

Tehran slams EU, UK sanctions as 'baseless' and 'politically motivated'

TEHRAN – The Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson has criticized the European Union and the United Kingdom for implementing new sanctions against several Iranian individuals and entities, labeling them actions as based on false and baseless pretexts.

Esmail Baqaei, while dismissing Western claims regarding Iran's alleged sale of ballistic missiles to Russia, stated that Iran's position on the Ukraine conflict is both clear and principled.

Baqaei emphasized that Tehran has consistently urged all nations to honor each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity and to seek diplomatic resolutions to the disputes between Russia and Ukraine.

Baqaei expressed concern that certain European nations persist in alleging Iran's military involvement in the Ukraine conflict without presenting any evidence and characterized the accusations from the European Union and the UK as fraudulent and an effort to distract public attention from the critical issue of the genocide of the Palestinian people and the warmongering actions of the Zionist regime in the West Asian region.

The spokesperson also highlighted the involvement of some European nations, particularly Britain, France, and Germany, in supplying lethal weapons that the Zionist regime has utilized in its acts of genocide and aggression in Gaza and Lebanon. ▶ Page 2

'Do not play with fire': Iran spokesperson warns against Israeli provocation

TEHRAN – In a press conference held on Tuesday, Fatemeh Mohajerani, the spokesperson for the Iranian government, issued a stern warning to those attempting to challenge Iran's national interests.

Addressing the journalists, Mohajerani emphasized that Iran's sovereignty and security remain non-negotiable.

During her remarks, Mohajerani made it clear that Iran will never compromise on its national interests for the sake of appeasing foreign powers. "Iran will never trade its national interests for anything else," she stated firmly, signaling the country's unwavering stance in the face of international pressures and regional tensions.

In a sharp message to Iran's adversaries, Mohajerani cautioned against underestimating the nation's military capabilities.

Referring to a recent military operation known as True Promise II, she remarked, "What occurred was only a small demonstration of Iran's power." ▶ Page 3

Qaani's Final Shot at Western Rumors

Quds Force chief undercuts Western media psychological war with appearance at public event

By Mona Hojat Ansari

TEHRAN – Impartiality and truthfulness are the cornerstones of responsible journalism, or so we're told. Yet, for the Western media, the blatant bias in favor of Israel and their unwavering commitment to serving the regime's interests, no matter the cost, has never been more obvious.

From deliberately ignoring the vast majority of Israel's crimes in Gaza to shamelessly spinning the few they can't completely suppress; Western media outlets have become active participants in whitewashing a regime committing unspeakable acts against humanity. This shameful trend, once constrained by a shred of journalistic integrity, has now descended into outright fabrication. Even the principle of avoiding frequent blatant lies – a low bar indeed – has been abandoned in the past year.

Since October 7, 2023, the internet has been overflowing with false stories about Hamas, Palestinians, Lebanese, and even Iranians. Among these manufactured tales are the grotesque claims of Hamas beheading Israeli babies, bombing the Al-Ahli Arab hospital, and using civilian sites as shields. But even these notorious stories could seem logical in comparison to the sheer absurdity of the ones swirling around in recent weeks regarding the whereabouts and health of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) Quds chief.

Brigadier General Esmail Qaani was first reported to have been killed during Israel's airstrike on a residential building in southern Beirut, which claimed the life of Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyad Hassan Nasrallah on September 27th. The IRGC confirmed that one of its top commanders, Brigadier General Abbas Nilforooshan, was also martyred during the attack. ▶ Page 3



Iranians pay tribute to martyred IRGC commander in Tehran funeral



Iran, Azerbaijan discuss expansion of energy, transit ties

TEHRAN – Iranian Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi has called for increasing electricity exchange with neighboring countries in a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan Shahin Mustafayev in Tehran, IRNA reported on Monday.

Mentioning that Iran and Azerbaijan's power grids are already connected and the two countries are exchanging electricity, Aliabadi expressed hope that the level of exchanges will increase soon. ▶ Page 4

The rise of Hezbollah's drone empire: Insights from the Oct.13 attack

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN – Hezbollah's drones have become a thorn in the side of Israel, exposing the regime's Achilles heel amid its aggression against Lebanon.

Israel's susceptibility to drone attacks has come under scrutiny after one of its military bases was struck at the weekend.

On Sunday, Oct. 13, the Lebanese resistance movement carried out a drone attack against the Golani Brigade's base. It is an elite Israeli infantry unit near Haifa. The drone penetrated Israeli air defenses undetected killing four soldiers and injuring dozens of others. ▶ Page 5

Global outrage over Israeli threats against UNIFIL

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN – International anger at threats by Israel and its Prime Minister against the United Nations peacekeeping troops in Lebanon is mounting.

The UN Security Council has expressed "strong concern" after Israeli forces injured several troops with the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

The council's statement was its first reaction to the rising Israeli attacks against UNIFIL's troops and bases, which are scattered across the Lebanese border.

"UN peacekeepers and UN premises must never be the target of an attack" the 15-member council said in a statement passed by consensus. ▶ Page 5

Deputy SG: Hezbollah is leading the battle to "hurt Israel"

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT – "We are the ones who will seize the raging Zionist beast by its reins and bring it back to its fold," Hezbollah Deputy Secretary General Sheikh Naim Qassem said in an open reference to Benjamin Netanyahu, the prime minister of the Israeli occupation regime.

Sheikh Naim Qassem made the remarks in his third speech since the onset of the ongoing Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

Threatening the US-Israeli warlords, Sheikh Qassem also stressed that "Operation Flood of Al-Aqsa" was a legitimate right for the Palestinians. ▶ Page 5

TEHRAN PAPERS

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

Bluff has put Israel in a predicament

In a note, Kayhan addressed the lack of response from Israel to Iran until now after Iran's missile attack and said: In the first few days after Iran's attack on Israel, the Zionist authorities were boasting that they would immediately respond to Iran, but two weeks later, Radio Farda, seeking to justify Israel's helplessness, said the Hebrew calendar was not considered for Israel's "imminent response" to Iran. According to two Israeli officials, Israel's non-response to Iran is related to the conversation between Joe Biden and Kamala Harris with the prime minister of Israel; the conversation that Netanyahu has publicly requested to coordinate with the White House regarding Israel's action against Iran and postponed his war minister's trip to Washington until this conversation. Israeli commanders believe that the lack of a strong attack will lead to further attacks by Iran. Netanyahu's regime knows that if Israel makes a mistake this time, it will face completely different strikes from the previous two strikes and it will suffer heavy casualties and damages.

Shargh: Diplomacy in the most difficult condition

Shargh devoted its editorial to Iran's important and extensive diplomatic measures regarding the developments in the region and wrote: Given America's support for Israel's possible attack on Iran, as well as issues such as American bases and soldiers in almost all conservative Arab countries and Iran's relationship with these countries, the situation is greatly sensitive. In a situation that oil prices have increased by 10% over the past two weeks, preventing an attack on oil facilities in the region is an important issue that should be put on the diplomatic agenda.

When most Arab countries have held positions that are different from those of Hezbollah and Iran, the way they deal with the issue is important. Iran has turned to diplomacy in a situation where the opposite sides have always used it for building coalitions, building trust, continuing dialogue, and working on diplomatic solutions. Negotiation is the main focus of diplomacy, and even if a negotiation process doesn't produce any tangible results, at least doing it is a victory.

Omani-Iranian joint military commission holds annual meeting in Muscat

TEHRAN – The 19th annual meeting of the Omani-Iranian joint military commission officially opened on Monday in Muscat, Oman.

Hosted by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Oman, the meeting brings together senior military officials from both nations to discuss key areas of cooperation and further enhance their longstanding military relationship.

The meeting is being co-chaired by Brigadier-General Mohammad Ahadi, Chief of Defense Diplomacy and International Relations of the Iranian Armed Forces, and Brigadier Hamad bin Rashid al Balushi, Deputy Operations and Planning Chief of the Omani Armed Forces General Staff. The high-level discussions are aimed at reinforcing the defense partnership between the two neighboring countries.

On the first day, military representatives from Oman and Iran exchanged views on a variety of topics, focusing on ways to deepen collaboration in military affairs. The agenda includes joint

Iran: What "THAAD" can do?

In an analysis, the Iran newspaper discussed the deployment of the American THAAD air defense system in Israel and said: The THAAD anti-missile defense system does not have much chance against Iranian missiles. The Zionist regime has many air defense systems to deal with missile attacks. In addition to these systems, Israel also has the Arrow 3 system. This system was designed and built with the cooperation of the United States to intercept long-range ballistic missiles outside the Earth's atmosphere. However, it took less than a year for this advanced anti-missile system to prove its effectiveness following Iran's True Promise II operation. According to the official declaration of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps, more than 90% of the missiles successfully hit the designated targets in Tel Aviv. According to such an experience, it does not seem that THAAD will have a different fate than the joint system of America and Israel, because the United States and the Zionist regime, by combining the features of "THAAD and Arrow", designed Arrow 3 and put it into operation.

Hamshahri: Tehran-Washington talks through Muscat come to a halt

In an interview with Hassan Beheshtipour, an expert on international issues, Hamshahri discussed the halt in Iran-U.S. negotiations through Muscat. He said: Some analysts of regional developments have interpreted Iran's decision as an action aimed at putting pressure on Washington to reign in on the Zionist regime. In addition to the special conditions that govern the region, the process followed in the Muscat consultations has also been effective in such a decision. Considering the boring and fruitless process of indirect negotiations between Iran and America in Oman, this process could not produce any results if it continued. What has been more effective in stopping the Muscat process is the critical situation in the region. Controlling the Zionist regime in its daily crimes has become a central priority, which also affects the negotiations in Muscat. Also, the outlook for a resumption of negotiation between Tehran and Washington to lift sanctions is not very clear at least until the presidential elections in the United States. Currently, managing tensions is considered the main priority.



exercises, training programs, and increased cooperation in areas of regional security, reflecting both nations' commitment to maintaining stability in the Gulf region.

The Omani-Iranian joint military commission has become a critical platform for defense dialogue between the two countries, allowing for the regular exchange of ideas and strategies to enhance mutual security. Both sides expressed optimism about the outcomes of this year's meeting, which is expected to further solidify their cooperation in military fields and contribute to the broader goal of peace and stability in the region.

Iran urges Canada to separate politics from financial crimes in Khavari extradition case

TEHRAN – The head of the Iranian International Police has addressed Canada's decision not to extradite Iranian fugitive embezzler Mahmoud-Reza Khavari to Tehran, urging Ottawa to separate political matters from financial and security offenses.

As reported by IRNA, Majid Karimi stated that Iran is actively pursuing the case, highlighting that the court's rulings have been shared with Interpol and Canadian law enforcement.

Karimi remarked, "This situation has unfortunately evolved beyond normal circumstances and has taken on apolitical

dimension." Karimi acknowledged the absence of an extradition agreement between Iran and Canada but emphasized that both nations are members of Interpol, which allows for potential cooperation and discussions regarding extradition matters. He emphasized Interpol's position on distinguishing between political and non-political issues, calling for Canada to engage in collaborative efforts in this context.

Khavari, a former Iranian banker, played a key role in the 2011 Iranian embezzlement scandal, which resulted in significant financial losses for the country. Iran's attempts to extradite him from Canada have thus far been unsuccessful.

Iranians pay tribute to martyred IRGC commander in Tehran funeral

TEHRAN – A solemn funeral ceremony was held in Tehran on Tuesday for Major General Abbas Nilforooshan, a senior commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), who was martyred last month in an Israeli airstrike on Lebanon.

Nilforooshan, along with Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, was targeted in an attack that struck residential buildings in Beirut's Dahiyeh suburb on September 27.

Thousands of mourners gathered in Tehran's Imam Hussein Square to honor the general, whose coffin, draped in the Iranian national flag, was carried through the crowd.

The Israeli airstrike has been widely condemned by Iranian officials, and Nilforooshan's mar-



tyrdom has been hailed as a symbol of resistance against Israeli aggression.

Following the recovery long after assassination, Nilforooshan's body was transported from Beirut to the holy city of Karbala in Iraq, where a large crowd, including representatives of Iraqi political

groups, participated in his funeral procession. The prayers in Karbala were led by a representative of Iraq's top Shia cleric, Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani.

