



Senior IRGC commander martyred alongside Nasrallah in Israeli airstrike

TEHRAN – A senior commander of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) was assassinated during Israeli attacks on a number of residential buildings in southern Beirut, which also killed Hezbollah Secretary-General Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah on Friday.

In a statement released on Sunday, the IRGC announced that Brigadier General Abbas Nilforooshan was pronounced martyred alongside Nasrallah. The statement hailed the deceased military official for making “heroic sacrifices in line with the Palestinian cause” while condemning the Israeli regime for its latest crimes in Lebanon. ▶ Page 3

Araqchi critiques UN Security Council's inability to curb Israeli crimes

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi has expressed frustration at the UN Security Council's failure to address the ongoing crises in the West Asia, particularly following the recent assassination of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the secretary general of Hezbollah.

His comments came at the conclusion of his visit to New York, where he participated in the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

In an interview with Iranian reporters, Araqchi expressed his condolences over the loss of “the great Resistance commander.”

He emphasized that Nasrallah's sacrifice would only serve to strengthen Hezbollah's resolve. “While this martyrdom is indeed a significant loss, it will not undermine our resilience,” he stated. ▶ Page 3

EDUrank ranks 100 Iranian universities

TEHRAN –A total of 100 universities from Iran are ranked by EduRank based on research outputs, non-academic prominence, and alumni influence.

The rankings are determined by analyzing 14.9 m citations received by 1.26 m academic publications made by 310 universities from Iran, the popularity of 867 recognized alumni, and the largest reference database available.

This year, 14131 universities from 183 countries are ranked across 246 topics.

According to the report University of Tehran, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, and Sharif University of Technology are the best universities in the country, IRIB reported.

University of Tehran ranked 1st in Iran, 45th in Asia, 346th in the global 2024 rating, and scored in the TOP 100 across 18 research topics.

The university's ranking is based on 92,167 academic publications and 1,250,863 citations attributed to the university, non-academic reputation, and the impact of 413 notable alumni.

In Agricultural Engineering, the university ranked 1st in the country, 2nd in Asia, and 5th in the world. ▶ Page 7

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A Step Towards Global

Tool Production Hub

▶ Page 4

Hezbollah's victory against Zionist regime certain: political and military figures

TEHRAN – The Iranian president's assistant for strategic affairs has stated that Israel cannot eradicate Resistance in Lebanon, adding that ultimate victory belongs to Hezbollah.

Mohammad Javad Zarif highlighted Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah's qualities as a courageous, honest, wise, and selfless individual during his visit to the Hezbollah office in Tehran to express condolences for the martyrdom of the Resistance group's deceased secretary general.

Zarif remarked, “Nasrallah lost his son in the Resistance struggle, who became a martyr, yet he remained steadfast in his mission to defeat the Zionists and liberate al-Quds.”

Zarif pointed out the tragic toll of innocent women and children killed by Israeli bombings, which he described as a crime against this great figure of Resistance.

He stated, “Nasrallah has achieved his aspirations and joined his fellow martyrs,” and added that the resistance of the region's people against the atrocities of the Zionist regime will persist, as such inhumane actions cannot weaken their resolve. ▶ Page 2

Hezbollah will emerge stronger and more determined

By Xavier Villar

MADRID - His Eminence, the Lord of Resistance, faithful servant of God, has departed to be with his Creator as a glorious martyr. A brave, intrepid, wise, and visionary leader, filled with faith, he now joins the eternal caravan of luminous martyrs of Karbala, following the path of the prophets and the martyr imams.

With these words, Hezbollah confirmed the assassination of its Secretary-General, Sayyid Hassan Nasrallah, in the attack carried out Friday by the Israeli army in southern Beirut.

In the statement, Hezbollah noted that Nasrallah had joined “his immortal martyr companions, whom he led for nearly 30 years, guiding them from victory to victory. Since assuming leadership of the Islamic Resistance in 1992, following the death of the previous martyr leader, until the liberation of Lebanon in 2000 and the great divine victory of 2006, in all battles of honor and sacrifice, including his steadfast support for Palestine, Gaza, and the oppressed Palestinian people.” ▶ Page 5

Hezbollah's offensive capabilities remain intact

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN- Despite the martyrdom of Hezbollah Secretary-General Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah, Hezbollah continues to wage operations against the Israeli regime.

Like before the assassination of its leader, Hezbollah is issuing statements in support of the people of Gaza and resistance against Israel for its massive air raids on Lebanese towns.

It doesn't appear to be any changes to the military strikes on Israeli sites.

This is while Israeli media has been reporting on the recruitment of asylum seekers to serve in the Israeli army.

The Haaretz newspaper reported that the Israeli Ministry of Interior plans to recruit asylum seekers into the army in exchange for granting them permanent residency.

It reported that estimates indicate that the Israeli army suffers from a shortage of about 10,000 soldiers while facing a multi-front war and exhaustion among the soldiers. ▶ Page 5

Iran's export to EAEU members rises 16% in 5 months yr/yr

TEHRAN – The value of Iran's exports to the members of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) increased by 16 percent in the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20–August 21) as compared to the same period last year, according to the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA).

Mohammad Rezvaniyar said the Islamic Republic exported 2.2 million tons of commodities worth \$748 million to the members of the Eurasian Economic Union in the mentioned five months, IRIB reported.

Exports to the EAEU also increased by 35 percent in terms of weight, according to Rezvaniyar. Meanwhile, Iran imported 3.9 million tons of goods valued at \$16 billion from the members of the Eurasian Economic Union in the said five months.



Protests erupt worldwide over Nasrallah's assassination

Protesters have taken to the streets in multiple countries around the world to express their outrage over the Israeli assassination of Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah.

Demonstrators in the Australian city of Sydney labeled Israel a “terror state” and held placards mourning Nasrallah's killing.

People in Iran, Iraq, Bahrain, Pakistan and the Indian-administered Kashmir also rallied to denounce the assassination of the Hezbollah chief.

Protesters shouted anti-Israel and anti-US slogans denouncing Washington's unwavering support for the Tel Aviv regime.

TEHRAN PAPERS

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

Hassan Nasrallah was martyred with American greenlight

Shargh devoted its editorial to the assassination of Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah by Israel and the crimes committed by this regime. The paper said: The events of the last few days in Lebanon and the southern suburbs of Beirut, which led to the martyrdom of the beloved Secretary General of Hezbollah and a number of his comrades, undoubtedly is one of the most important and perhaps the most heinous crimes committed by Israel.

Israel's recent actions and the escalation of conflicts in the region have not only been done with the green light of America, but in these actions, all the military, security, intelligence, cyber, and technological facilities were at the service of Israel. As we witnessed in the terror operation against senior Hamas officials, including Ismail Haniyeh, and during Iran's missile attacks on Israel called "Operation True Promise", the United States was completely on Israel's side and helped it.

An important point that should not be overlooked is that the Resistance movement in Lebanon, Palestine, and the whole region will suffer a sudden shock for a short time over the loss of great commanders, including martyr Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah, but Resistance will continue its path.

Jam-e-Jam: Steps necessary to counter cultural invasion

In a note, Jam-e-Jam addressed the cultural onslaught and Western lifestyle in Iran and said: One of the important aspects of the enemy's cultural influence and lifestyle is to devalue Iran's achievements. America sees itself in conflict with Islamic principles and cannot tolerate an independent system based on Islamic values. But the pro-Western intellectuals, by turning the facts upside down, consider Iran's desire for independence to be the cause of the tension and not the arrogance of the United States.

In this context, by abusing the atmosphere of consensus created in the country some domestic media are pushing for consular communication between Iran and the United States. The enemies of Iran, who are afraid of a direct military confrontation with Iran, have infiltrated the cultural sphere to change the people's lifestyles and mindset to gradually expand their dominion. Therefore, the media and the education system have a serious duty to prevent cultural invasion by enemies.

In a ground war, Hezbollah will outmaneuver Israel: IRGC official

TEHRAN – A senior commander within Iran's Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) Quds Force has asserted that Hezbollah will have a significant strategic edge if Israel were to initiate a ground incursion into southern Lebanon.

In a speech marking the anniversary of Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, Brigadier General Ramadan Sharif highlighted the dangers presented by Zionist threats of possible incursions into Lebanese territory.

The Iranian commander emphasized that Hezbollah is ready for a ground conflict, asserting that the group is in a strong position for such an engagement.

"Hezbollah is eagerly awaiting the start of a ground war because it has the upper hand in such conflict," Sharif said.

Additionally, he pointed out that despite Hassan Nasrallah's assassination, Hezbollah's organizational framework in Lebanon will remain robust and is poised to strengthen its capabilities in missile, drone, and ground

Donya-e-Eqtasad: Priorities of the Axis of Resistance

In an analysis, Donya-e-Eqtasad discussed the need to restore the Lebanese Hezbollah's deterrence power in particular and the Axis of Resistance in general. It said: The first step is to quickly revitalize the deterrence power of Hezbollah and the Axis of Resistance, reconstruct the command staff, choose a successor, and appoint new commanders.

Assessing the situation and the domain of the response is the second and more important step for which not only Hezbollah but all members of the Axis of Resistance, including the Islamic Republic of Iran, will fully study. The response must create such a deterrence that would stop Israel from considering a ground attack and force it to observe red lines.

All assessments indicate that Israel is looking for a regional war with Iran to actively involve the U.S. in the Middle East and provide a situation for Netanyahu to influence Israel's domestic environment and the election atmosphere in the United States in a way that Trump can return to the troubled scene of the Middle East by winning the November 4 elections to continue (normalizing relations between Arab countries and Israel based on) the Abraham Accords.

Iran: The strategist of the Axis of Resistance

In a commentary, the Iran newspaper dealt with the martyrdom of Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah. It quoted Abed Akbari, an expert on international issues, as saying: Martyr Hassan Nasrallah, as a clever strategist, turned Hezbollah into Israel's main enemy that at the same time considered a role model among the Palestinian resistance groups. He also had a great emotional relationship with Iranians and always praised the spirit of resistance among the Iranian people.

He believed that the countries that normalize relations with Israel should feel ashamed and not the resistance groups for their relations with the Islamic Republic.

During the past four decades, he sympathized with the Iranians when natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes happened and stood on the side of the Iranians at hard times. We faced great challenges and lost leaders in these events, but threats turned into opportunities, and this caused new movements and life.

combat.

In the past, the Israeli military has issued repeated warnings that if Hezbollah's ground forces do not retreat behind the Litani River, it would resort to direct military action against Lebanon.

The Litani River serves as a natural boundary between Lebanon and the occupied territories, with the Arab country situated to the north.

This geographical division has rendered the Litani River a strategic point of contention in the ongoing conflicts.

Israel aims to secure control over the area extending to the Litani River to establish a buffer zone against Hezbollah's ground and missile threats targeting the northern occupied territories.

Military analysts underscore that controlling the southern Lebanon region, given its geopolitical significance and steep terrain, could represent a critical vulnerability for the opposing side in potential future ground confrontations.

in significant damage to civilian infrastructure, raising alarms about the humanitarian implications for the local population.

