

Harris Hubris Versus Trump Tricks

Chickens come home to roost: Democrats' pro-Israel stance backfires in presidential election

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Iran nuclear chief says program will progress under any U.S. president

TEHRAN – Iran's nuclear program will continue to advance, regardless of US politics, says the head of the nation's Atomic Energy Organization.

Mohammad Eslami acknowledged during a cabinet meeting on Wednesday that the Islamic Republic of Iran is steadfast in its commitment to developing its nuclear industry, regardless of any changes in leadership in the United States.

The Iranian Atomic Energy Organization's chief reiterated that Iran's nuclear activities are entirely peaceful and in compliance with international law, and that the country remains committed to advancing its nuclear capabilities for the betterment of its citizens.

Eslami further stated that Iran has achieved a level of self-sufficiency in the nuclear sector, particularly in the production of laser technology and essential high-consumption products.

head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization highlighted a recent achievement, noting the inauguration of a fiber laser production line, which is now operational, and mentioned the establishment of a production line for laser cutting of non-ferrous metals. ▶ Page 2

Bay of Dolphins: a marine paradise of the Persian Gulf

TEHRAN - The Bay of Dolphins is an exceptional natural attraction situated between the islands of Qeshm and Hengam in southern Iran.

This enchanting marine haven is part of the Persian Gulf's ecologically rich and diverse region, offering visitors an opportunity to witness fascinating marine life, from playful dolphins to sea turtles and colorful fish.

The bay's vibrant biodiversity and scenic beauty, combined with cultural experiences on the nearby islands, make it a must-visit destination for nature lovers and adventure seekers alike.

Natural wonders of Qeshm Island

Qeshm, the largest island in the Persian Gulf, is renowned for its rich traditions, cultural heritage, and ecological diversity. Travelers flock to Qeshm for different reasons: some seek to experience southern Iranian culture, admiring the islanders' veiled garments and the rhythmic music played in the harbors. Others come for the gastronomic experience, savoring spicy seafood prepared with age-old recipes passed down through generations. But Qeshm's true magic lies in its pristine environment. It is a place where coral beaches, mangrove forests, and native wildlife coexist in harmony. ▶ Page 6

Gallant's dismissal deepens divide

Divisions are growing in Israel after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dismissed war minister Yoav Gallant.

Protests have erupted in Israel in the wake of Gallant's dismissal. Many protesters on the streets of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem (al-Quds) called for Netanyahu to resign, and demanded the new war minister prioritize a captive deal.

Netanyahu who gave Gallant the axe on Tuesday said a "crisis of trust" with the war minister led to his decision. He added that his trust in Gallant had "eroded" in recent months and Foreign Minister Israel Katz would step in to replace him.

Netanyahu and Gallant have long had a divisive working relationship. During the past year, there have been reports of shouting matches between the two men over Israel's war strategy.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has applied for arrest warrants against Gallant and Netanyahu, accusing them of committing atrocities such as starving Palestinians in Gaza and overseeing the extermination of civilians.

Siege of Hezbollah or the last nail in the American coffin!

Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT - In light of the extensive US-led Israeli aggression on Lebanon and the continuous threats to target vital facilities, the anti-Hezbollah media goes in remarkably well in shedding light on Beirut International Airport, which is considered an essential outlet that Lebanon relies on economically, politically and touristically by claiming that it is under Hezbollah's control.

Indeed, it is hostile propaganda in itself to justify any aggression on the airport. It is promoted by morally bankrupt media without the slightest human responsibility.

It seems they carry a torch to pour oil on the fire of sedition.

This fabricated myth is not new, as Benjamin Netanyahu had previously claimed from the United Nations podium that Hezbollah uses it "to store missiles and explosives."

In a provocative report on June 23, 2024, The Telegraph quoted the Israel Occupation Force (IOF) claiming in a statement that "Hezbollah's strategy to

No place in Israel safe from Hezbollah missiles

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN - The new Secretary-General of the Lebanese Hezbollah warned the Israeli regime on Wednesday that it will suffer from the resistance movement's missiles and drones.

