



World Condemns, West Backs Israel

Israeli attack against Iran draws global condemnation in UNSC, but Western support remains

Qassem's election as Hezbollah leader: A storm Israel cannot weather

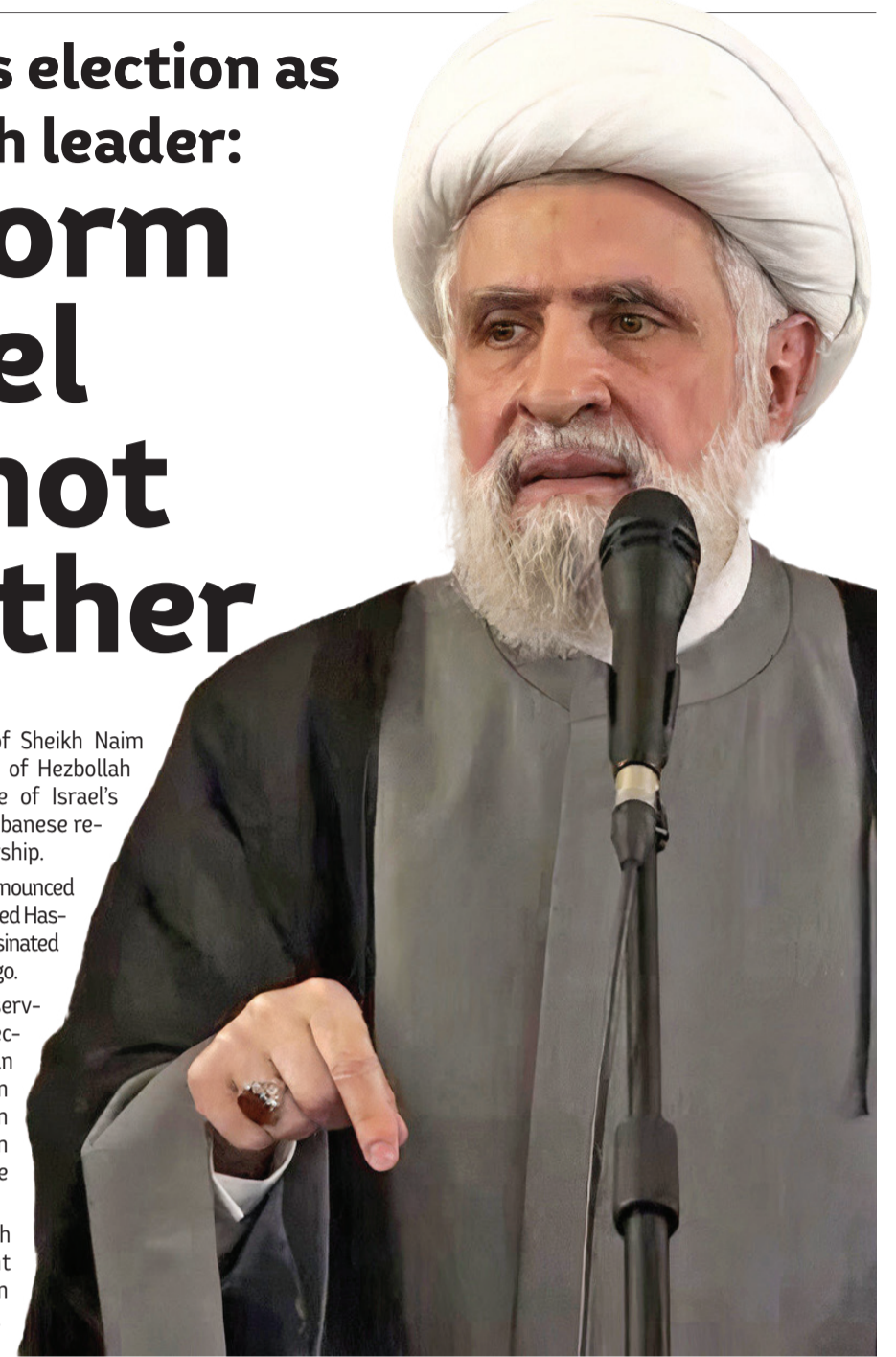
By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN- The election of Sheikh Naim Qassem as the new leader of Hezbollah has highlighted the failure of Israel's strategy to eliminate the Lebanese resistance movement's leadership.

On Tuesday, Hezbollah announced that Qassem will succeed Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah who was assassinated by Israel more than a month ago.

Qassem, who has been serving as Hezbollah's deputy secretary-general for more than 30 years, will take the helm of the resistance group upon a decision made by its main decision-making body, the Shura Council.

"Based on faith in Allah the almighty, commitment to the bona fide Islam of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH), ▶ Page 5



Germany's support for terrorism in Iran and in Gaza

TEHRAN - On Tuesday, the German Foreign Ministry summoned its ambassador to Iran and lodged a "strong protest" following the execution of Jamshid Sharmahd, a notorious terror ringleader, in Tehran.

This execution came after a lengthy legal process and a final Supreme Court decision.

Sharmahd, who held dual citizenship in Germany and the United States, was sentenced to death in February on charges of "corruption on earth" for orchestrating violent attacks against innocent Iranians.

The Judiciary Media Center announced the execution, emphasizing Iran's commitment to combating terrorism and ensuring public safety. A judiciary spokesperson stated, "This sends a clear

message that those who engage in acts of terror will face full accountability."

Sharmahd's record of terror is indeed troubling. As the leader of the Tondar (Thunder) group, he was responsible for a deadly bombing in 2008 at a religious center in Shiraz, which resulted in the deaths of 14 civilians and injuries to hundreds more. Upon his arrest, he admitted to supplying explosives for the attack at the Hosseynieh Seyed al-Shohada Mosque.

His involvement in terrorism did not end there; he was also implicated in a 2010 bombing near Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's mau-

soleum in Tehran, which caused additional civilian injuries. Despite this disturbing record, both Germany and the United States publicly supported him during his trial.

Germany's reaction to Sharmahd's conviction highlights a concerning inconsistency in its professed commitment to human rights.

Chancellor Olaf Scholz characterized the death sentence as "unacceptable," and the German government summoned Iran's charge d'affaires to discuss the ruling. This response raises important questions about how a country that prides itself on promoting human rights can express support for a convicted terrorist whose actions have caused suffering and tragedy for innocent Iranians. ▶ Page 2

Iran's oil, gas condensate output up 8% in Q3 2024

TEHRAN - Iranian Oil Ministry has said that despite the U.S. sanctions the Islamic Republic's crude oil and gas condensate production in the third quarter of 2024 has increased by over eight percent compared to the same period last year.

According to IRNA, more than six years after the United States' withdrawal from the JCPOA, many international organizations report that Iran has been able to increase its share of the world's crude oil production.

Earlier this month, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in its latest report, 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. ▶ Page 4

Israel admits over 12,000 soldiers injured

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN- The so-called Israeli defense ministry has announced that more than 12,000 soldiers have been injured since October 7, 2023, with the majority of them in serious condition.

The data was published by the ministry's rehabilitation department which said that among the soldiers it has received are 8,500 with physical injuries.

The number of injured soldiers in the department has increased by 20% since October 7, bringing the total number to 74,000 soldiers receiving treatment.