Kanaani characterized these violent acts as emblematic of the inhumane nature of the Israeli regime. He underscored that such crimes are carried out with

the unwavering support of the United States, asserting that Washington is complicit in the atrocities committed by the Israeli government.

This partnership, he argued, allows for the continuation of acts that violate international norms and threaten regional

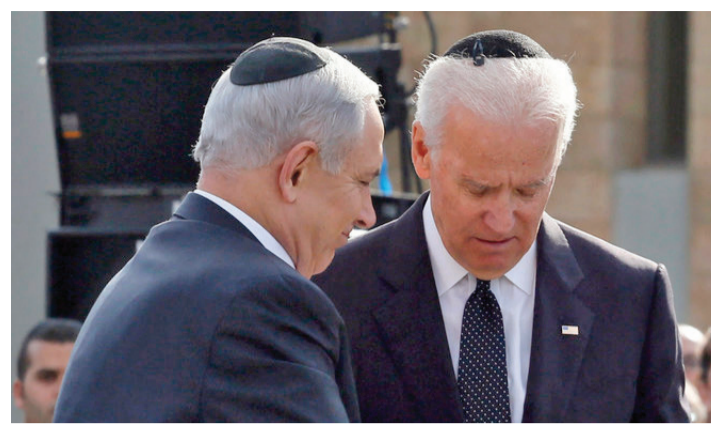
Iran warns U.S. will face consequences alongside Israel for Nasrallah's assassination

TEHRAN – Iran has issued a strong condemnation of the latest wave of Israeli terrorism in Lebanon, stating through a statement published by its foreign ministry that the fallouts of the regime's terror acts will hunt both Israelis and their American patrons.

In the statement, Tehran called Israel's Friday assassination of Hezbollah's Secretary-General Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah a war crime that breached Lebanon's territorial integrity.

It also put the blame directly at Washington's feet. "The U.S. government is directly responsible and complicit in the Zionist regime's crime as a supporter and accomplice in continuing to commit various international crimes and terrorist acts."

The statement warned of repercussions for Israel and its supporters, specifically mentioning the U.S., saying, "It



is evident that the repercussions of this brutal terrorist act will be aimed at the criminal Zionist regime and its supporters, with the U.S. regime on top of them."

the statement reiterated Iran's unwavering support for the Palestinian and Lebanese Resistance movements, declaring that its "principled and strategic stance in their firm and all-out support for the resistance in Palestine and Lebanon and

the entire West Asia against the invaders and aggressors will continue with full force until the termination of the occupation and the restoration of the right to self-determination and the realization of the sacred cause of the liberation of Palestine and the beloved Al-Quds."

Furthermore, Tehran asserted its commitment to holding Israel accountable for its actions, stating that it will "implement

all its political, diplomatic, legal and international capacities to support the heroic people of Palestine and Lebanon in regional and international assemblies and will stand by Palestine and Lebanon to punish the aggressors."

The statement concluded with a message of condolences and support for the Lebanese Resistance movement, Hezbollah.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran asserts that the glowing path of Islamic Resistance in Palestine, Lebanon, and West Asia will not be interrupted by the martyrdom of the brave and courageous leaders of the freedom of Al-Quds, from Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah to Ismail Haniyeh, and that Muslim countries and nations will continue to tread on the path of honor, resistance and struggle against the terrorist occupiers with strength and might."

We will stand by Hezbollah until liberation of Palestine: IRGC Quds commander

TEHRAN – The commander of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps Quds Force, Brigadier General Esmail Qaani, has declared unwavering support for Hezbollah, vowing to stand by the Lebanese Resistance movement until the "liberation of Palestine and the Holy al-Quds."

The statement, delivered on Sunday, came in response to Israel's assassination of Hezbollah's longtime leader, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, in a Friday airstrike on southern Beirut. Qaani, who labeled the incident a "sad martyrdom," described Nasrallah's passing as a source of deep grief for Iran, the Islamic Resistance Front, and "the free people of the world."

He praised Nasrallah for dedicating his life to combating "the vilest enemies of Islam and the holy Qur'an," and for his unwavering support of the oppressed people of Palestine and Lebanon.

The IRGC commander emphasized that Nasrallah's leadership extended beyond Hezbollah, noting his key role in the fight against Daesh and Takfiri terrorists.

Following the news of Nasrallah's demise, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei asserted that the Resistance front will deliver "more crushing blows" to the "dilapidated and decaying body" of the Israeli regime.

Ayatollah Khamenei maintained that the foundation Nasrallah established in Lebanon, which provided direction to other Resistance groups, would not be diminished by his loss, but would be "strengthened by his blood."

On Sunday, a former commander of the IRGC Quds Force announced that Hezbollah has replaced all commanders and senior officials within its ranks who were martyred in recent days as a result of Israeli aggression



on Lebanon.

Brigadier General Ahmad Vahidi, citing an unnamed source, told Iranian media that new figures have taken over leadership roles following the assassination of previous commanders by Israel.

"As an informed source, I insist that there is no empty place in Hezbollah's leadership structure and all martyred commanders have been replaced by other commanders," said Vahidi.

Hezbollah's victory against Zionist regime certain: political and military figures

From page 1 ▶ Talking to reporters about Iran's reaction to Israel's latest terrorist acts, the official stated that Tehran's retaliation is assured and will occur at a suitable time and according to its judgment.

Brigadier General Ismail Qaani, the commander of the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC), also visited Hezbollah's Tehran office on Sunday to participate in a memorial ceremony for Nasrallah.

During the gathering, Briga-

dier General Qaani engaged in discussions with Abdollah Safi al-Din, the head of the Hezbollah office in Iran.

Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah was martyred on Friday as a result of an airstrike conducted by the Israeli regime, which

employed 2000-pound bunker-buster bombs in southern Beirut, leading to over 300 civilian casualties. High-ranking IRGC Commander Brigadier General Abbas Nilforooshan also lost his life alongside the Lebanese.

General Soleimani family condoles martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah



TEHRAN – The family of martyr General Qassem Soleimani has expressed their deep sorrow following the martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the Secretary General of Hezbollah.

They described his death as a noble conclusion to a life dedicated to service and a turning point in the struggle against the enemies of the Islamic Ummah.

The family of the Iranian general released their message shortly after the news of Nasrallah's martyrdom was confirmed.

They conveyed a powerful sentiment: "The martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah marks a noble end to his brilliant record of servitude and heralds the beginning of the end for the

treacherous and bloodthirsty enemies of the Islamic Ummah."

The statement cited the Quranic verse: "And do not think of those who have been killed in the way of Allah as dead; rather, they are alive with their Lord, receiving provision."

The family criticized the actions of the Zionist regime, which as they stated has orchestrated the deaths of countless innocent lives—reportedly over forty thousand—while claiming that these actions crossed the red lines of the Resistance front.

They assert that this tragedy was executed in collaboration with the United States, which they note as a criminal entity.

In honoring Sayyed Nasrallah,

the message underscored his unwavering commitment to the fight against tyranny and oppression. The family remarked on his ability to inspire and empower, noting that Martyr Qasem Soleimani had rightly regarded Nasrallah as a "divine sign"—a leader who strengthened the foundations of Hezbollah to withstand enemy attacks.

The Soleimani family's message concluded with a call for unity and resolve within the Resistance front, urging its members to avenge both Nasrallah and the martyrs of Quds. They expressed hope that the fight against the criminal acts of the Zionist regime would continue unabated, as they seek to erase its influence from history.

Tehran condemns Israeli attacks on Al Hudaydah amid escalating regional tensions

TEHRAN – Nasser Kanaani, the spokesman for Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has issued a strong condemnation of the recent Israeli attacks targeting fuel storage facilities and a power plant in the port city of Al Hudaydah, Yemen.

These assaults have resulted

in significant damage to civilian infrastructure, raising alarms about the humanitarian implications for the local population.

Kanaani characterized these violent acts as emblematic of the inhumane nature of the Israeli regime. He underscored that such crimes are carried out with

the unwavering support of the United States, asserting that Washington is complicit in the atrocities committed by the Israeli government.

This partnership, he argued, allows for the continuation of acts that violate international norms and threaten regional

stability.

In his statements, Kanaani also commended the Yemeni people for their solidarity with the oppressed Palestinian nation.

He described the Israeli regime's actions against Yemen's civil infrastructure as a blatant

and repeated violation of the United Nations Charter, calling on the international community to take a stand against this lawlessness.

The spokesman further warned of the dire consequences posed by the Israeli regime's aggressive policies, which he believes undermine both

regional and global peace and security. He pointed out that the supporters of Israel, particularly the U.S. government, bear direct responsibility for the unpredictable and dangerous repercussions of ongoing Israeli actions in Palestine and Lebanon, as well as their military incursions into Yemen.

Senior IRGC commander martyred alongside Nasrallah in Israeli airstrike

From Page 1 ▶ Nilforooshan had been serving as the commander of the IRGC in Lebanon, taking the role after his predecessor Brigadier General Mohammad Reza Zahedi was assassinated during an Israeli airstrike on Iran's embassy in Damascus on April 1.

It is still not clear when and where funeral ceremonies will take place to mourn the martyrdom of the seasoned commander, who spent several years in different ranks of Iran's military. Footage shows the buildings targeted by Israel on Friday were completely pulverized.

Life and endeavors

Nilforooshan's career was marked by both battlefield experience and high-level command positions.

Born in Esfahan in 1966, Nilforooshan began his military activities by joining the Basij volunteering forces at the age of 14.



He fought on different fronts during the Iran-Iraq war before joining the 14th Imam Hossein Division and the 8th Najaf Ashraf Armored Division.

After the war, Nilforooshan stayed in the military, holding key positions within the IRGC Ground Forces. These included Deputy of Operations Commander, Commander of the IRGC Command and Staff College, and Deputy to the IRGC Commander-in-

Chief. He also served as Executive Deputy of the IRGC and Deputy Operations Commander during Brigadier General Zahedi's tenure.

In 2019, Nilforooshan became the Deputy Operations Commander of the IRGC. His resume also includes extensive experience in Lebanon and Syria, where he spent multiple years working on military operations.

Nilforooshan is one of the

countless IRGC figures who was martyred for security and peace in the region.

'Assassination of Gen. Nilforooshan will not go unanswered'

In a statement released on Sunday, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi, who used to be a soldier under the IRGC, offered condolences on Nilforooshan's martyrdom, stating that Israel will be held accountable for his assassination.

"This vicious and cowardly act is another clear sign of the terrorist and criminal nature of the Zionist regime and its known supporters. Without a doubt, this horrible crime of the Zionist regime will not go unanswered," Araqchi wrote. "The Iranian foreign ministry will also use all its political, diplomatic, legal, and international capacities to bring to justice the Israeli criminals and their supporters," he added.

Tehran demands urgent UNSC meeting to address new wave of Israeli terrorism in Lebanon

TEHRAN - Iran has formally requested an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council to address Israel's recent terrorist acts in Lebanon, which include the explosion of thousands of communication devices and airstrikes on populated residential buildings to assassinate senior members of the Hezbollah Resistance movement.