The slain general was also honored in a procession in Najaf, home to the revered shrine of Imam Ali (AS), the first Shia

Imam. After these ceremonies, Nilforooshan's remains were returned to Tehran for further memorials, with additional ceremonies planned in the Iranian cities of Mashhad and Qom.

Nilforooshan is set to be buried on Thursday in his home city of Isfahan, marking the conclusion of a series of national tributes to the high-ranking military figure.

General 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. His death was confirmed following the Israeli airstrike that targeted several residential buildings in Beirut's southern suburb of Dahiyeh.

Tehran slams EU, UK sanctions as 'baseless' and 'politically motivated'

From page 1 ▶ Iran's spokesman asserted, "These European countries are complicit in the crimes against the Palestinian and Lebanese populations, noting that their support for the Zionist regime not only contravenes international law but also violates the Convention on the Prohibition of Genocide."

Furthermore, Baqaei reaffirmed Iran's inherent right to engage in defense and military cooperation with other nations, including Russia, to fulfill its defense requirements and safeguard its national security.

On Monday, the European Union enacted new sanctions against three Iranian airlines including Iran Air, Mahan Air, and Saha Airlines; accusing them of facilitating the transfer of

Iranian-manufactured missiles and drones to Russia. In addition, the bloc announced restrictive measures against seven Iranian military individuals and various entities based on similar allegations.

European nations persist in alleging Iran's military involvement in the Ukraine conflict without presenting any evidence

In a parallel move, the British government introduced new sanctions targeting several Iranian military officials and the Iranian Space Organization, citing Iran's legitimate response to the aggressive actions of the Israeli regime.

These sanctions, announced on Monday, focused on high-ranking Iranian military personnel and organizations linked to Operation True Promise II.

Simultaneously, EU foreign policy chief, Josep Borrell, and British Foreign Minister David Lam-

my issued a joint statement condemning Iran for its involvement in the Ukraine conflict, while also criticizing Iran's legitimate reactions to the Israeli regime's aggression. They reaffirmed their commitment to imposing sanctions on Iran.

The EU statement was released on Monday following discussions between the two officials during the Council of Foreign Ministers meeting of the European Union in Luxembourg.

Baqaei characterized the anti-Iran measures as unjustified and contrary to international law, arguing that the actions taken by the EU and the UK are inconsistent with their professed commitment to human rights.

"The Iranian government maintains that the allegations behind the sanctions are unfounded and represent an attempt to exert political influence rather than address legitimate concerns," Baqaei concluded.

Iran summons Hungarian ambassador over fresh EU sanctions

Tehran – Iran has formally protested new sanctions imposed by the European Union (EU) by summoning the Hungarian ambassador to Tehran.

Giola Peto, whose country holds the rotating presidency of the EU Council, was summoned to the Iranian Foreign Ministry on

Tuesday. Officials conveyed Iran's strong objection to the EU's October 14th decision to sanction Iranian individuals and entities.

The Ministry declared the EU's use of sanctions as an illegal and unacceptable tactic, emphasizing that such measures would prove ineffective. Officials stressed

that Iran's defense cooperation with other nations is entirely legal and necessary for safeguarding its interests and security.

The EU announced the sanctions on Monday, targeting three Iranian airlines, four companies, and seven individuals for their alleged role in supplying Irani-

an-made missiles and drones to Russia during the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Iran has repeatedly denied involvement in the Ukraine war, asking the West and Kyiv to provide evidence for their claims. No evidence has yet been put forth.

'Psychological warfare': Iran slams Western reports of involvement in Oct. 7 operation

TEHRAN – Iran's mission to the United Nations has firmly rejected Western reports of Tehran's involvement in Hamas' Operation True Promise which hit the occupied territories last year, characterizing the claims as psychological operations.

On Monday, the Iranian mission to the United Nations posted on its X account, stating, "Psychological operations aim to mislead public opinion by selectively blending certain evident facts with false information.

Iran's support for the Resistance Front in their struggle against occupation and aggression is well-known and indisputable."

The statement further emphasized that implicating Iran or Hezbollah in the October 7 Operation is a fabricated narrative and a cynical effort to mislead the public, intended to obscure the significant intelligence failures of the Israeli regime regarding Hamas.

The Iranian mission in New York remarked

that certain American media outlets, by becoming instruments of this psychological operation, are inadvertently undermining the credibility of assessments made by their own intelligence and security agencies, which have been raised at the highest levels, including by the president of the United States.

The mission underscored that the Islamic Republic of Iran did not play any role in the planning, decision-making, or execution of the October 7 operation.

Tehran, Beirut discuss efforts to overcome obstacles to humanitarian aid delivery

TEHRAN – Mohammadreza Sheibani, the special aide to Iran's foreign minister for West Asia affairs, held discussions with Lebanese Health Minister Firass Abiad on Tuesday regarding the ongoing challenges in delivering humanitarian aid to Lebanon.

The conversation, which took place via phone, centered on addressing the difficulties caused by the Zionist regime's interference in the aid process and finding solutions to ensure the delivery of much-needed assistance.

During the call, Sheibani and Abiad reviewed the current humanitarian situation of Lebanese refugees, highlighting the critical need for uninterrupted aid, especially in the context of the ongoing conflict.

Sheibani emphasized Iran's commitment to supporting the Lebanese people, particularly those displaced and affected by the war. He noted that the Iranian government is paying close attention

to the crisis and is determined to provide relief despite the obstacles created by Israel.

The conversation also touched on the specific barriers that have hindered Iran's efforts to send humanitarian aid to Lebanon. The Zionist regime has created significant logistical and political challenges, complicating the transfer of vital supplies to Lebanon's most vulnerable populations. Both sides discussed potential strategies to navigate these difficulties and ensure aid reaches those in need.

Lebanese Health Minister Firass Abiad expressed deep appreciation for Iran's continued support during Lebanon's most challenging times. He thanked Iran for hosting wounded Lebanese individuals and refugees, as well as for the humanitarian aid already provided. Abiad acknowledged the longstanding relationship between the two nations and praised Iran's unwavering assistance to the Lebanese government and people throughout various crises.



The discussion between the two officials underscored the importance of international cooperation in overcoming the humanitarian challenges facing Lebanon, with both countries reaffirming their commitment to providing relief in the face of adversity.

According to Lebanon's health ministry, Israeli strikes have killed at least 2,309 people and injured more than 10,782 others in Lebanon since the tensions escalated.

Since September, Israel has increased its strikes on Hezbollah positions, resulting in the death of Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah and several other senior officials.

Qaani's final shot at Western rumors

Quds Force chief undercuts Western media psychological war with appearance at public event

From Page 1 ▶ After the bodies of the victims of the Israeli assault were recovered and identified, Western media outlets engaged in a new wave of disinformation. They claimed that Qaani had been gravely injured in the attack but managed to survive. This fabrication was then reinforced by the claim that the Quds Force commander returned to Tehran aboard the plane of Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi, who had made a brief trip to Beirut on October 4th.

When a high-ranking IRGC official finally addressed the rumors surrounding Qaani's health, flatly denying his martyrdom or injury, the Western media machine was forced to invent yet another lie. This time, the fantastical story came from the Middle East Eye, a UK-based news website reportedly funded by the Qatari government.

An Iraqi journalist, well-known for her hostile stance towards the Resistance, reported on October 10th that "ten sources in Tehran, Beirut, and Baghdad" had told MEE that Qaani was "under guard" and "being questioned" for his involvement in the "intelligence breach" allowing Israel to assassinate Nasrallah. Other outlets took a step further in their outlandish lies, claiming General Qaani had suffered a "heart attack" during interrogation.

But the commander who had been declared dead, injured, and arrested within a mere two weeks, made a public appearance on Tuesday. Qaani joined his IRGC colleagues and other Iranian



officials at the funeral ceremony for General Nilforooshan, looking completely unscathed and at ease. He was captured on film praying quietly and engaging in conversations with fellow attendees, contradicting any claim put forth by Western media in the past days.

What is Western media doing?

Qaani, like his predecessor, Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani, is known for maintaining a

low profile, rarely appearing in the public eye or engaging with the media. Figures like him are typically only seen at official ceremonies attended by all ranks of Iranian officials. So, the fact that Western media tried to cast doubt on his whereabouts by highlighting his "long absence from public view" was already ridiculous to begin with.

"I think besides trying to demoralize Resistance forces, Western media, teamed up with Israeli and American spy agencies to help track Qaani and his activities," said Seyyed Reza Sadrolhosseini, a West Asia expert. "Gathering intelligence on Quds commanders is notoriously difficult. To circumvent this, authorities likely used Western media to provoke a reaction from Iran. They hoped that the spread of these fabricated stories would eventually force Qaani to publicly address the rumors, making him easier to track or expose his movements."

The expert warned that such close and frequent collaboration with spy agencies would irreparably damage the credibility of Western media outlets, a process that has already begun. "The public's faith in Western media is rapidly eroding. Once seen as reliable sources of information, outlets like Reuters and the New York Times are increasingly facing scrutiny and skepticism as people question their open willingness to distort the truth. The days of blindly accepting their narratives are waning, as a growing number of individuals seek alternative sources of information like social media."

'Do not play with fire': Government warns against Israeli provocation

TEHRAN – In a press conference held on Tuesday, Fatemeh Mohajerani, the spokesperson for the Iranian government, issued a stern warning to those attempting to challenge Iran's national interests.

Addressing the journalists, Mohajerani emphasized that Iran's sovereignty and security remain non-negotiable. During her remarks, Mohajerani made it clear that Iran will never compromise on its national interests for the sake of appeasing foreign powers.

"Iran will never trade its national interests for anything else," she stated firmly, signaling the country's

unwavering stance in the face of international pressures and regional tensions. In a sharp message to Iran's adversaries, Mohajerani cautioned against underestimating the nation's military capabilities.

Referring to a recent military operation known as True Promise II, she remarked, "What occurred was only a small demonstration of Iran's power."

"The operation, which showcased Iran's military strength, served as a reminder that the country is ready to defend its interests," Mohajerani noted. "Under no circumstances should anyone play games with Iran," she added, suggesting that any further

provocations would be met with decisive action. Mohajerani also conveyed Iran's readiness to respond to threats swiftly and effectively. "Iran is fully prepared to respond whenever necessary," she declared.

Echoing the words of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, she emphasized that while Iran will not act hastily, it will not delay in defending itself. "We will give any response, at any time, and in any place that is needed."

Concluding her remarks, Mohajerani reiterated that Iran has always maintained a defensive posture on the world stage.

"The world should know that Iran

has never been the initiator of war, but it is determined in its defense," she said, underscoring the country's commitment to peace while asserting its readiness to protect its sovereignty at all costs.

Iran launched hundreds of missiles towards the Israeli entity's military, and espionage and intelligence bases all over the occupied territories on October 1 as part of Operation True Promise II. The operation came in response to the regime's assassination of senior leaders of the Palestinian and Lebanese Resistance front and a commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC). Israel has since vowed to respond.

'High synergy among Resistance forces signals imminent victory': IRGC deputy chief

TEHRAN – The deputy commander of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) remarked on the increasing synergy between the military and diplomatic efforts of the Islamic Republic and Resistance Axis, highlighting the imminent victory over the Zionist regime.

As reported by ISNA, Brigadier General Ali Fadavi made these comments on Tuesday during the funeral ceremony for martyr Abbas Nilforushan.

Fadavi stated, "The coordination between our military and diplomatic efforts has strengthened significantly."

This is particularly evident now; however, our longstanding strategy has always been to keep

all avenues open for achieving victory against the infidel forces of America and its satanic allies."

The Resistance front will determine the fate of West Asia through unmatched victories

IRGC commander further stated, "Both the military front and the diplomatic front have consistently remained accessible."

Fadavi emphasized, "The achievements of

the Resistance Front are unmatched. Also, the developments over the past year have been extraordinary, resulting in the formation of a substantial coalition."

"The outcome of the conflict is assured: according to divine promise, victory is destined for the party of Almighty God, while defeat is reserved for the party of Satan. We are witnessing this reality once again, a situation we have observed for the past forty-five years," the commander concluded.

Major General Abbas Nilforushan, a high-ranking commander of the IRGC Quds Force, was laid to rest in Tehran on Tuesday following his martyrdom in the September 27 air strike by the Israeli regime in Beirut.

