

# Resistance Endures

## Iranians rally on Aban 13th to reaffirm fight against Global Arrogance



Picture shows female students in Tehran on November 3, 2024, marking National day of Fight against Global Arrogance.

## Iran will not leave any violation unanswered: Pezeshkian

TEHRAN – In a Sunday cabinet meeting, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian declared that the Islamic Republic will not tolerate any violations of its borders or security.

“We will not leave any violation unanswered,” Pezeshkian stated, addressing the leaders of the Zionist regime directly. He warned that any wrongdoing against Iran would elicit a “crushing response,” while also urging for a reconsideration of actions that have led to regional instability.

Pezeshkian highlighted that nations across the region are increasingly recognizing Iran as a stabilizing force, contrasting it with the Zionist regime, which he described as a catalyst for war and crisis. His comments come at a time of heightened tensions in West Asia, which has been brought to the brink of a regional war multiple times in the past year by the Israeli regime.

## Iran’s foreign trade closes \$100b in 7 months

TEHRAN- The value of Iran’s foreign trade reached \$99.7 billion during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-October 21), the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) announced.

Mohammad Rezvanifar said that of the mentioned figure, \$60.2 billion was the value of the country’s export, and \$39.5 billion was the worth of the import.

He put the value of non-oil export at \$32.5 billion, the oil export at \$27 billion, and technical-engineering export at \$700 million in the seven-month period.

Saying that the value of the country’s non-oil export rose 15 percent in the first seven months of this year, as compared to the same period of time in the past year, the official put the weight of non-oil export at 88.7 million tons in the mentioned seven-month, with 11.48 percent growth, year on year.

He further put the weight of the seven-month import at 21.7 million tons.

## Portraying pain: artistic expressions of Gaza’s struggles

By Ali Hamedin

TEHRAN- Art has long served as a powerful medium for capturing the deepest human emotions, bearing witness to tragedies, and expressing the suffering of marginalized communities. In the ongoing Gaza genocide, artists around the world have taken to canvas, paint, and digital media to convey the experiences of those caught in the crossfire.

Paintings depicting bombed buildings, grieving families, and children lost to violence have emerged as poignant symbols of resilience and sorrow, offering a visceral glimpse into the lives of Gazans. These artworks transcend language, bringing international audiences face-to-face with the brutal reality of life under siege and allowing viewers to empathize with the pain and trauma endured by Palestinians.

The role of painters in this crisis extends beyond artistic expression; they have become cultural historians and advocates for human rights, challenging the distorted political narratives of the Zionists through the language of color and form. Global artists, from Gaza itself to distant countries, ▶ Page 8

## US fails to separate the Lebanese front from Gaza

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT - For a month, and after the fall of 1,280 Israeli officers and soldiers, dead and wounded, the Israeli enemy has failed to occupy the border area, extending from Naqoura to the Shebaa Farms (about 4 km deep).

Hezbollah has not allowed the invading army to establish points of concentration, destroying so far about 40 Merkava tanks and dozens of armored vehicles.

The US-led Israeli aggression on Lebanon has only succeeded in carrying out extensive destruction operations in the border villages and in escalating the intensity of the hostile raids throughout Lebanon under the pretext that it is destroying Hezbollah’s infrastructure.

In the meantime, the failed Netanyahu has called for a “long and broad” war in the entire region, a war led by the Americans and supported by the British,

## Insights from London conference: Israel’s existence hangs in the balance

TEHRAN- Israel’s failure to meet its objectives during the genocidal war on the Gaza Strip has widened rifts among Israeli officials, the media corps and the regime’s supporters.

Since launching war on Gaza on October 7, 2023, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has repeatedly vowed to perpetuate the conflict until achieving “total victory” over Hamas by “destroying” the resistance group.

More than a year into the onslaught, Israel has not succeeded in eliminating Hamas.

In June, the Israeli military spokesman challenged Netanyahu’s claim of defeating Hamas.

“The idea that it is possible to destroy Hamas, to make Hamas vanish — that is throwing sand in the eyes of the public,” Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari told Israel’s Channel 13.

## Israel’s Hezbollah “drone dilemma”

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN- Hezbollah has shown its capability to launch long-range drones at sensitive Israeli sites creating a headache for the military strategists in Tel Aviv.

Over the past months, Hezbollah has waged frequent drone launches from Lebanon, which have managed to evade Israeli air defense systems, reaching the heart of the occupying regime.

The Hebrew site Walla published a report on the “drone dilemma,” stating that the Lebanese resistance and others have managed to identify one of the major weaknesses of the Israeli occupation forces and its ability to handle the threat of drones.

The report mentioned that, throughout this year, drones have been able to hit precise targets, including the dining hall at the Golani Brigade training base, the home of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a building in Nahariya, and various occupation army sites.

## Trump and Harris dancing to Israel’s tune

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN- The US presidential candidates are making last-ditch efforts to woo voters ahead of Tuesday’s election amid growing domestic discontent over Washington’s military support for Israel’s genocidal war on the Gaza Strip.

Nationally, Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump are seen locked in a tight race for the White House.

Harris has had a small lead over Trump in the national polling averages since she entered the race at the end of July and she remains ahead.

Harris has surpassed Trump in a new poll in Iowa, with likely women voters responsible for the turnaround, according to a Des Moines Register/Mediacom Iowa Poll released on Saturday, Reuters reported.

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## Capturing a victory

TEHRAN – On November 3, 1979, Iranian students took control of the U.S. embassy in Tehran in what many saw as a critical act of justice and defiance against decades of U.S. interference.

The Tehran Times’ reporting over the days following the event provides a unique Iranian perspective on the incident, noting the event an empowering act of resistance against foreign interference.

With headlines like “U.S. Embassy Held” on November 5 and “Seizure Hailed” on November 6, the Tehran Times embraced the takeover as a powerful reclaiming of sovereignty from U.S. intervention, portraying the students as national heroes and emphasizing the widespread support of the Iranian public.

November 5: the people’s rejection of U.S. domination

On November 5, the Tehran Times ran its first major story on the embassy takeover, describing it as a deliberate act against U.S. influence. ▶ Page 3



## Leader meets families of air defense staff martyred in Israeli airstrike

TEHRAN – On Sunday, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, convened with the families of air defense staff who lost their lives during Israel’s attacks on Iranian territory last month.

Four servicemen of the Iranian Army were martyred in fending off Israeli airstrikes that came on October 26.

Ayatollah Khamenei held a meeting with the families of Martyrs Hamzeh Jahandideh, Mohammad Mahdi Shahrokhifar, Mehdi Naqavi, and Sajjad Mansouri. ▶ Page 2

## TEHRAN PAPERS

## The West looking for excuses for more sanctions on Iran

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

In a note, the Iran newspaper addressed Europe's hostility towards Tehran under any pretext and wrote: Irresponsible positions and false claims have always been one of the approaches taken by the West to invent an excuse for pressure and sanctions against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In the past few days, the execution of (terrorist mastermind) Jamshid Sharmahd, an Iranian-German citizen, caused Germany and European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell to start a new wave of diplomatic crisis with Iran. Europe has been taking action against Iran for a long time by first claiming that Iran is sending "drones" and then claiming it is sending "short-range ballistic missiles" to Russia.

Now Germany is pretending it is a human rights defender because it seeks to achieve the two goals of changing the equation in the Ukraine battleground and creating an excuse to impose more pressure on Iran to serve Tel Aviv. By recalling its ambassador from Tehran and closing Iranian consulates in some cities in the country, Germany plays a leading role in implementing this anti-Iran scenario. In this regard, it sees the European Union's foreign policy institution (European Commission) as a support for its false claims against Iran.

**Hamshahri: A fact that Israel itself is aware of**

Hamshahri discussed Iran's defense power with Masoud Edrisi, Tehran's former ambassador to Lebanon, Cuba, and Poland.

He said: Israel's rhetoric is symbolic. Based on their military and security findings, they are aware that the Islamic Republic of Iran is powerful and it is not like Gaza and Lebanon that Israeli fighters bomb everywhere and do not face any reaction. The threats by the political and defense authorities of this regime against Iran are mostly aimed at showing their power more than what it is.

Iranian people have noticed Israel's psychological war. Some Israeli analysts have propounded that Iran has an undisclosed defense system that forced them to change their operations when it locked on Israeli warplanes in a recent attack. Such evidence and analyses show that Israel's operation was not very successful. Iran must take action to make Israel withdraw from the idea of air superiority against Iran. In fact, it is Iran's reaction that can disrupt this miscalculation.

## Qalibaf offers condolences to Spain following deadly flood



TEHRAN – The speaker of the Iranian Parliament extended heartfelt condolences to the Presidents of the Congress of Deputies and the Senate of Spain in light of the tragic flooding disaster.

Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf conveyed his sentiments to Francina Armengol, President of the Congress of Deputies, and Pedro Manuel Ruiz de Porras, President of the Senate, stating, "I am deeply saddened by the reports of the flooding in the Valencia region, which has led to the loss of lives and injuries to many of your fellow citizens."

Qalibaf pointed out, "In this context, I wish to express my sympathy and support, along with my colleagues in the Iranian Parliament, to you, the members of Parliament, the government, and the people of Spain. I hope for strength and resilience for the families affected by this tragedy and wish for the swift recovery of those injured."

On October 30, 2024, Spain experienced catastrophic flooding due to heavy rainfall concentrated in a brief timeframe, resulting in

**Javan: Iraqi resistance ready to cooperate with Iran in military response to Israel**

In an explanation, Javan analyzed a declaration by the Iraqi resistance that it is ready to cooperate with Iran in an expected military response to Israel's Oct. 26 attack on Iran. The paper said: Referring to the Zionist attack on Iran by using Iraqi airspace, the Iraqi resistance has emphasized that in such a situation, Iran has the right to target the occupied lands from Iraq and the Iraqi resistance is in coordination with Iran in this regard. Tehran has repeatedly emphasized that the response to Israel's aggressive attacks is definite. This attack will likely be carried out from Iraqi territory, using several drones and ballistic missiles. Now there is a priority, and that is targeting the Zionist regime and then attacking the American bases because diplomacy and dialogue do not work with them. Only the language of force and weapons will work. The Zionists have expressed concern about the economic consequences of any possible action and said that if we react to Iran's future response, Israel's economy will definitely collapse. The war has weakened Israel's economy. The war in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon, as well as tensions with Iran, have made Israel's economy very fragile.

**Donya-e-Eqtasad: Middle East is in a state of uncertainty**

In a note on the Iran-Israel conflict, Donya-e-Eqtasad said: After the latest trade of fire between Israel and Iran, the Middle East is still in a state of uncertainty. The current situation has destabilized the balance of power in the Middle East. The new combination of "uncertainty and aggression" could signal the breakout of an all-out war. For years, Israel-Iran disputes, though sometimes violent, were under control. Both sides used to maintain a balanced mutual deterrence, but the current condition cannot persist. According to Daniel Sobelman, the assistant professor of international relations at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's International Relations Department, believes there are two main ways to achieve "strategic stability". The first is a hegemony in which one side defeats the other so decisively that it can enforce its will. Second, there is a balance in which there is a relatively symmetrical balance of power so that all parties refrain from escalating the tension. Even new developments are not enough to create durable stability.

flash floods that ravaged the eastern regions of the country.

This disaster has been classified as one of the most lethal natural calamities in Spain's recent past, claiming the lives of more than 200 individuals, with numerous others reported as missing or injured.

**Condolences to Serbia**

Also on Sunday, The Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson conveyed heartfelt condolences to the Serbian government and its citizens following the tragic roof collapse at a train station in Serbia.

Esmail Baqaei shared a message on X, stating that the loss of life resulting from the roof collapse at the Novi Sad train station has brought profound sadness.

As an expression of solidarity and support, the Iranian spokesperson conveyed the sympathies of the Iranian people and government to those affected by the devastating event.

The message emphasized the importance of international cooperation and support during times of crisis and tragedy.

The spokesperson noted, "We offer our sympathies to the families affected by this tragedy and stand in solidarity with the government and people of Serbia."