In a letter addressed to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and the rotating President of the Security Council, Samuel Zbogor, Iran's ambassador and permanent representative to the UN, Amir Saeid Irvani, expressed deep concern over recent Israeli terror acts in Lebanon. He specifically cited the assassination of Hezbollah Secretary-General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah and Iranian General Abbas Nilforooshan, who were targeted in a Friday Israeli attack conducted by the latest U.S.-sup-

plied weaponry.

Irvani highlighted that Israel has been committing "war crimes and crimes against humanity" and warned that its actions are "pushing the entire region into an all-out catastrophe."

"For a year now, Israel has been committing genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity in Gaza with complete impunity, while the UN Security Council has remained paralyzed due to the United States' obstruction of an effective decision by that body," Irvani wrote. "This rogue regime is now extending its brutal aggressive war to Lebanon. There is no doubt that Israel has committed an act of aggression and a war crime, flagrantly violating the UN Charter, and international law, including international humanitarian law, and international human rights law. Israel must be

held accountable and face the consequences of its atrocity crimes," he added.

The letter also pointed to previous attacks on Iranian diplomatic missions, including the bombing of Iran's diplomatic mission in Damascus, Syria in April 2024, as evidence of Israel's "notorious record of terrorist aggression."

"The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly warns against any attack on its diplomatic premises and representatives in violation of the foundational principle of the inviolability of diplomatic and consular premises and reiterates that it will not tolerate any repeat of such aggression. Iran will not hesitate to exercise its inherent rights under international law to take every measure in defense of its vital national and security interests," he concluded.

Araqchi critiques UN Security Council's inability to curb Israeli crimes



From Page 1 ▶ The foreign minister highlighted that Israel's recent military actions in Gaza and Lebanon indicate that the Zionist regime has no future in the region and will remain in a state of perpetual conflict. "The natural outcome of these actions is the acceleration of the Zionist regime's demise," he added firmly.

Araqchi further criticized the United States, labeling it a "partner" in Israel's aggressive actions. He reminded the UN Secretary-General of his duty to galvanize the international community to put an end to Israel's violent conduct.

The assassination of Nasrallah, which took place in the southern Beirut suburb of Dahiyeh, is seen as part of Israel's escalating campaign of terror and aggression in Lebanon over recent weeks. Tensions have been running high between Hezbollah and Israel, especially since the onset of

Israel's offensive against the Gaza Strip earlier this month. In the past year alone, Israeli strikes have resulted in the deaths of at least 1,640 Lebanese and injured over 8,400 others.

In response to Nasrallah's assassination, Hezbollah vowed to continue its fight against the Israeli regime, pledging support for Gaza and Palestine, as well as defending Lebanon and its resilient population. This pledge reflects Hezbollah's commitment to resist what they view as ongoing oppression and aggression from Israel.

FM warns of serious repercussions of Israeli aggression for regional peace

In a series of separate meetings with Antonio Guterres, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Volkan Bozkir, the President of the UN General Assembly, Abbas Araqchi, Iran's Foreign Minister, raised alarms about the serious repercussions of the recent aggressive actions by the Israeli regime in Lebanon.

These actions have resulted in the martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah and several of his associates. Araqchi stressed the urgent need for the UN to take decisive action to safeguard both regional and international peace and security.

During his discussions, Araqchi criticized the UN Security Council for its inaction, pointing out its failure to issue any effective resolutions or even a simple condemnation of Israel's acts of genocide

and aggression. He reminded Guterres and Bozkir of their legal and moral obligations to galvanize the global community against the atrocities committed by the occupying regime.

Labeling the ongoing obstruction by the United States in the Security Council as "illegal" and "shameful," Araqchi accused the U.S. of being a direct accomplice in Israel's crimes. He highlighted the use of American-supplied bunker-buster bombs in the assassination of Resistance leaders as a clear indication of U.S. complicity in these violent acts.

Reaffirming Iran's commitment to defend its vital interests and national security, the foreign minister declared that the ideals of Resistance against Israel's aggression would remain steadfast. He asserted that the ongoing crimes of the Zionist regime would only strengthen the resolve of the people in the region to reclaim their rights and resist the regime's malevolent actions.

Continuing his meetings, Araqchi also met with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mali Abdoulaye Diop, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus Maksim Ryzhenkov, Foreign Minister of Venezuela Yvan Gil Pinto, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden Maria Malmer Stenergard, Foreign Minister of Nicaragua Valdrack Jaentschke, and Foreign Minister of Syria Bassam Sabbagh to discuss the bilateral relations between Iran and respective countries.

Israel's terrorist acts stem from desperation, says Iran's parliament speaker

TEHRAN - Speaker of the Iranian Parliament Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf has condemned the Israeli assassination of Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, calling it an act of desperation by a regime facing imminent collapse.

Addressing a parliamentary meeting on Sunday, Qalibaf stated that the Zionist regime's campaign of terror against resistance commanders is a clear indication of its strategic failures and dwindling power. He lamented the martyrdom of Nasrallah, a revered and influential figure in the resistance front, and drew parallels to the assassination of Iranian commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani. Qalibaf emphasized that the Zionist regime's existence is at risk due to its repeat-

ed defeats and that its current resort to terrorism and psychological warfare is a last-ditch attempt to salvage its waning influence.

The Iranian speaker accused Israel of engaging in a "complicated hybrid war" after failing to achieve its objectives on the battlefield. He highlighted that the assassination of Nasrallah is part of a wider strategy to compensate for Israel's strategic losses by eliminating key figures in the Resistance.

On Friday, devastating Israeli airstrikes on a number of residential buildings in a densely populated area in southern Beirut claimed the life of Hezbollah's longtime leader as well as a high-ranking IRGC commander.

After the parliamentary session, Qalibaf held a phone call with his

Lebanese counterpart Nabih Berri, offering his condolences over the martyrdom of Nasrallah. Qalibaf described the Resistance leader as a "great scholar and an influential commander" whose loss is felt profoundly across the Islamic world.

Qalibaf emphasized that Nasrallah was not only a respected figure among Shiites but also held in high regard by free people globally. He condemned the recent airstrikes by the Zionist regime on Lebanon, which have resulted in numerous civilian casualties, and called for a robust response to create deterrence against future violations.

"The martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah is a significant loss for Hezbollah, Lebanon, and the Islamic world," Qalibaf stated. He reiterated

Iran's unwavering support for Lebanon, pledging assistance in light of the increasing challenges faced by the Lebanese people and war refugees. Berri reciprocated Qalibaf's sentiments, expressing that Nasrallah's passing has plunged all of Lebanon into mourning. He characterized Nasrallah as an important figure in West Asia, respected even by those who did not support him politically. "His absence is as impactful as his presence," Berri remarked.

Both leaders underscored the necessity of unity among Lebanon's diverse political and religious factions during this critical period. Berri highlighted that despite ongoing challenges, the Resistance against Zionism remains steadfast, asserting that Lebanon will not succumb to occupation.

SPORTS

Persepolis, Pakhtakor looking for first win

Persepolis FC and Pakhtakor FC will both be on a mission to kickstart their respective AFC Champions League Elite 2024/25 when they square off on Monday.

Two-time AFC Champions League runners-up Persepolis were defeated 1-0 by Al Ahli Saudi FC on Matchday One while Pakhtakor suffered the same fate against UAE's Al Wasl Club.

Iran champions Persepolis will welcome Pakhtakor confident that they can see off the challenge of their opponents from Uzbekistan.

The Iranian champions are slowly but surely getting into their groove and will head into the tie having beaten Esteghlal FC 1-0 in their Iran Pro League clash on Wednesday.

They will, however, be mindful of the fact that two of their previous four meetings with Pakhtakor ended in wins for the Uzbekistan champions.

Pakhtakor will be desperate to avoid last season's fate, where defeats in their opening two matches ultimately saw them making a group stage exit.

Resigned to the fact that have surrendered the Uzbekistan Super League title after five consecutive seasons as champions, Pakhtakor will hoping to get some cheer from the continental stage.

They will, however, go into the tie having beaten Olympic 6-0 in their last league clash and will hope to carry that from into what will surely be a tough challenge.

The match will be held in Tehran's Shahr-e Qods.

Iran too strong for Mongolia in 2025 AFC U20 Asian Cup China qualifier



TEHRAN - Iran closed out their AFC U20 Asian Cup China 2025 Qualifiers Group G campaign with a resounding 8-0 win over Mongolia on Sunday.

India and Laos have all to play for in the later match if they are to earn a spot as one of the top five second placed teams.

Iran, who had already booked their place in the Finals after wins against Laos and India, took the game to Mongolia with Esmail Gholizadeh netting in the 24th minute, the-afc.com reported.

Mongolia fell further behind with Iran adding three more goals before the break through Yousef Mazraeh in the 33rd minute with Kasra Taheri scoring from the penalty spot 10 minutes later and Yaghoob Barajeh netting in the 44th minute.

Iran turned on the power in the second half leaving Bhutan without a chance to respond as the goals poured in through Abbas Kahrizi (54th), Abolfazl Moradi (73rd, pen), Gholizadeh (82nd) and Aliasghar Sheikholeslami (89th) to seal the win.

Al Sadd, Esteghlal to lock horns in AFC Champions League

TEHRAN - Qatar's Al Sadd SC know they can't afford to hold back when they welcome Esteghlal FC to the Jassim Bin Hamad Stadium for their AFC Champions League Elite 2024/25 Matchday Two tie on Monday.

Al Sadd, the 2011 AFC Champions League

winner, opened their continental campaign with a 1-1 draw against Al Ain FC of the UAE while Islamic Republic of Iran's Esteghlal impressed in their 3-0 win against another Qatar side, Al Gharafa.

Having endured a difficult start to their domestic season, Al Sadd will go into the tie on a high after beating Al Gharafa 4-2 in their Qatar Stars League tie on Thursday.

Seeking to advance to the knockout stage for the first time since 2020, Al Sadd know victory against an Esteghlal side they are familiar with - having met them five times previously - will be a tremendous boost to their hopes.

While Esteghlal played some of their best football against Al Gharafa two weeks ago, they have been struggling domestically and will head to Doha having lost 1-0 to Persepolis FC in their Iran Pro League clash on Wednesday.

History is also against them as Esteghlal have not won in their last six matches against Qatari teams and neither have they previously won their first two matches on the continental stage.

The match will be held in Doha's Jassim Bin Hamad Stadium.

Iran to compete in biggest-ever World Taekwondo Junior Championships

TEHRAN - Iran has sent 16 boy and girl taekwondo athletes to the 2024 World Taekwondo Junior Championships to be held in Chuncheon, Korea from Oct. 1 to 6 with a record number of athletes participating in the competition.

There are 963 of the world's most talented young athletes set to compete across 10 weight categories in both the men's and women's divisions. In addition to athletes from 127 Member National Associations (MNAs) and Individual Neutral Athletes (AIN), the World Taekwondo Refugee Team will be represented at the Championships, in a showcase of the sport's universality and inclusivity.

Korea topped the medals table at the last World Taekwondo Junior Championships in Sofia, Bulgaria, in 2022. Supported by a home crowd this time around, they will be aiming to repeat the feat. This year marks the second time Korea has hosted this event, after Suncheon staged the 2004 edition.

Competition in Chuncheon will be held at the Songam Sports Town Air Dome, a proven host of Taekwondo events including the World Taekwondo World Cup Team Championships Series, Demonstration & Breaking Championships and Para Taekwondo Open Challenge in July.