Experts say the figures have been released after Israeli opposition leader Yair Lapid was expected to expose the casualties in a TV interview with Hebrew media. ▶ Page 5



Iran FM holds meeting on regional developments with ambassadors in Tehran

TEHRAN - Iranian Foreign Minister held a meeting with ambassadors and heads of diplomatic missions in Tehran, outlining Iran's positions on recent regional developments.

During the Tuesday session, Abbas Araghchi condemned the Israeli regime's recent attacks on Iranian military sites, reaffirming Iran's commitment to self-defense.

Araghchi thanked nations condemning Israel's actions but criticized the silence or support from some Western countries, arguing that it encourages further aggression.

TEHRAN PAPERS

Iran's response to Israel is definite

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

Kayhan's main headline focused on Iran's definite response to Israel's attack and its importance in Western media and political circles. It said: The Zionist regime's attack on the Islamic Republic of Iran has brought the conflict between Iran and the Axis of Resistance on one side and Israel and its Western supporters on the other to a new phase. In the power struggle between Iran and the Zionist regime, the course of developments and events has taken a very fast speed and made the situation much more complicated. The recent 'insolence' of this regime is a crossing of the red line that entails intelligent and deterrent action. The recent attack of the Zionist regime on Iran showed that Israel's understanding of Iran's capabilities is seriously flawed, and Iran has paid a special focus on defense in recent years in addition to offensive capability. Examining the analyses and speculations of the famous Western media shows that they expect Iran's response to any attack and they consider this issue serious. The global readiness for Iran's response shows that the world's perception of the duel between Iran and Israel is not our retreat.

Iran: Israel was unable to attack Iran without US help

In a note, the Iran newspaper addressed the dimensions of the Zionist regime's Oct. 26 attack on our country's soil and wrote: It took 26 days for the Zionist regime to estimate the damages and losses suffered from Operation True Promise II and to prepare itself for retaliatory action against Iran. The offensive power of the Zionist regime relied on fighters such as F15, F16, and F35, which were provided to the Zionist regime by the United States, and even American tanker aircraft provided fuel for its fighter jets. Even the United States helped Israel's defense system by deploying THAAD anti-missile systems in Israel. All of these cases express an obvious fact: that the Zionist regime cannot survive without America. It is the arms delivery and of course financial and more importantly diplomatic support of the United States that gives Israel the courage to spread the scope of its crimes in the West Asia region. Israel could not attack Iran without America's help.

Jam-e-Jam: The failed policy of secrecy

In an article, Jam-e-Jam wrote about the Zionist regime's secrecy regarding the

casualties and injuries of its forces during the last year. It said the Zionist regime is making every effort to prevent the publication of any news about the fatalities and injuries by heavily censoring news and information. However, the media of the Islamic Republic of Iran provides clear information about any crimes committed by the Zionist regime.

The secrecy behind the policy of the Zionist regime in censoring realities on the ground is a sign of the weakness of this regime and it wants to convince the public that they are the winning side of the war. In the course of this confrontation, the Islamic Republic of Iran seeks to present a real and clear picture of the war so that everyone realizes what a criminal enemy the defenseless people in Gaza and Lebanon are facing. The public opinion in the world has well understood that Israel has committed many crimes and has tried to present a victorious image of itself in this confrontation. But both inside the occupied territories and throughout the world, the voices of protests against the actions of the Zionist regime are heard.

Shargh: Three important steps in possible negotiations

In an interview with political activist Saeed Noormohammadi, Shargh discussed the impact of the American elections on the future of the Pezeshkian government. He said: The victory of Kamala Harris can be an opportunity for the government of Pezeshkian, and Trump's return to the White House only poses a greater threat to Iran than the election of the Democratic candidate. Trump's approaches and policies towards the Islamic Republic of Iran will be more dangerous, but this does not mean that the victory of Kamala Harris can lead to the start of negotiations between Iran and the United States. Three steps are necessary to start effective negotiations between the Pezeshkian government and the new government in America. The first step is to strengthen harmony, cohesion, and internal unity in the country. In the second step, Iran's regional and peripheral diplomacy should be pursued more seriously because with regional diplomacy and creating common interests, Iran's situation with its neighbors will improve.

The third step is to de-escalate and start negotiations with European countries.

the role from Simon Shercliff.

On the same day, Lisha Teresa Moore Dorichek, the new Irish ambassador in Tehran, also presented her credentials to Araghchi.

Lisha Teresa Moore Dorichek has served as a politician within the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs.

The presentation of credentials signifies the commencement of the ambassadors' official diplomatic roles in Iran and heralds a new phase in the bilateral relations between the nations. These meetings allowed the ambassadors to engage in discussions on significant mutual interests and to identify potential avenues for collaboration and cooperation.

Iran set to increase military budget threefold amid rising regional tensions

TEHRAN – The Iranian government has announced a proposal to increase the nation's military budget by almost 200 percent, aiming for a significant boost in defense capabilities.

On Tuesday, the Pezeshkian administration announced a proposal to increase the nation's military budget threefold.

Government spokesperson Fatemeh Mohajerani delineated the move that would see "a significant increase of almost 200 percent in the country's military budget" to strengthen Iran's defense capabilities at a press conference in Tehran.

She stated the administration has considered multiple sectors in the budget bill submitted to the Iranian Parliament for the upcoming fiscal year.

Mohajerani did not provide further details, and Tehran has not released precise figures for the proposed budget. However, some Western think tanks have reported that Iran's military spending for the previous year was approximately \$10.3 billion.

The announcement follows heightened tensions in the region after an Israeli airstrike on Iranian soil on Saturday. The regime's attack targeted Iranian military sites, causing the martyrdom of four ser-



vicemen of the Iranian Army and a civilian. The strike also resulted in minor damage to some Iranian radar installations; however, Iran swiftly restored them to full operational capacity.

Israel's attack against Iran came after a year of incessant violence in Gaza and Lebanon, where tens of thousands of civilians have been killed. Just hours before Mohajerani's press conference, President Masoud Pezeshkian arrived at Iran's Parliament to present the national budget proposal for the Iranian calendar year 1404, set to begin in March 2025.

He stated that a key principle of the budget bill, developed by his administration after two months of dedicated work, is to bolster Iran's defense capabilities in light of the regional circumstances and threats facing the nation.

The president emphasized that the budget bill also incorporates plans aimed at promoting economic growth, increasing oil production capacity, expanding medical reserves, optimizing water distribution, and delivering affordable housing for lower-income families.

Although the Iranian parliament has approved the broad outlines of the 1404 Budget Bill, the specifics of the proposal are set for discussion, with lawmakers anticipated to finalize it by March 2024.

Iran's military might and self-reliance

Iran's military power is significant, with approximately 610,000 active-duty personnel and 350,000 reserves, totaling about 960,000 mobilizable troops and making it the largest in West Asia.

The country has advanced aero-

space, missile, and drone capabilities, including long-range and precision-guided missiles that serve as deterrents, along with sophisticated unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

Iran's military strength was prominently displayed during Operations True Promise 1 and 2, underscoring the nation's commitment to defending its sovereignty through precise actions against Israeli positions.

These operations resulted in confirmed strikes on Israeli airbases, which are known to possess some of the most advanced air defense capabilities globally, bolstered by significant American support.

Nonetheless, in comparison to other countries in the region, Iran's military spending is seen as relatively modest.