Iran, Zimbabwe discuss strengthening ties through parliamentary cooperation

TEHRAN – In a meeting held on the sidelines of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly in Geneva, Iran's Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf and the Speaker of Zimbabwe's National Assembly, Jacob Francis Mudenda, discussed expanding ties between the two nations.

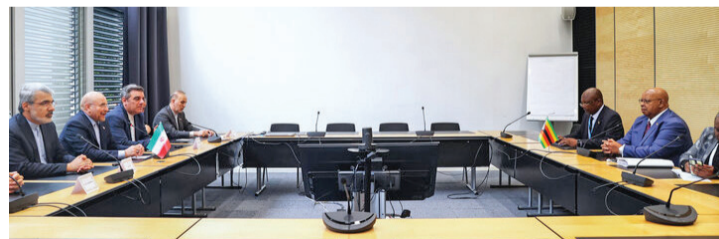
Both leaders emphasized that strengthening parliamentary cooperation could pave the way for enhancing broader governmental relations. During their discussion, Qalibaf highlighted the long-standing relationship between Iran and Zimbabwe, noting that both countries share a history of resistance against oppression. This common struggle, he said, provides a strong foundation for cooperation in various fields.

"Parliamentary cooperation between the two countries can serve as a basis for deepening relations between our governments," Qalibaf stated, underscoring the potential for closer collaboration in areas such as healthcare, medical technology, and other knowledge-based sectors.

Qalibaf also addressed the challenges posed by illegal sanctions that have targeted both Iran and Zimbabwe. He proposed that the two countries explore innovative mechanisms, such as barter systems, to overcome banking and financial hurdles. "By working closely together, we can tackle the issues caused by these oppressive sanctions," he said, calling for greater economic cooperation to mitigate the effects of international restrictions.

In response, Zimbabwe's Speaker Mudenda expressed his country's readiness to further develop parliamentary relations with Iran.

He acknowledged that both nations face similar challenges, particularly the illegal sanctions that violate international norms. Mudenda also highlighted the strong economic and commercial ties between Zimbabwe and Iran, noting that his country welcomes Iranian investors, especially in the medical sector where Iran has shown significant capabilities. Expressing gratitude for Zimbabwe's continued support of



Palestine and Lebanon, Qalibaf also urged stronger international efforts to address the ongoing crises in Gaza and Lebanon.

He called on governments, parliaments, and nations to unite against the crimes committed by the Zionist regime and work towards a lasting ceasefire. "Iran will support any decision made by the government and people of Lebanon and the Resistance Front," Qalibaf added, affirming Iran's commitment to standing with Lebanon in the face of regional challenges.

Since October 2023, Israel has expanded its military campaign to include Lebanon as part of its broader offensive in the Gaza Strip. In response to Israeli aggression, Hezbollah has

launched several retaliatory attacks, including the use of a hypersonic ballistic missile targeting the occupied Palestinian territories.

Tensions have escalated since late September, with Israel increasing its strikes on Hezbollah positions, resulting in the death of Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah and several other senior officials. According to Lebanon's health ministry, Israeli strikes have killed at least 2,309 people and injured more than 10,782 others since the conflict began. Hezbollah has vowed to continue its resistance against Israel as long as the Israeli offensive in Gaza persists. The ongoing war in Gaza has claimed the lives of more than 42,000 Palestinians, most of whom are women and children.

OCTOBER 16, 2024

Straight Truth
TEHRAN TIMES

3

SPORTS

Firouzpour favorite to win gold in U23 World Championships

TEHRAN – Amir Hossein Firouzpour will be in Tirana, Albania for his third U23 World Championships.

The Iranian freestyler won bronze in 2021 and gold in 2022. Firouzpour will be the favorite for the gold with Mustafagadzi Malachdibirov (AIN) offering competition.

Malachdibirov won the gold medal at the U-20 World Championships this year.

The U23 World Wrestling Championships 2024 will be held in Tirana, Albania from October 21 to 27. This is the second consecutive year that the tournament will be held in Tirana.

More than 650 wrestlers are entered to compete in the event with 240 wrestlers each in Freestyle and Greco-Roman and 184 wrestlers in Women's Wrestling. The tournament will begin with Greco-Roman, followed by Women's Wrestling and Freestyle at the end.

Shadi Rezaei named Persepolis women football team head coach

TEHRAN – Shadi Rezaei has been appointed as head coach of newly-established team Persepolis women football club. Rezaei, 33, has previously worked as head coach in Tehran-based Ava.

Persepolis will start its presence in the Kowsar Women Football League 1st Division next month.

The Kowsar Women Football League is a women's football league, run by the Football Federation Islamic Republic of Iran.

At the top of the Iranian football league system, it is the country's primary competition for the sport. It was established in 2007.

Rezaei not granted visa for participation in Volleyball Hall of Fame

TEHRAN – Iran sitting volleyball head coach Hadi Rezaei is unable to travel to the Holyoke, Massachusetts, the U.S. to attend the International Volleyball Hall of Fame ceremony.

In early April, the institution based in Holyoke, published the names of the 23 candidates for this year's induction, and nine other distinguished volleyball figures were inducted.

Rezaei is a coaching legend. The 63-year-old has led the Iranian sitting men's volleyball team to an unprecedented five golds and two silver medals at the last seven Paralympics.

Last month, Iran won their eighth gold medal in the history of Paralympics.

Table tennis coach Lotfollah Nasabi hails Iran sensation Faraji

TEHRAN – Iran's 14-year-old table tennis sensation, Benyamin Faraji, stunned the world by defeating reigning world champion Wang Chuqin at the 2024 Asian Table Tennis Championships.

Despite Faraji's heroics, Iran's men's team faced tough competition, losing to powerhouses China and Japan. Nevertheless, the team's eighth-place finish ensured their qualification for the World Championships. "We had a tough group in the competition," said Iran's head coach, Jamil Lotfollah Nasabi. "Benyamin started us off against Wang Chuqin, the world number one, and he played with incredible confidence. It was a remarkable performance." Securing just one quota for the 2025 World Championships, through Noshad Alamiyan, was not the only achievement from the 2024 Asian Table Tennis Championships, according to the head coach of Iran.

"In addition to Alamiyan individual quota, our team's eighth-place finish qualified us for the team event at the 2025 World Championships, as the top 10 Asian teams advance," Lotfollah Nasabi said.

He also praised veteran Noshad Alamiyan, who narrowly missed out on a crucial victory over his Chinese opponent.

"Noshad was leading 12-11 and had a chance to change the outcome of the match, but unfortunately, it didn't go our way."

The coach expressed optimism about the future of the Iranian table tennis, particularly highlighting Faraji's potential.

"Benyamin has shown that he is a future star. With the right support, he can achieve great things. Iran's impressive showing at the Asian Championships has raised hopes for a strong performance at the World Championships and, ultimately, a qualification for the Olympics," he concluded.

Iran marks 17th National Paralympic Day

TEHRAN – Iran's National Paralympic Committee (NPC) celebrated the National Paralympic Day for the 17th time on Tuesday, Oct. 15.

Following the success of several editions of National Paralympic Day in previous years and outstanding feedback from last year's National Paralympic Week, the day was included in the country's calendar.

The Iran's NPC has started the talent identification in 16 sports as part of program for the Tashkent 2025 Asian Youth Para Games.

A total of 622 boys and 511 girls compete in a four-day competition in Tehran, capital of Iran, where possible to give coaches the best chance to evaluate them for the upcoming Asian Youth Para Games. The week was supported by the development arm of the International Paralympic Committee – Agitos Foundation – which provided funding through its Grant Support Program.

During National Paralympic Week, athletes tried to introduce and promote sports for people with impairments in schools, universities and media and even among their families to develop the concept of sport for all.

Every year, the Iranian National Paralympic Committee celebrates their 'National Paralympic Week' with a series of sporting events and cultural and development programs for people with impairment, particularly the younger generation, in a bid to familiarize them with para-sports.

At the last Paralympic Games held in Paris in 2024, Iranian athletes won eight gold, 10 silver and seven bronze medals including one gold, five silvers and one bronze for the women of the team.

Iran has progressed in Paralympic sports and turned into a powerhouse nation in the recent editions.

In total, Iran has achieved 68 golds, 58 silvers and 52 bronzes since making its Paralympic debut at Seoul 1988.

Esteghlal, Al Nassr in Dubai's Rashid Stadium

TEHRAN – Football match between Esteghlal of Iran and Saudi Arabia's Al Naassr will be held in Dubai's Rashid Stadium.

The match was moved from its original venue in Tehran due to security concerns.

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) had informed Esteghlal to find a neutral ground for its AFC Champions League Elite match against Saudi Pro League side Al Nassr. Al Nassr and Esteghlal sit fourth and fifth respectively in the 12-team table.

The top eight finishers of each League progress to the Round of 16, scheduled for March 2025, which will be followed by a unique centralized Finals that sees all matches from the Quarter-finals onwards being contested in Saudi Arabia between April 25 and May 4, 2025.

A total of 24 clubs compete in the league stage of the competition, divided into East and West regions (12 teams each). The winners of the AFC Champions League Elite qualify for the FIFA Intercontinental Cup and the FIFA Club World Cup, and also for the next edition of the AFC Champions League Elite league stage if they have not already qualified through their domestic performance.

PMO plans to attract \$1.2b of domestic investment in ports

TEHRAN – The head of Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) has said the organization has put it on the agenda to attract 600 trillion rials (about \$1.2 billion) of investment from the country's private sector in ports and maritime sector.

According to Ali-Akbar Safaei, PMO has defined various projects to develop the country's ports and only in the infrastructure sector over 960 trillion rials (about \$1.9 billion) of investment projects have been defined and ready to be awarded to the private sector, IRNA reported.

Back in July, the official had said that over the past few years the organization has managed to attract nearly \$1.7 billion of foreign and domestic investment in the country's ports and maritime sector.

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

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

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

the rail, roads and infrastructure sector.

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

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

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

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

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

Non-oil export from Khuzestan increases 40%

TEHRAN- The value of non-oil exports from Khuzestan province in the southwest of Iran increased by 40 percent during the first six months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-September 21), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, a provincial official announced.

Behrouz Qarehbeygi, an official with the customs department of the province, said that 10.463 million tons of non-oil goods worth \$3.684 billion were exported from the province in the six-month period, indicating also eight percent rise in terms of weight year on year.

He further announced that 7.613 million tons of non-oil commodities worth \$4.164 billion were imported to the province in the first six months of the present year, showing 13 percent growth in terms of weight as compared to the same period of time in the previous year, while no change in value.

As previously announced by the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), the value of Iran's non-oil exports increased by 6.5 percent during the first six months of the current Iranian calendar year, as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

Mohammad Rezvanifar said that the country exported 70 million tons of non-oil products valued at \$25.8 billion during the first half of this year, also indicating 3.5 percent growth in terms of weight, year on year.

According to the IRICA head, Iran also exported \$23.2 billion of oil and \$600 million of technical and engineering services during the mentioned period, boosting the country's total exports to \$49.6 billion.

During this period, the imports reached \$32.6 billion, including \$2.5 billion of gold bullion.

Stating that the country's total trade exchange during the first half of the current year was \$82.2 billion, he added: "During this period, the trade balance of the country without oil and technical and engineering services was 6.8 billion dollars negative, and taking into account oil and technical and engineering services, it was 17 billion dollars positive."

"The average value per ton of export goods increased by three percent to \$366 in the first six months of this year," he noted.

China with \$7.2 billion, Iraq with \$5.2 billion, United Arab Emirates with \$3.4 billion, Turkey with \$2.4 billion, Afghanistan with \$1.1 billion, Pakistan with \$1.0 billion, and India with \$900 million were the main export destinations of Iranian goods during the mentioned period.

These seven countries accounted for 81 percent of the weight and 82 percent of the total value of Iran's exports, according to Rezvanifar.

The UAE with \$10 billion, China with \$8.5 billion, Turkey with \$5.1 billion, Germany with \$1.2 billion, the Russian Federation and India with \$800 million each, and Hong Kong with \$600 million were

also the top sources of imports for Iran in the first half of the current year.

China, UAE, and Turkey were Iran's top trading partners in the mentioned six months, Rezvanifar said.

