient Egypt. The unrivaled geographic location of Memphis, both commanding the entrance to the Delta while being at the confluence of important trade routes, means that there was no possible alternative capital for any ruler with serious ambition to govern both Upper and Lower Egypt.

Traditionally believed to have been founded in 3000 BC as the capital of a politically unified Egypt, Memphis served as the effective administrative capital of the country during the Old Kingdom, then during at least part of the Middle and New Kingdoms (besides Itjtawy and Thebes), the Late Period and again in the Ptolemaic Period (along with the city of Alexandria), until it was eclipsed by the foundation of the Islamic garrison city of Fustat on the Nile and its later development, Al Qahira. As well as the home of kings, and the centre of state administration, Memphis was considered to be a site sacred to the gods.

The site contains many archaeological remains, reflecting what life was like in the ancient Egyptian city, which include temples, of which the most important is the Temple of Ptah in Mit Rahina. Ptah was the local god of Memphis, the god of creation and the patron of craftsmanship.

Other major religious buildings included the sun temples in Abu Ghurab and Abusir, the temple of the god Apis in Memphis, the

Serapeum and the Heb-Sed temple in Saqqara. Being the seat of royal power for over eight dynasties, the city also contained palaces and ruins survive of the palace of Apries overlooking the city.

The palaces and temples were surrounded by craftsmen's workshops, dockyards and arsenals, as well as residential neighbourhoods, traces of which survive.

The Necropolis of Memphis, to the north and south of the capital, extends southwards from the Giza plateau, through Zawyet Elarian, Abu Ghurab, Abusir, Mit Rahina and Saqqara, and northwards as far as Dahshur. It contains the first complex monumental stone buildings in Egyptian history, as well as evidence of the development of the royal tombs from the early shape called "mastaba" until it reaches the pyramid shape. More than thirty-eight pyramids include the three pyramids of Giza, of which the Great Pyramid of Khufu is the only surviving wonder of the ancient world and one of the most important monuments in the history of humankind, the pyramids of Abusir, Saqqara and Dahshur and the Great Sphinx.

Besides these monumental creations, there are more than nine thousand rock-cut tombs, from different historic periods, ranging from the First to the Thirtieth Dynasty, and extending to the Graeco-Roman Period.

The property also includes the remains of many smaller temples and settlements, which are invaluable for understanding ancient Egyptian life in this area.

(Source: UNESCO)

Iranian minister, UN Tourism chief discuss mutual cooperation

TEHRAN – Iran's Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts, Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri, has met with UN Tourism Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili.

They discussed cooperation in the tourism sector and explored ways to continue and strengthen collaboration.

The meeting was held on the sidelines of the World Tourism Day celebration in Tbilisi, Georgia on September 27.

Salehi-Amiri presented three major international tourism projects currently under consideration in Iran, seeking support from the UN body for their implementation.

The minister highlighted the establishment of an international center in Iran dedicated to the development, promotion, and applied research of handicrafts; playing host to the Urban Tourism Summit in Tehran, which would bring together mayors from global tourist cities, and organize affordable or free tourism training courses for Iranian professionals under the auspices of the UN Tourism.

In response, Pololikashvili praised Iran's significant con-



tributions to the global tourism industry and expressed his gratitude for Iran's role in promoting various tourism events.

Moreover, he acknowledged Iran's efforts and expressed optimism about reaching an agreement soon regarding the three projects presented by Salehi-Amiri.

Iran's tourism industry witnessed a 21% upsurge in 2023, signaling a strong recovery in the post-COVID-19, according to data

compiled by the World Travel and Tourism Council.

According to the WTTC, the increase was part of a broader recovery following the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which saw the industry plummet by 45% in 2020.

In comparison, the years 2021 and 2022 boasted growth rates of 40% and 39%, the data revealed. As per records, Iran's tourism sector not only expanded its share to 4.7% of the na-

tional economy in 2023 but also boosted its market value to 7400 trillion rials.

The rate of employment in this sector grew by 10.3%, with 1.6 million people working in tourism, which accounts for 6.6% of the country's total employment, according to the WTTC report. Furthermore, WTTC forecasts that in 2024, the tourism industry in the Islamic Republic will continue its upward trajectory with a predicted growth of 12.1%, potentially reaching a market value of 8300 trillion rials.

As revealed by the annual report, foreign tourists in Iran spent a substantial 700 trillion rials in 2023, showcasing an 83.6% increase compared to the previous year.