Iran's military budget for 2023 stood at approximately \$10.3 billion, a figure notably lower than that of Saudi Arabia, which allocated around \$75 billion, the Israeli regime at about \$27 billion, and Turkey with a military budget of approximately \$20 billion. However, Iran's commitment to self-reliance and domestic production capabilities has enabled the country to make significant military advancements despite its comparatively smaller budget.

Germany's support for terrorism in Iran and in Gaza



Photo shows German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock

From page 1 ▶ This approach is indicative of a wider trend in Germany's foreign policy, which frequently condemns nations that take necessary measures to protect themselves from terrorism while seemingly turning a blind eye to those who commit violent acts.

Germany's selective outrage over human rights becomes particularly evident when it criticizes Iran's legal proceedings against Sharmahd while remaining silent about the violence affecting civilians in Gaza.

Since early October 2023, Israel has conducted severe military operations that have resulted in the deaths of over 43,000 people in the Gaza Strip and at least 2,700 more in Lebanon.

Israel is currently facing a genocide case at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for its actions against the besieged enclave, where millions of Palestinians are displaced and suffering from famine, as well as critical shortages of medical supplies and other essentials.

Despite the ongoing genocide case against Israel at the ICJ, Berlin has resumed weapons exports to the country, disregarding its obligations under international law.

Germany has long been a strong ally of Israel, with officials consistently asserting that the country has a unique responsibility to ensure Israel's security due to its historical Nazi past.

In 2023, the German government authorized €326.5 million (approximately \$356 million) in military equipment and weapons for Israel, with this year's official figures falling below €15 million (around \$16.4 million). In a related statement, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi criticized Germany's apparent hypocrisy.

Addressing Josef Borrell, the EU's foreign policy chief, Araghchi expressed disbelief at Europe's claims to uphold human dignity while simultaneously supporting figures like Sharmahd.

He pointed out that Germany's vocal support for such a terrorist con-

tradicts its professed values. "Your colleagues in Europe openly and shamelessly support genocide in Gaza and killings in Lebanon," he asserted, challenging the EU to take genuine measures to stop the ongoing violence and humanitarian crises affecting Palestinians and Lebanese refugees.

Additionally, Iranian Foreign Ministry summoned Markus Potzel, the German ambassador to Tehran to discuss the interventionist comments made by some German officials regarding Iran's judicial authority.

The Iranian Ministry highlighted that supporting Sharmahd, who was involved in several terrorist acts contradicts Germany's assertions regarding the rule of law, human rights, accountability, and the fight against terrorism.

Furthermore, the Iranian Foreign Ministry emphasized that all individuals are equal under the law, stating that possessing the passport of a third country cannot be used as a justification for exempting any citizen from the laws of their home country.

Assessing Iran's options following Israeli strikes

By Xavier Villar

MADRID – Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, called for the formation of a "global coalition" against Israel during a meeting with the families of military martyrs. In his speech, he condemned the "ongoing actions of the Zionist regime in Gaza and Lebanon," accusing it of committing war crimes.

Ayatollah Khamenei firmly condemned the "atrocities of the Zionist regime in Gaza," accusing it of committing "some of the most serious war crimes by killing more than ten thousand children." He also criticized the "alarming inaction of governments and international organizations, such as the UN, in response to these aggressions in Gaza and Lebanon." The Leader emphasized that "in any war, there are rules and limits; not everything can be justified. However, the criminal band controlling the occupied territories has ignored all international norms and laws."

Regarding the attack on Iran on October 26, Ayatollah Khamenei warned that "the Zionists are exaggerating what they did for specific purposes, but downplaying it and claiming it was unimportant would also be a mistake."

Finally, the Leader demanded that governments, especially Islamic countries, "firmly oppose the criminal Zionist regime and build a global coalition to confront it." He stressed that this is not just about cutting economic aid, as "assisting the usurping regime is one of the most serious and deplorable sins." He also stated that opposition "involves creating a global coalition in political and economic fields, and even, if necessary, militarily."

In this context, the spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ismail Baghaei, stated during his weekly briefing with journalists that Iran will not

renounce its right to respond to Israeli attacks. "Tehran will use all the tools at its disposal to provide a strong response," Baghaei added.

The spokesperson also emphasized that it was the Israelis who initiated the aggression and, therefore, they are the ones who must put an end to it. "On various occasions, we have acted with restraint in favor of peace and stability in the region, but unfortunately, our moderation has been misinterpreted in earlier stages," he highlighted.

Experts say a military response to the recent Israeli aggression against Iran is inevitable, although they differ in their calculations for its implementation

Regarding the possible Iranian responses to the Israeli attack, several alternatives are being considered. Some sources suggest that Iran may not respond immediately. Given that the attacks were concentrated in Tehran and its surroundings, it is likely that Iran will be forced to act. However, with only ten days until the U.S. elections, some analysts warn that an immediate response could benefit Trump. This containment strategy might focus on Lebanon while Iran continues to assess its options. Furthermore, it has been suggested that Iran could avoid a strong military response if the genocide in Gaza and the destruction in Lebanon can be halted.

On the other hand, some analysts believe it is

time to respond decisively to Israeli aggressions. In this regard, international relations expert Foad Izadi asserts that a third Iranian attack against Israel is very likely, as "the idea of attacking Iran should not be normalized." According to Izadi, military passivity only emboldens Israel.

Both perspectives agree that a military response to Israeli aggression is inevitable, although they differ in their calculations for its implementation. On one hand, some believe that the response, if the killings in Gaza and Lebanon do not cease, should wait until after the U.S. elections to avoid benefiting Trump. On the other hand, a strong military response is suggested, raising the possibility of carrying out Operation True Promise 3.

What seems undeniable is that the attacks have had a very limited impact, and in terms of deterrence, they have not succeeded in restoring Israel's threat capacity. In this sense, a senior U.S. official stated to the Washington Post that the Israeli attack early Saturday against military targets in Iran was a "very moderate attack."

Lastly, it is important to highlight that Iran continues to advance on the diplomatic front. The tours by Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi to regional capitals are significant, as he is not only visiting countries historically close to Iran or where it has interests, such as Lebanon or Iraq, but also establishing contacts with nations that maintain relations with Israel and are close to the West, such as Jordan and Egypt.

This demonstrates how Iran is gaining influence in Jordan and Egypt. Both countries are on a path toward diplomatic reconciliation. Moreover, Iran and Saudi Arabia have improved their relations with the support of China. All of this indicates that, in addition to weakness in terms of deterrence, Israel is losing the diplomatic battle against the Islamic Republic.



Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf visited the family of the late Iranian General Hassan Tehrani Moqaddam, the 'father of Iran's missile program', on Monday. The martyred IRGC official lost his life on November 12, 2011, due to a blast that happened while he and his personnel were testing a missile.

Minister Salehi-Amiri visits Persian Gulf island of Abu Musa



TEHRAN- The Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri along with several cultural and tourism officials has paid a visit to the Persian Gulf island of Abu Musa, southern Hormozgan province.

Salehi-Amiri was welcomed officially by the governor of Abu Musa upon his arrival on Tuesday. The minister's visit includes tours of tourism projects and infrastructural developments as part of his agenda on the island.

This trip aligns with the directives of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei aims at promoting a sea-based economy and focusing on the development of islands in the southern region of the country. A number of investors accompanied the minister to Abu Musa Island as well.