The official has also announced that the value of Iran's foreign trade including oil and technical engineering services reached \$153.178 billion in the last Iranian calendar year 1402 (ended on March 19).

According to Mohammad Rezvanifar, the value of the Islamic Republic's trade with the partners in the previous year increased by 2.6 percent compared to the same period last year.

The official put the country's non-oil exports, excluding exports of electricity, crude oil, and techno-engineering services, at 136.4 million tons worth \$49.33 billion which shows a 9.82 percent rise in terms of tonnage and an 8.87 percent decline in terms of value.

Iran exported \$35.87 billion of crude oil, \$370 million of electricity, and \$1.293 billion of technical engineering services in the mentioned year, according to Rezvanifar.

According to him, during this period, 48.8 million tons of petrochemical products worth \$19.4 billion were also exported, which shows a decrease of 11.32 percent and 28.59 percent in terms of weight and value, respectively.

During this period, liquefied natural gas with \$3.9 billion, liquefied propane with \$3.62 billion, and bitumen-oil with \$2.19 billion were Iran's top exported items.

Iran's top export destination during this period was China with \$13.915 billion worth of imports from the Islamic Republic, followed by Iraq with \$9.215 billion, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with over \$6.611 billion, Turkey with \$4.16 billion, and India with \$2.17 billion.

The official put the average customs value of each ton of exported goods at \$362 which has decreased by 17 percent compared to the preceding year.

During this period, 39 million tons of goods worth \$66.28 billion were also imported into the country, which shows an increase of 4.39 percent in terms of weight and 77.9 percent in terms of value, he said.

The country's top five sources of imports in the previous year were the UAE with \$20.782 billion, China with \$18.545 billion, Turkey with \$7.541 billion, Germany with \$2.155 billion, and India with \$1.917 billion worth of imports.

Corn, mobile phones, and gold ingots were the top three imported items followed by soybeans, automobile parts, sunflower seeds, and safflower were the five main items imported by the Islamic Republic.

Rezvanifar said the average customs value of each ton of imported goods increased by \$5.16 and reached \$1,697.

Iranian finance minister underlines implementing MOUs with China

TEHRAN – Iran's Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Abdolnaser Hemmati has emphasized the importance of implementing the memorandums of understanding (MOUs) signed between Iran and China.

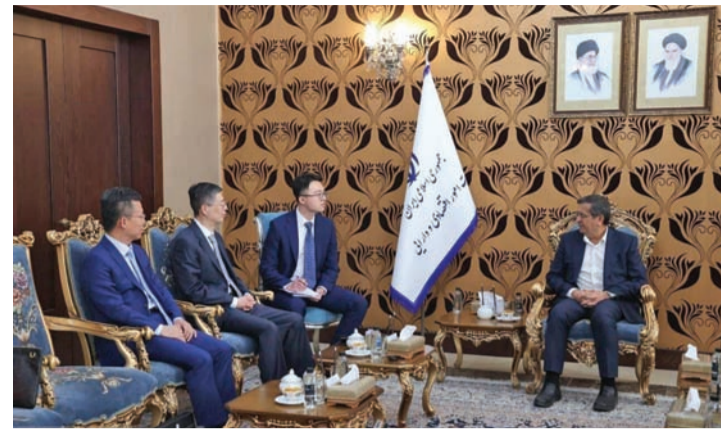
Hemmati made the remarks in a meeting with China's Ambassador to Tehran Cong Peiwu on Monday, IRNA reported.

In this meeting, the Iranian minister followed up on the negotiations that took place during the BRICS Economic Ministers' Meeting in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, stressing the importance of implementing the MOUs between the two countries.

He also considered the two countries' Joint Economic Committee as a suitable platform for negotiations on economic, trade, and investment cooperation, and welcomed the holding of the 19th Joint Economic Committee in Tehran.

Cong Peiwu, for his part, stated that Beijing aims to expedite the implementation of the MOUs and enhance practical cooperation to deepen relations between the two countries.

Both sides also highlighted the commitment of their statesmen to comprehensive development, ex-



Iran's Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Abdolnaser Hemmati (right) and China's Ambassador to Tehran Cong Peiwu (middle left)

pressing hope that consultations between senior officials of Iran and China will continue to expand bilateral relations.

In late September, Hemmati had also met and held talks with Chinese Minister of Finance Lan Fo'an, during which the two sides emphasized the implementation of the two countries' long-term strategic partnership plan.

Hemmati met with Fo'an on the sidelines of the 9th Ministerial meeting of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) members in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

In addition to the issues relat-

ed to the cooperation of the two countries in AIIB, the two sides discussed the most important issues related to bilateral relations, especially the follow-up of the results of previous agreements.

Holding the two countries' Joint Economic Committee meeting in the new future was another topic discussed by the two officials.

In this meeting, the ministers of the two countries emphasized that Iran and China have put a more serious and deeper implementation of the comprehensive long-term strategic plan of the two countries on their agenda and will continue this path in the official interactions

Iran's oil output rises in September despite decline in OPEC production: report

TEHRAN – The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in its latest report, published on Monday, has said Iran produced 3.316 million barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil in September, registering a 21,000-bpd increase compared to the previous month.

Based on the OPEC data, the increase in Iran's oil production comes as the total production by the members of the organization decreased 604,000 bpd in the mentioned month.

As reported, Iran has maintained its place as OPEC's third-biggest oil producer after Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

Based on secondary sources, Iran produced 3.295 million bpd of crude oil in August, the report said.

The Islamic Republic's average crude output for the third quarter of 2024 stood at 3.3 million bpd indicating a 62,000-bpd increase

compared to the figure for the second quarter of the year.

The report put the average Iranian crude output for 2022 at 2.554 million bpd, while the average output in 2023 was 2.859 million bpd.

Iran's average crude oil price decreased by \$7.01 per barrel in September compared to August, according to the report.

Iran's crude oil was sold at \$73.59 per barrel on average in September, while the price was \$77.63 in August.

Back in April, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported that Iran's oil production in 2023 saw an increase of 500,000 bpd in comparison to the previous year, reaching 3.1 million bpd.

According to the IMF data, the oil sector of Iran's economy recorded a noteworthy growth of 15 percent in 2023. Over the three years of

late President Ebrahim Raisi's tenure, this sector experienced a double-digit growth; therefore, the oil sector saw 10.1 percent, 10 percent, and 15 percent growth respectively in 2021, 2022, and 2023.

It is predicted that Iran's oil production will increase by another 100,000 bpd, reaching 3.2 million bpd in 2024.

Iran's gas production also increased from the equivalent of 4.8 million barrels of oil per day in 2022 to the equivalent of 5.1 million bpd in 2023. According to IMF, the figure is expected to rise by 300,000 bpd to reach the equivalent of 5.4 million bpd in 2024.

Iran exported 1.4 million barrels of oil per day in 2023, indicating an increase of 500,000 barrels compared to its oil export data in the previous year, and it is expected that in the current year, an additional 100,000 barrels will be added to Iran's oil exports, reaching 1.5 million bpd.

Iran, Azerbaijan discuss expansion of energy, transit ties



Iranian Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi (R) and Azeri Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Mustafayev talk to reporters in Tehran on Monday, October 14.

From page 1 ▶ "The electrical connection between Iran and Azerbaijan is now established, and it is hoped that this will increase by the summer of next year; It is also suggested that negotiations be held between Russia, Azerbaijan, Iran, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia to expand cooperation in the electricity sector," the minister said.

"Negotiations have also been held with Russia and it was decided to follow up on this issue in an upcoming meeting. The establishment of a power line between the two countries will be very beneficial for both sides economically," he added.

A roadmap for reaching 15m tons of transit

During his stay in Tehran, Mustafayev also met and held talks with the Iranian Transport and Urban Development Minister Farzaneh Sadegh.

In this meeting, Sadegh called for the preparation of a roadmap to increase annual transit between Iran and Azerbaijan to 15 million tons.

"The development of relations with the Republic of Azerbaijan has a high importance in the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and I am confident that these relations will be further enhanced in the future and in line with the interests of the two countries," she said.

The minister stressed that Iran is ready to develop relations with Azerbaijan in all sectors and the Transport Ministry is prepared to hold the two countries' 16th Joint Economic Committee meeting in Tehran as soon as possible to review all areas of cooperation.

In last December, Iran and Azerbaijan inaugurated a cross-border bridge over the Astarachay River to facilitate transit of goods be-

tween the two countries.

The opening ceremony of the border bridge was attended by Iranian and Azeri officials including Mustafayev and former Iranian Minister of Transport and Urban Development Mehrdad Bazrpash.

The border, which has been completed at a cost of €5.8 million, runs parallel to the Baku-Astara freeway up to the Astara border, the portal of the Iranian Transport Ministry reported.

Spanning 89 meters in length and over 30 meters in width, the bridge has four lanes for vehicles and a covered pedestrian walkway on each side.

The construction of the bridge began in March 2022.

While the existing bridge in Astara is located in the old area of the city, the new bridge is connected to Azerbaijan near the railway bridge.

Along with the Astara-Astara highway, the bridge now completes the route from Astara to Baku, connecting the highway to Iran's land routes.

The bridge facilitates the transit of goods from Iran and Azer-

baian to the countries of the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States) and Eastern Europe.

It also provides the Republic of Azerbaijan with access to the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the bridge, Mustafayev said: "In the shadow of the wise management of the presidents of Azerbaijan and Iran, the relations between the two countries are growing and developing continuously."

"Last year, the exchange of goods between the two countries grew by 46 percent, and transit rose by 45 percent, which is an important indicator of the development of infrastructure for transit between the two countries," the official said.

Referring to the importance of the North-South International Transport Corridor (INSTC) and the role it plays in the growth of economic relations between the two countries, Mustafayev added: "The opening of this new Astara-Astara bridge is very important in developing economic relations, transfer and transit between the two countries."

Iran and China also signed 20 memoranda of understanding in the presence of the presidents of the two countries in Beijing in mid-February, 2023.

Accelerating petchem projects, key to improving trade balance: NPC head

TEHRAN – Acting Head of Iran's National Petrochemical Company (NPC) Hassan Abbaszadeh says accelerating the completion of petrochemical projects is the key to improving

the country's foreign trade balance, Mehr News Agency reported.

Abbaszadeh said expediting the completion of the semi-finished projects of the petrochem-

ical industry is one of the main priorities of the Oil Ministry, adding: "the key to developing and increasing the trade and export is in the timely implementation of petrochemical projects."

Deputy SG: Hezbollah is leading the battle to “hurt Israel”

From page 1 ▶ He also called on the Zionist colonial settlers, the occupiers of the Palestinian territories, not to believe their leaders because Hezbollah is determined to defend Gaza and Lebanon. Sheikh Qassem insisted there was no way to separate Lebanon from Palestine.

Further, Hezbollah's deputy chief refuted all fabricated accusations directed at Tehran, emphasizing that the people of Palestine and Lebanon are repelling the American-Zionist expansionist threat thanks to support from Iran. He underscored that the Hezbollah resistance movement, whose establishment was accompanied, supported and pushed by the late founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeini (RA) is now shielded by Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei. He reiterated that Hezbollah is an example for every nation that is keen to preserve its sovereignty.

Sheikh Naim Qassem added that Hezbollah is a legitimate resistance to the destructive and exclusionary project that does not comply with or abide by international law.



The “New Middle East” will be shaped by the indigenous peoples of the region who are opposed to the US hegemony, Sheikh Naim Qassem noted. Therefore, he stated, Washington must automatically stop pushing its colonial proxy “Israel” towards the inevitable abyss.

Noting that political resistance is compatible with military resistance, Hezbollah's deputy chief said attrition is escalating on the borders and inside the occupied Palestinian territories. These moves, he said, are making the colonial

settlements ask: “Are we under the curse of the eighth decade?”

Besides, the deputy chief exposed the vicious endeavours by mainstream Western media and its mercenaries – anti-Resistance thinkers and journalists – that allege Hezbollah has entirely collapsed. He put brakes on the imperialist wheels, launching a new era of constructive ambiguity. In other words, he triggered an era of unprecedented surprises and adverse shocks by Hezbollah.