It begins with the men's under-63kg and women's under-52kg and under-59kg categories on Oct. 1, with a further five action-packed days of Taekwondo set to follow, worldtaekwondo.org reported.

Men's weight categories at the World Taekwondo Junior Championships are -45kg, -48kg, -51kg, -55kg, -59kg, -63kg, -68kg, -73kg, -78kg and +78kg.

Women's competition will be held in -42kg, -44kg, -46kg, -49kg, -52kg, -55kg, -59kg, -63kg, -68kg and +68kg.

Athletes born between Jan. 1, 2007 and Dec. 31, 2009 are eligible to compete at the World Taekwondo Junior Championships.

The Championships will be preceded by a World Taekwondo Council meeting and the World Taekwondo General Assembly on Sept. 30.

Foolad snatch late win over Zob Ahan

TEHRAN - Foolad football team edged past Zob Ahan 1-0 in Matchweek 6 of Iran's Persian Gulf Professional League (PGPL) Saturday night.

With Five minutes remaining, Ehsan Pahlevan scored the winner in Ahvaz's Foolad Arena.

Foolad, headed by Yahya Golmohammadi, moved up to fifth place in the table, two points behind leader Tractor.

Zob Ahan sit eighth with seven points.

Greenhouse output expected to reach 3.7m tons by Mar. 2025

TEHRAN- The head of Iranian Agriculture Ministry's Greenhouse, Medicinal Plants and Edible Mushroom Affairs Bureau has announced that over 3.7 million tons of high-quality greenhouse products are expected to be produced in the country by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (late March 2025).

Speaking to the press on the sidelines of the 7th International Agriculture, Horticulture, Greenhouses, Inputs and Agriculture Machinery Exhibition of Iran (IFarm 2024), Elham Fatahi-Far said Iran's modern greenhouses have exported 240,000 tons of products worth about \$150 million in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-July 21), IRNA reported.

"Due to the increase in the amount of greenhouse production, it is necessary to provide the required inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, and growing mediums in sufficient quantity and with good quality and reasonable price to the greenhouses," Fatahi-Far said.

She put the total area of the country's greenhouses at 27,000 hectares, of which 8,761 hectares are incomplete and under construction.

"With the construction of each hectare of the greenhouse, direct and stable employment will be created for about 10 people, and about twice the same number will be employed indirectly," she said.

(See full text at www.tehrantimes.com)

CBI provides over \$33.7b of subsidized foreign currency for imports

TEHRAN - The Central Bank of Iran (CBI) has provided more than \$33.7 billion of subsidized foreign currency to importers of basic goods since the beginning of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20) up to September 28.

CBI figures showed that some \$33.741 billion had been allocated to imports of basic goods, medicine, commercial goods and products during

the mentioned period, Tasnim News Agency reported.

During this period, \$7,383 billion has been provided for importing basic goods and medicine, \$18.21 billion for commercial goods, \$824 million for services, and \$7,513 billion for imports that have taken place in return for exports of goods or services from Iran.

Annual rice production seen to reach 2.7m tons

TEHRAN- Iranian farmers are expected to produce 2.7 million tons of rice during the current Iranian calendar year (started on March 20), according to an official familiar with the matter.

As IRIB reported, of this amount of production, 70 percent will be related to local cultivars and 30 percent will be high-yielding cultivars, Director of Agriculture Ministry's Wheat and Rice Plan Sohrab

Sohrabi said.

"This year, the production of white rice is expected to increase by 700,000 tons compared to the year 1400 (ended in March 2022).

Based on official statistics, nearly 750,000 hectares of Iran's agricultural lands are under rice cultivation, of which 520,000 hectares are in Mazandaran, Gilan and Golestan provinces.

People's Republic of China 75th founding anniversary celebrated in Tehran

By Mahnaz Abdi

TEHRAN- The Chinese Embassy in Iran celebrated the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China at the place of Parsian Azadi Hotel in Tehran on Saturday evening (September 28).

The event was attended by a number of high-ranking officials and diplomats from different countries.

Addressing the ceremony, Chinese Ambassador to Tehran Cong Peiwu delivered a speech, the text of which comes as follows.

Splendid Achievements of China's 75 years journey

A New Chapter of China-Iran Cooperation

Iranian poet Bahram once wrote, "Poetic time comes with autumn." As the warm autumn breeze blows across the land of China and as abundant fruits decorate the Iranian



plateau, We are delighted to usher in the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

On behalf of the Chinese Embassy in Iran and the Chinese Consulate-General in Bandar Abbas, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the guests. Consul General Xu Wei and I would like to extend our sincere greetings to the Chinese community in Iran and express our heartfelt thanks to all friends from all walks of life who care about and support the

development of China-Iran relations.

75 years ago, the People's Republic of China was founded. Since then, the Chinese nation with a civilization of more than 5,000 years has entered a new historical era of development and progress.

Over the past 75 years, China's economic aggregate has continued to expand. In 1952, China's GDP was only 67.9 billion yuan. Since the reform and opening up, China's

economy has developed rapidly. In 2023, China's GDP exceeded 126 trillion yuan, which is 223 times higher than that in 1952 at constant prices. China's per capita disposable income reached 39,200 yuan in 2023, which is 76 times higher than that in 1949 after deducting price factors.

Over the past 75 years, China has made great progress and continuously improved its comprehensive strength. New China has developed into the world's second largest economy and the largest industrial country from a weak industrial foundation. China has made significant achievements in many fields such as manned space flight, lunar exploration, deep-sea exploration, and quantum science, and the effectiveness of the innovation-driven development strategy has continued to emerge.

(See full text at www.tehrantimes.com)

Malaysian Embassy in Tehran hosts "Baleh Makan" celebration in conjunction with Malaysia Day

By Mahaz Abdi

TEHRAN- The Malaysian Embassy in Iran hosted "Baleh Makan" celebration in conjunction with Malaysia Day at the place of the embassy in Tehran in the evening of Saturday (September 28).

The event highlighted the rich traditions of Malaysian cuisine and performing arts, showcasing the deep connections between Malaysia and Iran. The term "Baleh Makan" combines elements from both the Malay and Farsi languages. "Baleh" comes from the Malay word "Boleh", meaning "can", while in Farsi, "Bale" translates to "yes". This shared linguistic link reflects the cultural parallels between the two nations. "Makan", meaning "eating" in Malay, serves as the perfect theme for an evening centered around food and communal dining, symbolizing unity and friendship.

Malaysia Day, celebrated annually on 16 September, marks the formation of Malaysia in 1963. It is an occasion for Malaysians to honor the unity and diversity that define the nation. This year's "Baleh Makan" in Tehran provided a unique opportunity for the Iranian community to experience Malaysia's cultural heritage firsthand.

The event, hosted by Malaysian Ambassador to Iran Khairi bin Omar, was participated by diplomats from various embassies, business leaders, academics, and cultural figures, including Mr. Mohammadi, Director General of Asia and Oceania Affairs.

Addressing the ceremony, the Malaysian ambassador to Iran emphasized the significance of such events in promoting cultural diplomacy.

He said, "Malaysia and Iran share a long-standing relationship based on



mutual respect and shared values. Events like 'Baleh Makan' allow us to celebrate our friendship and enhance cultural understanding through the universal languages of food and art. Tonight's Wayang Kulit performance, with its Iranian narrative, symbolizes the rich interconnection between our two nations."

The Saturday event featured a talented Malaysian chef presenting

a selection of authentic Malaysian dishes. The chef offered attendees a culinary journey through Malaysia's diverse gastronomic traditions, highlighting the country's multi-ethnic flavours and cultural fusion. The centrepiece of the evening was a traditional Malaysian Kenduri (feast), featuring a selection of iconic Malaysian dishes:

(See full text at www.tehrantimes.com)

Establishment of Iran's First Tools Testing Laboratory at Arva Factory:

A Step Towards Global Tool Production Hub



In a significant development for Iran's manufacturing sector, Arva Company has inaugurated the country's first tools testing laboratory, aiming to position Iran as a global hub for tool production. Hamid Mosalaei, the Deputy CEO of Arva, announced this milestone, emphasizing the potential to not only import the tool industry but also to localize production within the country. The first phase of this pioneering laboratory was officially opened today at Arva's facility, marking a crucial advancement for the Iranian tool industry. Mosalaei highlighted that this laboratory is not only a landmark achievement for Arva but also for the entire sector, as it promises to enhance the quality of imported tools while

boosting domestic production capabilities.

As the first Iranian manufacturer to establish such a facility, Arva is setting a precedent in the



industry. Mosalaei stated, "With the launch of this laboratory, we are transforming Arva from a mere production unit into a strategic player in Iran's tool industry."

The Deputy CEO further noted that the establishment of this laboratory allows for the true localization of the tool industry in Iran. He explained that Arva's imported products meet international standards, which have been adapted for the local market, allowing the company to offer a 70-month warranty on its tools.

"This initiative not only assures our customers of the highest quality but also enhances our competitiveness in global markets," Mosalaei added. He

expressed confidence that with continued effort, Iran's tool industry could emerge as a leading production hub worldwide.

Mosalaei also addressed the challenges faced by the Iranian tool industry, stating that the inability to localize tools was a significant barrier to production. The establishment of this laboratory aims to address these concerns, enabling the testing of tools from various production units.

Quality and affordability remain top priorities for Arva, and Mosalaei is optimistic about the company's ability to compete in international markets and eventually expand into exports. In his remarks to the media,

Mosalaei emphasized the collaboration between domestic experts and foreign consultants in the laboratory's establishment. The facility will conduct tests on various aspects, including inverter performance, welding, durability, impact resistance, hardness, and waterproofing. The tool industry, described by Mosalaei as a foundational sector with immense growth potential, is poised for significant advancements. Arva Factory, located in the Shamsabad Industrial Town, currently employs over 850 individuals, contributing to the local economy and the broader manufacturing landscape in Iran.



By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN- Israel and its Western allies, in particular the United States, have been living in cloud-cuckoo-land since the Tel Aviv regime assassinated Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in the Lebanese capital.

The Hezbollah chief was killed in Israeli brutal airstrikes on residential areas of the Dahiyeh suburb of Beirut late on Friday.

The popular head of the Lebanese resistance movement was targeted after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Banned bombs

The Israeli army used dozens of American-made bunker-busting bombs during its strikes on Dahiyeh.

The Geneva Convention has banned the use of such bombs in densely populated areas due to the potential for significant civilian casualties.

Israeli F-15I fighter jets that dropped the bombs were equipped with at least 15 2,000-pound munitions with an American-made precision guidance system that attaches to bombs, according to an analyst cited by the New York Times.



Hezbollah became Israel's recurrent nightmare after the regime assassinated its then leader Sayyed Abbas Al-Mousawi in 1992.

Netanyahu's office circulated a photograph of the prime minister in New York using a landline telephone to approve the strikes, according to US media.

Horrible crime

On Saturday, the Israeli premier said he ordered the Hezbollah chief's assassination, which has been described by many officials as well as religious figures as a horrible crime.