On Friday, the Ministry of Interior of Serbia reported that the roof collapse at the Novi Sad train station had resulted in 14 fatalities and four injuries.

## Leader meets families of air defense staff martyred in Israeli airstrike



Leader of the Islamic Revolution engaged with children of fallen Army personnel on Sunday



From page 1 ▶ Paying tribute to the martyrs' esteemed status, the Leader remarked, "Every martyr is honored, but the martyrdom of those who valiantly defended our nation against the Zionist regime, the most malevolent enemy of Islam, is truly outstanding."

The Leader of the Revolution extended prayers for patience and tranquility to the bereaved families, asserting, "The rewards for the families of the martyrs are no less than those earned by the martyrs themselves."

In the early hours of October 26, Israeli warplanes utilized Iraqi airspace to launch long-range ballistic missiles at Iran's military

radar sites, causing minimal damage to some systems. Iran quickly restored these systems to full functionality, yet the assault resulted in the martyrdom of the four Army staff and one civilian.

Iran successfully thwarted the attack, with reports indicating that Israeli forces were confronted by an 'unknown Iranian air defense system.' The nation's air defense systems operated effectively, providing robust protection.

In remarks on Saturday, Leader emphasized that the enemy's actions will not go unanswered. He also asserted that Israel and its patron, the U.S., will face a

"tooth-breaking response" for their aggressions against Iran and the broader Axis of Resistance.

Other high-ranking Iranian officials have also made assertions regarding Iran's expected response.

Major General Hossein Salami, commander-in-chief of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC), warned the U.S. and its "rabid dog" Israel on Sunday that they will receive a crushing response.

Also on Sunday, his deputy, Brigadier General Ali Fadavi, affirmed that Iran's response to the Israeli regime is certainly imminent.

Iran has twice attacked Israel directly. Once in April after an Israeli airstrike on the Iranian embassy in Damascus, and once in October in response to a series of Israeli terrorist attacks targeting prominent Resistance figures.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin has reassured Israel of his country's readiness to defend the regime against Iran's upcoming response.

"The United States remains fully prepared to defend U.S. personnel, Israel, and partners across the region against threats from Iran," he told Israeli War Minister Yoav Gallant last week.

## Israel's attack on Iran violation of UN charter, ICC, ICJ statutes: Official

TEHRAN – Askar Jalalian, Deputy for Human Rights and International Affairs of Iran's Ministry of Justice, has declared that the Israeli regime's recent attack on Iran constitutes a blatant violation of the UN Charter and the statutes of both the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

In an interview with IRNA, Jalalian asserted that Iran reserves the right to defend itself against the Zionist regime, citing Article 51 of the UN Charter. Iranian officials will utilize this article to respond to the Israeli crimes, he stated.

Jalalian emphasized that the UN Charter obligates countries to prioritize regional and international peace and security. The ICJ statute, he further highlighted, explicitly prohibits actions that disrupt regional security, making the Israeli regime's attack a violation of this statute as well.

While the Israeli regime has not formally joined the ICC, its actions are still subject to the

principles outlined in the statute, according to Jalalian. He noted that the statute's provisions apply to all members of the international community, regardless of formal acceptance.

**While the Israeli regime has not formally joined the ICC, its actions are still subject to the principles outlined in the statute**

"The statute of the ICC emphasizes the duties of all members of the international community whether those who have accepted the statute or those who have not accepted that. According to the rights of treaties, those that have not accepted an international convention or document also commit to preserve and protect their missions and duties and not to take any action in violation of it," the

judiciary official explained.

The Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations, a coalition of member states, has also condemned the Israeli regime's aggression, calling it a flagrant violation of the UN Charter and fundamental principles of international law.

The group highlighted the Israeli regime's repeated violations and provocations, which they said demonstrate an intent to escalate tensions in the region. This condemnation specifically referenced the October 26th airstrikes launched by the Israeli regime, which resulted in the martyrdom of four Iranian Army personnel.

Israel has been escalating violence in West Asia without respite in the past year. The regime's ongoing war in Gaza has so far killed over 43,000 Palestinian civilians. The spread of Israel's deadly military campaign to Lebanon has also laid waste to much of the country's southern region, killing almost 3000 civilians thus far.

## Iran indicts 11 terrorists involved in 2023 terror attack in Shiraz

TEHRAN – Iranian judicial authorities have officially indicted those responsible for planning last year's deadly attack on the revered Shah Cheragh shrine, a prominent holy site in Iran's southern Fars Province, according to a provincial official.

Sadrollah Rajayi Nasab, head of the Fars Province Justice Department, announced on Sunday that the suspects are linked to Daesh and described the indictment as part of Iran's broader efforts to combat terrorism and uphold national security.

Rajayi Nasab noted that the perpetrators had been arrested and transferred to the judiciary soon after the attack, marking a decisive move against terrorism within Iran's borders. These individuals have been identified as central figures in Daesh's operations within the country.

The Shah Cheragh shrine, located in Fars, holds significant religious importance for Muslims and has been the target of two recent attacks. The August 13 incident, which tragically claimed two lives, followed a larger, more devastating attack in October 2022 that



The Shah Cheragh shrine, located in Fars, holds significant religious importance for Muslims and has been the target of two terror attacks in recent years

resulted in the deaths of 13 pilgrims. Iran subsequently executed two main individuals involved in the 2022 attack in July 2023 as part of its response to the rising terrorist threat.

Iranian authorities continue to pursue strict legal measures against terrorist groups, with Rajayi Nasab emphasizing that judicial processes aim to deliver justice for the victims of these brutal attacks on one of the nation's most cherished religious sites.

**Terror ringleader in SE Iran eliminated**

Also on Sunday, Iranian police announced the elimination of the ringleader of the terrorist group responsible for a deadly attack on a police convoy in southeastern Iran last week.

Brigadier General Saeed Montazer al-Mahdi, police spokesman, declared on Sunday, "We have fulfilled our promise to avenge the pure blood of our police martyrs." He confirmed that the main members of the terrorist team were either killed or apprehended within a week of the attack.

The so-called Jaish al-Adl terrorist group, known inside Iran as Jaish al-Zulm, claimed responsibility for the ambush in Sistan and Baluchestan's Taftan County which took the lives of 10 Iranian soldiers and officers.

The police spokesman further revealed that two additional terrorists, including the individual who recorded the attack, were arrested in the past 24 hours. Six individuals supporting the terror group were also taken into custody, confessing to multiple killings in recent years.

## Iran, Azerbaijan team up for rescue exercise in Caspian Sea

TEHRAN – The Iranian Navy will host the Caspian Sea combined rescue and relief exercise, a demonstration of regional cooperation and shared commitment to maritime security.

The main stage of the exercise, dubbed "AZIREX2024" with the slogan "Cooperation for Peace and Friendship," is set to take place on Tuesday with the participation of both Iranian and Azeri naval forces. The drill will be

hosted by the Iranian northern fleet.

The exercise aims to strengthen sustainable collective security and its foundations in the region, while expanding multilateral cooperation between participating countries. It will also serve as a platform to showcase the participating nations' goodwill and capabilities in promoting peace, friendship, and maritime security.

Iran also hosted a joint naval drill with a

number of members of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) last month. The drill held in Iran's southern waters was joined by Russia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, India, Thailand, Pakistan, Qatar, and Bangladesh.

The event served as a platform for Iran to demonstrate its naval strengths and strengthen its ties with nations that are invested in the safety and security of the Indian Ocean.

# Resistance endures

*Iranians rally on Aban 13th to reaffirm fight against Global Arrogance*

By Soheila Zarfam

TEHRAN – November 3rd, corresponding to Aban 13th in the Iranian calendar, holds significance in modern Iranian history as the date of three pivotal events: the exile of Ayatollah Khomeini, the founder of the Islamic Republic, the student protests of 1978, and the 1979 seizure of the former U.S. embassy in Tehran.

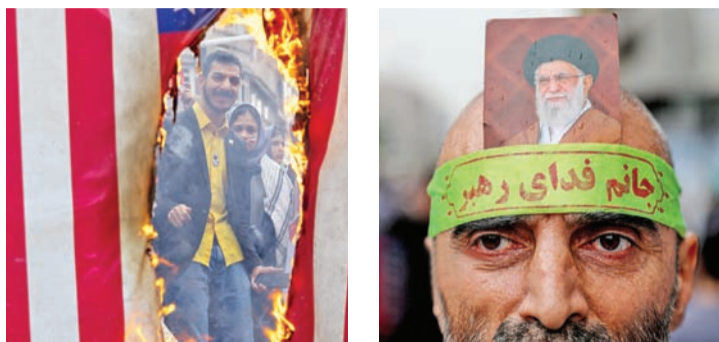
The 1979 seizure of the U.S. embassy wasn't just an event; it was a seismic shift in Iran's narrative. It was the day Iranians, fed up with U.S. meddling in their internal affairs, drew a line in the sand. They declared, in a thunderous roar, that they were done being pawns in someone else's game. It was a bold declaration of self-reliance, a symbolic act that ignited a fire for autonomy and control over their own destiny. It was a moment that reshaped Iran's history and propelled it onto a new, independent path.

Every year after that, Iranians have been taking to the streets on Aban 13th to reaffirm their commitment to the independent path they have charted. This year too, cities across the country saw thousands of demonstrators come out to the streets, to express that Iran's fight against the Global Arrogance is nowhere near finished.

"This is my first time joining these protests," a young college student told Iranian reporters. "I used to hear people talk about fighting U.S. hegemony, but it never quite resonated with me. Now, after everything that's happened this past year, I understand.

We need to rid ourselves of U.S. influence and its proxies in the region, or we'll keep seeing tragedies like those in Gaza and Lebanon repeat themselves."

Just as Israelis often point to



Photos show demonstrators in Tehran marking National Day against Global Arrogance

October 7th of last year as the starting point of their conflict with Palestinians, Americans tend to fixate on 1979, the year Iranians seized the U.S. embassy and detained its staff, as the beginning of their hostilities with Iran. While American politicians conveniently overlook the fact that the U.S. embassy in Tehran served as a CIA hub for orchestrating plots against the Iranian people, they also conveniently forget that U.S. machinations against Iran began long before 1979. When the topic of U.S. involvement in Iran's internal affairs arises, Iranians usually end up recalling a defining event that occurred over 70 years ago.

On August 19, 1953, a dark chapter in Iranian history unfolded as a

U.S.-MIG orchestrated military coup toppled Mohammad Mosaddegh, Iran's first democratically elected Prime Minister. This violent act, which claimed hundreds of lives, ushered in a period of autocracy under the reign of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. The coup's primary goal was to secure a steady flow of cheap Iranian oil to the West. This marked the beginning of a 26-year reign of terror that ended only with the triumph of the Islamic Revolution in 1979.

Since the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the U.S. has not stopped its illegal endeavors to affect Iran's decisions and moves despite having been kicked out of the country.

Over the past four decades, Washington has employed a range of tactics, from war and assassinations

to crippling sanctions and acts of sabotage, all in an attempt to undermine Iran's sovereignty and independence.

But there is an end to every beginning. After years of imperialist policies, it seems that the U.S. and its allies will have to leave the region sooner or later.

"The United States and the Israeli regime have reached the end of the line," said the Commander in Chief of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) while addressing a sea of demonstrators on Sunday.

"That end will be brought to them by Iran and the Resistance," he added, referring to several freedom movements that have taken in the past decades to fight U.S. imperialism. Salami added Americans and its proxies like Israel know they are nearing their end, hence why they have resorted to some of the most harrowing tactics against the Islamic Ummah.

"Collapsing political systems resort to illogical and irregular methods and violate all humanitarian principles. The U.S. and Israel cannot find a way for their political survival by massacring Muslims," he noted.

Salami's remarks come as Iran is preparing to respond to an Israeli attack that targeted Iranian soil last month. While the failed assault is believed to have been carried out by Israeli warplanes, analysts believe there is no doubt that the U.S. aided the regime by at least providing it with intelligence and logistics.

In remarks on Saturday, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei underscored that the actions of the enemy will not go unanswered by those who are working to fight them on behalf of the Iranian nation and that such actions will not be forgotten.