The Islamic Republic expects to reap a bonanza from its numerous tourist spots such as bazaars, museums, mosques, bridges, bathhouses, madrasas, mausoleums, churches, towers, and mansions, of which 28 are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

Iran to construct gigantic tourism complex near Sea of Oman

TEHRAN – Iran is set to construct a gigantic tourism complex in Sistan-Baluchestan province, southeast of the country near the Sea of Oman.

According to Mohammad-Hadi Tehrani-Moqadam, the provincial tourism chief, the complex will be a unique project in West Asia.

Located in Gurdim region of Konarak county, the complex will be built with an investment of 58 trillion rials (approximately \$96 million) and span 264 hectares, creating an estimated 1,200 jobs once completed.

Tehrani-Moqadam highlighted that the

project is expected to be completed in five years. During its construction phase, it will provide employment opportunities for hundreds of people, significantly contributing to the reduction of unemployment in the province.

The location, study, and design phases of the project have been carried out by a team of top Iranian and international experts, the official said.

The complex will feature several key attractions, including a five-star hotel with 900 rooms and 1,500 beds, Iran's largest

golf course, the country's largest handicrafts park, a water park, theme parks, greenhouses, and boutique parks.

He added that strict standards of quality and service are set to be followed, with a focus on making it one of Iran's leading smart tourism projects.

This mega-project is expected to become a major destination in the region, boosting tourism and economic development in the lesser-known province.

Persian handicrafts: Dah-Yek-Douzi



One of the most good-looking traditional embroidery of Iran, which goes back to the Sassanid era, is "Dah-Yek-Douzi".

"Dah-Yek" literally means one-tenth of something and is a kind of embroidery where the needle and thread penetrate one point ten times or ten plies of thread are attached to the fabric by a special kind of fastener.

This method of embroidery creates a special sight and cre-

ates an embossed vision.

Dah-Yek is used to ornate margins of clothing, "Sofreh Ghand" (a piece of linen on which sugar is arranged for ceremonies like weddings), mirror frames, exquisite curtains, bundles, head wears, decorative tableaus, the cover of holy Quran, money bags, pencil holders and many other objects.

Patterns such as "Bazoubandi", "Band-e Rumi", "Ghabghabi", "Shah Abbasi" or "Anari" (pomegranate), "Afshani", "Goldani", "Mehrabi", geometric, figurative and animal motifs are used, according to Visit Iran.

As for the history of Dah-Yek, since its principal material is the Golabatoon thread, its history has intertwined with the history

of Golabatoon.

The importance of decorating military and official clothing enhanced the art of Dah-Yek, and along with products in which golden threads were used, Dah-Yek was considered as one of the export goods of the time.

During the Islamic era, after Iranian artists in the city of Susa and Shushtar were commissioned to prepare twelve pieces of the curtain for Kaaba, they began using the art of Dah-Yek to ornate curtains.

In addition, this embroidery decorated covers of holy shrines. Safavid dynasty witnessed the flourishing of Dah-Yek, and it was around that time that artists began signings and sewing their names on their creations.

In addition to highly detailed curtains and bundles, interesting tableaus have remained from the Safavid era that showcases unique skills and abilities of the Safavid artists now kept in museums.

Dah-Yek can be used solely or incorporate sequins, pearls, glass beads, stones, "Naqadeh", "Sharafeh Douzi", "Pateh Douzi", Silk work, Sormeh embroidery, and filigree.

This kind of embroidery is very common in cities like Qazvin, Isfahan, Tehran, Yazd, Kashan, and Bandar Abbas.

China: three new European countries soon to benefit from visa-free travel

China has recently announced that citizens of Greece and Slovenia will soon be exempt from visa requirements for stays of 15 days. This announcement comes a few days after a similar declaration concerning Norwegian nationals.

Currently attending the United Nations General Assembly in New York, Wang Yi, China's Minister of Foreign Affairs, met today with his Slovenian counterpart, Tanja Fajon, and his Greek counterpart, Georgios Gerapetritis.

After the meetings, Wang Yi began by saying that Slovenia and China had traditionally been friends and that the two peoples maintained close contacts.

"I am pleased to inform the Slovenian side that the Chinese government has decided to grant visa exemption to Slovenian citizens, which is good news for the peoples of both countries and will greatly promote friendly exchanges between the two sides and deepen friendship and mutual trust," announced the

head of Chinese diplomacy.