"Eliminating Nasrallah was an essential condition for achieving the aims that we have set out — returning the residents of the north safely to their homes and changing the balance of power in the region for years," Netanyahu, known as Bibi, said.



Al-Aqsa Storm Operation demonstrated that the Israeli assassination of Hamas founder Sheik Ahmad Yassin in 2004 backfired.

Tens of thousands of people have become displaced in northern Israel and southern Lebanon amid the exchanges of fire between Israel and Hezbollah since October 8. That is a day after Israel launched war on Gaza which has so far killed more than 41,500 Palestinians.

Netanyahu said earlier this month that returning evacuated people to northern Israel is an official war goal.

The Lebanese resistance movement had said it would halt the attacks if there was a



ceasefire in Gaza. But Netanyahu not only derailed talks aimed at ending the Gaza war but also ordered a massive bombing campaign in Lebanon that began a week ago. Hundreds of people in Lebanon have lost their lives in the Israeli strikes so far.

Criminal collusion

Unsurprisingly, the United States has neither condemned Israel for killing hundreds of people in Lebanon nor assassinating Nasrallah whose party has been one of the leading political factions in the country's parliament.

President Joe Biden, whose country's army has killed a large number of civilians in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, has called Nasrallah's assassination "a measure of justice for his many victims, including thousands of Americans, Israelis, and Lebanese civilians."

Biden has also doubled down on support for Israel.

The US has rejected any involvement in the assassination. But it seems implausible to think that Tel Aviv could have executed the Friday strikes on Beirut without the coordination of Washington.

The United States, along with several Western and regional allies, is opposed to Hezbollah and has devised strategies to oust the group from Lebanon's political sphere and dismantle its influence. However, these efforts have proven ineffective because Hezbollah continues to win more popular support stemming from its opposition to Israeli occupation and aggression.

Hezbollah establishment

Israel invaded Lebanon in June 1982, ostensibly in response to attacks launched on it by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) from southern Lebanon.

Israel occupied the south and went as far as West Beirut, where the PLO was based, which it put under siege. Several Lebanese groups, including Hezbollah, were formed to repel the invasion.

Ultimately, Hezbollah drove the Israeli army out in 2000, ending the regime's occupation after nearly 20 years.

Nasrallah legacy

Nasrallah is regarded as one of the most influential figures in the region who played a key role in transforming Hezbollah into a major military and political force.

The charismatic leader, who was 64 years old when he was assassinated, had led Hezbollah since the assassination of his predecessor Sayyed Abbas Al-Mousawi in 1992.

Al-Mousawi was killed by a missile strike from Israeli helicopters while driving with his wife and 6-year-old son on a road in the Bekaa region of eastern Lebanon on February 16, 1992. He became the Hezbollah resistance movement's secretary general in April 1991.

Israeli illusions

Israel is under the illusion that the assassination of Nasrallah will lead to the elimination of Hezbollah.

Israel assassinated Al-Mousawi with a similar misconception. But Nasrallah turned the movement into a more powerful political and military force.

Hezbollah currently has 100,000 fighters. It 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.

Israel waged war on Lebanon in 2006 but Hezbollah forced the regime's army to retreat after 34 days.

In 2008, Israel also assassinated Hezbollah's military leader, Imad Mughniyeh, in Syria. But the movement gathered strength in the years that followed.

Israel has also assassinated other regional resistance leaders and commanders in an attempt to cripple their movements.

Nonetheless, this policy has backfired.

Israel assassinated Sheik Ahmad Yassin who founded Hamas in late 1987 after the outbreak of the first Palestinian Intifada (uprising) in the same year.

The Hamas spiritual leader was killed on March 22, 2004, along with nine other people in Gaza.



Israel killed Imad Mughniyeh, Hezbollah's military chief, in 2008; but the resistance movement gathered strength in the years that followed.

He strongly defended the Palestinian people's right to resist the Israeli occupation and often criticized the Palestinian Authority for discounting the armed resistance option in its dealings with the occupation regime.

Yasin had been confined to a wheelchair following an injury he sustained at the age of 12.

Israel believed that the assassination would result in the eradication of Hamas. However, the Al-Aqsa Storm, the surprise military attack carried out by Hamas on October 7 in southern Israel, demonstrated that such actions only serve to empower Palestinians, motivating them to put up resistance against the Israeli occupation.

For now, Nasrallah's killing will have far-reaching consequences for Israel.

Israel should know from its experiences that Hezbollah will grow in strength and strike a crushing blow to the regime. This blow could potentially reach a magnitude that threatens the very existence of the Zionist entity.

resulting in a large blast and causing a blackout in several settlements.

A barrage of rockets was launched towards the Lower Galilee and the Western Galilee.

Throughout the day on Sunday, the "Israeli Home" Front Command warned of sirens sounding in regions such as the Lower Galilee.

Israeli media reported that five rockets fired from Lebanon landed in areas near Lake Tabarayya and that large explosions were heard.

In the 24 hours prior to Hezbollah's statements on Sunday, the resistance movement published more than a dozen statements using the same terminology in announcing its

operations against different Israeli military sites and settlements.

The Israeli aim of returning Israelis to the north does not look like it is anywhere close to being accomplished despite Hezbollah announcing the martyrdom of more senior commanders.

In contrast, the Lebanese resistance appears to have maintained its military structure and chain of command.

Experts say this is due to detailed planning by Hezbollah in the event its senior commanders are assassinated by Israel in an all-out war. The movement had already made plans on who to take control of its sophisticated military apparatus.

China opposes infringement on Lebanon's sovereignty

China has expressed opposition to any violation of Lebanon's sovereignty following Israel's airstrikes which killed Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, China's Foreign Ministry said.

"China opposes the infringement on Lebanon's sovereignty and security, opposes and condemns any action against innocent civilians, and opposes any move that fuels

antagonism and escalates regional tensions," the ministry said.

"The tension between Lebanon and Israel is a spillover of the Gaza conflict. The pressing priority is to implement relevant UN Security Council resolutions, end the fighting in Gaza as soon as possible, and earnestly safeguard peace and stability in the Middle East," it added.

Pakistan denounces 'growing Israeli adventurism'

Pakistan's Foreign Ministry has condemned Israeli attacks on civilians in Lebanon and the killing of Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah as "reckless" and a "major escalation in an already volatile region".

"For the last several days, Israeli forces have engaged in unacceptable violation of the sovereignty of Lebanon, relentlessly tar-

getting civilian population centers, and undermining its stability and security," the ministry said in a statement, Al Jazeera reported.

"We urge the United Nations Security Council to restrain Israel from its adventurism in the region and violations of international law; and restore peace in the Middle East."

Hezbollah will emerge stronger and more determined

From page 1 ▶ The Lebanese group also extended its condolences to Nasrallah's patient family, congratulating them for receiving "the highest of divine honors, the Medal of Imam Hussein (A.S.), achieving his deepest aspirations and the highest peaks of faith and pure devotion by becoming a martyr on the path to Jerusalem and Palestine."

Hassan Nasrallah was born in 1960 in eastern Beirut, in an environment characterized by poverty and the marginalization of the Shia population. Several biographies point out that as a child, he would walk long distances to downtown Beirut to buy second-hand books on Islam and Islamic sciences.

These same sources highlight that young Nasrallah was deeply drawn to the figure of Iranian cleric Musa al-Sadr, a key character for understanding the repoliticization of Shia Islam in Lebanon. Efforts to repoliticize the Shia community culminated in the creation of the Movement of the Dispossessed in 1974 and its military branch, Amal, in 1975. Many of the founders of Hezbollah had previously served in Amal.

After the outbreak of civil war between Maronite Christians and Muslims in Lebanon, Nasrallah joined the Amal movement, actively participating in its militia. However, as the conflict progressed, Amal adopted an increasingly hostile stance toward the presence of Palestinian militias in the country. This was why, in 1982, just a few months after the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, Nasrallah left Amal due to his disagreements regarding the presence of Palestinian militias, which already indicated the vital importance that Palestine would have in the life and political thought of the Lebanese leader.

The Israeli invasion was the catalyst for the birth of Hezbollah, as, in light of this event, the Islamic Resistance in Lebanon, with Iranian support, understood that the only option was to organize an armed resistance against Israeli troops and their local militias.

In this context, it is important to note that the damage inflicted on 80% of the villages in southern Lebanon, along with the near destruction of seven of them, greatly fueled the anger of the Shia community, as did the 19,000 deaths and 32,000 injuries caused by Israel.

When Nasrallah and other former members of Amal decided to establish a new movement that would become Hezbollah, they drew inspiration from the political Islam developed by Imam Khomeini, specifically the doctrine of Wilayat e Faqih, which forms the backbone of the Islamic Republic. This alliance around the doctrine of Wilayat e Faqih becomes the cornerstone of the relationship between Iran and Hezbollah, as Abdallah Safieddine, the Lebanese group's representative in Iran, points out: "We are united by our adherence to the principles of Wilayat e Faqih, as well as our struggle against common enemies."

However, this adherence, along with the figure of the current faqih (Ayatollah Khamenei), does not imply subordination of the group to a national project. In fact, from the politi-

cal perspective articulated around Wilayat e Faqih, Iran is not conceived in terms of a nation-state, but rather as the political home of Muslims. It aims to be a political-revolutionary Islamic model that lacks meaning within national frameworks; the Iranian Revolution project is, in this sense, an ummatic project, meaning it seeks to be a political reference for all Muslims. Therefore, the faqih is not seen solely as the leader of Iran but as an Islamic leader who represents the possibility of constructing an autonomous Muslim political identity.

In a speech in 2018, Nasrallah made it clear that it is political principles, not material and financial assistance, that create the bonds between the two, bonds that in no case indicate subordination. Nasrallah, who studied at a religious school in Najaf, the Shia holy city of Iraq, where the Imam had been exiled by the Pahlavi regime, shared the vision that the world is divided into a sort of permanent antagonism between the oppressed (mostazafin) and the oppressors (mostakberin). When Hezbollah published its founding manifesto in 1985, the defense of the oppressed against the oppressors was one of the pivotal points that defined the group's political horizon.

Nasrallah, a renowned Islamic scholar, effective speaker, and competent organizer, gained leadership experience during the prolonged struggle against Israeli troops and their local allies in southern Lebanon. In 1992, he was elected the new secretary-general of the movement following the assassination of his predecessor, Abbas al-Musawi, by Israeli forces.

When Israel assassinated Musawi, the Zionist authorities, in a display of utter political ignorance, believed that the era of conflict with Hezbollah had come to an end. This political incapacity fails to recognize that resistance does not depend on individuals. Neither Hamas nor Hezbollah were weakened by the martyrdom of their commanders; on the contrary, they have continued their path with even greater strength and determination.

In 2000, Hezbollah succeeded in forcing the Zionist troops to withdraw in a humiliating manner from southern Lebanon, which transformed Nasrallah into one of the most admired and respected figures, not only in the country but throughout the region and among the entire Islamic community, regardless of whether they were Sunni or Shia. This admiration reflects one of the influences of Imam Khomeini's political vision, who always sought to build an Islamic unity that transcended differences.