## Capturing a victory

*The Tehran Times' coverage of the U.S. embassy takeover in Iran*



From Page 1 ▶ The paper describes the initial hours of the takeover as a meticulously planned act of resistance. Far from an impulsive action, this was a well-thought-out strike against a foreign presence seen as a corrupting force on Iran's soil.

The article amplifies the students' demands, including the extradition of the Shah, whom they saw as a criminal shielded by the United States. The detailed recounting of the crowd's defiant chants—"Death to Carter and his guest," "Down with U.S. imperialism"—underscored a

prevailing sentiment among Iranians that American influence had no place in their newly liberated country.

As described by the Tehran Times, the crowd burned American and Israeli flags, chanted slogans in solidarity with Palestinian liberation, and rained down fervent support for the Imam's line, underscoring that this act of protest was part of a larger struggle against imperialism itself.

**November 6: a national victory celebrated and defended**

The tone of defiance only intensified in the November 6

article, titled "Seizure Hailed," which described the presence of Seyed Ahmad Khomeini, the son of Ayatollah Khomeini, at the embassy.

The newspaper paints the moment as one charged with pride and national unity. Ahmad Khomeini's arrival turned the takeover into a true celebration of Iranian dignity, a public endorsement of the students' courage, and a rallying point for all Iranians united against a common enemy.

In an emphatic statement, Ahmad Khomeini declared, "This is not an occupation; in fact, we have thrown out the occupiers." His words, published on the Tehran Times, reframed the embassy takeover as a heroic liberation of Iranian land from a foreign power that had long overstayed its welcome.

The article recounts how Ahmad Khomeini criticized America's lingering influence over Iran, calling for the nationalization of all American industries in Iran and the dissolution of bilateral agreements that had served only to bind Iran's hands. His words, quoted by the paper, reflect

the broader Iranian desire to finally shed the last traces of American control and reclaim the country's wealth, dignity, and independence.

The Tehran Times' article conveys that while America had, for years, schemed to undermine the Iranian revolution, the tide had turned. With the embassy takeover, Iran had asserted its strength, making it clear that any further interference would be met with unwavering resistance.

Throughout both articles, the Tehran Times unites its readers around the belief that this act was an extension of the revolutionary spirit that had toppled the Shah—a way of securing the hard-won freedom that was now, finally, within reach. The students, acting in the name of the Iranian people, carried out the Imam's vision of an Iran free from foreign dominance.

In the pages of the Tehran Times, the embassy takeover is more than news—it is a turning point, a historic moment when Iran stood tall, defying a superpower and signaling to its people that their nation's sovereignty was unbreakable.

## Struggle against imperialism: Officials commemorate U.S. embassy takeover

TEHRAN – Iranian officials marked the anniversary of the United States embassy (known inside Iran as the Den of Espionage) takeover with messages celebrating it as the commencement of the nation's fight against Global Arrogance and Imperialism.

The chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) described November 3 as a "Yawm Allah" (Day of God), highlighting the brave actions of Muslim students who stormed the political stronghold of arrogance in the sacred territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, effectively dismantling the last remnants of American colonial influence in the country.

Major General Hossein Salami emphasized, "This decisive action by the victorious students aligned with Ayatollah Khomeini represented the conclusion of U.S. dominance over the significant nation of the Islamic Republic of Iran."

Eskandar Momeni, the Iranian Minister of Interior, reflected on the embassy takeover as a testament to the bravery and self-confidence of Iranian students, asserting that this event symbolizes the youth who absorbed the principles of faith and freedom, revealing the true nature of the U.S. Imperialism oppressors through their sacrifices.

Momeni further noted that students throughout history have been at the forefront of hope, growth, and advancement.

Following the brutal actions of the oppressive regime against students, Iran's minister observed the resurgence of students who, inspired by Imam Khomeini's teachings, executed their historic movement to dismantle the American intelligence hub in Tehran.

The spokesperson of the Iranian Ministry

of Foreign Affairs described the seizure of the espionage facility as a significant day in the struggle against Global Arrogance, highlighting the collective bravery of Iranians in their pursuit of a free and dignified existence, free from foreign interference and domination.

"The Iranian populace remains acutely aware of the extensive and troubling history of unlawful and destabilizing American interventions in their country.

This includes the American-British coup on August 19, 1953, which dismantled the first democratically elected government in Iran and reinstated a dictatorial monarchy, as well as the unwavering American support for Saddam Hussein during the eight-year war imposed on Iran," Iran's spokesman pointed out.

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

# IRAN IN FOCUS

NOVEMBER 4, 2024

Straight Truth  
TEHRAN TIMES

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## SPORTS

### Iran's sabre fencing team finally has a coach!

TEHRAN – After a three-month coaching vacancy, Iran's national sabre fencing team have a new head coach.

Mohammad Rahbari, a former national champion, has been appointed to lead the team, the federation announced on Saturday.

The decision was made during a meeting attended by Alireza Poursalman, president of the Iran Fencing Federation, and members of the national sabre team.

Rahbari, 32, who had previously expressed his intention to retire from competitive fencing after the 2024 Paris Olympics, said, "I was considering retiring after the Olympics, but then I received a coaching offer from China. After discussing this with the federation president, I decided to take on the role of coaching the national team."

The former champion added, "I have ambitious plans for the team and I hope to create a strong foundation for future generations of fencers. I will be working closely with the experienced members of the team while also giving opportunities to younger athletes."

Poursalman expressed his satisfaction with Rahbari's appointment, stating, "Mohammad Rahbari has decided to transition from being a player to a coach. He will not be competing in the upcoming 2024 Fencing World Cup in Algeria but will instead take on the role of coach."

Regarding the search for a foreign coach, Poursalman said, "We had serious negotiations with several foreign coaches, but due to the current regional situation, we have decided to postpone this decision."

The Iranian sabre fencing team has faced significant challenges in recent months, with the coaching vacancy causing considerable concern among the fans and officials. Poursalman has faced criticism for the team's lack of a head coach after the 2024 Olympics, when Peyman Fakhri resigned as the head coach of Iran national team.

### Gulmurodi to officiate N. Korea, Iran match in World Cup Qualifier

TEHRAN – Gulmurodi Sadullo of Tajikistan has been chosen to officiate the match between in the AFC Asian Qualifiers – Road to 26 Group A.

Sadullo, 33, will be assisted on the lines by his compatriots, assistant referees of FIFA Hassan Karimov and Vafo Karaev. Nasrullo Kabirov will perform the functions of the fourth referee.

The match will take place at the Lao National Stadium KM16, Vientiane, Laos (neutral venue).

The match between DPR Korea and Iran is scheduled for Nov. 14.

Team Melli, headed by Amir Ghalenoee, tops Group A with 10 points and North Korea sit sixth with just two points.

### Esteghlal to face powerhouses Al Hilal in AFC Champions League Elite

TEHRAN – Al Hilal SFC will be confident of stretching their perfect run to four matches when they host Esteghlal FC in the AFC Champions League Elite 2024-25 on Monday.

The four-time Asian champions have been in phenomenal form on the domestic and continental stages and this spells trouble for an Esteghlal side who are struggling with consistency.

Al Hilal's winning run in the Saudi Pro League 2024/25 was halted by a 1-1 draw against Al Nassr Club on Friday, with the result narrowing their lead over Al Ittihad to just a point and they will be determined to rebound in fine fashion against Esteghlal. They will, however, have to tread with caution against Esteghlal as their previous eight meetings ended in four wins each although Al Hilal emerged victorious in their last two encounters.

Esteghlal will head into the tie on the back of a 1-0 defeat to Tractor in the Iran Pro League

2024/25, the result leaving them on eight points and well off the pacesetters.

Their continental hopes, however, are still very much in their hands and upstaging Al Hilal will mean they will stay firmly in the race for a knockout stage spot.

### Persepolis, Al Gharafa both desperately need a win

TEHRAN – Persepolis FC and Al Gharafa both desperately need a win when they face off in the AFC Champions League Elite 2024/25 on Monday.

With only the top eight teams to advance to the knockout stage, Qatar's Al Gharafa sit in seventh on three points while Iran's Persepolis are two adrift in 10th spot. Al Gharafa's impressive 4-2 win against Al Ain FC of the UAE was undone by their 2-1 defeat to Al Wasl on Matchday Three and the Qatar side have to bounce back if they are to stay on track for the next stage.

The records, however, are against them as Al Gharafa have lost their last four away matches (including neutral venues) on the continental stage. Persepolis will be equally desperate to revive their campaign, with the two-time AFC Champions League runners-up still seeking their first win of the season.

The 1-0 defeat to Qatar's Al Sadd SC on Matchday Three extended their winless run on the continent to six games, their longest stretch ever without a victory.

### Rouhollah Rostami released from hospital

TEHRAN – The 2024 Paralympic Games gold medalist Rouhollah Rostami, who was hospitalized in hospital due to a car crash on Friday, was discharged from the hospital.

He had a car accident alongside his father while returning from Qom city to Tehran Thursday night and was hospitalized in Tehran's Imam Khomeini Hospital.

MRI exam showed that Rostami has a hairline fracture in his right.

Rostami claimed two gold medals in 2020 Tokyo and 2024 Paris in the men's 80 kg powerlifting event. He had won a silver medal in 2012 Paralympic Games in London.

### Persepolis determined to beat Al Gharafa: Garrido

TEHRAN – Juan Carlos Garrido says that the Persepolis players are eager to earn their first win in the AFC Champions League Elite 2024/25 Monday night against Al Gharafa.

Persepolis and Al Gharafa both desperately need a win when they face off in the match at the Al Maktoum Stadium

With only the top eight teams to advance to the knockout stage, the Qatari side sit in seventh on three points while Persepolis are two adrift in 10th spot. Persepolis will be desperate to revive their campaign, with the two-time AFC Champions League runners-up still seeking their first win of the season.

The 1-0 defeat to Qatar's Al Sadd SC on Matchday Three extended their winless run on the continent to six games, their longest stretch ever without a victory.

"First of all, I would like to say that I am very happy to be here in Dubai. We have a very important match against Al Gharafa and we are well aware that how important the match is," Garrido said in the pre-match news conference.

"There's a great atmosphere in the team. Our players are determined to win the match because they want to secure their place in the tournament's next stage," he added.

"We want to win the match, that's why we are here. Our players are determined to defeat their opponents. Iran is a football-loving nation and the country has so many talented players. The key to success is to show how strong they are," the Spanish coach concluded.

## ICCIMA to partake in Kish Invex 2024 expo



TEHRAN - Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) is going to participate in the 11th Kish International Exhibition of Exchange, Banking, Insurance and Privatization (Kish Invex 2024) which is held with the aim of expanding Iran's business relations and introducing the country's investment opportunities.

Ali Cheraghvand, the deputy head of the ICCIMA for the committees, associations and councils, said that Kish Invex is an opportuni-

ty to showcase the capacities and capabilities of the country's macro economy and provide conditions to strengthen the level of Iran's relations with other countries, especially in the field of joint investment, through exchanging information between domestic and foreign entrepreneurs and holding specialized meetings on current issues.

Alongside the ICCIMA, 13 specialized committees, seven joint chambers of commerce and six provincial chambers are going to be present in the exhibition which is going to be held from November 4 to 7 in the southern Kish Island, the ICCIMA portal reported.

Kish Invex is held annually as a platform to showcase the capacities and capabilities of Iran's macro economy. The exhibition provides an opportunity to strengthen Iran's relations with other countries, especially by exchanging information among domestic and foreign economic operators and holding specialized meetings on current economic issues.

## Iran-UAE 7-month non-oil trade stands at \$16.2b

TEHRAN - The value of non-oil trade between Iran and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) stood at \$16.2 billion in the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-October 21), the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) announced.

Mohammad Rezvanifar said that the UAE was the top trade partner of Iran among its neighbors in the seven-month period.

In early August, the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates in Tehran said over 122,000 Iranian business persons are currently working in the UAE.

"Economic figures show that Iran-UAE business interactions have increased in recent years, and more than 122,000 Iranian businessmen are doing business in the UAE," Saif Mohammed al-Zaabi said in a meeting with Head of Iran Chamber of Cooperatives Bahman Abdollahi.