After recalling that China and Greece were both ancient civilizations and that the ancient Silk Road linked the two peoples, Wang Yi explained that his country attached importance to Greece's status and role, and appreciated Greece's friendly policy towards China.

"The two sides should strengthen the two ties of civilizational exchange and practical cooperation, and continue to deepen the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries," the Chinese Foreign Minister detailed, adding that China "will implement a visa-free policy for Greece, which will greatly facilitate people-to-people exchanges and close humanistic exchanges between the two countries".

18 countries unilaterally exempt from Chinese entry visa requirements

During an official visit to China earlier this month, Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store met with Chinese President Xi Jinping. During the meeting, the Chinese president

announced that Norwegians would soon be allowed to travel to China without having to apply for a visa.

"This will make it much easier for Norwegian business representatives, students and others to travel to China.

It also lays the foundations for closer cooperation," said Prime Minister Store.

With the forthcoming addition of these three countries, no fewer than 18 countries will benefit from visa-free travel to China for tourism, trade, family visits or transit until December 31, 2025.

Since December 1, 2023, the Middle Kingdom has granted visa-free entry for 15 days to visitors from France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and Malaysia.

Travelers from Switzerland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Ireland, Hungary and Austria have been able to enter China without a visa since March 14, 2024.

(Source: visasnews.com)

Tehran invites BRICS to foster co-op in nano-tech, bio-tech

TEHRAN –Iran has called for developing cooperation in nano-technology as well as biotechnology with BRICS member states.

“Enhancing ties in nanotechnology, biotechnology, energy, renewable energies, water, marine economy, food security, artificial intelligence, as well as digital economy with BRICS are among Iran’s top priorities,” IRNA quoted Sajjad Ahadzadeh, the country’s representative in BRICS Science, Innovation, and Technology group, as saying.

He made the remarks while addressing participants in the 12th BRICS Science, Technology, and Innovation Ministerial Meeting held on September 27 in Moscow.

Putting forward suggestions and initiatives to create new mechanisms in significant sectors such as environment, climate change, and transportation, Ahadzadeh announced Iran’s readiness to host future meetings of the working group on spatial information and its applications and the working group on energy, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.

The official also extended an invitation to participants to attend Iran Nanotechnology Exhibition which is scheduled to be held from November 3 to 6.

The 12th Meeting of BRICS



Ministers of Science, Technology, and Innovation, was chaired by Minister of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation Valery Falkov.

The event was attended by the heads and representatives of related agencies from Iran, China, Russia, India, Brazil, South Africa, the UAE, Egypt, and Ethiopia.

Meeting participants discussed existing national policies within BRICS in science, technology, and innovation (STI), what working groups have accomplished in 2023–2024, the outlook for BRICS STI Framework Program development, and current initiatives in member states.

Iran, BRICS to develop Scientific ties

Representatives from Iranian universities and higher education institutes and the BRICS Expert

Council held a meeting on April 22 in Tehran to discuss ways to expand scientific cooperation.

It was the first meeting held on the topic of scientific research and technological initiatives.

During the meeting, Victoria Panova, head of the council who is also Vice-Rector of HSE University in Russia, and Omid Rezaei-Far, an official with the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, explored avenues to boost the scientific and technological ties, IRIB reported.

“Despite cruel sanctions, Iran has achieved many accomplishments in agriculture, biotechnology, technology, and engineering sciences fields,” IRIB quoted Panova as saying.

She also noted that unlike what is imagined, the BRICS group is not merely an econom-

ic group, it is here to introduce the high capacity of the BRICS in terms of science and technology as well.

Panova went on to emphasize Iran’s capabilities and readiness to expand scientific cooperation with member states of this international organization.

Rezaei-Far, for his part, said the working groups will be established soon and aligned with BRICS educational activities; academic members of each working group will collaborate with BRICS to fulfill its goals.

Highlighting the high scientific capabilities of Iranian universities and science and technology parks, Rezaei-Far announced Iran’s readiness to participate in BRICS scientific endeavors, particularly skill training courses with an emphasis on innovation and technology.

The BRICS group, comprised of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa was established in 2009. It has emerged as a significant force shaping global economic discussions.

Iran, alongside Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia, received an invitation to join this influential bloc effective January 1, 2024, signaling a significant transformation in the geopolitical arena. Russia chairs the BRICS group in 2024.

Iranian students top West Asia at ICPC 2024

TEHRAN –Students of Sharif University of Technology are ranked first among West Asian countries at the 14th International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC).