The current leader of Hezbollah – until the official an-

nouncement of a successor to martyr leader Sayyed Nasrallah – confidently spoke about the Resistance's fighters and the Resistance's societal incubator that nurtures its body, the honourable, patient and steadfast people.

Sheikh Qassem confirmed that the US-Israeli adventure will suffer more calamities in the upcoming days, as the elite brigades in the Zionist army miserably failed to exploit the open and unconditional Western support. The uncalculated project to eradicate Hezbollah is pure foolishness and political and military recklessness, he highlighted.

This means that we may expect further operations, ambushes, hybrid combat strategies revealing the might of the apostles of Martyr Sayyed Nasrallah. Ideologically, the American-Zionist enemy is facing a heroic resistance in southern Lebanon. Apostles strongly believe that their martyrs assist them from Heaven and perpetuate their just cause.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

The rise of Hezbollah's drone empire: Insights from the Oct. 13 attack

From page 1 ▶ On Sunday, Oct. 13, the Lebanese resistance movement carried out a drone attack against the Golani Brigade's base. It is an elite Israeli infantry unit near Haifa. The drone penetrated Israeli air defenses undetected killing four soldiers and injuring dozens of others.

The unmanned aerial vehicle hit the target successfully without triggering Israel's alert systems. The regime's troops were attacked without any warning.

Israel's major headache

CNN has called the Hezbollah drone strike a “major headache” for Israel despite launching a major bombardment campaign and a ground operation against Lebanon.

Daniel Sobelman, an international security expert at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (al-Quds), told CNN that the drone attack shows the resistance movement is still able to strike Israel.

Orna Mizrahi, a senior research fellow at the Israeli Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) in Tel Aviv, also told the American news channel that such drone attacks are indicative of Israel's “weakness”.

She also referred to the strikes carried out by regional resistance groups against Israel, saying, “Every time we find a solution for



something, they find another way to attack.”

This is not the first time that Hezbollah's drones have caught Israel off guard.

In June, Hezbollah released a nine-minute video filmed by a drone showing Israeli military sites and other strategic locations in and around Haifa. It went undetected by the Israeli army.

The drone mission humiliated Israel, highlighting its inability to detect and intercept such aircraft.

Israeli aggression

The Golani Brigade has been deployed to southern Lebanon as part of Israel's ground operation there.

Israel launched a massive bombing campaign in Lebanon on September 23 which was followed by a ground incursion into southern Lebanon a week later.

By Muhammad Mehdi

ISLAMABAD - The world, especially the Islamic world, has been facing a difficult situation for a year in which the space for the cemetery in Gaza is getting less. However, the Israeli barbaric acts are going on unabated.

Some time ago, when the representative of Hamas in Pakistan came to meet me, I put this question in front of him and asked the same question to the Arab journalists as to why Hamas felt the need to Tufan Al-Aqsa operation.

Among the Palestinians, the overwhelming idea is that the way Israel is being recognized in the Arab world, the Palestine issue would only remain in the books. They believed Arab countries would in imitation and other Muslim countries would stand in a row to recognize Israel. An Arab journalist told me that when a woman MP gave a speech in favor of Israel in the Parliament of Pakistan a few years ago, we knew what apocalypse had passed over our hearts.

Therefore, neither the West left any way for us to survive and the Arab countries were proving to be just a wall of sand in front of Israel. Because of this, we exploded immediately and you can see that our words proved to be true.

Also, Doomsday had passed on the hearts of ordinary Pakistanis following the speech made a few years ago in the parliament in favor of Israel because it is a settled matter

in Pakistan that Pakistan stands with its Palestinian brothers and sisters and this is not a new or only a specific government policy of any political party. Rather, the father of the nation, Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, said that Israel is an illegitimate state. And when, seven years before the independence of Pakistan, in 1940, the Muslim League announced the beginning of the movement for the creation of Pakistan in a meeting held in Lahore, the efforts to establish Israel were condemned in a resolution. Therefore, the state and public policy of Pakistan has always been in favor of Palestine since the establishment of Pakistan.

Keeping this policy in mind, on the first anniversary of the Tufan Al-Aqsa operation, an all-parties conference was held in the President's House of Pakistan under President Asif Zardari and Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif. In the All Parties Conference, the ruling and opposition parties participated and sent a clear message that there is no difference of opinion in Pakistan on this subject. The political leadership of Pakistan urged the government to raise its voice in support of the Palestinians at every forum.

The All Parties Conference unanimously demanded an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. At the same time, they were asked to mobilize for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. In this regard, Pakistan has decided to establish a working group that would visit Islamic countries as

well as China and Russia and try to convince them to play their role. It is also suggested that the working group should visit America because the absolute majority of people in the United States oppose their government's pro-Israel policies and want an end to this human tragedy. Some time ago, there was a very effective protest in this regard in American universities. It is very important to discuss this topic with civil societies around the world. Since governments in powerful countries have not been interested in talking about the situation in Gaza over the last year, ignoring their human duty and democratic values, it is very important to focus on civil society.

The need to be more active at this time has also increased because after Gaza, Israel has started attacking Lebanon. Qassem Soleimani, Ismail Haniyeh, Hassan Nasrallah, all these martyrs are a sign that Israel has crossed every limit. At this time, Israel is trying to launch a sectarian war in Lebanon. Due to its policy of fueling sectarian differences, it is necessary to be very vigilant not only in Lebanon but in the entire Islamic world so that Israel does not achieve any success in this regard. One thing has become clear. Neither any international power has tried to stop Israel nor did any so-called international morality have any effect on it. The Palestinians are building a wall in front of Israel with their blood. Finally, blood will win over the sword.

Israeli forces ramp up north Gaza assault, kill more civilians



Palestinian families arrive in Gaza City after evacuating their homes in the Jabalia area. Omar Al-Qattaa/AFP/Getty Images

Dozens of more Palestinians have been killed in Israeli attacks across the Gaza Strip, including in Jabalia in the north where the Israeli military launched an offensive nearly two weeks ago.

At least 55 people were killed in the past 24 hours in the enclave, Gaza's Ministry of Health said on Tuesday, with at least 12 bodies recovered after an Israeli attack near al-Faluja in the besieged Jabalia refugee camp, Al Jazeera reported.

Mahmoud Basal, the spokesman for the Palestinian Civil Defense in Gaza, said seven of those killed belonged to the al-Sayed family. He said their bodies were buried in their family home.

The other five bodies were recovered from the streets of the neighborhood, said Basal.

In a separate incident, Israeli forces attacked the Birkat Abu Rashid area of the camp, killing at least three people and wounding several others.

In the aftermath of the air attack, rescuers were seen frantically helping survivors

exit from a heavily damaged building, with one man carrying an injured child.

Residents told Al Jazeera that troops are planting explosives-filled barrels into the ground in al-Faluja to destroy buildings and homes.

The attack on Jabalia follows Israeli orders to fully evacuate northern Gaza, including Gaza City. An estimated 400,000 Palestinians remain in the north, according to United Nations estimates.

The UN's human rights office said on Tuesday the Israeli military appeared to be “cutting off North Gaza completely from the rest of the Gaza Strip”.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said, “Amid intense ongoing hostilities and evacuation orders in northern Gaza, families are facing unimaginable fear, loss of loved ones, confusion, and exhaustion. People must be able to flee safely, without facing further danger.”

Israel remains accused of trying to ethnically cleanse north Gaza.

Global outrage over Israeli threats against UNIFIL

From page 1 ▶ It also urged all parties “to respect the safety and security of UNIFIL personnel and UN premises”.

UNIFIL says it is being “deliberately attacked”.

As the UN troops, headquarters, and compounds in southern Lebanon come under Israeli armed attack, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has warned the blue helmets to evacuate the area.

Days after Tel Aviv declared the UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, “persona non grata,” Netanyahu addressed him directly.

“Mr. Secretary General, get the UNIFIL forces out of harm's way. It should be done right now, immediately,” Netanyahu warned.

The Irish Foreign Minister, Micheal Martin, has accused Israel of trying to prevent the world from seeing what Israeli troops are doing in Lebanon and Gaza.

Questioned on what was behind the Israeli demands for UNIFIL to leave their bases, Martin said, “Essentially to drive the eyes and ears out of south Lebanon and to give itself free rein.

“We see what's happening in northern Gaza, for example, in terms of the necessity of eyes and ears on the ground. The world has really no full picture of what's happening in Gaza.

“Israel is essentially now undermining [not only] the United Nations and the United Nations peacekeeping force, but the very rules-based international order, and it needs to step back.”

The Spanish Prime Minister, Pedro Sanchez, has called on the European Union's 27 members to suspend the bloc's free trade agreement with Israel.

The UK, France, Germany, and Italy released a joint statement saying Israeli attacks on UN peacekeepers are contrary to international humanitarian law.

“We, the foreign ministers of France, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom, express our deep concern in the wake of recent attacks by IDF on UNIFIL bases, which have left several peacekeepers injured. These attacks must stop immediately. We condemn all threats to UNIFIL's security,” the statement read.

“Any deliberate attack against UNIFIL goes against international humanitarian law and United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701. The protection of peacekeepers is incumbent upon all parties to a conflict”

Critics say issuing statements of condemnation does not go far enough to prevent Israel's crimes.

The UK, Italy, Germany, Spain, and France have accused Israel of breaching international humanitarian law but have not taken any action on the ground to ensure Israel stops breaching IHL.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has warned, “The image of a United Nations that cannot even protect its own personnel is shameful and worrying for the international system.”

In a televised address, he added, “We are curious what else the Security Council is waiting for to stop Israel”

UNIFIL forces have repeatedly come under attack over the recent days. A number of its peacekeepers have been seriously injured as a result of the Israeli attacks.

UNIFIL said two Israeli Merkava tanks destroyed the main gate of one of its bases and forcibly entered on Sunday.

After the tanks left, shells exploded 100 meters away, releasing smoke that blew across the base and caused skin irritation.

UNIFIL called the incident a “further flagrant violation of international law”.

Over the past week, a peacekeeper was “hit by gunfire due to ongoing military activity” in the city of Naqoura, UNIFIL said. The soldier underwent surgery to remove the bullet, it added.

Two Sri Lankan peacekeepers were injured by explosions near an observation tower at the UN headquarters in Naqoura.

One of them was taken to hospital with serious injuries.

In another incident, an Israeli army bulldozer hit the perimeter of a separate UNIFIL position while Israeli tanks moved nearby.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Quranic manuscripts, Persian calligraphy go on show at Kazan museum



TEHRAN – A collection of cultural offerings including rare books and manuscripts of the Holy Quran and classic Persian literary works has been put on show at the Museum of Islamic Culture in Kazan's Kremlin, Tatarstan.

The loan exhibition was officially inaugurated on Tuesday in close collaboration with the Ibn Sina Foundation and the Noor International Microfilm Center.

According to organizers, it showcases a selection of Islamic book culture created in Iran, Russia, India, and Central Asia.

The items mostly come from the collection of the Ibn Sina Foundation, the Scientific Library of Kazan Federal University (Volga Region), and the Kazan Kremlin Museum-Reserve.

Among the highlights are several folios and calligraphic works featuring the Quranic verses of Ash-Shams ("The Sun"), which is the 91st surah of the holy Quran.

Also presented are masterpieces of Persian poetry such as Firdowski's Shahnameh and Nizami's Khamsa, adorned with illustrations by Kamal ud-Din Behzad, a

15th-century master of Islamic miniature art.

Based in New Delhi, the Noor Microfilming Centre has provided facsimiles of medieval manuscripts.

The exhibition features rare Qur'ans from the 10th to the 15th centuries, tafsirs (Quranic commentaries and interpretation), and translations from the collection of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences (St. Petersburg, Russia), and the Astan Quds Razavi Library (Mashhad, Iran).

The exhibition also showcases the legacy of Muslim poets and theologians from Volga Bulgaria, the Golden Horde, the Kazan Khanate, and the Russian Empire from the collection of Kazan Federal University.

These include Qissa-i Yusuf (The Story of Yusuf) by Qul Gali, Nahj al-Faradis (The Path to Paradise) by Mahmud al-Sarai, and Nur al-Sudur (The Light of Hearts) by Muhammad Yar.

The Kazan Kremlin Museum-Reserve also presents a 14th-century Central Asian manuscript—a volume of hadiths by al-Bukhari from the library of the Tatar historian and theologian Shigabutdin Marjani.