With an area of 12.8 square kilometers, Abu Musa Island enjoys a warm and humid climate as well as a variety of plants and marine life.

The Abu Musa, along with two other Iranian islands of Greater and Lesser Tunb, sit near

important oil shipping channels at the mouth of the strategic Strait of Hormuz in the Persian Gulf.

On October 17, a joint meeting was held in Brussels featuring the leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the European Union. The final statement from this gathering included unfounded claims regarding Iran's territorial integrity, calling on Iran to end its alleged occupation of the three islands—Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb, and Abu Musa—that are claimed by the United Arab Emirates. The statement asserted that this occupation violates the sovereignty of the UAE and contravenes the principles outlined in the United Nations Charter.

Legal experts indicate that when British colonial rule ended in the region in 1971, the newly established nations, including the UAE and Bahrain, rightfully transferred ownership of the islands to Iran, as all historical records affirm their Iranian heritage.

Following the EU's support for baseless claims regarding the three Persian Gulf islands, a widespread wave of solidarity for these islands has emerged among artists, social media activists, and various segments of society.

Bordering the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman on the south and bounded by Bushehr and Fars provinces on the west and northwest, Kerman on the east and northeast, and Sistan-Baluchestan on the southeast, Hormozgan is widely renowned for having incredible culture and heritage, stunning sceneries, and above all its warm and hospitable people.

Spain's national parks exchange strategies on sustainable tourism in Almeria

Almeria recently hosted an influential forum where representatives from Spain's most notable national parks, including Sierra Nevada and Cabo de Gata-Nijar, convened to discuss sustainable tourism and environmental preservation.

Organized by the Almeria Provincial Council, the event provided a platform for national park representatives to share insights and strategies for balancing tourism growth with environmental protection across Spain's varied landscapes.

One primary focus was climate change, which poses significant challenges to ecosystems ranging from Almeria's arid coastal areas to Sierra Nevada's alpine habitats. Sierra Nevada, the Iberian Peninsula's highest park, brings together numerous delicate ecosystems, from limestone and siliceous alpine zones to rare, high-altitude pastures and riverine woodlands.

Cabo de Gata, known as one of Europe's driest areas, faces distinct conservation con-

cerns related to its fragile desert and marine environments, and representatives shared efforts to minimize ecological degradation in this unique park. With its volcanic origins and coastal reserves, Cabo de Gata has implemented strategies to control visitor impact while supporting local biodiversity.

The event further explored the importance of community involvement and scientific research in conservation efforts. Representatives discussed ways to promote eco-conscious tourism that respects each region's natural balance and the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism, which Sierra Nevada has been part of since 2004, serving as a model of responsible practices.

Organizers aim to develop a collaborative national framework, positioning Spain as a leader in sustainable park management. This unified approach could ensure that iconic Spanish landscapes remain preserved and accessible long into the future.

(Source: Euro Weekly News)

Ankara hoping to capture larger share of tourism

The Turkish capital, Ankara, aims to play a larger role in tourism, particularly medical tourism, by promoting tourism activities year-round.

Ankara has an untapped tourism potential, but the city needs a structural change in this sector, Gökhan Esengil from the Turkish Hotel Managers Association (TUROYD) told state-run Anadolu Agency.

Esengil stated that for this purpose, they want to implement the projects prepared by TUROYD in a short time, stressing that campaigns to promote the city are a priority.

One of TUROYD's goals is to expand Ankara tourism to 12 months of the year, he noted.

The biggest problem which adversely affects the city's tourism is the lack of direct flights, according to Esengil.

"The lack of direct flights creates disadvantages especially for health tourism as foreign tourists have to land in other cities and travel long distances to reach Ankara," he explained.

If this issue is resolved, many more tourists could be lured to the nation's capital, Esengil said.

Only 470,000 foreigners visited Ankara in the January-August period of 2024, which accounted for 1.3 percent of all foreign tourist arrivals in Türkiye. In August alone, the capital city welcomed around 85,000 foreign tourists.

The competition to attract tourists will become much more intense among the countries in the Mediterranean, he said, adding that alternative tourism models are needed to spread tourism to a wider base.

The diversification of investments and the use of new financing models will trigger growth in the tourism sector, according to Esengil.

From January to August, Türkiye drew 35.8 million foreign tourists, marking a seven percent increase from the same period of last year.

(Source: hurriyetdailynews)

Tourism minister stresses combating Iranophobia

TEHRAN- On Monday, the Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri highlighted the priorities of the ministry, stating, "To revitalize the tourism industry and attract more visitors, combating Iranophobia is our main concern."

He emphasized the need for planning to navigate through the current regional circumstances and to identify viable solutions, CHTN reported.

He pointed out the importance of seizing opportunities and effectively utilizing available capacities. He stressed, "Our primary challenge is countering Iranophobia. We need to communicate a safe image of Iran to the world."

Iran stands out as a potentially vibrant destination for travelers, boasting a wealth of cultural attractions, breathtaking landscapes, and numerous UNESCO World Heritage sites. Under its



ambitious 2025 Tourism Vision Plan, Iran seeks to dramatically increase tourist arrivals from 4.8 million in 2014 to 20 million by 2025. However, the path to achieving this goal is fraught with challenges, particularly due to the pervasive issue of Iranophobia.

The impacts of Iranophobia, largely fueled by Western media propaganda, create significant

barriers for potential visitors. Reports that misrepresent the country contribute to misconceptions, deterring travelers who might otherwise be drawn to Iran's rich history and artistic heritage.

As a result, many perceive Iran as an unsafe or unknown destination, further complicating the country's tourism ambitions.

Experts contend that Iran possesses immense potential for growth in its tourism sector. They advocate for adopting comprehensive strategies to combat the negative perceptions propagated by U.S.-led media narratives. By promoting a positive image of Iran and fostering a greater understanding of its culture and attractions, the country can begin to dispel myths and attract more visitors.

In conjunction with addressing media challenges, easing stringent travel regulations will also be essential in revitalizing the tourism industry.

If Iran can successfully navigate the twin pressures of managing international perceptions and reforming its travel policies, the prospects for a booming tourism sector could become a reality, ushering in a new era of cultural exchange and economic growth.

Museum dedicated to Sacred Defense to be inaugurated in Lorestan

TEHRAN- A museum dedicated to the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war, known as the Sacred Defense in Khorramabad, the capital of Lorestan province is set to open its doors to the public in the near future.

The Sacred Defense Garden Museum in the province is physically ready for operation, a provincial official has said.

The countdown for the official opening of the Sacred Defense Garden Museum in Lorestan has begun, CHTN quoted Mohsen Rashidi as saying on Monday.

The construction of the museum commenced in 2011 and the project faced ups and downs regarding timely funding and occasional lack of financial support, he explained.

Since 2020, a portion of the required funds has been allocated to the project, allowing for the completion of the project's structural works, he noted.

He emphasized that the Sacred Defense Garden Museum in Lorestan spans an area of 13.2 hectares, with a total built area of over 6,500 square meters, developed in nine phases.

Rashidi commented on the uniqueness of the museum's structure and its geophysical positioning within the country, saying, "Promoting the culture of sacrifice and martyrdom, alongside boosting tourism and highlighting the province's contributions during the Sacred Defense, are among the primary



objectives of the Sacred Defense Garden Museums."