The international competition was held from September 15 to 20 in Astana, Kazakhstan, ISNA reported.

The event was attended by 73,000 students from more than 100 countries representing leading universities in each country.

The Iranian team was composed of Ali Safari, Alireza Keshavarz, and Amir-Mohammad Shahrezaei.

Sharif University of Technology ranked 13 globally, sharing the position with Harvard University, St. Petersburg State University, University of Oxford, and University of Science and Technology of China, as well as other famous institutions receiving the highest honors.

The ICPC is a prestigious international student programming Olympiad. It was founded in the 1970s in the USA and has since become a global competition that gathers the best teams of students from universities around the world to solve complex algorithmic problems.

At the international level, ICPC was first held in 1977 in the USA, University of Michigan. Since then, the competition has been held annually in various countries such as the USA, Russia, the Netherlands, Canada, China, the Czech Republic, Japan, Sweden, Poland,

Thailand, Morocco, Egypt, Bangladesh and Portugal.

This year, for the first time, the competition was held in Kazakhstan in Astana.

The ICPC community’s purpose is to advance prospects for the next generation by bringing students together working collaboratively to solve algorithmically challenging problems, and preparing them to build dependable systems that benefit their neighbors with the support of universities, industry, and community leaders, globally.

Volunteer coaches prepare their teams with intense training and instruction in algorithms, programming, and teamwork strategy.

Huddled around a single computer, the teams of three students compete against each other to solve eight or more complex, real-world problems within a five-hour deadline.

Teammates collaborate to rank the difficulty of the problems, deduce the requirements, design test beds, and build software systems that solve the problems. The team that solves the most problems in the fewest attempts in the least cumulative time is declared the winner.

Recent achievements

A total of 18 students from Iran attended the 47th WorldSkills Competition, winning 9 medals including a silver medal and medals for excellence.

The competition was held from September 10 to 15 in Lyon, France. Some 1,500 competitors from more than 65 countries and regions around the world gathered in Lyon to compete in different skills.

Iran grabbed a gold medal, two silver medals, and a bronze medal at the 36th International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI), ranking 9th among 96 countries.

Hosted in Alexandria, Egypt, the event started on September 1 and concluded on September 8, IRNA reported.

Each participating country selected a team of up to four contestants to represent their nation.

The team competed in a two-day competition. Each contestant competed individually to maximize their score by solving three algorithmic problems within five hours.

Iranian students attended the event online and ranked ninth globally. Amir-Ali Asgari grabbed the gold medal, Amir-Hossein Farkhondeh-Far and Amir-Reza Dorosti won the silver medals, while Parsa Farajpour-Sarabi received the bronze medal.

In a remarkable achievement, Iranian students won five gold medals, ranking first in the 17th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) which was held from August 17 to 27 in Vassouras, state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

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Hospital beds capacity rises to improve medical system

Health Minister Saeed Namaki inaugurated 23 health centers, including 201 hospital beds, in Lorestan, Kermanshah, and Khuzestan provinces on Tuesday.

Built on 26,935 square meters area, the centers were constructed with a budget of 2.9 trillion rials (nearly \$70 million at the official rate of 42,000 rials).

The Ministry of Health is scheduled to add 10,600 hospital beds to the capacity of the country’s medical system within the next 7 months.

Two years ago, there were a total of 140,859 beds in the country, which means 1.7 hospital beds per 1,000 population.

افزایش ظرفیت تخت های بیمارستانی

سعید نمکی وزیر بهداشت امروز به صورت مجازی ۲۳ مرکز بهداشتی و درمانی را شامل ۲۰۱ تخت بیمارستانی در استان های لرستان، کرمانشاه و خوزستان افتتاح کرد.

به گزارش ایرنا، این مراکز در زیربنای ۲۶ هزار و ۹۳۵ مترمربع و با اعتباری بالغ بر ۲۹۸۰ میلیارد ریال ساخته شده است. وزارت بهداشت قرار است تا ۱۲ فروردین سال ۱۴۰۰، ۱۰ هزار و ۶۰۰ تخت بیمارستانی به ظرفیت بیمارستان های کشور اضافه کند.

در انتهای سال ۱۳۹۷ مجموعاً ۱۴۰ هزار و ۸۵۹ تخت فعال در کشور فعال بود که اگر این میزان را به ازای جمعیت محاسبه کنیم، ضریب تعداد جمعیت به تخت‌مان، ۱.۷ تخت به ازای هر ۱۰۰۰ نفر است.