"No place in the entity (Israel) is off-limits to our missiles and drones. The coming days will reveal more, and what will happen will be greater," Sheikh Naeem Qassem said.

"We have tens of thousands of trained fighters capable of confrontation and resilience, and we have the necessary capabilities to endure for a long time," Sheikh Qassem highlighted.

Qassem was delivering a speech to mark the 40th day since Hezbollah Secretary-General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah was martyred in a massive Israeli bombardment in the suburbs of Beirut.

"Hezbollah has an organized structure and presence across various cultural, political, fighting, educational, and healthcare fields. This is the party that His Eminence Sayyed Nasrallah built," Qassem pointed out.

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Dismantling deep-rooted development barriers needs the solidarity of the Global South

Prof. ZHANG Yuan

SHANGHAI - The current world is going through profound change on a scale unseen in a century. The group rise of the Global South, which represents emerging market countries and developing countries, is precisely one of the major signals of historical changes of today's world.

This October, after the expansion of the BRICS organization, the leaders of the BRICS countries met for the first time, opening up a new scenario of high-quality development of greater BRICS cooperation. The development of the BRICS mechanism is a manifestation of the prosperity and self-improvement of the Global South through strengthened and broader cooperation. ▶ Page 5



President honors nurses, advocates for equity in healthcare

TEHRAN – Iranian president has underscored the vital role of healthcare professionals in the country, while emphasizing a commitment to fairness and support for vulnerable populations.

He made the remarks on Wednesday, during a ceremony celebrating the contributions of nurses. In his speech, President Pezeshkian emphasized the importance of taking an informed, scientific approach to national issues, highlighting teamwork and collective responsibility.

"We are all one team," he said, "and if we work together, we can achieve progress." He expressed gratitude for the work of nurses and other healthcare workers, acknowledging their role in improving the nation's well-being.

Iran-China 7-month non-oil trade stands at \$18.8b

TEHRAN - The value of non-oil trade between Iran and China stood at \$18.8 billion in the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-October 21), the former head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) announced.

Mohammad Rezvanifar said that Iran exported non-oil commodities valued at \$8.6 billion to China in the seven-month period, adding that China was the top export destination of Iran in that time span.

The official also announced that Iran has imported goods worth \$10.2 billion from China in the first seven months of this year.

China was the second top source of import for Iran in the mentioned time span, he added. ▶ Page 4

TEHRAN PAPERS

Zionist lobby making macro decisions in American foreign policy

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

In a note, Kayhan addressed the hostile approach of America toward Iran and the Zionists' influence in the continuation of this policy. It said: More than four-and-half decades have passed since Washington started hostile policy or introduced sanctions against Iran regardless of the fact that a Democrat has been in the White House or a Republican. Whenever there has been a sedition or insecurity in Iran, the Democratic or Republican governments have been in the first line to support the seditionists. The Biden government continued the path of the Trump government in sanctioning Iran. The Zionist lobby is highly influential in shaping American foreign policy. Also, the Zionists' money and resources have always been important in influencing the election of president in the United States. In other words, the American elections are influenced by the Zionists. Therefore, both candidates are in the opposite direction of the interests of the Muslim ummah, including the Iranian nation, and the victory or defeat of each candidate has a decisive role in the macro foreign policies of the United States.

Iran: America and Iran's security

The Iran newspaper has said more than a year has passed since the start of the Israeli war in Gaza with the full support of the West and America, but the Zionist regime has achieved none of its goals other than killing the Palestinian people. The Zionist regime and the U.S. consider Iran as part of the Axis of Resistance in the region and the main supporter of the Palestinian and Lebanese resistance groups, the main cause of their failure. Considering such an issue, seeking to normalize the violation of our country's territorial integrity will be an option to stop Tehran's successful strategy against Israel. The American government, by backing Israel's war (on Gaza and Lebanon) and also military threats against Iran is seeking to dissuade Tehran from reacting to the Oct. 26 aggression of the Zionist regime against the Islamic Republic. In fact, it is seeking to normalize Israel's direct attacks on Iran and ultimately affect the security of our country. The Islamic Republic of Iran not only will resolutely respond to the recent aggression of the Zionist regime and the United States' support for it but will also respond to the anti-security strategy in a measured way.