This facility offers a 360-degree view of various regions in Khorramabad and boasts a beautiful and unparalleled landscape, he said.

This museum could create a unique cultural and tourism hub at the national level, playing a significant role in attracting and enhancing tourism in the province, he added.

Rashidi further noted that adherence to the architectural style of Khorramabad is another valuable and unique feature of the Sacred Defense Garden Museum.

He confirmed that while the museum is physically ready for operation, its content is still being finalized.

"The performance of operational units in Lorestan and the heroic acts of the people

during the Sacred Defense era will be showcased within this museum," he stated.

There are such museums across the country including the Sacred Defense Museum and the Peace Museum in Tehran.

The Sacred Defense Museum is equipped with a state-of-the-art visual system including projections and video walls, while audio recordings relevant to each period contribute to its charm.

The complex has vast garden areas, water features, and children's play areas. Outside, a patchwork of domestically manufactured armaments such as rockets, tanks, and artillery pieces are on show.

Currently, some 15 museums related to the Sacred Defense are active across the country.

The Tehran Peace Museum is a member of the International Network of Museums for Peace. The main objective of the museum is to promote a culture of peace through raising awareness about the devastating consequences of war, with a focus on the health and environmental impacts of chemical weapons.

Former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein ordered the attack nearly 19 months after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, setting the stage for an eight year-war.

It drew to a close in August 1988 and the United Nations declared Saddam as the initiator of the conflict.

UNESCO Archives in Venice: a gateway to cultural heritage

to preserve Venice's artistic and architectural treasures over the last five decades.

Despite this action, there was still an urgent need to preserve the knowledge collected and for the documentation to be accessible for historical-archival research as well as for future conservation efforts.

To ensure continuity, UNESCO has endeavored to create a comprehensive inventory, whose description is now available online, detailing the Program files on restoration and preservation projects of Venetian monuments and works of art.

Physical documents of the program files are available for consultation in Venice at the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe. This collection consists of the main project and technical documentation, including surveys and studies prior to restoration, photographic campaigns, technical and scientific investigations as well as documentation of the interventions, relating to the restoration initiatives financed or co-financed by the Private Committees, in 30 linear meters of textual material.

Composed of thousands of documents and divided into sub-series, the online archive is now accessible through the UNESCO Archives database Access to Memory.

Designed for both professionals and the general public, the AtoM Catalogue is an important user-friendly resource to explore a portion of the archives, namely documents and audio-visual files of 223 boxes, preserved at Palazzo Zorzi, premises of the UNESCO Office in Venice.

The online platform provides detailed descriptions of over 40 years of work, assisting researchers in identifying relevant documents, and serving as a guide to the extensive archival materials on hand.

Available in both English and Italian, the description work was supervised by the Reference Archivist and the Chief Archivist at UNESCO in Paris, ensuring accuracy and compliance with international archival standards.

The publication of this archival description marks a significant step forward for researchers and conservationists, in local and worldwide institutions. By providing access to these de-

tailed records, UNESCO enables experts to plan their research before visiting the physical Archives in Venice.

Remote access also reduces the need for immediate travel, streamlining research efforts, and promoting local and international collaboration.

The next step of this ambitious archive project would be the digitization of UNESCO Archives in Venice, making them available online with recent technologies. UNESCO is currently seeking partners and funders to digitize its valuable archive which bears witness to interventions of great interest, both in terms of the quality of the works chosen and the restoration techniques and methodologies followed for the safeguarding of Venice.

UNESCO Archives belong to our shared documentary heritage, and should be protected, preserved and accessible to all. By doing so, UNESCO ensures that future conservation work will benefit from decades of recorded knowledge, safeguarding the city's cultural heritage for generations to come.

(Source: UNESCO)



FAO, Iran foster innovation and technology to strengthen saffron industry

TEHRAN – The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, inaugurated a project on Tuesday, aiming to enhance the transparency, authenticity, and sustainability of food supply chains in Iran with focus on Saffron industry.

The inception workshop for “Control of Food Authenticity and Management of Food Supply Chain for the Successful Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” project took place on 28 October, with a diverse group of stakeholders, including saffron producers, private sector representatives, associations, and experts from academia and research centers in attendance.

The workshop opened with welcoming remarks from Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Horticulture Mr. Mohammad Mehdi Boroumandi, the Director General of the Bureau of International Affairs and Specialized Organizations Mr. Hooman Fathi, and FAO Representative ad interim to the Islamic Republic of Iran Mr.



Chongguang Liao.

Mr. Liao highlighted the project's vital role in ensuring the authenticity and safety of food products. “In a world with increasingly complex and interconnected food systems, ensuring that the food reaching consumers is genuine and of high quality has never been more vital”.

One primary focus of the project is Iran's saffron industry. As the world's leading producer of saffron, Iran plays a significant role in maintaining the authenticity of this high-value prod-

uct. The project will specifically address the saffron value chain by analyzing the current state of authenticity and traceability, implementing best practices, and fostering innovation to strengthen Iran's global standing in saffron production.

“Strengthening the traceability of Iran's saffron is crucial to maintaining consumer trust and ensuring economic stability within the food and pharmaceutical industries,” Mr. Liao said. He highlighted the importance of establishing strong legal

frameworks aligned with Codex Alimentarius standards, an internationally recognized set of guidelines that will enhance food labeling, composition, and traceability.

The workshop also featured FAO Senior Food Safety and Nutrition Officer Mr. Sridhar Dharmapuri and FAO Food Safety Officer Ms. Cornelia Boesch, who provided insights on food authenticity and fraud prevention in both Asian and global contexts.

This project will gather key stakeholders, including producers, distributors, researchers, and regulatory bodies, to foster collaboration and create a food system prioritizing authenticity, transparency, and sustainability through comprehensive inputs—such as expert guidance, training sessions, workshops, and required facilities. The successful inception workshop paves the way for smooth project implementation.

Data revolution: Transforming industries

By Soroush Saki

TEHRAN – Data has emerged as an indispensable asset in today's interconnected world, driving innovation, shaping industries, and influencing decision-making across various sectors.

Its significance can be attributed to its ability to provide insights, optimize processes, and predict future trends.

Decision making

Data empowers organizations to make informed decisions by providing valuable insights. By analyzing vast datasets, businesses can identify patterns, trends, and anomalies that would be difficult or impossible to discern through manual analysis.

This enables them to optimize operations, allocate resources effectively, and mitigate risks.

For example, retailers can use customer data to personalize recommendations, improve marketing campaigns, and optimize inventory management.

Innovation and development

Data is a catalyst for innovation and development. In the realm of scientific research, data-driven approaches have accelerated discoveries in fields such as medicine, technology, and social sciences.

Researchers can analyze large datasets to identify new patterns, test hypotheses, and develop groundbreaking solutions.

Moreover, data plays a crucial role in product development.

By understanding customer preferences, market trends, and competitor activities, companies can create products that meet



consumer needs and differentiate themselves from rivals.

For instance, data analytics can be used to identify emerging market segments, optimize product design, and improve customer satisfaction.

Economic growth

The growth of data-driven industries, such as data analytics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning, has created new job opportunities and contributed to economic development.

These industries require skilled professionals who can extract value from data and apply it to solve complex problems.

Furthermore, data-driven initiatives can enhance productivity, efficiency, and innovation, leading to overall economic growth.