In this regard, Hassan Nasrallah's words in a 2006 interview with Al Jazeera are noteworthy, where he stated, "We, Shia and Sunni, fight together against Israel." This declaration underscores Imam Khomeini's influence on Hezbollah, as the Imam developed a political practice aimed at bridging Sunni and Shia divides, a concept that Islamic scholars refer to as a "post-madhhabi" vision (where "madhhab" means school of thought in Arabic).

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Special exhibit underway at Niavaran palace complex



TEHRAN – On Sunday, a special exhibition titled “A Journey Through the Niavaran Museums’ Treasures” was inaugurated at Ahmad Shah’s Pavilion, the smallest palace within the Niavaran Palace Complex in northern Tehran.

The exhibition, which coincides with National Tourism Week, showcases a selection of rare artifacts from the pavilion’s collection, the organizers said.

It features a variety of historical objects. Among the notable items on display is a vintage Canon camera from the Pahlavi era, a 19th-century French enameled bronze binocular, and a collection of antique maps of Asia from the 17th to 19th centuries, drawn by renowned cartographers Johann Baptist Homann, Gerard Mercator, and Henricus Hondius.

Another highlight of the exhibition is a selection of paintings in oil, watercolor, and etching, created by artists from France, Switzerland, and Germany. These works depict famous tourist destinations, such as Lubeck,

Germany, one of the world’s oldest historical cities and a UNESCO World Heritage site.

In a symbolic arrangement, the exhibition also features travel essentials from the Pahlavi era, including vintage suitcases, evoking the theme of travel and exploration. Additionally, a rare Sony video camera and a wooden globe, both preserved in the collection of Ahmad Shah’s Pavilion, are on display.

The exhibition aims to transport visitors on a journey through the history of travel, with each item carefully selected to capture the essence of tourism and adventure.

The exhibition will remain open to the public until October 21.

Covering an area of about eleven hectares, the Niavaran Cultural-Historical Complex is composed of several landmark buildings, museums, and monuments constructed in the 19th and 20th centuries during the Pahlavi and late Qajar eras. The history of the palace complex stretches back to about 280 years ago when Fath-Ali Shah of the Qajar Dynasty ordered a summer residence to be built in the then countryside area of the capital. The two-story Ahmad-Shahi pavilion is one of the highlights of the complex.

With an area of 9,000 square meters, the palace complex is entirely adorned with magnificent plasterwork, mirrorwork, and tilework. Its architecture boasts a blend of pre- and post-Islamic arts.

Varamin enhances preservation of historical monuments using photogrammetry

TEHRAN – In a new approach, the cultural heritage department of Varamin county has launched a photogrammetry and digitalization project for its historical monuments, using advanced global technologies.

On Sunday, the department’s head Mohammadreza Tajik announced the start

of this project, saying that the initiative aims to preserve historical monuments and facilitate access to detailed information for researchers.

Tajik explained that the project will provide precise 3D scans of historical structures, enabling in-depth studies and analysis of these monuments.

The official emphasized that through this effort, the monuments will be digitally captured, processed, and reconstructed virtually. “This approach not only enhances the preservation and maintenance of these cultural assets but also allows researchers and enthusiasts from around the world to study them more easily.”

The official said that the historical shrine of Imamzadeh Yahya had been selected for the start of the project.

Until 1220s, Varamin was an agricultural center of Ray, which is now situated in southeast of mother Tehran.

The raiding of Ray by the invading

Mongols caused a flux of migration and economic growth during the subsequent Ilkhanid rule. Thus, Varamin developed into an urban center.

A Vizier of Ilkhanid Abu Sa’id, named Yusuf Quhadhi built the Jameh Mosque of Varamin. Other significant monuments from this era, include mauso-

leum of Imamzadeh Yahya, Aladdin Tower, Imamzadeh Shah Husayn, and Sharif mosque. At the turn of 14th century, Varamin started to decline due to Timurid Empire armies’ invasions.

Varamin is located in the southeast of Tehran province in an even plain at a height of 918 meters above sea level.

Tourism celebrations canceled in Iran over martyrdom of Hezbollah leader

TEHRAN – The Iranian Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts has announced the cancellation of planned National Tourism Week celebrations following the martyrdom of Hezbollah Secretary-General, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah.

The decision comes in the wake of Nasrallah’s assassination in a recent Israeli airstrike on southern Beirut.

On Sunday, the tourism minister Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri, issued a statement condemning the attack and offering condolences. “A symbol of resistance, the tireless fighter, and the devout cleric, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, was martyred after a life-



Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Minister Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri in an undated photo.

time of struggle [for religion] and wise leadership of Hezbollah at the hands of the Zionist regime,”

commitment to supporting the oppressed people of Palestine and the cause of liberating AL-Quds (an Arabic name for Jerusalem).”

Later in the statement, Salehi-Amiri extended his condolences to Imam Mahdi (AS), the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, the people of Lebanon, Hezbollah members, and the Iranian nation.

Tourism Week in Iran, which was scheduled to take place from September 27 (World Tourism Day) to October 4, has been canceled in all provinces across the country as a result of the tragic assault.

Iran eases vehicle entry for Armenian travelers

TEHRAN – The Touring and Automobile Club of Iran has introduced a new initiative to facilitate the entry of vehicles from Armenia into the Islamic Republic.

The program, aimed at reducing customs procedures and expediting cross-border travel, was officially launched in a ceremony attended by Iran’s Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts, Reza Salehi Amiri on Saturday.

Under the initiative, Armenian citizens traveling to Iran can now obtain a Carnet de Passages, or customs transit document, for their vehicles, allowing them to enter the country with minimal delay.

The project, which kicked off via video conference on the second day of Iran’s National

Tourism Week, seeks to simplify customs formalities and enhance international road travel between Iran and neighboring countries.

The ceremony held in a Tehran hotel was attended by several other officials, including Ali-Asghar Shalabafian, the deputy tourism minister, and Mohammad-Hossein Soufi, the club’s managing director.

In a live video connection from the Norduz border terminal in East Azerbaijan province, which borders Armenia, Shahab Malmir, spokesperson for the Touring and Automobile Club, oversaw the temporary entry of the first Armenian vehicle into Iran. The official entry was authorized by Minister Salehi Amiri during the live broadcast.

Moreover, the plan is intended to cut down

on intermediaries, reduce costs and waiting times at the border, and promote international road travel. It is expected to boost Iran’s tourism industry, strengthen ties with neighboring countries, and attract more tourists from Armenia and beyond.

The Touring & Automobile Club is affiliated with the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts. Its tasks include facilitating the travel of owners of vehicles abroad or foreign tourists who are traveling to Iran in their own vehicles. The institution also helps develop tourism by establishing tourism information offices at home and abroad, as well as developing infrastructures and tourism services.

From Bangkok to Tehran: Thailand’s Rich Culinary Heritage Showcased



On September 24, the Royal Thai Embassy in Tehran was abuzz with excitement as it hosted a vibrant event called ‘A Taste of Thai Cuisine’, showcasing the rich culinary traditions of Thailand to a variety of guests, including businesspeople, travel facilitators, globetrotters, and media personnel.

H.E. Mr. Pichit Boonsud, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand, opened the event by highlighting the essential role that food plays in Thailand’s identity.

“Thai food is not just a meal; it’s a way of sharing love and care.” The envoy then charmed the audience by pointing out that in Thailand, it is common to ask, ‘Have you eaten yet?’ as a way of expressing care and affection, similar to asking, ‘How are you?’ in other cultures.

“For the millions of visitors who travel to Thailand each

year, the incredible diversity of Thai cuisine makes our country one of the most exciting destinations to visit.”

The event was not merely a culinary experience but also a celebration of the culture and hospitality that Thailand offers, positioning its cuisine as a key attraction, among many others, for travelers.

Attendees were invited to watch and learn as the chefs skillfully crafted these dishes, sharing their culinary secrets and the importance of fresh, flavorful ingredients. Eager participants even had the chance to taste the dishes, immersing themselves in the flavors of Thai cuisine.

Two of Thailand’s most iconic dishes: Tom Yum Goong (spicy shrimp soup) and Pad Thai (stir-fried noodles) were meticulously prepared by experienced Thai chefs during a live cooking demonstration.

Recognized globally as one of the finest cuisines, Thai food has gained worldwide popularity with its diverse flavors, including street food staples like stir-fries, curries, soups, and noodles.

Following the culinary show, the Ambassador went on to explain how Thai cuisine reflects the distinct regional flavors of Thailand’s four main areas: Central, Northern, Northeastern, and Southern Thailand, each offering its own unique character and taste.

The connection between food and friendship is what makes Thai hospitality so special, he explained, and the reason why Thai people often invite others to share meals as a gesture of goodwill.

Yet, despite its complexity, the Ambassador assured that Thai cuisine is easy to cook and relies on familiar ingredients, making it favorite for food enthusiasts everywhere.



Elsewhere in his remarks, he shared promising news with the audience. “Last year, around 50,000 Iranian tourists visited Thailand, and in the first eight months of this year, nearly 40,000 Iranians have already chosen Thailand for their holidays.”

As people-to-people interaction is among the most important foundations of the relationship between Thailand and Iran, Mr. Boonsud also outlined Thailand’s plans to attract even more visitors from the West Asia nation, announcing the Thai government’s plan to make use of technologies to better facilitate international travelers, including the introduction of e-visas and shorter wait time at the airport, making travel to Thailand more convenient than ever.

In his closing remarks, the Ambassador highlighted that next year will mark the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Thailand and Iran as he extended a heartfelt congratulations to the people of both countries, saying:

“We see Iran as a good friend and partner of Thailand, with whom we have enjoyed a longstanding and friendly relationship for centuries. I am sure this will continue in

as many years to come.”

All guests were then treated to a variety of authentic Thai dishes prepared by professional Thai chefs, allowing them to personally experience the authentic flavors of Thai cuisine. The event underpinned the idea that tasting Thai food is an open invitation to Thailand which not only offers just spectacular sights but also a feast for the senses. Welcome to Thailand :)



Youth population growth target yet to be achieved

TEHRAN – Despite offering incentives to encourage childbearing in line with youth population law, the desired growth in the youth population has not been accomplished yet.

At best, Iran's population with a total fertility rate of 2.5 will reach 102,890,000 by the next seven years, IRIB quoted Mohammad-Javad Mahmoudi, an official with the Civil Registration Organization, as saying.

According to Civil Registration Organization's report, the total fertility rate in Iranian years 1396 (2027-2018), 1397 (2018-2019), 1398 (2019-2020), 1399 (2020-2021), 1400 (2021-2022) were 2.09, 1.95, 1.74, 1.65, 1.61 per each woman, respectively.

In the last two years, the fertility rate has stabilized around 1.6 which has intensified concerns over the decreasing trend in population growth in the coming years, and the probability of turning Iran into one of the oldest countries in the world, the official highlighted.

Health ministry plays key role

In May, Hasan Farshidi, an official with the health ministry, said two years after the enactment of the law on supporting families and the youth, investigations have shown that the health ministry has played a central role in the implementation of the law.



Since the implementation of the law, the number of births among mothers aged 20 to 24 has notably increased," the official added.

The rate of mothers giving birth to three children increased from 16 percent in the Iranian year 1398 (March 2019-March 2020) to 18.97 percent in 1402 (March 2023 -March 2024) and even the fourth childbirth increased from 5 percent to about 7 percent, Farshidi stated.