Pointing out that the problems of Iranian and Emirati businessmen and economic operators are not political but in the legal field, he admitted: "Cooperation between the two countries in the field of sea and air transport has also increased."

Abdollahi for his part introduced some of the capabilities of the cooperative sector in Iran and said: "Cooperatives have an important and effective position in Iran and a significant part of the production in our country is done by cooperatives."

Iran and the United Arab Emirates signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for expanding economic cooperation in a variety of areas at the end of the two countries' 3rd Joint Economic Committee meeting in May 1.

The MOU was signed by former Iranian Transport and Urban Development Minister Mehrdad Bazrpash and UAE's Economy Minister Abdullah bin Touq Al Marri, who co-chaired the joint meeting.

During the mentioned committee meeting, the two sides stressed the need for further expansion of economic cooperation between Tehran and Abu Dhabi.

Speaking at the end of the meeting, Bazrpash said: "We have held the joint committee between the two countries after 10 years, which is an opportunity to develop the commercial and economic relations between the two countries."

"The UAE, as Iran's second biggest trade partner, has great strategic importance for us," the minister said.

Referring to the location of Iran and the UAE in the International North-South Transit Corridor (INSTC), Bazarpash said: "Access to the markets of the north and south can create an opportunity for the two countries to cooperate."

In the end, the minister emphasized solving the banking and monetary problems between the two countries to facilitate bilateral trade relations.

Abdullah bin Touq Al Marri for his part underlined the importance of the meeting, saying: "Holding today's meeting shows the development and expansion of economic relations between the two countries. After China, the UAE has the largest amount of trade relations with Iran. The trade value of the two countries has reached 27 billion dollars and many Iranian com-

panies are established in the UAE."

"Creating new opportunities for transportation and banking cooperation is one of the achievements of this commission," the official said.

Referring to the performance of the UAE government in the field of investment, the official said: "The approval of the law on the formation of foreign companies and the government's support for companies that operate in the field of new energies has created a good opportunity for business with the UAE."

The 3rd Iran-UAE Joint Economic Committee meeting was held in Abu Dhabi from April 30 until May 1.

As the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) has announced, the value of Iran's non-oil trade with its neighboring countries has increased 23 percent in the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year, as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

Mohammad Rezvanifar has put Iran's non-oil trade with its neighbors at 64.5 million tons worth \$41.1 billion in the seven-month period.

He said trade with the neighbors also increased by 16 percent in terms of weight.

According to Rezvanifar, Iran exported 511 million tons of non-oil goods worth \$20.2 billion to the neighboring countries in the seven-month period of this year, while importing 13.4 million tons of goods valued at \$20.9 billion.

Regarding Iran's main export destinations among the neighboring countries, he said: "Iraq, the UAE, Turkey, Afghanistan and Pakistan were the five main export destinations of Iran among the neighboring countries."

"United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Russia, Oman, and Pakistan were the five major sources of imports among the neighboring countries in the seven months of this year," the official added.

The official had previously announced that the value of Iran's non-oil export to its 15 neighboring countries increased by 12 percent during the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-September 21), compared to the same period in the past year.

Rezvanifar said the country exported 39 million tons of non-oil products valued at \$15.6 billion during the first six months of this year, registering four percent growth in weight year on year.

Iran's total non-oil trade with neighboring countries was 50 million tons worth \$32.6 billion in the mentioned six months.

According to Rezvanifar, the Islamic Republic's non-oil trade with neighboring countries increased by five percent in terms of weight and 15 percent in terms of value in H1 compared to the same period last year.

The country's imports from its neighbors in the said six months also showed an eight percent increase in weight and 18 percent in value compared to the first half of the previous year.

The United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Iraq, Pakistan, and the Russian Federation were the main trade partners of Iran among the neighboring countries in the mentioned six months, according to the IRICA head.

# CBI provides over \$41.5b of subsidized foreign currency for imports

TEHRAN - The Central Bank of Iran (CBI) has provided more than \$41.543 billion of subsidized foreign currency to importers of basic goods since the beginning of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20) up to November 2.

CBI figures showed that during this period, \$9.3 billion was provided for importing basic goods and medicine, \$22.597 billion for commercial goods, \$914 million for services, and \$9.29 billion for imports that have taken place in return for exports of goods or services from Iran.

The Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) has announced that the country has imported basic commodities worth \$6.3 billion during the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-August 21).

The IRICA put the weight of the imported basic goods at \$1.3 million tons.

The Central Bank of Iran (CBI)



has announced that it has provided more than \$27 billion of subsidized foreign currency to importers of basic goods in less than five months since the start of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20).

CBI figures showed that some \$27.263 billion had been allocated to imports of basic goods, medicine, commercial goods and products and imports that have taken place in return for exports of goods or services from Iran be-

tween March 20 and August 16, Tasnim News Agency reported.

Basic goods and medicine are imported into Iran at a rate of 285,000 rials per U.S. dollar. The rate is much lower than a market price which is currently hovering around 590,000 rials per U.S. dollar.

That comes as importers can also receive hard currency at a rate applied in CBI's Forex Management Integrated System, known by its Persian acronym

NIMA. The price was 450,937 rials per U.S. dollar on August 17.

The CBI said subsidized currency earmarked to imports of basic goods and medicine had reached \$6.151 billion over the five months to mid-August, of which \$4.85 billion had gone to imports of wheat, oil seeds and animal feed and the rest were allocated to medicine, active pharmaceutical ingredients and medical equipment.

It added that some \$14.639 billion had been supplied to importers at NIMA rate or rates close to that for imports of commercial goods and products including parts and equipment needed in manufacturing, mining, power and electronics and textile industries between March 20 and August 16.

CBI figures showed that another \$5.814 billion had been spent on imports of goods and equipment that had taken place in exchange of exports of services and goods from Iran over the same period.

## IMF sees inflation in Iran falling to 31.7 percent in 2024

TEHRAN - The International Monetary Fund (IMF), in its latest World Economic Outlook, has estimated Iran's inflation to decline to 31.7 percent in 2024 from 40.7 percent last year.

The IMF forecasted that Iran's gross domestic product (GDP) will grow by 3.7 percent this year, up from a previous estimate of 3.3 percent announced in July, IRNA reported.

The IMF said that Iran's current account balance will be 2.9 percent of its GDP this year, slightly up from 2.8 last year.

The Statistical Center of Iran (SCI) has put the average inflation rate in the twelve-month period ended on October 21, which marks the end of the seventh Iranian calendar month Mehr, at 33.6 percent, falling 0.6 percent from the figure for the twelve-month ended to the sixth month.

The center put the country's point-to-point inflation rate at 31.6 percent in the seventh month, which means families have paid an av-

erage of 31.6 percent more for purchasing the same package of commodities and services in that month, compared to the same month in the preceding year.

The point-to-point inflation rate rose 0.4 percent in the seventh month from the previous month.

In mid-June, the SCI announced that Iran's economy grew by 5.7 percent in the past Iranian calendar year (ended on March 19), marking the highest growth since 2017.

In its latest report, the SCI said the growth of the gross domestic product (GDP) for the year ending in March 2024 at the constant prices of 2017 is equivalent to 5.7 percent of the total GDP and 3.4 percent of the GDP minus oil.

The field of activities of industries and mines group grew by 6.9 percent, the services group by 5.7 percent, and the agriculture group by 2.2 percent compared to the previous year.

As announced by the Central Bank of Iran (CB), the country's gross domestic product (GDP) including oil grew 3.2 percent in the first quarter of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-June 21), compared to the first quarter of last year.

According to the CBI Economic Accounts Department, GDP to the base price (fixed prices in 2016), the figure excluding oil increased by 2.5 percent, IRNA reported.

As previously announced by the CBI, Iran's GDP grew 4.5 percent in the previous Iranian calendar year compared to a year earlier. The figure excluding oil increased by 3.6 percent.

In addition, the country's economic growth without oil included in the mentioned period reached 3.9 percent.

The realization of 4.5 percent economic growth in the previous Iranian calendar year indicates the continuation of the growing trend of economic activities in the country.

## International industry exhibition running in Tehran

TEHRAN - The 24th International Industry Exhibition of Iran (TIIIE 2024) kicked off at Tehran International Permanent Fairgrounds on Sunday, IRNA reported.

Over 380 domestic and foreign companies from various countries including Sweden, France, Germany, Turkey, China, and South Korea,

are showcasing their latest products and achievements in this four-day exhibition.

During the exhibition, several delegations from various European and Asian countries are also expected to attend the exhibition and negotiate with Iranian companies while visiting the exhibition.

Three conferences, attended by officials, industrialists, university professors, and researchers, and several educational workshops related to the exhibition's subject (industry) are also scheduled to be held on the sidelines of the exhibition.

The exhibition covers a wide

range of areas including industrial and workshop equipment, production lines of large and small industries, production line tools, advanced industries, industrial automation, technical, engineering, and consulting services, industrial investment, as well as sales and after-sales services.

## 'Couples with children, priority for allocating affordable housing'

TEHRAN - The Director General of Tehran Province Transport and Urban Development Department Hassan Jannati says couples with children are the priority for allocation of National Housing Movement units, Hamshahri-online reported.

Stating that currently the implementation of National Housing Movement projects has made good progress in Tehran Province, including Robat Karim and Damavand cities, he added: "Although financial resources have not been injected into the projects since the beginning of the current year (late March), the progress of these projects has reached more than 12 percent."

As announced by the Iranian Transport and Urban Development Ministry, 2,336.7 hectares of land have been provided for the construction of National Housing Movement units across the country in the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-September 21).

As IRNA reported, 527 hectares of the mentioned figure were allocated in Tehran province, 150 hectares in East Azarbaijan province, 396 hectares allocated in Kermanshah province, and 1,260 hectares in Fars province.

In early September, Hamid Pour-Mohammadi, the head of Iran's Planning and Budget Organization (PBO), said that the National Housing

Movement is the major development plan of the government.

As announced in late July by the former minister of transport and urban development, 2.6 million units of the National Housing Movement were under construction throughout the country.

Mehrdad Bazrpash said that these units in different models are being built in the country, some of them have been delivered and the rest are in different stages of progress.

The National Housing Movement is one of the major policies of the 13th government in the housing sector, and according to this policy, the construction of four million residential units is planned in four years.

It is one of the projects through which the government is trying to help low-income individuals in society become homeowners.

Deputy Transport and Urban Development Minister Hadi Abbasi-Asl has emphasized the acceleration in implementing the Housing Construction Leap Law to achieve the goals of the 13th government.

In late September 2023, Bazrpash announced the launching of a program for allocating free land (in the framework of the National Housing Movement) to young couples in order to help

them build houses.

The National Housing Movement to construct four million housing units in four years is one of the major plans of the current government in the housing sector.

According to the plan, out of these four million residential units, 3.2 million units will be constructed in cities and 800,000 units in villages.

After the National Housing Action Plan (started in 2018), the National Housing Movement is the government's second major program to provide affordable housing units for the low-income classes.

The operation for the construction of 209,212 residential units of the National Housing Movement began in February 2022.

The ceremony to begin the mentioned operation and also to launch some development projects in the housing sector was attended by a former Transport and Urban Development Minister Rostam Qasemi.

Also, in July 2022, the minister inaugurated a project for the construction of the first group of affordable housing units for laborers under the framework of the National Housing Movement.

## Bank loans up over 24% in 7 months on year

TEHRAN - The Iranian banking system has paid 36.71 quadrillion rials (about \$73.42 billion) of facilities to various sec-

tors in the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20 -October 21), registering a 24.1 per-

cent rise from the figure in the same period of the previous year, the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) announced.

As IRNA reported, about 24 percent of the total facilities were paid to the final consumers (households).



From page 1 ▶ The drone strike on the elite Golani Brigade's training base in Binyamina led to dozens of casualties among the Brigade's troops as well as at least four fatalities.

The timing and accuracy were also significant. The drone struck at the same time as the troops were having dinner and directly hit the base's dining hall.

The strike on Netanyahu's private residence, which hit the Israeli Premier's bedroom further highlighted that Hezbollah is in possession of precise intelligence on the most sensitive Israeli targets.