Iran secures position in GII for second consecutive year

TEHRAN –According to the 2024 edition of the Global Innovation Index (GII) report, the Islamic Republic of Iran ranks second among the countries of the Central and Southern Asian region, unchanged compared with the last two years.

India and Kazakhstan ranked first and third, respectively. According to this year’s report, Iran ranks 5th among the 38 lower-middle-income group economies, which has improved compared to the 2023 ranking, 6th.

However, the country’s ranking, among the 133 economies featured in the GI 2024, has dropped from 62 in 2023 to 64th this year.

Switzerland secured the first rank in the GI 2024 report with a score of 67.5 for the 14th consecutive year, closely followed by Sweden and the US at the second and third positions with scores of 64.5 and 62.4, respectively.

As stated in the 2024 edition, over the past four years (2020–2024), the statistical confidence interval for the ranking of Iran in the GI 2024 is between ranks 56 and 80.

Iran performs better in innovation outputs (48th) than in innovation inputs (85th) in 2024.

Published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the report ranks Iran first in Market capitalization, and Trademarks by origin.

It ranks 3rd, 5th, 8th, 17th, 19th, 23rd, and 35th in Software spending, Gross capital formation, Graduates in science and engineering, market sophistication, Domestic market scale, Intangible asset intensity, and Tertiary education, respectively.

Iran (Islamic Republic of) ranks highest in Market sophistication (17th), Knowledge and technology outputs (49th), Creative outputs (52nd), and Human capital and research (64th).

Iran (Islamic Republic of) ranks lowest in Institutions (133rd), Business sophistication (110th), and Infrastructure (95th).

The GI has ranked Tehran as the world’s 38th-largest science and technology (S&T) cluster this year, down from 35th last year, according to a report released on Tuesday by the UN’s WIPO.

The Global Innovation Index ranks the world’s leading economies according to their innovation capabilities.

A common thread among top-performing nations is the presence of thriving science and technology (S&T) clusters. Since 2016, the GI has employed a bottom-up approach to identifying such clusters. This methodology disregards administrative or political borders and instead pinpoints those geographical areas with a high density of inventors and scientific authors.

GI 2024

GI 2024 thematic focus asks ‘Is Social Entrepreneurship on the Rise? What will it take for social entrepreneurship to catalyze transformative innovation and societal impact?’

This year’s GI highlights the growing significance of “social entrepreneurship,” a crucial source of innovation often overlooked by policymakers, innovation economists, development agencies, and funding institutions.

Social entrepreneurship marries business practices with social goals to address some of the world’s most pressing social and environmental challenges, such as creating jobs, providing education, improving infrastructure, and developing tailor-made sustainable solutions for local needs.

However, realizing the full potential of social entrepreneurship requires a supportive ecosystem, including regulatory and legal frameworks, funding mechanisms, and training programs to recognize and support social entrepreneurs.

The GI 2024 has brought together analysis and policy guidance from key actors in the field of social entrepreneurship, such as the Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship at Oxford University, the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship, and Catalyst 2030, along with top social entrepreneurs and innovation experts.

They shed light on the underexplored linkages between innovation and social entrepreneurship, making social entrepreneurship a prominent part of the international development and innovation policy dialogue, and a growing area of interest for cross-border cooperation.

GI key findings

Following a boom between 2020 and 2022, scientific publications, venture capital (VC), and international patent filings experienced a downturn in 2023, and research and development expenditures (R&D) slowed.

VC and scientific publications have declined sharply back to pre-pandemic levels, with a pro-



nounced impact on emerging regions such as Latin America and Africa.

Reflecting a deteriorating climate for risk finance, the value of VC investments has been falling sharply from the exceptionally high levels of 2021, with a 36 percent drop in 2022 followed by a further 39 percent drop in 2023.

The number of VC deals has also decreased, experiencing a downturn of 9.5 percent in 2023.

International patent filings saw a decline of 1.8 percent in 2023, marking the first such decline since 2009.

Global R&D grew at a rate of 5 percent in 2022 – slightly down from 2021 – but is projected to slow to 3 percent in 2023 in real terms.

In 2023, spending by corporations representing the largest investors in R&D grew by around 6 percent in real terms. This lags the long-term growth rate for the last 10 years (around 8 percent) and is down from peaks between 10–15 percent between 2019–2021 and from pre-pandemic growth rates.