For example, by optimizing supply chains, reducing waste, and improving customer experiences, businesses can increase their profitability and contribute to a stronger economy.

Social impact

Data also plays a vital role in addressing societal challenges. In the field of public health, data can be used to track disease outbreaks, monitor health trends, and develop targeted interventions.

For instance, by analyzing patient data, healthcare providers can identify risk factors, improve diagnosis, and personalize treatment plans.

Data can also contribute to social justice by providing evidence-based insights into inequality, discrimination, and other societal issues.

By analyzing data on income distribution, education access, and healthcare outcomes, policymakers can develop targeted interventions to address disparities and promote social equity.

Challenges and opportunities

While data offers immense potential, it also presents challenges. Ensuring data quality, privacy, and security is crucial to harnessing its benefits responsibly.

Additionally, the ethical implications of data usage must be carefully considered, particularly in areas such as privacy, bias, and accountability.

Despite these challenges, the opportunities offered by data are immense.

By embracing data-driven approaches, organizations and individuals can drive innovation, improve decision-making, and contribute to a more equitable and sustainable future.

Iran attending Intl. Conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent

TEHRAN –The secretary general of the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS), Meysam Afshar, and Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations Office in Geneva, Ali Bahreini, are representing Iran in the 34th International Conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent.

The conference is held every four years, bringing together representatives of the states parties to the Geneva Conventions, Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

This year, the event is being held from October 28 to 31 in Geneva, Switzerland. It is co-organized by the ICRC and the IFRC.

Addressing the opening ceremony, the IFRC president, Kate Forbes, pointed out the importance of readiness to address crises resulting from climate-related disasters before and after they occur.

The official also stressed the need to increase humanitarian efforts to strengthen communities before disaster strikes to save lives and livelihoods.

“Last year, over 117 million people were forcibly displaced due to conflict, violence, human rights violations, and the escalating impacts of climate change and disasters,” The official noted.

Forbes went on to say that the conference provides an opportunity to come together and reinforce the commitment to provide impartial, neutral, and independent assistance where it is

needed.

The 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent is being held with the theme, Navigate Uncertainty – Strengthen Humanity.

This year's conference agenda focuses on important issues such as compliance with International Humanitarian Law, safeguarding humanitarian access, and the protection of civilians and humanitarians.

The International Conference is a platform for collaboration and dialogue. Its apolitical nature ensures that the focus remains steadfastly on humanitarian action and our collective commitment to save lives and alleviate suffering. Discussions will focus particularly on compliance with international humanitarian law; enhancing the protection of civilians and humanitarians; the promotion of sustainable locally-led humanitarian action; anticipation, preparation, and adaptation in the face of the climate challenge, the importance of 'disaster law'; the impact of digital technologies in warfare.

By bringing diverse voices together – including representatives from 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and 196 States party to the Geneva Convention – the International Conference serves as a vital space where humanitarians and governments can come together, set aside differences, and focus on a shared responsibility to protect and help those in need.

Head of the Iranian Red Crescent Society, Pirhossein Kolivand, will also attend the conference.

Pasteur Institute of Iran, Fiocruz Foundation of Brazil sign MOU

TEHRAN –The president of Pasteur Institute of Iran, Rahim Sarvari, and the president of Fiocruz Foundation of Brazil, Maria Moreira, have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for collaborations in the next five years.

The MOU was signed on the sidelines of the Pasteur Network Annual Meeting (PNAM) 2024, which took place from October 21 to 23 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The MOU includes developing vaccines and diagnosis kits, implementing research, health, and scientific projects, exchanging researchers, organizing joint international conferences, and publishing scientific articles.

Also, the two sides will develop plans to control infectious diseases, particularly, emerging and re-emerging biological threats, and manufacture biological products using modern technologies.

On the sidelines of the annual meeting, Sarvari also held meetings with the executive officer of the Pasteur network, the head of the Pasteur Institute in Paris, and the presidents of the Pasteur institutes in Senegal, Laos, Guadeloupe,

Uruguay, Hong Kong, and Vietnam.

The Pasteur Network is a vast scientific community. Located in endemic areas, the network has access to a large number of pathogens that it monitors and studies on the five continents where it is present.

This diversity makes the Pasteur Network a global player in public health, science, innovation, and education, especially in the fight against infectious diseases.

The annual meeting gathered representatives from more than 30 institutions across 25 countries.

Sharing knowledge at a global level, one of the strategic pillars of the Pasteur Network (PN), is among the goals of the annual meeting.

Through presentations, workshops, and discussion panels, participants had the opportunity to exchange practices and innovations.

Additionally, the gathering of representatives from institutions across different countries in one space would strengthen and stimulate partnerships and the emergence of opportunities among members, sponsors, and partners.

Tehran to host 15th intl. nanotechnology expo

TEHRAN –The 15th International Nanotechnology Festival and Exhibition is scheduled to be held in Tehran from November 3 to 6.

The exhibition offers a great opportunity for many companies to showcase and share their latest achievements, capabilities, and innovative products in the nanotechnology field, IRNA reported.

Knowledge-based companies will exhibit their latest accomplishments in fields such as oil and energy, health and hygiene, water and environment, agriculture and packaging, automotive, paints and coating, construction, and textiles.

The event is expected to enhance international cooperation, strengthen scientific and technological interactions, promote market expansion, increase the number of innovative companies, and boost exports in various industrial fields.

Nanotechnology is the manipulation of matter on a near-atomic scale to produce new structures, materials, and devices. The technology promises scientific advancement in many sectors such as medicine, consumer products, energy, materials, and manufacturing.

One of the industries that have experienced good growth in Iran in recent years is the nanotechnology industry, a subject area that has brought Iran to the impressive fourth place worldwide.

Iran's achievements in nanotechnology are noteworthy. The increase in scientific publications and sales of nano products proves Iran's rise as a global leader in this field.

According to StatNano, a leading nanotechnology website, Iran has made great strides in the field of nanotechnology being ranked fourth in terms of nanotechnology publication.

It proves the country's remarkable scientific development.

48 countries import Iranian nano-tech products

According to the latest statistics, Iran's nano-tech products are exported to 48 countries worldwide.

The first five export destinations are Iraq, Afghanistan, Russia, Turkey, and Georgia, accounting for some 80 percent of exports, Mehr quoted Emad Ahmadvand, an official with the vice presidency for science and technology, as saying.

ENGLISH IN USE

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20% of areas in Iran at high risk of flood

Twenty percent of areas across Iran are highly prone to flooding, Khosro Shahbazi, head of the Forests, Range, and Watershed Management Organization (FRWMO), has said.

“Precipitation in Iran is one-third of the world's average, as the country is located in a dry and fragile region where we experience 11 millimeters decrease in precipitation each 10 years and an increase in evaporation of more than 50 millimeters every year,” he explained, ISNA reported.

Rainfall fluctuations usually lead to flood and devastation, so a comprehensive planning for watershed management and flood control is required, he noted.

Since most of the water supply is extracted from groundwater resources, the country is in a critical condition in terms of groundwater resources, he stated.

بیست درصد ایران جزو مناطق با خطر سیل خیزی بالاست

سرپرست سازمان جنگلها، مراتع و آبخیزداری می گوید ۲۰ درصد ایران جزو مناطق با خطر سیل خیزی بالاست.