On Saturday and Sunday alone, 10 drones were launched toward the Israeli-occupied territories, with one intercepted in Lebanese airspace.

The Walla report further highlighted that Hezbollah's Unit 127 is responsible for most drone launches toward the occupied territories, operating in a decentralized, secretive, and fragmented manner, making it very difficult to locate its members and launch sites, according to Israeli military sources.

Sources in the Israeli military industries told the Walla website, "We have got zero solutions for those drones, and the army was



The Israeli army has "zero solutions" for Hezbollah drones that have become "sitting ducks"

slow to realize they're basically sitting ducks".

Also on Sunday, Israeli Channel 12 aired footage of a drone in Israeli airspace launched from Lebanon. The Hebrew news outlets said, "There has been more than half an hour of warnings [without any interception]".

The video showed an Israeli combat helicopter chasing the Hezbollah drone.

Other videos that emerged on Sunday showed how a Hezbollah drone flying at high speed had the ability to change direction. The video showed the drones

flight path taking a slight turn to the right.

More footage revealed a Hezbollah drone flying above Israeli homes, while another unmanned aerial vehicle was intercepted by an Apache helicopter above Binyamina near Haifa, but only after flying all the way to central Israel.

On Saturday, Hezbollah targeted the Ramat David base and its airport with a swarm of one-way assault drones, achieving direct hits.

The Lebanese resistance fighters deployed a one-way attack drone targeting the 8200 Mil-

itary Intelligence Unit's Gilot base, achieving a direct hit.

Hezbollah also bombarded the Shraga base, north of Acre also known as Akka, with a swarm of one-way drones.

Meanwhile, the resistance movement published a video on Sunday in Hebrew, with Arabic subtitles.

The video contained a small collection of different social media videos taken by Israeli settlers of Hezbollah's drones. The settlers are heard saying in Hebrew, "Look look", "A drone, a drone!", "Oh God", "How come the helicopter is not catching it?", "Here it is!", "Here is the drone. God knows where it is going".

Hezbollah appears to have tapped into the Israeli military's weakness to shoot down the swarm of drones being launched from southern Lebanon and is using it in the psychological warfare being waged by Tel Aviv and the Lebanese resistance.

Meanwhile, a drone infiltrated from Syria and flew for more than ten minutes in the skies of the occupied Golan Heights. Contact with it was lost without any Israeli defense system being able to intercept it. The drone may have originated from Iraq.

## UNICEF: Entire northern Gaza population at imminent risk of death

All those who remain in northern Gaza — especially children — are "at imminent risk of dying" from disease, famine and ongoing bombardments there, UNICEF's executive director warned.

There were several deadly attacks in the north over the weekend, Catherine Russell said in a statement Saturday, The Washington Post reported.

She said at least 50 children were reportedly killed Friday and Saturday in Jabalya, where two residential buildings in which hundreds of people sought shelter were hit by strikes.

The month-long Israeli operation targeting Jabalya, Beit Lahia and Beit Hanoun has worsened the desperate situation in Gaza's north.

The World Health Organization reported an attack Saturday on a healthcare center in Gaza



City where a polio vaccination drive was taking place. At least six people, including four children, were injured, WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, adding that the attack took place during a humanitarian pause that Israel agreed to.

## Save the Children: Israeli bombardments causing 'apocalypse' to unfold in north Gaza

The team lead and health specialist from Save the Children International warned that apocalyptic scenes are unfolding in northern Gaza.

"We are seeing the apocalypse now unfolding in the north of Gaza. People are being constantly bombarded with aerial attacks and of course, we know that the food and the water is not sufficient. The convoys of food and water are being denied into the north ... It is absolutely catastrophic," Rachael Cummings told Al Jazeera.

The entirety of northern Gaza is under Israeli evacuation orders but many people have stayed as there is nowhere safe to flee the relentless bombardments. The Israeli army has previously



ordered residents to flee towards the so-called "humanitarian zone" of al-Mawasi, even though it has been targeted in deadly airstrikes and is severely overcrowded.

## US fails to separate the Lebanese front from Gaza

From page 1 ▶ Germans and other Western countries and Arabs, who are trying in vain to convince Lebanese negotiator Nabih Berri, the parliament Speaker, that surrender to Israeli threats is the only way to stop the massacres and destruction.

Netanyahu has publicly stated that he intends to expand his war against the region further, all the way to Iran.

Deliberately and with forethought and determination ignoring what the occupation army is doing, US envoy to Lebanon Amos Hochstein, a Zionist by origin disguised as a diplomat, has called for the separation of

the Axis of Resistance.

Hochstein has failed because Berri refuses any amendments to UN Security Council resolution 1701, especially those allowing Israel to violate Lebanese sovereignty.

As for Gaza, the proposal by CIA Director William Burns has not achieved any progress, as the Palestinian factions reject mock solutions that do not lead to a ceasefire; a complete withdrawal from the Strip along with the Netzarim and Philadelphi corridors; and allowing the return of the displaced to the northern Gaza.

The current US, UK, and German hostile endeavors would only strengthen the cohesion of the Axis of Resistance and raise the level of insistence on curbing these barbaric colonial powers otherwise people will suffer under the yoke of its oppression and humiliation.

Whoever abandoned their ethical and religious duty to defend the oppressed people in Palestine has no right to question the heroes of Hezbollah for their precious sacrifice, including their martyred leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, in defense of human dignity and for the sake of humanity.

## Trump and Harris dancing to Israel's tune

From page 1 ▶ The poll of more than 800 likely voters, who were surveyed late October, has Harris leading Trump 47%-44% in Iowa, which has been trending deeply Republican in recent years.

Trump easily won the state in 2016 and 2020.

Early voting is also underway. According to the Election Lab at the University of Florida, more than 73 million Americans already cast ballots as of Saturday.

The election was initially a rematch of 2020 between incumbent President Joe Biden and Trump. But it was upended in July when Biden ended his campaign and endorsed Harris.

The campaigns of both candidates have at times been overshadowed by Israel's war on Gaza.

More than 43,300 people in Gaza have been killed since the start of the onslaught in October last year.

Israel has also expanded the war into Lebanon killing nearly 3,000 people in the Mediterranean country in the same period. Most of them have lost their lives

since Israel launched a massive bombing campaign in Lebanon more than a month ago.

Over the course of the Gaza war, protesters in the United States have condemned their country's unwavering support for Israel calling for an end to the conflict.

Israel's aggression on Lebanon has increased demands for ending the regime's brutal offensives.

Biden's refusal to terminate Israel's war on Gaza infuriated Americans who called him "Genocide Joe" over the complicity of the White House in the massacre of Palestinians.

Harris, for her part, has expressed concern over the loss of civilian life in Gaza. However, she has thrown her full weight behind Israel.

Trump has vowed to end the Gaza war if he takes office.

But Trump's unwavering support for Israel during his presidency indicates that he is just paying lip service.

Irrespective of who will take the helm at the White House, the



American people call for ending Israel's war on Gaza, accusing their politicians of complicity in the regime's genocide.

next US president will not hesitate to defend and protect Israel.

The United States might apply pressure on Israel to cease its brutal offensives in Gaza and Lebanon. But this pressure arises from concerns that the regime's military actions could jeopardize its own survival.

For now, voters in the US will go to the polls on November 5 to decide whether Harris or Trump

should go to the White House.

Some of the domestic and foreign policies of the upcoming US president may diverge significantly from his or her predecessor.

But Israel's ironclad support for Israel will remain unchanged.

In fact, when it comes to dealing with Israel and its crimes, both Trump and Harris will be two sides of the same coin.

## Insights from London conference: Israel's existence hangs in the balance

From page 1 ▶ In August, war minister Yoav Gallant also dismissed Netanyahu's "total victory" slogan as "gibberish".

The US intelligence community and the Israeli army's intelligence have also acknowledged Netanyahu's inability to defeat Hamas.

Growing divisions among Israelis were highlighted in the wake of a conference held in the British capital on October 27.

The London conference titled "Israel After October 7th: Allied or Alone?" was sponsored by Israel's newspaper Haaretz.

The event featured speakers from across

Israeli and UK politics, academia and media.

Haaretz's publisher, Amos Schocken, came down hard on Netanyahu and his cabinet as he opened the event.

Schocken accused the Netanyahu cabinet of "imposing a cruel apartheid regime" on the Palestinian Arab population and called for imposing sanctions on Israeli leaders.

He said the Israeli military action "in the occupied territories and in part of Gaza is a second Nakba."

The Nakba, or catastrophe, refers to the ethnic cleansing of Palestine and the

near-total destruction of Palestinian society in 1948.

Haaretz like other Israeli and Western media do not care a whit about the lives of Palestinians. Israel has killed more than 43,300 people in Gaza since October last year under the pretext of hitting positions of the Hamas resistance group.

Schocken's criticism of Netanyahu arises from concerns that his warmongering may jeopardize Israel's survival.

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

## Poll: More than half of Britons say Israel committing war crimes in Gaza

A survey has found that more than half of Britons across the political spectrum believe that Israel's actions in the war on Gaza constitute war crimes.

The poll has been commissioned by Action for Humanity and conducted by the YouGov pollster.

The figure comes up to three in five among supporters of the Labour Party, which currently holds power in the United Kingdom, the poll suggested.

Some 76 percent of Labour voters also continue to back an end to arms transfers to Israel, it showed. Meanwhile, the total number of Britons that would oppose a ban is lower than one in five, compared with three in five that would support one.

"The majority of people rightly feel the government is not doing enough to stop war crimes from happening. The overwhelming majority of the public demands that the UK government immediately cease all arms transfers to Israel, not



just 10%, and take all actions to bring about a sustainable ceasefire," said Charles Lawley, the director of communications and advocacy at Action for Humanity.

"We believe that, unless the UK government stops ignoring the public, they will at best be impotent in the atrocities being committed in Gaza and Lebanon [and] at worst be complicit in them," he added.

## Angry crowds throw mud at Spain's king in flood-hit Valencia

King Felipe VI of Spain has faced angry protesters while visiting the Valencia region, which has been hit by unprecedented floods, BBC reported.

Footage shows an angry crowd shouting "murderer" and "shame" at the king, who was also asked why nothing had been done to avoid the tragedy.

Spain's worst floods in decades have left whole neighborhoods covered in mud and strewn with mangled cars and debris.

More than 200 people were killed in the floods, with many more missing. Emergency workers are continuing to comb through underground car parks and tunnels in the hope of finding survivors and recovering bodies.

There has been anger at a perceived lack of warning and insufficient support from authorities after the floods.

King Felipe and Queen Letizia have been visiting Paiporta, a town that has been severely



affected.

Footage showed the king making his way down a pedestrian street, before his bodyguards and police were suddenly overwhelmed by a surge of protesters, hurling insults and screaming.

They struggled to maintain a protective ring around the monarch, as some of the protesters threw mud and objects.

## Iran to develop tourism infrastructure at UNESCO-listed Lut Desert



Fahraj, a historical area located in south-eastern Kerman province, held significant importance during the Seljuk era, partly due to its position on the Silk Road. It is home to several natural and cultural attractions, including the distinctive “nebkhas” or plant-supported sand formations, the striking Rig Yalan dunes, and rugged Kalouts.

The Lut Desert, known for its extreme environment, frequently records the highest land surface temperatures on Earth, with one reading peaking at 70.7°C.

Due to its unique landscape—characterized by crescent-shaped dunes, towering nebkhas reaching up to 12 meters, and the “no life” reputation due to its hyper-arid conditions—the Lut Desert attracts researchers and adventure travelers alike.

Despite its inhospitable climate, the region is home to resilient flora and fauna that have adapted to survive in the extreme heat and limited water supply.

This includes specialized insect species and hardy plant forms found at the basin's peripheries, demonstrating nature's resilience in one of the world's harshest environments.

With the new developments, authorities hope to both protect this natural wonder and facilitate sustainable tourism, helping more visitors safely experience the awe-inspiring Lut Desert.

TEHRAN - Efforts to enhance the visitor infrastructure at Iran's Lut Desert, a UNESCO World Heritage site, are underway as authorities provide critical facilities.