Kazan is the largest city and capital of Tatarstan, Russia. The city lies at the confluence of the Volga and the Kazanka Rivers, covering an area of 425.3 square kilometers, with a population of over 1.3 million.

The exhibition will be running through March 31, 2025.

Glimpses of World Heritage sites: Nubian Monuments from Abu Simbel to Philae

The Nubian Monuments from Abu Simbel to Philae lie in the Governorate of Aswan. It is a serial property of ten component parts covering 374.48 ha: Abu Simbel, Amada, Wadi Sebuah, Kalabsha, Philae (Island of Agilkia), Old and Middle Kingdom Tombs, Ruins of town of Elephantine, Stone quarries and obelisk, Monastery of St. Simeon, and the Islamic Cemetery.

The first five component parts contain temples moved during the UNESCO International Campaign from 1960 to 1980 to save them from flooding by the Nile and Lake Nasser because they were recognized as internationally significant by the international community. The remaining five cover antiquities of the Aswan area.

This stretch of the Nile from Aswan in the north to the Sudanese border in the south is an archaeological haven.

Home to temples ranging from the New Kingdom to the Ptolemaic and Roman periods, as well as early Coptic sites and villages, the region's monuments represent the breadth of Nubian cultural articulations, and the various influences shaping the culture over time.

Aswan, north of the first cataract, was the border town of ancient Egypt, an essential strategic point in ancient Egypt, and base for Egyptian activities to the south, whether trade or military raids.

From prehistoric times onwards, expeditions were mounted to dominate Nubia.

In each of the great periods of Egyptian history, there was, if only partially, a seizure of Nubia, which became a natural annex to the Kingdom and later a colony whose fiscal and commercial income was transferred to Aswan.

The monuments of the property include exceptional architecture, such as the Great Temple at Abu Simbel, carved out of an escarpment of solid rock.

Its design and layout allow rays of the sun to penetrate to the innermost chamber twice annually on the equinoxes. Philae above the first cataract was the great Ptolemaic sanctuary of the goddess Isis - renowned since Greco-Roman antiquity for its temples and their annexes.

The final bastion of ancient Egyptian religion, the rites of the cult of Isis persisted there until the 9th century CE.



Other than Abu Simbel and Philae, the property includes the temples of Amada, constructed by Tuthmosis III and by Amenophis II, of Derr (also at Amada), those of Wadi Sebuah, Dakka and Maharraqa (at Wadi Sebuah), the temple of Talmis (removed to Kalabsha), the kiosk of Kartassi, and the temple of Beit el Wali.

At Aswan, numerous monuments testify to the importance of this commercial, military and practical centre.

Officials in charge of Nubian affairs in the Old and Middle Kingdoms constructed richly decorated tombs in the Qubbet el Hawa Mountain, while the town of Elephantine yields an overwhelming quantity of interesting finds.

The stone quarries, with an unfinished obelisk left behind, are the basis of knowledge of ancient Egyptian quarrying technology.

The well preserved ruins of the monastery of St Simeon on the west bank are one of the biggest monasteries in Egypt.

The region of the first cataract is distinguished by its complex theology, promulgated by the priesthoods of the region competing for the attention of their Ptolemaic rulers in Alexandria.

Despite, or perhaps due to this complexity, ancient belief lasted long in the region.

The myth of Osiris is represented with a high degree of symbolism throughout the region, the most refined depiction of which lies within Hadrian's gate on the west side of the island of Philae. The scenes depicted at Philae survive in contemporary cultural manifestations in the Egyptian feast of "Sham al-Neseem".

(Source: UNESCO)

Naqsh-e Rostam: limited excavation permit issued to address water penetration

TEHRAN - The head of the Research Institute of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts has announced the issuance of a limited excavation permit for the ancient site of Naqsh-e Rostam.

Mustafa Dehpahlavan, head of the institute, confirmed the decision during an interview with Borna on Tuesday, following concerns over surface water issues at the site.

Naqsh-e Rostam, located near Persepolis in Fars province, southern Iran, has faced water penetration in some parts due to recent heavy rains, which resulted in subsidence in the area.

Alireza Askari Chaverdi, director of the Persepolis World Heritage Site, has already announced measures to address the situation.

Dehpahlavan explained that the permit allows for the creation of shallow channels to help



drain water from cracks and puddles forming on the mountain. "If proper slopes are made, water will quickly flow out of the area, preventing further damage to the site and the surrounding monuments," he said.

Naqsh-e Rostam is a significant archaeological site, home to ancient rock reliefs and royal tombs dating back to the Ach-

aemenid Empire. Preservation efforts are crucial to safeguard this heritage from environmental threats.

Naqsh-e Rostam houses four imposing tombs believed to be the final resting places of Persian Achaemenid kings—Darius II, Artaxerxes I, Darius I, and Xerxes I, arranged left to right along the cliff face. However, scholar-

ly discourse persists regarding their precise identities.

The necropolis is also an awe-inspiring testament to ancient craft skills, showcases a series of breathtaking Sassanid bas-relief carvings.

At the base of Naqsh-e Rostam stands the enigmatic Ka'beh-ye Zardusht, or the Kaaba of Zoroaster. This square structure, approximately 12 meters tall and 7 meters wide, likely dates back to the early 6th century BC, featuring inscriptions from various periods thereafter.

The name Naqsh-e Rostam, translates to "Picture of Rostam," pays homage to the legendary Iranian hero celebrated in Shahnameh and Persian mythology. In ancient times, locals mistakenly believed the carvings beneath the tombs depicted scenes from Rostam's tales.

Urgent excavation uncovers Bronze Age burial remains in northeast Iran

TEHRAN - An urgent archaeological excavation is currently underway near the village of Kalateh-ye Yavari in Bojnord county, North Khorasan province, after remains from four Bronze Age burial chambers were discovered.

The excavation, authorized by the Research Institute of Cultural Heritage and Tourism, aims to preserve and document the historical relics uncovered during a construction project.

The site was initially discovered in 2021 when villagers accidentally unearthed ancient remains during a housing development project. In 2023, a team led by archaeologist Kourosh Mohammadkhani conducted a magnetometry survey, identifying several anomalies across the area, which led to further examination.

Ali-Akbar Vahdati, the head of the archaeological team, has recently confirmed that human burials and architectural remains from the Bronze Age were found during the dig. So far, four trenches have been opened, re-

vealing four burial spaces dating back to the Bronze Age, Vahdati said.

The burial sites, found in sandy and gravelly layers, consist of simple pit graves scattered around the central part of the ancient site. Three of the graves contained burial offerings, including pottery, bronze pins, and beads made of stone or bone—items commonly associated with the Greater Khorasan civilization. One of the graves was discovered without any offerings.

Vahdati highlighted that similar Bronze Age burial sites have been found in other archaeological areas across northern Khorasan and neighboring regions, pointing to cultural, political, and social connections across eastern Iran during this period.

The urgent excavation is expected to continue until all areas containing historical artifacts are fully excavated and preserved. The housing construction project has been temporarily halted to allow for the safe completion of the archaeological work.



Khorasan — meaning the "Land of the Sun" — is a historical region and realm comprising a vast territory now lying in northeastern Iran, southern Turkmenistan, and northern Afghanistan. The historical region extended along the north, from the Amu Darya (Oxus River) westward to the Caspian Sea and, along the south, from the fringes of the central Iranian deserts eastward to the mountains of central Afghanistan.

Handicrafts still untapped potential in western Mazandaran



TEHRAN - Western Mazandaran, known for its rich diversity of handicrafts, has the potential to secure national and international recognition for its artisans' creations.

Local experts believe that extra efforts are needed for the commercializing and branding of these local crafts aimed to significantly boost the region's economy, open doors for targeted exports, and attract more tourists.

Western Mazandaran, which hosts millions of visitors annually, is a hub for domestic travelers, especially along its 142-kilometer coastline that stretches across towns like Nur, Kelardasht, Chalous, Nowshahr and Abbasabad, Tonekabon and Ramsar.

However, despite the influx of tourists, the region's handicraft sector has struggled to fully

capitalize on this economic opportunity. Many visitors remain unaware of the area's handmade products, which include traditional crafts like woodcarving, pottery, weaving, and embroidery.

According to local authorities and experts, one of the key steps to promoting handicrafts in the region is the creation of permanent craft markets, especially in coastal areas. These markets would not only provide artisans with a stable platform to showcase their work but also serve as a key attraction for tourists, giving them a tangible memento of their visit.

Mohsen Hajipour, an expert in cultural heritage, emphasized the importance of branding and scientific planning for the handicraft sector in western Mazandaran.

"Branding will undoubtedly increase exports and enhance the local economy. It will also contribute to job creation, especially in rural areas," he said in an interview with IRNA.

He also highlighted the need for a comprehensive strategy that integrates handicrafts into

the tourism sector, ensuring that local products reflect the region's unique cultural identity.

Experts also advocate for the inclusion of handicrafts in the decoration of local accommodations and tourist facilities, suggesting that this would help immerse visitors in the region's culture while promoting the sale of locally made goods.

Additionally, the development of eco-tourism initiatives in Mazandaran's 3,000 villages could further integrate traditional crafts into the tourism experience.

Mohammadreza Ormazdi, a tourism professor, emphasized the mutual relationship between tourism and handicrafts. "Tourism and handicrafts complement each other, creating revenue streams and contributing to sustainable rural development."

"With proper scientific planning, we can establish home-based workshops that not only generate employment but also yield high returns for local artisans," Ormazdi noted.

With support from the new government and careful investment, Western Mazandaran's

handicraft sector could soon become a key player in the region's economy, while simultaneously preserving and promoting its cultural heritage.

Mazandaran, known for its stunning landscapes and Caspian Sea coastline, is set to enhance its tourism infrastructure to better serve both domestic and international visitors. The implementation of the comprehensive tourism plan is expected to boost local economies, create jobs, and preserve the province's cultural heritage.

The picture-perfect province has long been a highly popular destination for domestic travelers. Its varied nature features plains, prairies, forests, and rainforests stretching from the sandy beaches of the Caspian Sea to the rugged and snowcapped Alborz sierra, including Mount Damavand, one of the highest peaks and volcanos in Asia. More than 800 registered historical and cultural sites, 338 km of shoreline, mineral springs in jungles and mountains, waterfalls, and caves are among the major tourist attractions in the province.

New tourism plan to fill Welcome to Yorkshire gap

A new tourism plan has been signed off in an attempt to replace the promotional support provided by the defunct Welcome to Yorkshire agency.

Visitors will be encouraged to stay overnight and spend more money as part of the 10-year strategy that was approved by North Yorkshire Council at a meeting earlier.

It includes a target to ensure a quarter of tourists stay in the county for at least one night by 2034.

Mark Crane, the lead councillor responsible for business, said: "The visitor economy in North Yorkshire is worth over £4bn, so obviously is a very significant part of our economy."

Overseas markets

The meeting heard that tourism supported more than 38,000 jobs in North Yorkshire - more than 10% of the working age population.

(Source: BBC)

TEHRAN – Head of Iran's National Institute of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (NIGEB), Javad Mohammadi, and Sudanese ambassador to Tehran, Abdulaziz Hassan Saleh Taha, met on Monday to discuss ways for expanding scientific relations.

Paying a visit to NIGEB, Saleh Taha called Iran's progress in biotechnology and genetics fields amazing. "Iran's Institute of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology can be a perfect scientific model for establishing universities as well as institutes in Sudan," the official highlighted.

Sudan is seeking to enhance cooperation [with Iran] in treating illnesses such as cancer and infectious diseases, as well as exchanging professors and students. The country is willing to learn from your valuable experiences in the international scientific field, Saleh Taha further noted.

Mohammadi, for his part, said in line with the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy to boost international cooperation in the field of scientific diplomacy, the institute welcomes scientific cooperation and interaction with other countries, particularly Islamic nations.

The NIGEB is affiliated with the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), he highlighted.

During pandemics and outbreaks of various diseases in African countries, the research institute can collaborate with Sudan and other African countries to develop tools for the detection of the diseases and ways to control them, the official noted.

He also proposed conducting



joint scientific projects, professors and students exchange in genetics and biotechnology science are other potential ways for boosting cooperation, Mohammadi added.