Technology continues to progress rapidly, particularly in health-related fields and computing power. Technology adoption is also growing, particularly in 5G – with close to a 25 percent increase in coverage in 2022, robotics, and electric vehicles (EVs) – where the global stock of EVs increased by 54 percent in 2022.

However, the progress in green technologies in the last year has been slower than the average for the decade, highlighting the difficulty in reducing the energy consumption of supercomputers and maintaining the decrease in electric battery prices.

GI 2023

According to the 2023 edition of the Global Innovation Index (GI) report, the Islamic Republic of Iran ranked second among the countries of the Central and Southern Asian region.

The report ranked Iran 19th, 43rd, and 55th in “Market sophistication”, “Creative outputs”, and “Knowledge and technology outputs”, respectively.

The GI 2023 used 80 indicators to track global innovation trends in 130-plus economies, guiding policymakers and business leaders in stimulating human ingenuity. The report’s findings were unveiled against a background of slow economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, high interest rates, and geopolitical conflict.

The 2023 edition identified an increasingly uncertain outlook for venture capital (VC) that helps transform human ingenuity into new products and services, with the global value of VC funding marking a significant plunge last year.

According to the GI 2023 rankings, Switzerland, Sweden, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Singapore were the top countries.

China, India, Vietnam, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Iran were the middle-income economies making the most headway in innovation over the last decade.

In knowledge and technology outputs, creative outputs, market sophistication, human capital, and research, and infrastructure, Iran’s performance was above the average of the lower middle-income group.

On the other hand, Iran performed above the regional average (Central and South Asia) in all these indexes, except for the infrastructure.

Under the 6.2.2 index, which was presented in the 2022 report under the title of “New Businesses” and in the new report under the title of “ Unicorn Valuation”, Iran’s rank had risen from 90 in 2022 to 48 in 2023.

Iran had no data for 10 out of 80 indicators evaluated and 18 indicators were not up-to-date, which requires inter-institutional coordination with the evaluator institution to include a more accurate and realistic assessment of the country’s state of innovation development.

Iran’s main innovation strengths are Trademark by origin (rank 1) graduates in science and engineering (rank 3), Market capitalization (rank 5), gross capital formation (rank 9), industrial designs (11), and intangible assets (13).



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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

A wise man first thinks and then speaks and a fool speaks first and then thinks.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon: 11:56 Evening: 18:13 Dawn: 4:33 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 5:56 (tomorrow)

Pulitzer Laureate Jhumpa Lahiri rejects NYC museum award over keffiyeh ban

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jhumpa Lahiri has declined to accept an award next month from New York's Noguchi Museum after three of its employees were fired for violating a new internal policy banning keffiyehs, a garment symbolic of Palestinian solidarity, ARTnews reported.

"Jhumpa Lahiri has chosen to withdraw her acceptance of the 2024 Isamu Noguchi Award in response to our updated dress code policy," the Long Island City institution said in a statement on Wednesday. "We respect her perspective and understand that this policy may or may not align with everyone's views."

The award recognizes highly accomplished individuals who share Japanese-American sculptor Isamu Noguchi's spirit of innovation, imagination and commitment to creativity.

Museum director Amy Hau added in a subsequent statement published on its website that the ban "is intended to prevent any unintentional alienation of our diverse visitorship, while allowing us to remain focused on our core mission of advancing the understanding and appreciation of Isamu Noguchi's art and legacy."

In the social media, Lahiri's readers, as well as pro-Palestinian activists, praised the author for having a "principled" and "moral" stance and underlined the potential influence of such a move by a respected icon in the literary world. Other users showed support by praising Lahiri's works and promoting her books.

"Palestine is a cause that is separating artists from artistic business people," said Hena Amry, British decolonization activist, on X.

One social media user pointed out the irony in this situation, saying that Noguchi would have supported wearing keffiyehs and would be protesting against the museum's conduct if he were alive today.

The daughter of Indian immigrants, Lahiri was born in London and moved to the United States when she was three.

In 2000, she won the Pulitzer for fiction for her

debut story collection, *Interpreter of Maladies*. She has since published several books of fiction and nonfiction in English and Italian, after living in Rome, Italy.

The keffiyeh scarf has become a symbol of Palestinian self-determination across the world, with many protesters wearing it in solidarity with the people of Gaza while demanding an end to Israel's war on the besieged enclave.

In many instances, universities and public institutions have issued bans on the keffiyeh over the last year of the war on Gaza, with many public figures wearing it despite receiving backlash.