The health ministry's responsibilities in the field of health and education are well-defined and it has successfully implemented more than 95 percent of its tasks in the youth law, he further noted.

Meanwhile, Saber Jabbari, the head of the health ministry's youthful population center, has said the ministry was recognized as the best organization, implementing programs for the youth in the last year, which ended on March 19.

"A total of 32,000 nurse aides are providing health care services in rural and urban areas. Also, 22,000 health care providers offer fertility services in urban areas, with 13,809 of them being midwives," Jabbari further noted.

There are 10,200 midwives working in delivery rooms. Also, Jabbari added that 2,086 and 6,689 gynecologists work in state-run and private centers.

Over 188,000 registered births were third-born, more than 63,000 births were fourth-born, and over 20,000 were fifth-born children.

A total of 462 marriage education centers are active in the country training various topics such as sexual health, fertility, and the complications of the prevention of pregnancy to young couples.

Fertility rate should reach 2.5

In November 2023, Jabbari said that the total fertility rate should reach 2.5 from 1.66 before the closure of the demographic window in the next five years.

"The country is on the threshold of aging; to tackle this crisis, we must promote childbearing and youth population," IRNA quoted Jabbari as saying.

Over the last 30 years, the total fertility rate of the country has declined, but in the Iranian calendar year 1401 (March 2022-March 2023), the downward trend in fertility came to a halt, he added.

"Carrying out programs that are focusing on the youth population at the national level is a strategy to increase the total fertility rate," Jabbari stressed.

EDUrank ranks 100 Iranian universities

From page 1 ▶ Based on its research performance in Hydrology and Water resources management, University of Tehran is ranked 1st in the country, 6th in Asia, and 9th in the world.

In Renewable Energy Engineering, University of Tehran ranked 15th in Asia, and 36th in the World.

Tehran University of Medical Sciences ranked 2nd in Iran, 93rd in Asia, 555th in the global 2024 rating, and scored in the TOP 50 percent across 158 research topics.

Tehran University of Medical Sciences ranking is based on 78,978 academic publications and 962,883 citations attributed to the university, non-academic reputation, and the impact of 6 notable alumni.

In Toxicology, the university ranked 1st in Iran, 4th in Asia, and 54th in the world.

It ranked 1st in Iran in Cosmetology, 5th in Asia, and 63rd in the world.

The University ranked 1st in Epidemiology in Iran, 8th in Asia, and 70th in the world.

Sharif University of Technology ranked 3rd in Iran, 154th in Asia, 778th in the global 2024 rating, and scored in the TOP 50 percent across 142 research topics.

The ranking is based on 37,667 academic publications and 605,634 citations attributed to the university, its non-academic reputation, and the impact of 63 notable alumni.

In Reliability and Quality Engineering, the university ranked first, 27th, and 75th in Iran, Asia, and the world, respectively.

Tarbiat Modares University, Amirkabir University of Technology, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Islamic Azad University, Shirvan, Shahid Beheshti University, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, and Iran University of Science and Technology are ranked fourth to tenth, respectively.

Latest rankings

The Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities, also known as the National Taiwan University (NTU) Rankings, placed 21 Iranian institutions among the top 1,200 universities worldwide, compared to 18 universities in 2023.

University of Tehran won the best ranking among Iranian institutions, ranking 291 globally.

University of Tehran ranked 30 in chemical engineering as well as energy science and engineering, 34 in mechanical engineering, and 73 in agriculture.

Tehran University of Medical Sciences (with a global ranking of 359), Kurdistan University of Medical Sciences (491), Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences (540), and Tarbiat Modares University (577) were placed second to fifth, respectively.

Tehran University of Medical Science's best ranking globally was 22 in pharmacology and toxicology.

Moreover, Khajeh Nasir Toosi University of Technology and Yasouj University were among the top 1200 institutions in the world based on full-time academic staff.

The 2024-2025 edition of Best Global Universities rankings included 69 Iranian universities, up from 52 in 2023, among the world's 2,250 top universities.

These institutions from 104 countries were ranked based on 13 indicators that measure their academic research performance and their global and regional reputations which helps students to explore the higher education options that exist beyond their own countries' borders and to compare key aspects of schools' research missions.

University of Tehran (with a global ranking of 275), Islamic Azad University (374), Sharif University of Technology and Tehran University of Medical Sciences (516), University of Tabriz (521), and Amirkabir University of Technology (649) ranked first to fifth in the country, respectively.

Shanghai ranking 2024 placed nine Iranian universities among the top 1,000 institutions worldwide.

The 2024 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) was released by ShanghaiRanking Consultancy.

Since 2003, ARWU has been presenting the world's top universities annually based on transparent methodology and objective third-party data. It has been recognized as the precursor of global university rankings



and the most trustworthy one.

This year, more than 2,500 institutions were scrutinized, and the best 1,000 universities in the world were published.

Tehran University of Medical Sciences and University of Tehran, which were among the top 500 universities in the world with a rank of 401-500, were placed top in the country.

Tarbiat Modares University (601-700) was placed second.

Iran University of Medical Sciences, Shahid Beheshti of Medical Sciences, and Sharif University of Technology with a ranking of 701-800, shared the third rank in the country.

Amirkabir University of Technology, Iran University of Science and Technology, and University of Tabriz (901-1000) were ranked joint fourth.

According to data released by Web of Science (WoS), Iran's ranking in Quantum Science and Technology publications improved from 23 in 2014 to 16 in 2023, placing the country top among Islamic nations in all quantum technology fields.

Iran's best global ranking was in quantum remote sensing technology. The country was ranked eighth worldwide.

The country's other global ranking included photonic network technologies, 17; superconducting circuits, 18; spin qubit, 16; neutral (cold) atoms, 21; Trapped ions, 19; quantum key distribution, 24; quantum repeater, 26; quantum clock, 12; quantum imaging, 14; and quantum radar, 15.

The Times Higher Education (THE) included 33 universities from Iran among the top 1,500 universities pursuing sustainable development goals (SDG) compared to 27 universities in 2023.

THE evaluated 2,152 universities from 125 countries to produce the overall Impact Ranking for 2024.

A total of 29 Iranian universities were mentioned in the overall table including Alzahra University, Iran University of Medical Sciences, and Kerman University of Medical Sciences (ranking 401- 600); Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences, University of Mohaghegh Ardabili, and University of Tehran (ranking 601 -800); Ahvaz Jundishapur University of Medical Sciences, Kermanshah University of Medical Sciences, Shahid Beheshti University, Sharif University of Technology, University of Kurdistan, Zanjan University of Medical Sciences (ranking 801-1000), Mehr news agency reported.

Amirkabir University of Technology and Sharif University of Technology achieved the highest ranking in industry innovation and infrastructure, placing 27th.

The 21st edition of the QS World University Rankings (2025) placed nine Iranian universities among the world's top institutes, compared with seven universities in 2024.

This year's ranking featured over 1,500 institutions across 105 higher education systems.

Sharif University of Technology (with a rank of 342), University of Tehran (368), Amirkabir University of Technology (403), Iran University of Science and Technology (436), and Isfahan University of Technology (489) were ranked first to fifth, respectively.

Tabriz University (552), Shiraz University (691-700), Shahid Beheshti University (851-900), and Ferdowsi University of Mashhad (951- 1000) were other top Iranian universities included in the ranking.

A total of 29 Islamic countries with 270 universities were included in this ranking.

Malaysia, Indonesia, and Turkey ranked first to third respectively in terms of the number of universities. Iran ranked 11th among Islamic nations in this year's QS ranking.

IRCS signs 19 MOUs with 19 societies over three years

TEHRAN –The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) has signed memorandums of understanding with red crescent societies of 19 countries over the past three years to expand and enhance cooperation in humanitarian as well as rescue and relief operations.

The IRCS has been always among the first societies to dispatch rescue forces and provide relief services in both national and international hazards, the IRCS website quoted Razieh Alishvandi, the IRCS director for international affairs, as saying.

The IRCS looks forward to boosting cooperation with other societies to promote awareness, resilience, and capabilities of the societies in confrontation with disasters and the provision of relief services.

IRCS is a top organization

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Initiatives to develop and empower Crescent houses in remote, deprived areas and enhance prevention and education programs

are other parts of the society's effort to expand its services.

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

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

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

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

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

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

ENGLISH IN USE

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'Climate change impact on Iran doubles world average'

The effects of climate change on Iran has more than doubled on average compared to other parts of the world, while southern provinces of the country are more likely to bear the consequences, secretary of environmental policy at the center for strategic studies affiliated to the presidential office has said.

"The Hoomand-Absard station in Damavand county in north-east of Tehran experienced a temperature increase of 2.7 °C over the past 50 years, while over the past 100 years, the temperature rise was about 0.76 °C," ISNA quoted Mohammad Darvish as saying on Tuesday.

Climate change impact is increasing in southern part of the country, among which Yazd province's condition has raised concern, he said, adding, the industries operating in the province must reduce their dependency on water, otherwise water scarcity might worsen in the region.

تغییرات اقلیمی در ایران دو تا سه برابر جهان

محمد درویش، دبیر سیاست محیط‌زیست مرکز بررسی‌های استراتژیک نهاد ریاست جمهوری گفته، ایران با تأثیرات تغییر اقلیمی دو تا سه برابر بیشتر از تأثیرات ایجاد شده در کره زمین روبرو شده است. محمد درویش، در گفت‌وگو با خبرنگار ایسنا با اشاره به گزارش‌های منتشر شده توسط سازمان هواشناسی، وزارت نیرو و سازمان آب، اظهار کرد: ایستگاه هومند آسرد در دامنه‌های کوه دماوند طی نیم قرن اخیر افزایش دمایی حدود ۲.۷ درجه سلسیوس را نشان می‌دهد و این مسئله در حالی رخ داده است که در ۱۰۰ سال گذشته، حدود ۰.۷۶ درجه سلسیوس افزایش دما داشته‌ایم. وی اضافه کرد: هر چقدر به شهرهای جنوبی‌تر کشورمان نزدیک می‌شویم، تغییرات اقلیمی هم بیشتر می‌شود به طوری که از این میان یزد وضعیت نگران‌کننده‌ای دارد. باید میزان وابستگی صنایع در یزد نسبت به آب کاهش پیدا کند چرا که در غیر این صورت می‌تواند شتاب خشک‌سالی‌ها را افزایش دهد.



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SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

There are two kinds of people who are greedy and never satisfied: seekers of learning and lovers of the world.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon:11:54 Evening: 18:07 Dawn: 4:36 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 5:59 (tomorrow)

Upcoming Tehran Auction to go online



TEHRAN- The 21st edition of the Tehran Auction, a prestigious event dedicated to contemporary art in Iran, is set to be held online.

The auction will showcase 140 pieces by artists specializing in painting, sculpture, and photography presented in an online format on October 11, ISNA reported on Sunday.

Artworks from renowned contemporary artists such as Sadeq Tabatabai, Monir Farmanfarman, Parviz Tanavoli, Farideh Lashai, Jafar Rouhbakhsh, Masoud Arabshahi, Kourosh Shishegaran, and Davood Emadi will be displayed alongside emerging talents, the report added.