Iran marks Daryagholi Sourani's legacy on his martyrdom anniversary



TEHRAN – Iran marked the anniversary of Daryagholi Sourani's sacrifice with a tribute to those who keep his spirit alive today.

Known for his heroic bike ride that saved Abadan from a surprise attack during the Iran-Iraq war, Sourani's story still resonates, inspiring a new generation of unsung heroes honored by Tehran's Peace Museum.

He is the man who jumped on his bike one critical night to warn the people of Abadan

Hamshahri: Importance of Araghchi's trip to Pakistan

Hamshahri analyzed FM Araghchi's visit to Pakistan and wrote: Islamabad was the destination of the 12th regional visit of Iran's foreign minister. A trip during which Abbas Araghchi consulted with Pakistani officials on a series of regional, international, and bilateral issues. Pakistan is one of the countries in the region that has a strategic partnership with Iran in facing the evils of the Zionist regime in the region. The development of relations between Tehran and Islamabad is of strategic importance for both sides in the current situation in the region. One of the reasons for the importance of this trip is that the two countries have pinned high hopes for cooperation in areas of economy, politics, and security, and accomplishing them is the priority of diplomats from both sides. Also, considering the close positions of Iran and Pakistan regarding the current developments in the region and facing the evils and crimes of the Zionist regime, the continuation of bilateral consultations is of strategic importance.

Jam-e-Jam: A new project for Israel

In an article, Jam-e-Jam dealt with the nudity of a student at the University of Science and Research and the opposition media's opportunism. It wrote: The encouragement of nudity by the anti-revolution Persian-language media outlets in recent days has created a suspicious atmosphere, which should have its roots in Tel Aviv, especially as the Zionists are in a difficult situation due to the continuous attacks of Islamic fighters. In addition, some news about the complexity and severity of the expected True Promise III Operation has put the Zionists in a state of military-security disarray in their conflict with Tehran and other resistance parties. In such a situation, it is natural for the Persian-language media to try to save their employers in the occupied territories and try to influence the situation under any pretext, because after the martyrdom of some brave men of the army in the Israeli aggression on October 26, the sense of patriotism among the Iranian people was greatly strengthened and the enemy was practically unable to implement the tactic of "creating a gap between the cause of patriotism and the cause of resistance".

about an imminent attack, saving countless lives. Weeks later, he died from shrapnel wounds and was quietly buried at Behesht-e Zahra cemetery.

Every year, Tehran's Peace Museum hosts a ceremony in Sourani's honor, recognizing modern-day heroes who carry on his spirit of dedication. This year's honorees include:

- Abdolhossein Banadari – A community commander who defended Zolfaghar District in 1980 and fought throughout the eight-year war.

- Abdolhossein Tanha – A Basiji and philanthropist, who has dedicated his time to preserving the Zolfaghar battlefield.

- Morteza Sarhangi – The "father of resistance literature," who's documented the war's history through powerful books.

- Mohsen Sharifian – A musician who brings traditional southern music to life, often performing at international events, including commemorations in Hiroshima.

Alongside these honorees were Mohammad Reza Taghipour, Peace Museum director, and Mohsen Zarghami, a veteran of the Zolfaghar operations. The ceremony's film captures the last twelve years of these awards, showing how Iran honors those who, like Sourani, put the good of others first.

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Iran has significantly advanced in its civil nuclear program since Washington left the JCPOA in 2018

cent achievement, noting the inauguration of a fiber laser production line, which is now operational, and mentioned the establishment of a production line for laser cutting of non-ferrous metals.

Eslami also pointed out that last year, Iran supported the development and implementation of a laser deep welding

line for industrial steel applications, and has now introduced systems designed for precision cutting, especially for intricate components.