The keffiyeh ban has sparked backlash from cultural workers, activists, and members of the Queens, New York, community since its introduction to the Noguchi Museum dress code on August 14. Per internal correspondence reviewed by ARTnews, the museum's approximately 70 employees were informed of the development via an email from Hau; protests immediately ensued.

In a statement emailed in August to ARTnews, workers decried the ban as "censorship" and said it is "particularly worrisome" given the life and legacy of sculptor Isamu Noguchi, "who himself faced discrimination and voluntary internment as a Japanese-American, and created work that directly addressed political themes, including crimes against humanity, and he intended for his art to be explored by a wide variety of perspective," per the statement.

Some 50 workers of the museum participated in two walkouts that month and sent a petition to leadership demanding that the ban be repealed, and no disciplinary action be taken against staffers who choose to wear the garment on site.

Neither demand was heeded. In September, three museum employees were terminated for not adhering to the ban. A fourth employee, the director of visitor services, was also terminated. In response, keffiyeh-clad demonstrators rallied outside the museum, calling for the resignation of Hau.

Cartoon of Day



Netanyahu's Speech at the United Nations
Cartoonist: Ahmed Rahma from Turkey

Iran displaying over 300 titles in Nairobi International Book Fair

TEHRAN-The 25th Nairobi International Book Fair is underway in the capital of Kenya with Iran presenting more than 300 titles.

Held at the Sarit Expo Center in Nairobi through September 29, the fair hosts hundreds of Kenyan publishers alongside participants from countries such as Iran, Turkey, Egypt, and India, IRNA reported.

Iran's Cultural Council of the Embassy of Iran in Kenya is representing the Iran Book and Literature House and Iranian publishers at the event.

The Iranian pavilion showcases more than 300 books covering a variety of subjects, including literature, religion, arts, tourism, and children's books.

Visitors are also introduced to Iran's publishing industry, the Tehran International Book Fair (TIBF), and Iran's book translation initiatives, known as the "Grant" and "TOP" program.

During the opening ceremony, the Iranian ambassador to Kenya Ali Gholampour highlighted the cultural significance of books, emphasizing that "reading enhances focus, awareness, and critical thinking within societies".

Praising nations that invest in literature and book publishing, he stated that such efforts help preserve cultural heritage and foster intellectual growth.



Kenyan visitors at Iran pavilion during the 25th Nairobi International Book Fair, September 27, 2024

"Despite economic pressures on the publishing industry, Iran remains a leader in book publishing, with over 8,000 publishers and the production of 70,000 titles annually," the ambassador noted.

He also cited the success of the Tehran International Book Fair, which has been held for 35 years.

"This year, more than 3,000 local and hundreds of foreign publishers attended the TIBF. It attracted over five million visitors and generated more than \$5 million in sales," he added.

Gholampour pointed out that the fair is a reflection of Iran's

commitment to cultural activities and literature. "This year, one of the senior officials from the Kenya Publishers Association visited the TIBF.

As a result, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Tehran and Nairobi book fairs.

The agreement aims to facilitate collaboration between publishers, illustrators, and authors from both nations, while encouraging the exchange of book rights," he stated.

Furthermore, the ambassador expressed interest in boosting book exchanges between Kenya

and Iran, emphasizing that the Iranian publishing market is open to Kenyan literature, both in physical and digital formats.

Also at the opening ceremony, speeches were delivered by representatives from UNICEF, Argentina's ambassador to Kenya, and the president of the Kenya Publishers Association.

Organized annually by the Kenya Publishers Association, the Nairobi International Book Fair has brought together publishers, authors, booksellers, print suppliers, media, and readers from Africa and worldwide since the first edition in 1996.

Tokyo film festival picks Iranian movies



A scene from Iranian movie "Wait Until Spring" by Ashkan Ashkani

TEHRAN- Three Iranian films will go on screen in different sections of 37th edition of Tokyo International Film Festival, which will be held in the Japanese capital from October 28 to November 6.

"The Bora" directed by Mohammad Esmaeili and "Wait Until Spring" by Ashkan Ashkani will compete at the Asian Future section of the festival, while "Maydegol" by Sarvnaz Alambeigi will be screened at the Women's Empowerment section of the event.

"The Bora" follows an expedition that goes missing. Upon discovering a body, connections emerge to a 15-year-old case when another corpse is uncovered.

The movie primarily presents the narrative through the perspective of the chief inspector, unraveling the mysteries surrounding these

chilling events.