On Saturday, Reza Bordbar, the deputy director of investment at Kerman province's Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Department, announced that the project, funded by national resources, focuses on improving essential structures in the Fahraj region.

These upgrades aim to enhance safety and ensure visitor comfort at this unique site. Plans are also in place to expand amenities to support tourist guidance, emergency services, and security.

Bordbar also stated that the ongoing project includes completing a base dedicated to the World Heritage site, establishing its perimeter walls and fencing, and installing its mechanical and electrical systems.

## Archaeologists discover Al-Natah, in the Khaybar oasis of north-west Arabia

New archaeological research has revealed an exceptional Bronze Age town in the Khaybar oasis of north-west Saudi Arabia. The discovery by a team led by Dr Guillaume Charlux of the Khaybar Longue Durée Archaeological Project and Dr Munirah Almushawh from the Royal Commission for AlUla (RCU) confirms a major transition from mobile, nomadic life to settled, town life in the second half of the third millennium BC.

Published in the peer-reviewed journal PLOS One, the new research provides significant evidence to further challenge the picture of mobile pastoral-nomadism as the dominant economic and social way of life of northwest Arabia in the Early and Middle Bronze Ages.

Badr bin Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Farhan Al Saud, Governor of the Royal Commission for AlUla and Minister of Culture for Saudi Arabia, stated: “This important archaeological discovery highlights the Kingdom's global significance in the field of archaeology and confirms the depth of civilisation that the land holds.”

This discovery reinforces the Kingdom's efforts in protecting cultural and historical heritage and emphasises the importance of exchanging knowledge and expertise with the world to enhance awareness of our shared human heritage.”

He added, “This discovery confirms the Kingdom's commitment to preserving the world's heritage and promoting cultural heritage in accordance with the provisions of Saudi Vision 2030.

It also highlights the importance of strengthening international partnerships to present this rich legacy to future generations and the world.”

It also implies that oases such as Khaybar were carefully controlled and highly valued landscapes that, with the advent of agriculture, supported permanent populations and must have been dynamic centres

for regional exchanges and other interactions with the local mobile communities.

This nascent urbanism and increasing social complexity had a profound impact on socio-economic organisation in the region.

While northwest Arabia in the Bronze Age was largely populated by pastoral mobile groups, the region was also dotted with interconnected, monumental walled oases centred around small fortified settlements, such as Tayma and Qurayyah.

Known as al-Natah, the newly discovered town in Khaybar is the first to provide clear evidence for differentiated functional areas – notably residential and funerary – within fortifications.

Al-Natah was built around 2400-2000 BC and endured until 1500-1300 BC. The small town was home to some 500 people in its 2.6 hectares and was protected by the 15-kilometre stone rampart that encircled the Khaybar oasis.

The new research was sponsored by the Royal Commission for AlUla (RCU) and the French Agency for the Development of AlUla (AFALULA).

The Archaeology, Collections and Conservation team at RCU is directing one of the world's largest and most ambitious archaeological research programmes, fulfilling its goal to broaden global awareness of the AlUla region as a premier cultural heritage landscape and destination.

The cultural heritage of north-west Arabia is rich, complex and important to Saudi Arabia and beyond.

By commissioning and championing revelatory research on human activity in the past, such as the project that produced these new findings in Khaybar, RCU demonstrates its leadership in regional archaeological research and its responsible custodianship of cultural heritage assets and landscape.

The Khaybar oasis is situated at the edge of the Harrat Khaybar lava field and formed by the confluence of three wadis amid an otherwise largely arid area.

At the northern outskirts of the oasis, al-Natah lay buried under piles of basalt boulders for millennia.

(Source: Travel Daily Media)

## Iran-India partnership aims to protect and promote shared written treasures

TEHRAN - In a recent meeting, the Director of the National Museum of India, B.R. Mani, and the Iranian ambassador to India, Iraj Elahi, reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing co-operation for the preservation of shared cultural heritage between the two countries.

The meeting, which took place during a visit to the Noor International Microfilm Center at the Iranian Cultural House in New Delhi, focused on collaborative efforts to protect, restore, and digitize the written heritage of the two nations, ISNA reported.

The officials reviewed the center's initiatives to catalog, digitize, and restore historical manuscripts and literary treasures shared by Iran and India.

Ambassador Elahi highlighted the longstanding cultural and historical connections between the two countries, noting that cultural and literary exchanges have strengthened ties between their people over centuries. “The history of Iran and India is filled with shared



stories, art, and literature, which not only enrich both nations but also contribute to humanity's cultural heritage,” he said. Elahi emphasized the importance of continued collaboration to showcase the deep solidarity and cultural affinity between Iranians and Indians.

Echoing this sentiment, Mani stressed the cultural heritage shared by the two nations,

which he said transcends borders and resonates deeply with people in both countries. The intertwined cultures of Iran and India reflect a bond that has developed over time, showcasing mutual respect and shared values, Mani noted.

The visit also included discussions with Mehdi Khajeh-Piri, who presides over the center, a research institution dedicated to

preserving and promoting Shia, Iranian, and Islamic heritage.

Khajeh-Piri outlined the center's ongoing projects in digital archiving, cataloging, and manuscript restoration. “Through preserving and digitizing our shared heritage, we aim to create a foundation for future scholarship and research,” he said.

Khajeh-Piri also expressed hope that these collaborations would establish a lasting cultural bridge between Iran and India, inspiring pride in future generations.

Established in 1949 in New Delhi, the National Museum of India holds approximately 14,000 manuscripts, including around 8,000 in Persian and Arabic, alongside a significant collection of Iranian calligraphy and miniatures. Among the museum's notable works is a rare edition of Sadi's Bustan, handwritten by the renowned calligrapher Shahsavari al-Katib for the royal library of Nasir Shah in 906 AH (1510 CE).

## Photo exhibit ‘Iran Through the Eyes of Kyrgyz Bloggers’ opens in Bishkek

TEHRAN - The photo exhibition “Iran Through the Eyes of Kyrgyz Bloggers”, organized by the cultural office of the Islamic Republic in Kyrgyzstan, has opened at the National Museum of Fine Arts in Bishkek.

The exhibition's opening ceremony on Saturday was attended by Abuzar Toghani, Iran's Cultural Attaché in Kyrgyzstan, three Kyrgyz bloggers who had recently visited Iran, along with several diplomats from various countries and enthusiasts of Iranian culture, civilization, and art, ISNA reported.

Speaking at the event, Toghani highlighted Iran's rich history, describing it as a cradle of culture and civilization spanning thousands of years. He noted that Iran's diverse seasons, historical, cultural, and natural attractions, and its 28 UNESCO World Heritage sites make it a popular destination for thousands of international tourists each year.

Toghani explained that one of the key missions is to promote tourism and share Iranian-Islamic culture and heritage with the host society. As part of this effort,



the Cultural Attaché invited four prominent Kyrgyz bloggers to Iran last year, so they could experience and document Iran through their unique perspectives and share it with the Kyrgyz public.

The exhibition features 37 photographs from the bloggers' 10-day journey through Iran, capturing scenic and cultural landmarks in Tehran, Kashan, Abyaneh, and Isfahan.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Toghani expressed his gratitude to the Kyrgyz bloggers

for the impressive photos and videos they shared on their personal pages, which he said showcase glimpses of Iran's ancient culture to Kyrgyz audiences.

Kyrgyz blogger Nursultan Atokurov, one of the attendees, expressed his amazement at Iran's grandeur, sharing that the trip transformed his previous views about the country. “As a historian, I already had ideas about Iran, but this journey truly reshaped my understanding. We witnessed thousands of years of civilization with our own eyes, visited several UNESCO sites, and broke through many preconceptions,” he remarked, adding that he now sees Iran with fresh eyes.

Janibek Kizilov, another blogger, thanked the organizers for the opportunity to visit Iran and gain deeper insights into the country. “This experience was invaluable, allowing us to see the world and the country we traveled to from a different perspective,” he shared, encouraging visitors to enjoy the exhibition.

According to organizers, the photo exhibition will be open to the public for 15 days.

## Mazandaran's water tourism infrastructure draws three million visitors in seven months



TEHRAN - Mazandaran province has attracted nearly three million visitors to its tourism facilities in the past seven months, thanks to recent investments in water-based

tourism infrastructure.

Mazandaran's water tourism is getting an appropriate place for the province's economic strategy, expanding beyond the traditional attractions of beaches and seas, IRNA reported.

Those facilities, situated around dams and other water resources, are part of a managed tourism strategy aimed at harnessing the region's natural resources to boost local tourism.

Rivers, lakes, wetlands, springs, waterfalls, and reser-

voirs are now being developed to attract tourists in an environmentally sustainable way, helping prevent harmful tourism practices.

In recent years, there has been a marked increase in interest in water tourism in Mazandaran, the report said.

Currently, the province has 16 water tourism projects managed by the Regional Water Company and leased to private investors.

The picture-perfect province has long been a highly popular destination for domestic trav-

elers. Its varied nature features plains, prairies, forests, and rainforests stretching from the sandy beaches of the Caspian Sea to the rugged and snow-capped 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.

## Glimpses of World Heritage sites: Urnes Stave Church

Urnes Stave Church is situated on a promontory in the remarkable Sognefjord on the west coast of Norway.

The stave churches constitute one of the most elaborate and technologically advanced types of wooden construction that existed in North-Western Europe during the Middle Ages.

The churches were built on the classic basilica plan, but entirely of wood. The roof frames were lined with boards and the roof itself covered with shingles in accordance with construction techniques which were widespread in Scandinavian countries.

Among the roughly 1,300 medieval stave churches indexed, 28 are preserved in Nor-

way today. Some of them are very large, such as Borgund, Hopperstad or Heddal churches, whereas others, such as Torpo or Underdal, are tiny.

Urnes is one of the oldest and is an outstanding representative of the stave churches. The church expresses in wood the language and spatial structures of Romanesque stone architecture, characterized by the use of cylindrical columns with cubic capitals and semi-circular arches. The wood carving and sculpted decor of exquisite quality on the outside includes strap-work panels and elements of Viking tradition from the previous building (11th century) which constitute the origin of the

“Urnes style”, also found in other parts of Scandinavia and North-Western Europe.

These carvings are found on the northern wall with a carved decoration of interlaced, fighting animals. Similar carvings cover the western gable triangle of the nave and the eastern gable of the choir. In the interior of the church, there is an extraordinary series of 12th century carved figurative capitals. The carvings are important both as outstanding artistic artefacts, and as a link between the pre-Christian Nordic culture and the Christianity of the medieval ages. The church also contains a wealth of liturgical objects of the medieval period.

(Source: UNESCO)

Kamraniyeh, Diplomatic area, easy access to Highways, Malls, 220sqm, fully equipped 3 bdrms Apartment, wonderful lobby, 24hrs lobbyman, 24hrs caretakers, high security, 4 line Elevators, swimming pool, dry & steam sauna, jacuzzi, gym Only 3200\$/month Mandegar-e-Elahiher VIP Real Estate  
**Ms.Sonia Manager of Foreigner's Section**  
**02126231198/09195341598**

TEHRAN – Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Minister, Sattar Hashemi, and Venezuelan Minister of Electrical Energy, Jorge Eliser Marquez, have signed two memorandums of understanding on fostering information, communication, and technology collaborations.

The MOUs were signed during a meeting held on Friday, November 1, in Caracas. MOUs also included the provision of telecommunication tools and equipment, as well as manufacturing fiber optic cables, dolat.ir reported.

The Venezuelan official stated that Iran-Venezuela relations are strengthening day by day following the guidelines of the presidents of the two countries.

"There are many possibilities for collaboration in telecommunications and energy," Marquez noted.

Hashemi, for his part, pointed out that in addition to providing essential products and services, Iran, unlike other countries, is willing to transfer knowledge and technology to Venezuela.



The official went on to say Iran is interested in collaborating on joint productions overseas to enter the regional market in the ICT sector.

Hashemi highlighted that the establishment of the Iranian house of innovation and technology (iHIT) in Venezuela can play a significant role in promoting cooperation in human resources, and market expansion.