Khartoum seeks to deepen sci-tech ties with Tehran

In February, the Sudanese acting foreign minister stressed the need to develop scientific and technological cooperation with Iran.

"I am happy that Islamic countries such as Iran have made rapid advances in the field of technology," Ali Al-Sadiq Ali said in a meeting with Amir-Hossein Mirabadi, former director of the Center of International Science and Technology Cooperation (CISTC), at Iran's House of Innovation and Technology (IHIT) in Tehran.

"Nowadays, countries with low scientific productivity and power are not respected. Therefore, we should expand our knowledge and exchange experiences so that all Muslims can benefit from advancements in science and technology," the Sudanese official added.

He went on to say that Sudan is

a large country with a population of about 50 million. The country has vast areas of agricultural land. However, these resources cannot be utilized without the use of technology. "I hope the two sides would be able to develop cooperation in science and technology in areas of common interest."

During the meeting, Mirabadi said there are many opportunities for cooperation in the field of science and technology between Iran and Sudan.

"The two countries can collaborate in various fields. Iran is interested in expanding technological cooperation with Sudan."

Some 10,000 knowledge-based companies, a large number of startups, and science and technology parks are active in our country, which provides a good capacity for cooperation with Sudan," Mirabadi added.

Iranian companies are ready to cooperate with African companies. The two governments also agree on the necessity of technological cooperation, and Iran is well prepared for technology transfer to

Sudan, he concluded.

National Institute of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology

NIGEB was established in 1989 under the supervision of the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology. Since then, NIGEB has been given a mandate to undertake original, state-of-the-art research activities.

It was established with dual purposes of promoting research in avant-garde areas of biological sciences and biotechnology as well as providing advanced training and educational programs for scientists and students from other universities and academic institutions.

NIGEB is a pivotal hub for advancing the field of biotechnology in Iran, notable for its focus on multidisciplinary collaboration and ethical progress.

Impressively, they engage in both basic and applied research across various biotechnology sectors while considering the implications of technological commercialization and socio-economic impacts.

NIGEB's commitment to global cooperation and knowledge sharing is essential, particularly in a domain as fast-evolving and globally connected as genetic engineering and biotechnology.

Their work not only propels the scientific community within Iran but also makes significant contributions to international efforts addressing complex issues in agriculture, industry, the environment, and health. This reflects a comprehensive approach to research and education in the field.

World Food Day: right to foods for a better life and a better future

By Maryam Tavassoli

TEHRAN – Every year on October 16, the World Food Day is observed globally. Since food is the third most basic human need after air and water, the day highlights everyone's right to adequate food.

The event is observed under different themes each year. This year's theme, 'Right to foods for a better life and a better future', not only stresses the right to sufficient food but also highlights the right to an affordable, varied healthy diet for everyone.



foods, lack the information they need to choose a healthy diet, or simply opt for convenience.

Hunger and malnutrition are further exacerbated by protracted or prolonged crises that are driven by a combination of conflict, extreme weather events, and economic shocks.

Agrifood systems, as a whole, are vulnerable to disasters and crises, particularly the impacts of climate change but at the same time, they are generating pollution, degrading soil, water, and air, and contributing to greenhouse gas emissions, and biodiversity loss.

By transforming agrifood systems, there is great potential to mitigate climate change and support peaceful, resilient, and inclusive livelihoods for all.

Over 2.8 billion people in the world are unable to afford a healthy diet.

Yet, over 2.8 billion people in the world are unable to afford a healthy diet, and too many people suffer from hunger.

Unhealthy diets are the leading cause of all forms of malnutrition – undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and obesity, which now exist in most countries, cutting across socio-economic classes.

More vulnerable people are often forced to rely on staple foods or less expensive foods that can be unhealthy, while others suffer from the unavailability of fresh or diverse

Iran calls on WHO to deal with unilateral coercive measures in health sector

TEHRAN –The Iranian deputy health minister has called on the World Health Organization to establish a working group to address the impacts of unilateral coercive measures on health in the region and to develop possible solutions consistent with basic human rights.

"We call on the international community to make every possible effort to condemn these illegal acts and force the responsible parties to deal with unfair sanctions immediately," the health ministry's website quoted Alireza Raeisi as saying.

He made the remarks while addressing the seventy-first session of the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO).

The meeting is being held in Doha, Qatar, from October 14 to 17 under the theme of "health beyond borders: action, access, equity."

The official further noted coercive sanctions have denied nations the right to access essential medicines and medical tools.

He also highlighted the significance of sharing precise data as well as having a collective commitment to universal health coverage to overcome the challenges in the region.

"To promote regional health, it is essential to identify the capacities, capabilities, and suc-

cessful strategies in the region," Raeisi noted.

The official also underscored the importance of political and social leaders' commitments to public health, strengthening the global leadership of the World Health Organization, recognizing health as the basic 'public good'; ensuring equal access to health for all countries; and enhancing the role of the World Health Organization in facilitating the share of knowledge and technology to all member states, regardless of any political and economic barriers.

Iran attending 71st session of the WHO EMRO

A delegation led by Health Minister Mohammad-Reza Zafarqandi is attending the Seventy-first session of the WHO EMRO.

The health minister is scheduled to deliver a speech on various regional health issues, such as the status of diseases like dengue fever and monkeypox in regional countries, the health status in Gaza and Lebanon, as well as the achievements of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the field of health despite sanctions.

On the sidelines of the event, Zafarqandi is scheduled to hold meetings with the health ministers of the state countries, as well as Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director General, and Hanan Hasan Balkhi, WHO director

of the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office.

The annual meeting of the member countries of EMRO is one of the most important regional events in which Ministers of health and high-level representatives of the 22 Member States and territories of WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region, as well as representatives of partner organizations and civil society, will meet to discuss priority public health issues, make decisions, and regulations.

During the session, Balkhi will present her regional vision for the endorsement of Member States. The vision, which aims to secure the best attainable level of health for everyone in the region, includes 3 flagship initiatives: expanding timely and equitable access to life-saving medicines and vaccines; building a more resilient health workforce, and reducing the morbidity, mortality, and social costs associated with substance use disorders.

The Regional Strategic Operational Plan describes what WHO aims to achieve in the coming 4 years in response to country priorities, and how it will do it.

The Regional Committee will also include discussions of priority public health issues, technical papers, updates and a wide range of panel discussions and side events.

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COVID-19 takes lowest toll on foreign nationals in Iran

Iran had the lowest coronavirus cases and mortality among refugees and foreign nationals compared to the population it is hosting, Mehdi Mahmoudi, Director of Citizens and Immigrants Affairs of the Ministry of Interior has said.

Referring to the measures taken for non-Iranian citizens during the pandemic, he said that since the very beginning, when the country became infected with the disease, the community of foreign nationals in our country was no exception to this issue, and prevention programs and necessary measures have been taken for this group.

"We identified foreign nationals in need and tried to provide them with livelihood assistance, as well as health packages and self-protective items needed to prevent the infection," he explained.

ایران کمترین تلفات کرونا اتباع خارجی را داشته‌است

مهدی محمودی مدیرکل امور اتباع و مهاجرین وزارت کشور گفت در خصوص ابتلا به بیماری کرونا در بین اتباع خارجی، ایران کمترین ابتلا و کمترین تلفات را نسبت به جمعیت داشته‌است.

او در گفت‌وگو با ایلنا درباره اقدامات صورت گرفته برای اتباع غیرایرانی در ایام کرونا گفت: از همان ابتدا که کشور درگیر این بیماری شد، جامعه اتباع خارجی هم در کشور ما مستثنی از این موضوع نبود و برنامه‌های پیشگیری و تمهیدات لازم نیز برای این گروه نیز در نظر گرفته شده است.

اتباع غیرایرانی که نیازمند بودند را شناسایی کرده و تلاش کردیم از نظر معیشتی به این گروه نیز کمک‌هایی صورت بگیرد و همچنین بسته‌های بهداشتی و اقلام مورد نیاز پیشگیری از بیماری کرونا در چندین نوبت به آنها ارائه شده است.

Women's national health week



National women's health week being held

TEHRAN –National women's health week is being observed from October 15 to 21 across the country.

This year, the week is marked under the theme of 'healthy women, healthy mothers, healthy generations'.

The health ministry has organized different programs aimed at improving women's health and well-being by promoting health literacy, healthy lifestyle, and prevention of common diseases in women.

The days of the week also focus on different topics.

Tuesday, October 15, 'Maternal health and childbearing'

Wednesday, October 16, 'Health literacy, self-care, and women's health'

Thursday, October 17, 'Healthy lifestyle throughout women's different life stages'

Friday, October 18, 'The role of family in maintaining and promoting women, mothers, and children's health'

Saturday, October 19, 'The impacts of threats and opportunities caused by media on women's health'

Sunday, October 20, 'Priorities of local areas'

Monday, October 21, 'Breast cancer from prevention to treatment'

National health week

The national health week was held from April 20 to 26 under the theme of 'Family health and popularization of family health'.

This year's theme highlighted supporting the need to access high-quality and affordable healthcare services for everyone in the country; ensuring everyone, particularly vulnerable or marginalized groups, receives equity services, and promoting people's role in providing and maintaining universal health.

It also underscored the need to strengthen and enhance the resilience of the healthcare system to be able to effectively confront health potential threats with unknown features.

Health is a universal right

Health is a universal right and responsibility that is not limited to any specific age group, culture, or nationality, former Health Minister Bahram Einollahi said in April.

All members of society from their childhood to old age have the right to access high-quality health services without financial worries.

Access to clean drinking water, soil, air, and food is a fundamental right and respon-

sibility, the Health Ministry's website quoted Einollahi as saying.

He made the remarks on the occasion of World Health Day 2024, calling upon decision-makers to create conducive environments for individuals to actively participate in creating and maintaining health, from home to the community and the environment.

He went on to say that the family health program and referral system in Iran is one of the most advanced health programs in the world. It aims to enhance everyone's access to health services, promote well-being, and achieve significant welfare objectives.

Launched last year, the program seeks to foster a healthy, vibrant society through national and collective efforts at all levels of society.

The upcoming National Health Week will set health priorities for the next year in alignment with the national plans and priorities.

Women and family health

The 28th Technical Meeting of the G5 Forum was held in Tehran from February 13 to 15 with the theme of "Women and Family Health".

Addressing the meeting, Einollahi said the main objective is improving regional countries' health. Mother's health is the pillar of a family's health, which leads to the expansion of health in a country. So, mothers have a central role in the family.

"Making up half of the country's population, mothers can play an essential role in the nutritional and mental health of families by maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Women's physical, mental, cultural, emotional, and spiritual well-being improves health care. Healthy women make a healthy family and subsequently a healthy society."



Managing Director: **Mohammad Mahdi Rahmati**
Editor-in-Chief: **Mohammad Sarfi**

Editorial Dept.: Fax: (+98 21) 88808214 — 88808895
Email: info@tehrantimes.com
Switchboard Operator: Tel: (+98 21) 43051000
Advertisements Dept.: Telefax: (+98 21) 43051430
Public Relations Office: Tel: (+98 21) 88805807
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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

What actions are most excellent? To gladden the heart of human beings, to feed the hungry, to help the afflicted, to lighten the sorrow of the sorrowful, and to remove the sufferings of the injured.

Prophet Muhammad (S)

Prayer Times » Noon:11:50 Evening: 17:45 Dawn: 4:49 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:13 (tomorrow)

CINVU to establish Persian language department in India

TEHRAN- Iran-based COMSTEC Inter-Islamic Network on Virtual Universities (CINVU) is set to launch the first Persian Culture and Language Training Department in India, aimed at fostering cultural convergence and delivering training and research programs based on international standards in the Persian language.

The inauguration of the Persian Language and Culture Department in India was accepted last week in an online meeting between Ahmad Pourqasem, the CINVU Education Director in Iran, and Aziz Mahdi, a PhD graduate in Persian Language and Literature from the University of Tehran, who is also a member of the Indian Institute of Advance Study and the representative of CINVU in the country, the Public Relations Office of CINVU reported.

The department will operate in collaboration with university professors specializing in teaching Persian to non-Persian speakers, leveraging CINVU Evaluation and Accreditation of Quality in Education Services known as CEAQVALES, the report added.