"Wait Until Spring" follows Sanam, who cannot cope with her husband's suicide and pretends he is still alive.

As she clings to this illusion, the story explores the limits of her denial. The film marks the directorial debut of experienced cinematographer Ashkani.

"Maydegol" follows an Afghan teenager in Iran who challenges her conservative family and a hostile environment to pursue her passion for Muay Thai boxing. The film portrays her journey of empowerment and resilience as she strives for freedom in the face of adversity.

In the previous edition of the festival, Yasna Mirtahmasb won the Best Actor Award for his performance in Iranian film "Roxana" by Parviz Shahbazi and the Asian Future Best Film Award went to "Maria" by Iranian director Mehdi Asghari Azghadi.

The Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF) is a prestigious film festival that was established in 1985.

Initially held biennially from its inception until 1991, the festival transitioned to an annual format thereafter.

Recognized by the FIAPF (International Federation of Film Producers Associations), TIFF is notable as one of Asia's key competitive

film festivals and ranks as the second largest in the region, following the Shanghai International Film Festival. It stands out as the only Japanese film festival accredited by the FIAPF.

Throughout its history, the festival has adapted its awards program, but the Tokyo Grand Prix, awarded to the best film, remains its most prestigious honor.

In addition to this top prize, the festival routinely recognizes exceptional talent through awards for Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Director, and the Special Jury Award.

In recent years, TIFF has hosted its main events over a week in late October, primarily at the Roppongi Hills complex.

The festival's offerings include open-air screenings, voice-over events, and appearances by notable actors, providing opportunities for fans to engage with the cinema.

In addition, the festival features seminars and symposiums focused on the film market, fostering discussions on industry trends and challenges.

This blend of screenings, awards, and industry dialogue makes the Tokyo International Film Festival a cornerstone of cultural exchange and cinematic celebration in Japan and across Asia.

"The Lieutenant of Inishmore" on stage in Tehran theater

TEHRAN- British-Irish playwright Martin McDonagh's black comedy play "The Lieutenant of Inishmore" is currently on stage at Tehran's Divar Art Center.

Hasti Hosseini is the director of the play, which will remain on stage until October 6.

Pouya Ansari, Hamid Ashuri, Atefeh Kushki, Amir Babashahabi and Ali Dalvand are the main members of the cast for the play.

"The Lieutenant of Inishmore" happens in Ireland in 1993 when the Northern Ireland peace process is taking its faltering first steps. Irish National Liberation Army (INLA) man Padraic, a ruthless and fanatical Irish republican terrorist who is on a mission to find the killer of his beloved cat, Mr. Whiskers. Padraic's obsession with avenging his cat's death leads him to

cancel his plans to carry out a bombing in a London pub.

Padraic, a man considered too mad for the Irish Republican Army and sorely trying the patience of his INLA comrades, is intent on revenge.

He kills four people and two other cats before his cat is found alive and well; the first cat was mistaken for him.

The play has been produced twice in the West End and on Broadway, where it received a Tony Award nomination for Best Play.

In 2014, "The Lieutenant of Inishmore" was ranked in The Daily Telegraph as one of the 15 greatest plays ever written.

The play explores themes of violence, morality, and the absurdity of terrorism through a series of shocking and darkly comedic events.

Through the character of Padraic, McDonagh critiques

the senseless violence and extremism that can be perpetuated in the name of politics or ideology.

At the same time, the play also pokes fun at the ridiculousness of some political movements and the moral hypocrisies that can exist within them.

"The Lieutenant of Inishmore" is a wickedly funny and thought-provoking play that challenges audiences to confront the darker aspects of human nature.

Martin McDonagh is a British-Irish playwright and screenwriter, known for his darkly comedic and often provocative works. Born in 1970 in London, England, McDonagh began his career in the 1990s as a playwright, gaining recognition for his early works such as "The Beauty Queen of Leenane" and "The Pillowman".

His plays often explore themes of violence, morality, and the

absurdity of human nature, frequently using humor and satire to critique societal norms and conventions.

McDonagh's breakthrough play, "The Lieutenant of Inishmore", premiered in 2001 and went on to win several awards, including the Olivier Award for Best New Play.

He has since written several successful plays, including "Hangmen" and "A Very Very Dark Forest", as well as screenplays for films such as "In Bruges" and "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri", for which he won the Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay.

McDonagh's work is characterized by its dark humor, complex characters, and unflinching exploration of difficult topics, making him one of the most distinctive and critically acclaimed playwrights of his generation.