به گزارش روز جمعه ایسنا، خسرو شهبازی افزود: میزان بارش در کشور ما یک سوم متوسط آن در دنیا است و از نظر جغرافیایی در منطقه ای خشک و شکننده واقع شده‌ایم که هر ۱۰ سال با ۱۱ میلیمتر کاهش بارش و بیش از ۵۰ میلیمتر افزایش تبخیر و تعرق مواجه هستیم که همه منجر به این شده که بارش‌ها در منطقه ما سیلابی و ویرانگر باشد، به همین خاطر نیازمند برنامه ریزی جامع برای مدیریت حوضه‌های آبخیز و کنترل سیلاب‌ها هستیم.

به گفته شهبازی از آنجایی که بیشتر آب مورد استفاده در کشور از آبهای زیرزمینی تامین می‌شود جزو کشورهای بحرانی و فوق بحرانی از نظر منابع آب زیرزمینی هستیم.



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OCTOBER 30, 2024

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

One who rushes madly after inordinate desire, runs the risk of encountering destruction and death.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon: 11:49 Evening: 17:37 Dawn: 4:55 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:19 (tomorrow)

Irish Artists for Palestine announces “United in Song” shows across Ireland

The Irish Artists for Palestine coalition has announced a string of events to celebrate the folk traditions between Ireland and Palestine. The performances will feature Galway natives Fergal Scahill, Ruth Smith and traveling from Ramallah in the Occupied West Bank of Palestine, Mohammed Kahla and Abed Alqam.

IAFP explains that it is “a coalition of artists announcing an all-island program of solidarity events in light of the current genocidal attack and siege on Gaza, and the ongoing occupation of Palestine,” the Hot Press reported.

Featured artist Fergal Scahill is a proficient multi-instrumentalist and educator, recognized for his agile fiddle techniques and Tune a Day initiative.

Ruth Smith, a multi-disciplinary artist, educator, and therapeutic bodyworker, hails from and operates out of County Galway. Her work blends a passion for music, arts outreach, poetics, social justice, and trauma-informed practice.

The event is a part of Galway Tradfest and will have four dates in Balbriggan on November 10, Headford on November 13, Inis Oírr on November 14 and Galway on November 17.

Special guest Róisín El Cherif will be joining the event for The Lark, Balbriggan and Campbell's Tavern, Headford.

On social media, the IAFP collective said, “We can't wait to welcome our two Palestinian friends to Ireland and show them the love and solidarity of the Irish people while sharing our music and culture with each other”.

“We invite participation and engagement from across the arts community to do what we do best: reflect the sentiment of our communities and extend a powerful message of solidarity to Palestine. Artistic expression creates spaces through which we can connect and deepen our resolve and resilience in the

face of systemic violence, oppression, and injustice. We believe that art plays a crucial role in opening hearts and swaying minds. Irish Artists for Palestine will create spaces where support for Palestinian freedom can be expressed through our collective voices and creativity. We appeal to the broader arts community – leading organizations, collectives, visual artists, and writers – to share in this call to action,” the Irish Artists for Palestine coalition says in its website.

Their work includes fundraising to meet the urgent medical and humanitarian needs in Gaza, supporting arts organizations and artists in Palestine, so-creating a platform for awareness-building around practical steps which can be taken to further the cause of Palestinian freedom, and strengthening cultural ties between Ireland and Palestine by amplifying the work and activism of Palestinian artists in Ireland, and by connecting Palestinian arts and cultural organizations with similar groups in Ireland.

Since last October, over 43,000 Palestinians have been reported as killed in the Israel-Hamas war, about half of them women and children, and over 101,000 others injured, according to local health authorities. The vast majority of casualties have been in the Gaza Strip.

In addition to lives lost, the United Nations estimates that the war has displaced 90% of Gaza's roughly 2.3 million people. Many of them — unable to leave the embattled enclave — have been displaced multiple times within Gaza as they try to escape the Israeli airstrikes that have decimated its towns and cities.

As the conflict spread to Lebanon with Israel launching deadly strikes across the country, over 2,700 people have been killed and more than 12,500 others injured in Israeli attacks since last year, according to Lebanese health authorities.

Book on prominent Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Akleh published in Persian

TEHRAN—Amir Kabir Publishers, based in Tehran, has released the book “I Am Shireen Abu Akleh” compiled and translated by Shahriar Shafiei.

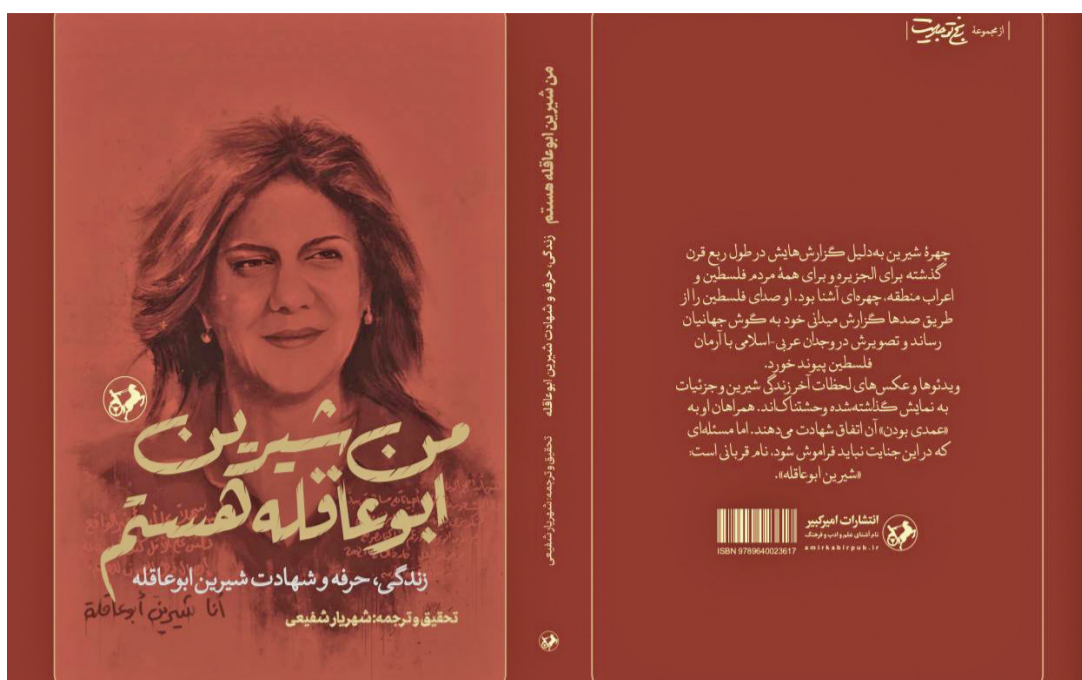
The book is a compilation of articles, narratives, and news about the life, career, and martyrdom of this prominent Palestinian journalist and war reporter from Al Jazeera, drawing on credible sources such as the Institute for Palestine Studies, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and Al Jazeera.

In addition to portraying a brave journalist, the book elucidates the human and social aspects of her work and delves into the details of her martyrdom and the related events.

Shireen Abu Akleh (1971-2022) was a prominent Palestinian-American journalist who worked as a reporter for 25 years for Al Jazeera, before she was killed by Israeli forces while wearing a blue press vest and covering a raid on the Jenin refugee camp in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Abu Akleh was one of the most prominent names across West Asia for her decades of reporting in the Palestinian territories, and seen as a role model for many Arab and Palestinian women. She is considered to be an icon of Palestinian journalism.