CINVU International Organization is one of the networks affiliated with the Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMSTEC), which operates under the Ministry of Science, Research, and Technology of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

This organization serves as a hub of knowledge and expertise, dedicated to advancing higher education in the Islamic world through smart technology. Its mission focuses on promoting justice, enhancing the depth and reliability of knowledge and thought, and empowering educational, research, cultural, and skill development in

the region.

Persian, also known as Farsi, is an ancient language spoken primarily in Iran, Afghanistan (as Dari), and Tajikistan (as Tajik), boasting a rich literary heritage that dates back over a millennium.

Its script, derived from Arabic, can initially pose challenges for learners unfamiliar with the right-to-left writing system. Persian vocabulary is influenced by both Arabic and various Turkic languages, adding layers of complexity.

While the phonetic structure of Persian is relatively straightforward and lacks gendered nouns, the nuances of its grammar, such as verb conjugations and the use of subordinate clauses, require dedicated study and practice, often making it a rewarding yet challenging pursuit for foreign learners.

The difficulty level of learning Persian can vary significantly based on a learner's background and native language.

For speakers of languages that share similarities with Persian, such as Turkish or certain Indo-European languages, the transition may be smoother due to overlapping linguistic features.

However, learners from languages with markedly different structures, like Mandarin or Vietnamese, may find the concepts of Persian syntax and grammar more daunting. Additionally, the rich cultural context embedded in Persian literature and expressions can require learners to engage deeply with cultural references to achieve proficiency.

Nonetheless, many learners find studying Persian to be an enriching experience, allowing them to gain insight into a diverse and historically significant culture.

“The Glory of Cinema” masterclass to host 4 well-known Iranian, Turkish filmmakers, actors

TEHRAN-The first edition of the masterclass “The Glory of Cinema,” with four distinguished instructors, will take place on October 20 and 21 at Azadi Hotel in Tehran.

Organized by the Iranian film editor and producer Mastaneh Mohajer, the two-day in-person masterclass will hold sessions chaired by acclaimed Turkish filmmaker and Palme d'Or winner Nuri Bilge Ceylan, renowned Iranian writer and director Parviz Shahbazi, independent Turkish filmmaker Selim Evcı, and prominent Iranian actor Parsa Pirouzfard, Honaronline reported.

On the first day of the event, Selim Evcı will introduce Turkish independent cinema and discuss its characteristics. Then, Parviz Shahbazi will speak about creating atmosphere in cinema. After that, a film by Evcı will be screened.

On the second day, Parsa Pirouzfard will share his cinematic experiences in a session titled “The Actor's Entry into the World of a Role”. Following that, Nuri Bilge Ceylan will talk about the origins, features, and elements of his own cinema and answer questions.

Afterward, a tribute to the late Iranian filmmaker Abbas Kiarostami will be held, with Ceylan, Mohammad Yilmaz, and several Iranian filmmakers speaking at the session. The event will conclude with the screening of one of Ceylan's films.

Participants in the masterclass will receive a certificate of attendance. Nuri Bilge Ceylan, 65, is a screenwriter and director whose introspective and visually stunning films have garnered international acclaim.

His film “Winter Sleep” (2014) won the Palme d'Or at the 67th Cannes Film Festival, while six of his films have been selected as Turkey's submission for the Academy Award for Best International Feature Film.

Recurring themes in Ceylan's films include estrangement, existentialism, monotony, and the human experience. He often features static shots and



long takes, usually in natural settings and without the use of staged sets. Ceylan's use of sound includes using silence to cause unease.

Ceylan's films are characterized by their slow pace, meticulous attention to detail, and exploration of complex emotional states. His visual style, often inspired by his background in photography, creates a sense of atmosphere and mood that draws viewers into the world of his characters. Ceylan's unflinching portrayal of human relationships, combined with his poetic visual language, have earned him a dedicated following and a place among the most respected filmmakers of our time.

Parviz Shahbazi, 61, is a graduate of filmmaking. During the early 80's he began writing short stories and directing short films. He edited several films and directed 12 short films before making his first feature film.

A highly acclaimed filmmaker, he is renowned for his independent films that prominently delve into social issues and the interplay between diverse generations. His cinematic journey has led him to grace some of the most prestigious film festivals worldwide, including the Cannes, Venice, and Berlin Film Festival, where he has received numerous awards for his storytelling prowess.

His debut feature film “Traveler from the South” (1996) as well as his second film “Whispers” (2000) went to countless festivals and brought him international recognition, collecting several prizes along the way.

In 2002, his third film, “Deep Breath” was shown at the Directors' Fortnight at Cannes Film Festival to great success. Among other accolades it won a FIPRESCI award at Pusan and the Jury special award at the Belgrade Author Festival.

In 2016, “Malaria” was shown at the 73rd Venice film festival and won the Grand Prix at the Warsaw International Film Festival.

His last film “Roxana” won the Best Actor Award for lead actor Yasna Mirtahmasb at the 36th Tokyo International Film Festival in 2023.

Selim Evcı, 48, is a director, screenwriter and producer. In 2008, he wrote and directed his debut feature film “Two Lines”. The film made its world premiere at the 65th Venice International Film Festival, in the 23rd International Film Critics Week.

His second feature film “Winds” premiered at the 26th Panorama of European Cinema. Third film “Secret” premiered at the 39th Montreal World Film Festival in 2015. His films

have won various awards at international festivals in Turkey, the Netherlands, and Algeria.

He is also the founder and the artistic director of the Akbank Short Film Festival which had its 19th edition in 2023.

Parsa Pirouzfard, 52, is an actor, theater director, painter, playwright, and translator. He has received various accolades, including the Best Actor Award in the Osian's Cinefan Festival of Asian Cinema in India and an Iran Cinema Celebration Award, in addition to nominations for a Crystal Simorgh and three Hafez Awards.

A graduate of painting from the University of Tehran, he made his film debut by playing a brief part in Dariush Mehrjui's “Pari” in 1994.

He has played in over 40 films, plays and TV series. His most famous films include “Sheida,” “Mum's Guest,” “Mask,” “Here Without Me,” “Titi,” and “Intoxicated by Love”. He is also known for the series “In the Eyes of the Wind,” “At the End of the Night,” “Rebel,” “Under Your Protection,” “In My Heart,” and “The Green Journey”.

Pirouzfard made his directional debut in theater in 2001 with “Art,” a play by Yasmina Reza. In 2015, he directed the play “Matryoshka,” a Persian-language satire based on selected short stories of Anton Chekhov. Matryoshka first premiered at Theater West in Los Angeles. A solo performance, the play had over 30 characters all performed by Pirouzfard in its theatrical production.

“Matryoshka” subsequently ran for two years in the U.S. cities of Los Angeles, San Diego, and Berkeley as well as Toronto, Vancouver, and Montreal in Canada in 2015 and 2016; and finally, after multiple performances due to its immense popularity, finished its staging in Tehran, Iran, in 2017.

“Matryoshka” earned Pirouzfard the Golden Statue Award for Best Actor in the 35th Celebration of the Fajr International Theater Festival in Tehran in 2017.

Children's adaptation of “Hamlet” goes on stage

TEHRAN- A loose adaptation of English playwright and poet William Shakespeare's most popular play “Hamlet” is currently on stage at Sahne-ye Abi Cultural and Artistic Center in Tehran.

Director Elaheh Hosseini has renamed the play “Hamlet, the Little Big Man” to perform it for children.

Parmida Galedari, Arad Ahmadvand, Nila Shabani, Mania Jamali, and Aisan Jafarbeigi are the main members of the cast for the play, which will remain on stage until October 20.

“Hamlet” is a tragedy that follows the story of Prince Hamlet of Denmark as he seeks revenge for the murder of his father, King Hamlet. The play begins with the ghost of King Hamlet appearing to his son and revealing that he was murdered by his own brother, King Claudius, who has since married Queen Gertrude and taken the throne. Hamlet is torn between his desire for revenge and his inner turmoil, struggling with his own mortality and the consequences of his actions.

As Hamlet plots his revenge, he becomes increasingly isolated and paranoid, leading to a series of tragic events. He puts on a play reenacting his father's murder in an attempt to confirm Claudius's guilt, which ultimately leads to the exposure of



his own madness. Hamlet's relationships with those around him, including his love interest Ophelia and his friends Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, become strained as he becomes more consumed by his quest for vengeance.

As the play progresses, the tension between Hamlet and Claudius reaches its peak, leading to a dramatic confrontation that results in several deaths. Hamlet ultimately fulfills his quest for revenge but at a great cost, as he too succumbs to his wounds. The play ends with the deaths of Hamlet, Claudius, Gertrude, and Laertes, highlighting the destructive nature of revenge and the tragic consequences of acting on impulse.

Through complex characters and poetic language, Shakespeare explores themes of revenge, madness, and mortality in “Hamlet.” The play delves into the inner workings of the human psyche, portraying the struggles of a young prince caught in a web of deceit and treachery. Ultimately, “Hamlet” serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of succumbing to one's darkest impulses and the tragic outcome of seeking vengeance at any cost.

“Hamlet” has been adapted into various forms of media, including film, television, and stage productions. One notable adaptation is Kenneth

Branagh's 1996 film version of “Hamlet,” which remains faithful to the original text and features an ensemble cast of acclaimed actors. Branagh's adaptation captures the essence of Shakespeare's tragic tale while incorporating cinematic techniques to enhance the narrative, making it accessible to a wider audience.

In addition to traditional adaptations, “Hamlet” has also been reimagined in modern settings and contexts, offering new interpretations of the classic play. Examples include films like “The Lion King,” which draws inspiration from “Hamlet” with its story of a young prince seeking revenge for his father's death, and stage productions that place the characters in contemporary settings to explore relevant social and political themes.

William Shakespeare, widely regarded as the greatest playwright in English literature, was born in 1564. Throughout his career, Shakespeare wrote an impressive body of work that includes over 36 plays, 154 sonnets, and several poems. His plays span across various genres, including tragedies like “Hamlet” and “Macbeth,” comedies such as “A Midsummer Night's Dream” and “Twelfth Night,” and histories like “Henry V” and “Richard III.” Shakespeare's works are renowned for their intricate plots, memorable characters, and profound insights into the human condition, making them timeless pieces of literature that continue to captivate audiences worldwide.

Cartoon of Day



The High Ground
Cartoonist: Glen Le Lievre from Australia

TEHRAN- “The Lost Bookshop,” a novel by Irish author Evie Woods, has been published in Persian.

Melika Shayesteh is the translator of the book, which has been published by Milkan publications in Tehran.

Originally published in 2023, the book follows Opaline, Martha, and Henry, who emerge from the shadows of their own lives, discovering that their personal narratives are as captivating as the stories held within the books they cherish. Set against the backdrop of a magical, elusive bookshop, the tale intertwines their distinct journeys as they unlock hidden truths and explore a world of

enchantment.

Opaline's story unfolds in 1920s Dublin, where she grapples with the constraints of her family life and an arranged marriage orchestrated by her brother. Her passion for literature propels her to France, where she immerses herself in the vibrant atmosphere of a bookshop. Yet, when her newfound independence is threatened, Opaline reluctantly returns home, determined to carve out her own path once again.

Martha, on the other hand, bravely escapes an abusive marriage, finding refuge as a housemaid for a reclusive woman with peculiar habits. As Martha navigates her new sur-

roundings, she discovers that her employer harbors genuine concern for her well-being, illuminating the complexities of their relationship.

Meanwhile, Henry, a dedicated academic, fixates on unraveling the mystery of a bookshop that should have existed near Martha's new residence. Convinced he once entered its enchanting realm, he embarks on a quest to uncover its fate.

As the narrative unfolds, parallels emerge between Opaline and Martha, highlighting the enduring struggles of women navigating societal constraints. The story poignantly illustrates that, despite the passage of time, many attitudes towards

strong women remain unchanged, often leading to heartbreaking outcomes. Through their journeys, the characters learn to embrace their own stories, revealing the transformative power of literature and the importance of resilience in the face of adversity.

Evie Woods is the pseudonym of Evie Gaughan, the bestselling author of “The Story Collector,” “The Heirloom,” and “The Mysterious Bakery on Rue de Paris.” Her writing beautifully navigates the delicate balance between the mundane and the magical, uncovering the extraordinary wonders that lie within people's everyday lives.