The U.S. withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in 2018 has been followed by substantial progress in Iran's peaceful nuclear program. The deal signed

in 2015 limited Iran's nuclear activities and progress in exchange for the termination of Western sanctions.

Iran waited two years for the reinstated sanctions to be lifted before beginning to gradually scaling back on its JCPOA commitments in 2020.

While Iran's nuclear facilities undergo rigorous international inspections.

While Iranian authorities have repeatedly announced that they do not plan to develop nuclear weapons, public calls for the possession of nukes have been growing inside Iran, with people worried that Israel's unchecked violence could eventually spread to Iran.

While Israel is estimated to possess at least 200 nuclear warheads, its nuclear program remains shrouded in secrecy, never subjected to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) scrutiny despite numerous threats from Israeli politicians to use these weapons against Muslims.

Three sentenced to death for role in Iranian nuclear scientist's assassination

TEHRAN – An Iranian court has sentenced three individuals to death for their roles in the 2020 assassination of distinguished Iranian nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, according to a statement from Iran's Judiciary.

On Wednesday, the Judiciary of Iran's northwestern province of West Azerbaijan announced that four individuals were prosecuted in two distinct cases for espionage activities linked to the Israeli regime and its intelligence agency, Mossad.

The statement indicated that three out of the four defendants operated under the guidance of Tel Aviv, taking a critical role in transferring equipment essential for the assassination of the late scientist Fakhrizadeh.

The other defendant has not been linked to Fakhrizadeh's case.

The statement confirmed earlier remarks by a spokesperson for Iran's judiciary, who said the death penalties were issued after a "thorough investigation," adding that the case is presently under appeal.



Fakhrizadeh was ambushed while traveling on a rural road near Tehran in November 2020

Asghar Jahangir said the Israeli regime continues to engage in efforts aimed at identifying and targeting Iranian scientists and that Iran's security forces are actively monitoring "espionage elements".

Mohsen Fakhrizadeh was martyred in an Israeli assault on Nov.

27, 2020, while traveling in a vehicle in a small city east of Tehran.

Following the attack, Brigadier General Ali Fadavi, deputy commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC), revealed that a sophisticated satellite-controlled machine gun powered by artificial intelligence was utilized in the assassination.

The martyrdom of Fakhrizadeh emphasized a trend of Israeli terrorism targeting pivotal figures in Tehran's civilian nuclear program.

From 2010 to 2020, Iran witnessed the assassination of six notable nuclear scientists and researchers in Israeli attacks. Masoud Ali-Mohammadi, Majid Shahriari, Darioush Rezaeinejad, and Mostafa Ahmadi Roshan, are all victims of Israeli terrorism alongside Fakhrizadeh.

One failed assassination attempt has also been recorded against Freydoon Abbasi.

Kowsar, Hodhod satellites sent first signals to Iranian scientists

TEHRAN – The Iranian Space Agency announced that the Kowsar and Hodhod satellites have been successfully launched into orbit and that the first signals have been received from both.

The launch occurred at 2:48 AM on Tuesday, November 15, utilizing the Soyuz rocket from Russia's Vostochny spaceport.

On Wednesday, the Iranian Space Agency confirmed that both satellites were successfully deployed into orbit and have begun transmitting signals back to Earth.

The Kowsar satellite, developed by the private sector in 2019, is a high-resolution re-

mote sensing satellite capable of capturing images with a resolution of 3.5 meters per pixel. It is intended for applications in agriculture, natural resource management, environmental monitoring, and precise mapping, aiding in the observation of environmental changes and disaster management.

The expected operational lifespan of the Kowsar satellite is approximately two years, and it incorporates advanced imaging and data transmission technologies.

The Hodhod satellite, on the other hand, is designed for communication purposes, particularly to support the Internet of

Things (IoT). It aims to facilitate communication in remote areas with limited terrestrial network access, making it suitable for applications in smart agriculture, transportation, and crisis management.