Monir Farmanfarman is highlighted as the most valuable artist in this session, presenting an untitled piece that incorporates mirror work, reverse painting on glass, and plaster on wood from the 1970s, estimated at 100 to 120 billion rials (approximately \$167,000 to \$200,000).

Following her is Aydin Aghdashloo with his work titled "Summer, Winter from the Collection of the Moors," estimated at 90 to 100 billion rials (around \$150,000 to \$167,000).

Reza Derakhshani's piece "I Count the Day and Night, Day and Night" is estimated to fetch between 80 to 90 billion rials (approximately \$134,000 to \$150,000).

Additionally, artworks from 35 artists will make their debut in the Iranian art market, including Mehrdad Fallah, Kasra Golrang, Ladan Boroujerdi, Raika Milanian, Reza Nosrati, Paria Farrokhi, Hossein Khoshraftar, Morteza Yazdani, Shiva Babai, and Ali

Beigiparast.

Other newcomers include Keyvan Beiranvand, Nasim Hosnbakhshan, Alireza Jed, Sudeh Davood, Mohammad Mehdi Tabatabai, Mohammad Mastan Dahi, Anahita Qasemkhani, Hossein Markazi, Mani Mehrzad, Masoud Aslani, Mina Ghaziani, Sassan Nasiri, Avin Farahadi, Sanaz Dezfoulian, Sara Abasian, Omid Khakbaz, and Yadgar Khayyam.

The previous Tehran Auction, held in July, focused on modern and contemporary art, achieving a remarkable sales figure of over \$3 million.

At the auction, which included 115 works by modern and contemporary Iranian artists, 107 pieces, over 93 percent of the offered lots, were sold at over 1,900 billion rials (\$3.175 million).

The event presented 99 paintings and calligraphic paintings, 12 sculptures, and four photos.

A total of 65 buyers participated in the auction, 15 of whom did so for the first time. Of the 115 sold lots, 41 items were sold at prices higher than 10 billion rials (\$16,667).

The highest-grossing piece at the auction was a painting titled "End of an Era" from the "Memories of Destruction" series by Aydin Aghdashloo which was sold for \$205,333.

The second most expensive work was a piece of mixed media on canvas by Farhad Moshiri titled "Black Numbers on White," realizing \$187,000.

An untitled calligraphic painting by Mohammad Ehsai was also among the top three works of the auction, sold for \$183,333.

The first of its kind in Iran, the Tehran Auction was launched in 2012 as an independent and private initiative to introduce the best in Iranian art, ranging from established and emerging Iranian artists to art collectors and the global audience.

It aims to address the increasing interest in modern and contemporary Iranian art and facilitate the acquisition of quality works in reliable ways.

Cultural officials, artists condole martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah

TEHRAN-Iranian cultural officials and artists have reacted to the martyrdom of the Lebanese Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah who was martyred in the Israeli massive air strikes on the southern suburbs of Beirut on Friday night.

The Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Seyyed Abbas Salehi issued a message in which he offered condolences and congratulations on the martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, ISNA reported.

"The tireless fighter, the master of resistance, and the symbol of steadfastness against the longstanding oppression of the criminal Zionist regime, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah embraced the glory of martyrdom and joined his numerous companions after decades of struggle and years of leadership in the liberation movement of resistance," the minister said in the message.

"This eternal martyr, inspired by the school of sacrifice and martyrdom and influenced by the transformative teachings of the late founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeini (RA), carried the heavy burden of resisting the expansionist desires of the occupying tyrants for many years and never showed a sign of surrender," the message continued.

"Without a doubt, his path will be followed with greater momentum and stronger steps by the brave fighters of Hezbollah and the resistance forces across the region. The dawn is not far off to witness the fulfillment of the divine promise, the eradication of oppressors, and the downfall of the tyrants and their oppressive supporters".

The minister concluded his message by praying to the Almighty for the ultimate victory for those who follow Nasrallah's bright path.

Mehdi Ramezani, the Secretary-General of the Iran Public Libraries Foundation, also extended his condolences on the assassination of the Hezbollah leader in a message: "Truly, that active leader, with his unparalleled command over three decades of harsh and exhausting challenges, both safeguarded the independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon against the threats and chaos of foreign aggression and courageously led the struggle against the bloodthirsty and illegitimate Zionist regime, while also offering faithful support and defense for the oppressed people of Palestine".



The new mural at Valiasr Square was unveiled on Sunday, depicting an image of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah with the sentences "Surely, the help of God is near".

"Nasrallah's pure intentions in this perilous path were such that he sacrificed even his own life, alongside the people of that land, for the sake of his sacred ideals. His way of life and his thoughts remain a guide for all the freedom-seekers of the world".

In a statement, the Art Bureau wrote: "The Resistance Front is in mourning today; mourning the martyrdom of a man who conquered the towering peaks of jihad one after another; a brave warrior who dedicated his entire life to fighting absolute evil and attained the honor of martyrdom in this path".

"The unjust martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah has opened a new path before the Resistance Front. Let the enemies of this front know that Hezbollah is alive, and if a soldier from the Resistance achieves the glory of martyrdom in this decisive battle, the path of resistance will continue stronger than ever," the message continued.

"The artists of the Islamic Revolution share the deep grief of the noble Lebanese people in this monumental loss and declare their readiness to contribute in the new phase of jihad against the tyrannical Zionist regime".

In another message, Iran Cinema Organization, while expressing its disgust and condemning the crimes of the Zionist regime, offered condolences for the martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah.

"He was a faithful and

courageous mujahid, a man who faced difficult trials. He was a valiant fighter who stood proudly for the dignity and pride of the Islamic world, like an iron wall against the aggressive and devilish Zionist regime for several decades. Throughout these years, he was a thorn in the side of the enemies of the Islamic ummah".

"Now, committed artists and filmmakers can contribute to his path by illustrating, narrating, and portraying the harsh realities of the blood-stained history of the usurping Zionist regime and its insane crimes to the world."

The Documentary, Experimental and Animation Film Center; Owj Arts and Media Organization, Art Credit Fund, and Farabi Cinema Foundation were among the organizations condoling the martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah.

Furthermore, several cineastes and artists have reacted to the tragic incident. Well-known filmmaker Ebrahim Hatamikia wrote a eulogy, stating in part: "The sound and camera are off, but your movement continues. Sayyed is alive. The path of resistance is alive".

Veteran filmmaker Jamal Shurjeh also wrote a heartfelt note: "Blood triumphs over the sword. Martyrdom is the art of God's men. The sighs and sorrows are for us, but the green path of Islam continues until the advent [of the Savior Imam Mahdi (AS)], God willing".

The social media also witnessed many reactions from the artists and cultural figures including producers Mahmoud Razavi and Mohammad Hossein Ghasemi; filmmakers Babak Lotfi Khajepasha and Masoud Dehnamaki; TV show hosts Moshdeh Lavasani and Najmeddin Shariati; actor Seyyed Ali Salehi, and cartoonist Masoud Shojaei Tabatabaei were among the figures reacting to Nasrallah's assassination.

On Sunday, the latest mural at Valiasr Square was unveiled, depicting an image of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah with the sentences "Surely, the help of God is near," and "O victorious one, bring death".

Born in 1960 in Beirut, Nasrallah was elected the secretary general of Hezbollah in February 1992 after the assassination of Sayyed Abbas Mousavi.

He was the third secretary general of Hezbollah which was established in 1982. Nasrallah was one of the founders of the liberation movement.

The Hezbollah movement turned into a regional power under his leadership that succeeded in driving out Israel from southern Lebanon in 2000.

According to the announcement by the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, cinema and theater halls across the country are closed for five days. All the concerts have also been postponed till further announcement.

Adaptation of "Sweet Bird of Youth" to go on stage in Tehran

TEHRAN- An adaptation of American playwright Tennessee Williams' 1959 play "Sweet Bird of Youth" is scheduled to go on stage at Entezami Hall of the Iranian Artists Forum (IAF) in Tehran on October 4.

Hassan Asgari is the director of the play, which will remain on stage until October 25.

Reza Afshar, Niloufar Bozorgi, Somayyeh Molai, Nazanin Naderpour, Delsa Karimzadeh and Amin Moqaddam are the main members of the cast for the play.

"Sweet Bird of Youth" presents the poignant tale of Chance Wayne, a drifter and gigolo who returns to his hometown, St. Cloud, accompanied by a faded movie star, Alexandra del Lago—who is disguised as the enigmatic Princess Kosmonopolis. Chance, who harbors aspirations of breaking into the film industry, sees this trip as a way to reclaim his lost youth, particularly in rekindling his romance with his childhood sweetheart, Heavenly Finley.

The narrative unfolds as Chance Wayne, having departed St. Cloud in pursuit of his dreams, struggles to carve out a successful career in the glitzy worlds of New York and Hollywood. However, after facing numerous failures in both acting and popularity, he resorts to becoming a gigolo, navigating life as an escort to wealthy women. His current companion, Alexandra del Lago, mirrors his own sense of lost potential; she is an aging, troubled actress who has fled from the harsh critiques of her latest film, seeking solace in a

life of excess—alcohol, drugs, and fleeting relationships.

Upon recognizing del Lago while working at a Florida resort, Chance seizes the opportunity to escort her back to California, viewing her as his ticket to rekindling his past. As they travel along the Sunset Route, Chance envisions a reunion with Heavenly Finley, hoping to pull her into the world of fame he desperately yearns for. However, when they finally arrive back in St. Cloud, Chance comes to confront the harsh realities that have marred his idealized memories of Heavenly. Once vibrant and full of life, she is now a shadow of her former self, having suffered severe trauma after an unwanted pregnancy that led to a botched abortion and resulted in her infertility. Her father and brother harbor deep resentment toward Chance, threatening to exact revenge for the anguish he caused their family.

Armed with Alexandra's resources, Chance attempts to project an image of success to his old friends, who quickly see through his ruse. They recognize him not as a triumphant figure but as a man trapped in nostalgia and bitterness. Simultaneously, del Lago learns



that the negative reviews she fled from were actually positive, marking her comeback as a triumph, further complicating Chance's illusions of shared success. Although del Lago urges Chance to continue as her escort, the reality sets in that she sees no future for him, especially as her life begins to turn around.

In this interplay of ambition and despair, Chance grapples with the reality of his fading youth and loss of direction. With nowhere else to turn, he ultimately decides to remain in St. Cloud, confronting the consequences of his past choices rather than escaping once more. "Sweet Bird of Youth" poignantly captures the complexities of dreams versus reality, the impact of time on one's aspirations, and the painful truths that often lie beneath the surface of seemingly glamorous lives.

The play was initially crafted for the renowned actress Tallulah Bankhead, a close friend of Williams. The origins of "Sweet Bird of Youth" date back to 1956 when Williams first explored the story through two separate plays: a two-character piece featuring only Chance and the Princess, and a one-act play entitled "The Pink Bedroom," which later evolved into the second act of the final work. This configuration allowed Williams to weave together themes of youth, ambition, and disillusionment.

Cartoon of Day



Hassan Nasrallah

Cartoonist: Kamal Sharaf from Yemen