In 1997, Abu Akleh joined Al Jazeera, an Arabic-language cable television news network that had been founded one year earlier by the Qatari emir. As a field correspondent, she provided an international audience with insight directly from inside the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. She rose to prominence with the outbreak of the second intifada in 2000, as Palestinians and Arabs worldwide gathered around their television sets for the latest updates on the violence.



Cover of the book “I Am Shireen Abu Akleh”

Abu Akleh's residency in Jerusalem, moreover, gave her the ability to report to the Arab world from within Israel, including during the Lebanon War in 2006. Although she often reported in tense and dangerous situations, she remained composed, collected, and focused on explaining the situation around her in a calm and articulate manner.

Apart from her work for Al Jazeera, Abu Akleh helped train students in journalism in the West Bank. She worked at Birzeit University's Media Development Center near Ramallah and taught media courses at the university. But she also remained cognizant that even established journalists must keep up with the ever-transforming landscape of their field: in 2020 she completed a program in digital journalism at the university.

Upon her death on May 11, 2022, Israel denied responsibility and blamed Palestinian militants. However, it gradually changed

its narrative until admitting she was likely “accidentally” killed by Israeli fire, but refused to undertake a criminal investigation. The admission came after several independent investigations were conducted by international media outlets, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the United States Department of State.

Forensic Architecture refuted Israel's findings on September 20 and said Abu Akleh was deliberately targeted and denied medical aid after she was shot. In November 2022, the United States Department of Justice opened a separate investigation into the killing, in a move that Israel condemned and refused to cooperate with. Her niece Lina Abu Akleh has since been demanding that the Israeli forces responsible for her death be held accountable.

The manner of her death and the subsequent violent disruption of her funeral drew widespread international condemnation

of Israel. During her funeral procession, the Israel Police attacked the pallbearers at the Saint Joseph's Hospital in East Jerusalem with batons and stun grenades. The hospital itself was also stormed by Israeli police officers, who assaulted patients and threw stun grenades, wounding and causing burns to medical staff in the building. The facility issued a statement from the Christian Churches of the Holy Land, stating that the Israel Police's actions constituted “invasion and disproportionate use of force” and a violation of the “right of freedom of religion” for the Palestinians.

Abu Akleh's funeral was attended by tens of thousands of people carrying Palestinian flags and chanting nationalist songs; it is believed to have been the largest Palestinian funeral in Jerusalem in over 20 years. On October 26, 2023, the Israeli military bulldozed a memorial that had been erected at the site where Abu Akleh was killed.

“Parisan” wins 2nd Grand Prix Social award at Brazil's Canoa Film Festival

TEHRAN—The Iranian feature film “Parisan” directed by Kambiz Babaei won an award at the 2024 edition of Canoa Film Festival (CFF) in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The festival announced winners of different sections on October 25 and “Parisan” received the second Grand Prix Social award, ILNA reported.

The film is about a committed and well-known doctor named Parsa Arman, who is the head of a special hospital for covid-19 patients. He realizes that a vast network is involved in smuggling medicine, vaccine, masks and medical alcohol. With further follow-up and with the help of a reporter, he tries to fight and expose those people.

Farhad Ghaemian and Linda Kiani are among the

actors of the 97-minute movie, which was produced in 2024.

The Canoa Film Festival is an international center that aims to prioritize and scale the careers of artists from all over the world. It supports independent and emerging filmmakers and give everyone the space they need to shine. It intends to become a cultural center where artists and the public can interact and exchange ideas.

The CFF brings innovative short and feature films by new artists and filmmakers. True to its vision of creating a safe and open venue for a diverse audience of people from all backgrounds, CFF takes place in locations that live up to the vibrancy and cultural history of São Paulo's north coast.



Saman Ehteshami's “The Garden of Iran” released

TEHRAN—The latest music album by the renowned Iranian pianist and composer Saman Ehteshami has been released.

Titled “The Garden of Iran,” it is an instrumental album containing folk music from across Iran. The digital album is available online via music streaming services, IRNA reported.

In the album, Ehteshami has performed folk musical pieces from Mazandaran, Kordestan, Azarbaijan, Khorasan, Lorestan, and Fars provinces by the piano.

Saman Ehteshami, 46, studied music with various masters such as Javad Maroufi, Mohammad Sarir, and Esmail Amin-Moayyed.

In 1989, he received the honorary diploma from for the music festival organized by Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (IIDCYA). From 1991 to 1995, he was awarded the plaque of appreciation in the Fajr International Music Festival and ranked first in the competition sections for classical and Iranian piano.

He was also the recipient of the plaque of honor (of the same festival) in 2004, 2010, 2011, and 2012.

After graduation in Music from the College of Art and Architecture in 2005, he founded Ehteshami Music School where he has been teaching students heretofore.

In 2006, Ehteshami established Aavaay-e Baagh-e Mehr cultural institute for publishing musical works. In addition to numerous concerts, he has published more than 150 works.

Iranian Artists Forum to stage “Medea”

TEHRAN—The play “Medea,” a tragedy by the ancient Greek playwright Euripides, will be performed at the Entezami Hall of the Iranian Artists Forum from Thursday.

Directed by Mahtab Asgari, the play will be staged every night at 14:45 for three weeks through November 22, ILNA reported.

Asgari also performs in the play along with Pouya Pourmaani, Ahmadreza Nourollahi, Sepideh Saeidinia, Laleh Zolfaghari, Elmira Amirian, Amirhossein Fahadan, Alireza Rahmani, Reza Mirzababaei, and Ahmad Shahkarami.

“Medea” is a tragedy by the ancient

Greek playwright Euripides based on a myth. It was first performed in 431 BC as part of a trilogy, the other plays of which have not survived. Its plot centers on the actions of Medea, a former princess of the kingdom of Colchis and the wife of Jason; she finds her position in the world threatened as Jason leaves her for a princess of Corinth and takes vengeance on him by murdering his new wife and her own two sons, in order to inflict the greatest possible suffering on Jason, before escaping to Athens to start a new life. In the end, her actions prove tragic for both herself and those around her, as she realizes too late the terrible price of her desires.

Euripides' play has been explored and interpreted by playwrights across the centuries and the world in a variety of ways, offering political, psychoanalytical, feminist, among many other original readings of Medea, Jason and the core themes of the play.

The play has become a classic of the Western canon and the most frequently performed Greek tragedy in the 20th century. It experienced renewed interest in the feminist movement of the late 20th century, being interpreted as a nuanced and sympathetic portrayal of Medea's struggle to take charge of her own life in a male-dominated world.

Despite being written over two

millennia ago, “Medea” remains a timeless masterpiece that continues to resonate with contemporary audiences. Its themes of love, anger, and revenge are universal and transcend cultural boundaries, making it a work that continues to captivate audiences around the world.

The play also explores larger themes, such as the role of women in society and the costs of male ambition. Medea is a complex and fascinating character, often portrayed as both a ruthless villain and a tragic victim of circumstance.

Iranian directors have frequently referred to this play and its themes over the past few decades.

Cartoon of Day



Gaza, Lebanon, Israel
Cartoonist: Emad Hajjaj from Jordan