The cooperation of the two countries can solve many problems in the international arena, he noted.

On the same day, Hashemi held a meeting with Venezuelan Minister of Transportation Ramón Blázquez, who is also the head of the Joint Economic Committee Meeting of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Venezuela.

The official focused on oppor-

tunities for conducting joint activities. Highlighting Iran's proficiency in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Hashemi voiced Iran's readiness to share knowledge and expertise in the AI sector.

Referring to Iran's capabilities in smart road management, Hashemi said implementing a smart road management system has helped reduce traffic congestion. Now, the country's valuable experiences in the field can be shared with Venezuela.

Moreover, on the first day of visiting Caracas, the CEO of the National Post Company of Iran in a meeting with his Venezuelan counterpart, discussed and reviewed topics such as technical knowledge, specialized mailing equipment, the Geocoded National Address File (GNAF), as well as the development of postal activities, Mehr news agency reported.

To expand the postal partnership, the officials will draft an MOU to be signed in the upcoming Joint Economic Committee Meeting of the two countries.

## DOE to draft law on managing biosphere reserves

TEHRAN – On the occasion of the International Day for Biosphere Reserves, November 3, the Department of Environment (DOE) is planning to prepare a draft law on the preservation of biosphere reserves in the country.

Biosphere reserves are internationally designated natural-biological protected areas for the conservation of plants and animals, ISNA quoted Alireza Najimi, an official with DOE, as saying.

A total of 13 biosphere reserves have been so far registered in 11 provinces of the country, covering a total area of six million hectares. The biosphere reserves are namely Arasbaran, Arjan, Parishan, Kavir, Turan, Miankaleh, Urmia, Kapeh-Dagh, Tang-e-Sayad and Sabz-kouh, Genu, Hara, Hamon, Golestan and Dena.

DOE is observing International Day for Biosphere Reserves through holding different

programs including an educational workshop for the officials in charge of protecting biosphere reserves. The workshop focuses on two parts, developing a management model and a legal basis.

Article 50 of the Constitution declares that the protection of the environment is a duty for everyone.

Biodiversity is one of the components of a sustainable environment. People depend on natural areas and biodiversity for survival. Public participation along with governmental organizations' efforts play a significant role in preserving biodiversity, and the environment.

Hence, biosphere reserves' status are internationally recognized to prevent irreversible changes and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, he added.

Biosphere Reserves are designated under

the intergovernmental man and biosphere (MAB) Program by the Director-General of UNESCO following the decisions of the MAB International Coordinating Council (MAB-ICC).

UNESCO has approved the designation of 11 new biosphere reserves in 11 countries. With these new biosphere reserves covering a total area of 37 400 km<sup>2</sup>, equivalent to the size of the Netherlands, the World Network of Biosphere Reserves now totals 759 sites in 136 countries.

Each biosphere reserve promotes innovative local sustainable development solutions, protects biodiversity, and addresses climate disruption.

They also support local and Indigenous communities through practices such as agro-ecology, water management, and the generation of green income.

## Iran to send more humanitarian aid to Lebanon, Gaza

TEHRAN – The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) is planning to send another shipment of aid, consisting of 15,000 tons of basic goods, medicines, food, and other essential equipment, to Lebanon and Gaza.

Since the beginning of Israeli attacks on Lebanon, the IRCS has dispatched several consignments of relief items to people affected by recent Israeli attacks.

The consignments, comprising over 12,000 tons of essential items, food, and medicines have already been dispatched to assist war-affected people, the IRCS website quoted Pirhossein Kolivand, head of the IRCS, as saying.

Since September 23, the Israeli army has been launching an unprecedented, intensive air attack on Lebanon.

According to the latest report by the United Nations Office for

the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Lebanon, 2,867 people have been killed and 13,047 injured since October 8, 2023.

A total of 178 children have been killed and 1,173 injured. Meanwhile, 842,648 people are internally displaced.

Also, there were 36 attacks on healthcare facilities, with 85 health workers killed and 51 injured while on duty, between September 17 and October 31, according to the World Health Organization.

**IRCS, UN to speed up aid delivery to Lebanon**

On October 9, Kolivand and the UN Resident Coordinator of Iran, Stefan Priesner, held talks about the tragic situation in Lebanon and ways to speed up aid delivery to people impacted by war.

During the meeting, Kolivand

condemned the brutal attacks of the Zionist regime on Gaza and Lebanon, the IRCS website reported.

Referring to Israeli crimes, including targeting civilian areas, killing civilians, and attacking ambulances and rescue forces, hospitals, and health centers, the official warned about the humanitarian crisis unfolding in Lebanon and the possibility of genocide.

He called for the immediate intervention of the United Nations to bring an end to the attacks.

Kolivand also presented a report on the shipment of humanitarian aid by the Iranian Red Crescent Society to Lebanon.

Highlighting the urgent need of the Lebanese for medicine, medical equipment, food and essential items, Kolivand announced the IRCS readiness to dispatch more shipments of humanitarian aid. He



also stressed the need for active participation and cooperation of the United Nations in the field.

Priesner, for his part, commended the efforts and humanitarian assistance of the IRCS to the people of Lebanon.

He regretted the unfortunate events in Lebanon and highlighted the need to send cash and non-cash aid to affected Lebanese.

The official underscored the importance of ensuring the safety of aid workers in these areas.

## ENGLISH IN USE

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## Hospital beds capacity rises to improve medical system

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

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

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

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

## افزایش ظرفیت تخت های بیمارستانی

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

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

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

## Land subsidence threatens Takht-e Jamshid, Naqsh-e Rostam archaeological sites

By Mehdi Zare

TEHRAN – Land subsidence in the plains of Iran has affected the country's historical and archaeological monuments. The main cause of land subsidence in Iran is the excessive groundwater withdrawal for agricultural, industrial, and urban irrigation purposes.

This has led to the emptying of groundwater and reduced access to water for domestic and agricultural purposes. Land subsidence has affected about 3.5 % of the area of Iran until 2024, which if we consider the area of the plains, to be about 15 % of the total area of Iran – about 23 % of the plains of Iran experiences some level of land subsidence.

Note that about 10 % of 400 plains in which land subsidence has been reported are plains that are sinking at a rate of more than 10 centimeters per year.

The provinces of Tehran, Isfahan, Fars, Khorasan-e Razavi, and Kerman are among the most important regions in which the most amounts of subsidence have been reported. The first subsidence report in Iran was from Rafsanjan Plain, Kerman province, in 1977, where the subsidence rate is about 37 centimeters per year as of 2024.

In Alborz province and the cities of Savojbolagh and Nazarabad experience subsidence of 29 and 27 centimeters per year, respectively. The subsidence has also affected the historical sites of Iran, such as the Naqsh-e Jahan square of Isfahan, ancient mosques, Takht-e Jamshid (Persepolis), and Naqsh-e Rostam collection. Land subsidence has also affected Iran's infrastructures, including airports, roads, and railways.

The most important measure that can help to reduce the speed of land subsidence is to reduce the extraction of groundwater. In order to improve land use planning, implementation of sustainable water management methods, installation of smart monitoring systems on water pumps and wells, prohibition of drilling of deep wells and suspension of unauthorized wells, controlling agricultural products, and banning the cultivation of water-intensive crops may help the land subsidence risk reduction.

Subsidence in areas with rich historical and archeological heritage has become an important concern. Many of the historical buildings such as Takht-e Jamshid (Persepolis), Naqsh-e Rostam in Fars, and Golestan Palace in southern Tehran, and various mosques and bazaars are made of materials that may not withstand significant subsidence.

As the ground settles unevenly, cracks appear in the walls, ceilings, and foundations. The destruction of these buildings affects not only their physical condition but also the heritage of the culture they represent.

Many places are of significant historical value for their cities and regions and are an important part of the national identity of that region. Restoration projects should consider the strengthening of the structure against future subsidence while maintaining historical authenticity, with the expertise of several disciplines, including engineering, archeology, and archaeological rehabilitation.

According to recent observations, in 2024, subsidence occurred at 300 meters distance to Takht Jamshid and at a distance of 10 to 15 meters from Naqsh-e Rostam. In addition, Naqsh-e Rostam, especially the Cube of Zoroaster has been exposed to manual soil settlement and the leveling of the area. These observations raise concerns about the sustainability of important ancient sites in Iran. Subsidence can cause the creation of cracks and fissures that endanger the sturdiness of these buildings.

Visible damage in the Naqsh-e Rostam includes cracks to different depths, sometimes up to 50 cm. Despite the effort to fill them with sand, it has been observed that these cracks have expanded.

The continuation of these gaps shows that the building conditions are getting worse, which may eventually lead to further damage to the Cube of Zoroaster. The importance of the culture of Takht-e Jamshid and Naqsh-e Rostam cannot be overstated because they are the components of the identity of the nation.

Subsidence not only physical structures but also stone reliefs and precious tombs, which date back to the kings of ancient times such as

Darius the Great and Xerxes. The rate of subsidence progress is slow. Since these sites face increasing risks due to environmental factors such as rainfall and the reduction of groundwater levels, their preservation is increasingly important and essential.

Due to a lack of financial resources and management problems for the protection of sites in crisis, the efforts to carry out repairs have been very slow. The preventive measures against more subsidence were always ongoing. Specialized teams have visited these sites for monitoring and restoration efforts.

A coherent plan to control the situation is necessary according to the level of land subsidence that has affected the plains including the surrounding areas of Fars province where Takht-e Jamshid and Naqsh-e Rostam are located.

Sustainable water management methods include stopping extraction from deep wells and methods of controlling groundwater extraction, including water level monitoring, and limiting the amount of water to be pumped. The promotion of rainwater harvesting techniques can help to reduce the reliance on water sources.

Reforestation and soil protection by planting vegetation around these dark places can help to stabilize the soil structure, reduce erosion, and improve water retention in the soil. Installing an accurate monitoring system will help to compare the satellite images, for example, InSAR technology, to localize the momentary tracking of the earth's movement should be provided. Regular geological surveys of subsurface data help to control subsidence.

Public awareness campaigns about the importance of sustainable development and management can strengthen community participation in conservation efforts. Involving the residents of the region through workshops or training programs may help better understanding and cooperation among the various sectors of house building, agriculture, animal husbandry, and civil engineering.

Implementation of strict regulations regarding land use near the ancient areas of Takht-e Jamshid and Naqsh-e Rostam helps to minimize the subsidence acceleration facts.

The Ministry of Cultural Heritage has carried out this monitoring work, but in order to prevent the spread of subsidence in the archaeological sites, it has to cooperate with several ministries, including the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Jihad of Agriculture.

The implementation of the laws against the illegal extraction of water for long-term sustainability is an important task force of the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Interior. The restoration projects by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage should be started by observing the protocols for repairing the damaged areas caused by the subsidence.

Cooperation with international organizations for technical support in restoration efforts can help restore and rehabilitate archaeological sites by sharing the knowledge of international scientists. University research – currently underway – should be directly supported financially and technically to develop innovative solutions for land subsidence management, and the development of new technologies in the form of local solutions will help the issue.

Partnerships with universities or research institutes can facilitate the transfer of knowledge about best practices at the global level. Upgrading existing infrastructure to resist potential changes caused by subsidence protects both cultural heritage sites and local communities. The implementation of drainage systems that manage surface water effectively can prevent excess moisture in soil instability. The development of systems that are specifically aimed at protecting cultural heritage sites against environmental threats should be done at the national level.

International organizations such as UNESCO may provide frameworks to preserve these valuable places and at the same time address environmental concerns. The participation of local communities in the decision-making processes related to land-use management ensures that the solutions are culturally appropriate and widely accepted. Voluntary programs focused on conservation efforts can foster a sense of ownership among residents of their historic sites.



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NOVEMBER 4, 2024

## GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

*Hearts of people are like wild beasts. They attach themselves to those who love and train them.*

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon: 11:48 Evening: 17:26 Dawn: 5:04 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:29 (tomorrow)

## Andisheh Cultural Center to screen, review "Coco"

TEHRAN-The 2017 animation "Coco" directed by Lee Unkrich will be screened and reviewed at Andisheh Cultural Center in Tehran on Monday.

After screening at 5 p.m., the animation will be reviewed in a session attended by film critics Hesam Forouzan and Mohsen Soleymani Fakher and art researcher Hamidreza Ranjbarzadeh, ILNA reported.

"Coco" is an American animated fantasy comedy-drama film produced by Pixar Animation Studios and released by Walt Disney Pictures.

The story follows a 12-year-old boy named Miguel, an aspiring musician, who, confronted with his family's ancestral ban on music, enters the Land of the Dead to find his great-great-grandfather, a legendary singer, to return him to his family and reverse their ban on music.

The concept for Coco is inspired by the Mexican holiday Day of the Dead. The film received acclaim for its animation, music, visuals, emotional story, and respect for Mexican culture.

It grossed over \$814 million worldwide, becoming the 15th highest-grossing animated film ever at the time of its release.

"Coco" received two awards at the 90th Academy Awards and numerous other accolades. The film was chosen by the National Board of Review as the Best Animated Film of 2017.

On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, the film holds an approval rating of 97 percent based on 359 reviews, with an average rating of 8.3/10.

The consensus reads: "'Coco's rich visual pleasures are matched by a thoughtful narrative that takes a family-friendly—and deeply affecting—approach to questions of culture, family, life, and death'".

On Metacritic, which assigns a normalized rating to reviews, the film has a weighted average score of 81 out of 100, based on 48 critics, indicating "universal acclaim".

Audiences polled by CinemaScore gave the film a grade of "A+" on an A+ to F scale, one of fewer than 90 films in the history of the service to receive such a score.

At the 90th Academy Awards, "Coco" received awards for Best Animated Feature and Best Original Song.

The film's other nominations include thirteen Annie Awards (winning eleven), a British Academy Film Award (which it won), two Critics' Choice Movie Awards (winning both), and two Golden Globe Awards (winning one).

Lee Edward Unkrich is an acclaimed American film director, editor, and writer renowned for his significant contributions to animation at Pixar.

He began his journey at the studio in 1994 as an editor and quickly rose to prominence as a co-director on "Toy Story 2", released in 1999. His success continued with pivotal roles in films like "Monsters, Inc."

"(2001) and "Finding Nemo" (2003), where he demonstrated his exceptional storytelling skills.

Unkrich made his directorial debut with "Toy Story 3" in 2010, a film that won two Academy Awards, including Best Animated Feature.

He followed this success with "Coco" in 2017, which also earned two Oscars for Best Animated Feature and Best Original Song.

After a remarkable 25-year career at Pixar, Unkrich decided to retire in January 2019, seeking to spend more time with his family and explore new interests outside of filmmaking.

# Portraying pain: artistic expressions of Gaza's struggles

By Ali Hamedin

TEHRAN— Art has long served as a powerful medium for capturing the deepest human emotions, bearing witness to tragedies, and expressing the suffering of marginalized communities. In the ongoing Gaza genocide, artists around the world have taken to canvas, paint, and digital media to convey the experiences of those caught in the crossfire.

Paintings depicting bombed buildings, grieving families, and children lost to violence have emerged as poignant symbols of resilience and sorrow, offering a visceral glimpse into the lives of Gazans. These artworks transcend language, bringing international audiences face-to-face with the brutal reality of life under siege and allowing viewers to empathize with the pain and trauma endured by Palestinians.

The role of painters in this crisis extends beyond artistic expression; they have become cultural historians and advocates for human rights, challenging the distorted political narratives of the Zionists through the language of color and form. Global artists, from Gaza itself to distant countries, are using their craft to shine a light on what many view as an unfolding humanitarian catastrophe. Their work amplifies the voices of those silenced by war, resonating across borders and igniting conversations on social media and in galleries worldwide.



Each painting tells a story: the story of the lifeless bodies of Gazan children in the hands of their parents, destroyed houses, and dreams shattered by the relentless rain of Israeli and American rockets.

The vibrant colors and stark contrasts in their artwork often evoke a deep emotional response, drawing the viewer into the tumultuous experiences of those living in one of the most besieged regions in the world. Red is the color that the child-killing regime of Israel has splashed onto the canvas of the life story of the people of the Land of Olives.

Maram Ali, a visual artist born and raised in Jordan, is one of the painters who has dedicated her canvas and colors to depicting the suffering of the people of Gaza and the actions of Israel since October 2023. Ali's painting about Yahya Sinwar and his martyrdom was one of the works that received significant attention. The Tehran Times conducted an exclusive interview with Ali, which is presented below:

**What motivated you to feel a sense of responsibility towards Gaza and the ongoing genocide?**

What drives me to paint for Gaza is, first and foremost, my humanity. I am human before anything else, and as a Palestinian refugee, I feel an even deeper connection to the suffering of those in Gaza.

However, I do not need to be Palestinian to feel the pain of people experiencing such immense hardship, nor do I need to be Palestinian to understand the horror of genocide. This



is not just about identity; it's about empathy and a sense of responsibility.

When the war on Gaza began, I put aside my previous work—portraits, landscapes, still lifes, and romantic scenes—and focused entirely on painting for Gaza. I realized that my role as an artist is to be a witness and a keeper of memory. I know that the Israeli occupation seeks to erase the memories, cities, homes, and lives of the people there. My brush, my colors, and my canvases have become a way to resist that erasure.

I believe that the people of Gaza have the right to exist in this world, the right to their land, and the right to their stories. This sense of justice compels me to paint, speak the truth, and stand with the right people and the right cause. Right now, I cannot imagine painting anything else because this is where my heart and moral responsibility lie.

**When did you start working as an artist, and how did you begin? Do you remember your first piece of work? What was the subject?**

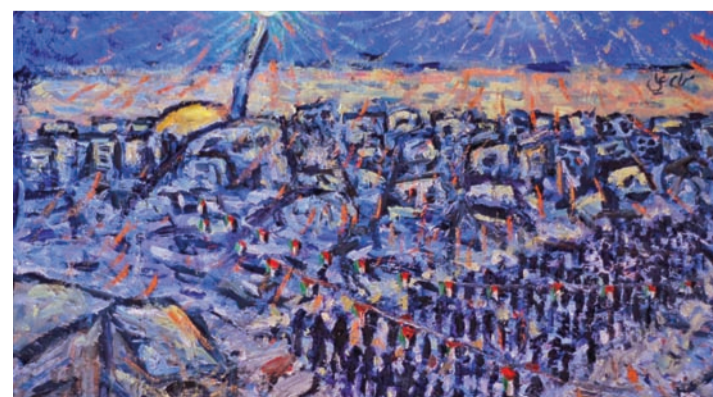
I remember my very first attempts at making art so vividly. I was just three years old, with a little garden in front of my house—a lemon tree, sparrows flitting around, and the open sky above. I felt such a strong urge to capture that scene, even at that young age. I remember painting that same view every day, adding a little more detail each time.

One day, I saw an incredible sight: a huge number of birds flying together across the sky, migrating as the seasons changed and winter approached. I did not fully understand it then, but I felt a mix of wonder and worry. I was worried for the birds, wondering if they would be safe and if I'd see them again.

I thought I might miss them for months. That view and feeling stayed with me, and I painted it many times, trying to capture both the beauty of their journey and the sense of longing I felt as I watched them go.

**Could you explain a bit about your painting style? What influenced your choice of style? Do you find it effective in conveying emotions?**

My style in painting is impressionistic, but it was not



something I chose intentionally. It developed naturally over time.

I experimented a lot, painting in different styles and studying countless works of art every day—through the internet, magazines, art books—absorbing everything my eyes could take in. I let myself feel each painting I encountered.

Over time, I found myself drawn to impressionism because it allowed me to express more than just a scene; it allowed me to paint emotions, to capture the feeling behind the view. In a way, it feels like I did not choose impressionism—it chose me. This style lets me bring out the emotional layers of my subjects, and at this point, I feel I truly belong to the impressionistic school.



**How do you believe art, particularly painting, can serve as a medium to depict the suffering of the oppressed people in Palestine and communicate this sorrow to a global audience?**

I believe that art has a unique power to evoke deep emotions and connect people on a human level. When art is honest and genuine, it can capture pure feelings and resonate with viewers in profound ways. However, I often think about the suffering of the people



in Gaza, and I feel it goes beyond what any piece of art can express. The reality of their situation is so intense and heartbreaking that it is hard to compare it to anything else. When we see images and videos from Gaza, the raw emotions captured in those moments are unlike anything created in a studio. Those images convey a real, visceral suffering

struggles as best as I can, even if I know it can never fully match the weight of what they endure.

**Have you ever received any particular comments or reactions to your artworks related to Palestine that have inspired you to continue your artistic journey?**

Yes, I have received a positive response to my paintings about Gaza. People generally interact with my artwork in a very meaningful way, and it's incredibly rewarding to know that they feel my art.

However, what means the most to me is the reactions and emotions I receive from the people of Gaza themselves. Despite being under occupation and facing unimaginable hardship, they still have the capacity to express love and appreciation for my art. Their responses resonate deeply with me and remind me of the strength and resilience of the human spirit, even in the darkest times. It is a powerful reminder of why I paint.

**Among the paintings you have created for Palestine, which one is your favorite, and what emotions does it evoke in you?**

One of my favorite pieces that I have painted about Gaza is a small work that captures a powerful moment. It depicts people praying during Salat al-Tarawih, a special night in Ramadan, just before Eid. They were gathered around a bombed mosque, with no structure left standing; yet, they still found a way to pray around it. This scene resonates with me deeply, evoking a sense of hope and togetherness, even amidst the devastation. Painting it brought me a lot of joy and emotion, as it reflects the strength of their spirit and their resilience in such difficult times.

**What kind of impact do you hope your paintings will have on viewers, and what emotions do you aim to evoke in them?**

When I think about the impact, I want my paintings to have regarding Gaza, I must admit that



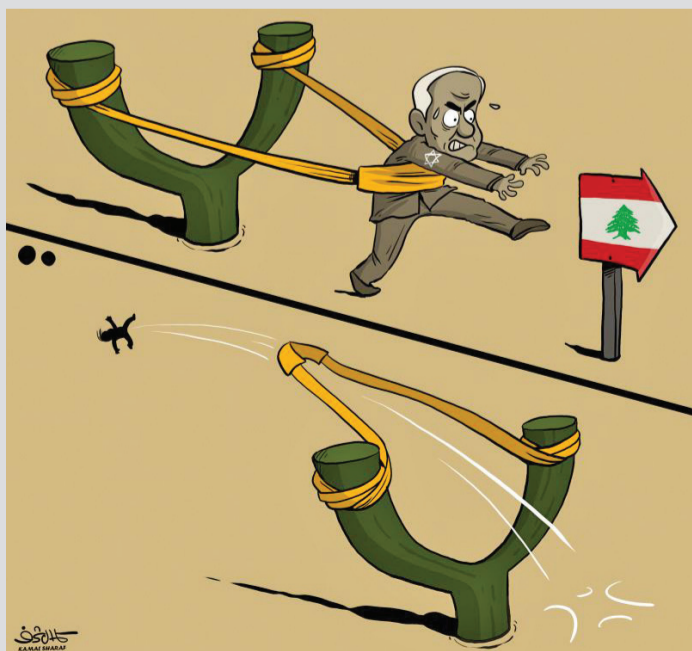
it is challenging. In a situation where genocide is occurring, it is hard to see the importance of anything we do as artists. It feels morally wrong to continue with our lives while people are suffering and dying. I believe everyone should speak up and contribute in their own way to bring attention to these atrocities.

I want to use my art to remind people about Gaza and the ongoing suffering of its people. It's essential to keep their stories alive in our collective memory. I also hope to inspire others to be proactive and to make an effort to impact the world in whatever way they can. That sense of responsibility is crucial, especially when facing such overwhelming violence and suffering.

However, I struggle to see how any art or action can create a significant impact while genocide continues. It feels almost futile in the face of such devastation.

I think we can only talk about real impact once the genocide has ended and we can begin to heal and rebuild. Until then, my focus is on raising awareness and honoring those who are suffering.

## Cartoon of Day



Lebanon

Cartoonist: Kamal Sharaf from Yemen