Kowsar and Hodhod launches opened door for private sector in Iran's space race

Professor Parto Alam, a high-ranking senior member of the Kowsar satellite's design and construction team, noted that these satellites weigh 30

kg, have an orbital lifespan of 3.5 years, and operate at an altitude of 500 km. Its mission focuses on agriculture and mapping, and its color range is defined at 15 km.

The successful launch of these satellites into orbit underscores the perseverance and commitment of Iran's scientific community, demonstrating the nation's capacity for ongoing innovation and advancement in the aerospace industry.

As Iran's satellite program progresses, the country's role in global space exploration efforts is expected to gain greater visibility in the years ahead.

Iranian envoy to Lebanon highlights Israel's failed military campaign in past year

TEHRAN – The Iranian ambassador to Lebanon has stated that the Israeli regime has not succeeded in achieving its objectives, despite its egregious breaches of international law and humanitarian norms.

Mojtaba Amani shared these comments on his X account, marking the 40th day since the martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the late leader of Lebanon's Hezbollah Resistance Movement, and Major General Abbas Nilfooshan, a senior IRGC Qods Force advisor in Lebanon, on Wednesday.

In his message written in Arabic, Amani noted that following Nasrallah's assassination in September, the Resistance has effectively intensified its attacks against Israeli

positions in the occupied territories.

"Israel has grown weaker and has become more entrenched in its crises," Amani underscored.

The Iranian envoy emphasized Israel's stagnation to spotlight the strength and resolve of the Lebanese people and their allies in facing external pressures. He also reaffirmed Iran's dedication to backing Lebanon and its continuous endeavors to challenge Israeli influence while preserving its sovereignty.

The Israeli military has been laying waste to much of southern Lebanon in the past months without managing to secure any positions on Lebanese soil.

The regime assassinated Nasrallah on September 27 thinking his martyrdom would behead Hezbollah and hinder its anti-Israeli operations.

The Resistance group only increased the number and intensity of its attacks after the loss of its leader.

Israel's deadly military campaign in Gaza has been deemed largely unsuccessful too, failing to weaken Hamas after a year of relentless violence.

The regime's only notable achievement was the accidental murder of Palestinian leader Yahya Sinwar after 12 months of war.

Terror group admits 12 members killed in joint Iran-Pakistan operation

TEHRAN – The Jaish al-Adl terrorist group, known as Jaish al-Zolm inside Iran, has announced the deaths of 12 of its members, including two prominent figures, as a result of a coordinated operation between Iranian and Pakistani forces.

In a statement released on Wednesday, the terrorist group acknowledged that their members were targeted and eliminated during a joint anti-terrorism initiative conducted by the armed forces of both nations.

With a history of violence that has claimed the lives of hundreds of Iranian security personnel and civilians, Jaish al-Zolm was founded in 2012 and has been active in the border areas between Iran and Pakistan.

The terrorist group's latest deadly attack occurred on October 26 in the southeastern Iranian town of Taftan, located in Sistan and Baluchistan province. During this incident, a group of terrorists ambushed a police convoy, resulting



Terrorists of Jaish al-Zolm pose for picture in unknown location near the Iran-Pakistan border

in the martyrdom of ten border guards and police officers.

Furthermore, Brigadier General Ahmed Shafayee, spokesman for the anti-terror exercise carried out by the Quds Unit of the Ground Force of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) this month, announced on Wednesday that security forces

delivered substantial setbacks to the terrorists during the "Martyrs of Security" drill, which has been in progress after the recent tragic terrorist incident occurred.

The Brigadier General remarked that key members of the terrorist group involved in last month's attack in Taftan have either been killed

or apprehended.

He also declared that various weapons and ammunition, including some sourced from the United States, were seized during the operation.

Shafaei emphasized that the fight against terrorism will continue relentlessly until satisfactory results are achieved.

Additionally, Brigadier General Mohammad Pakpour, commander of the Ground Forces of the IRGC, stated on Monday that approximately 80 percent of the militants supported by foreign powers, operating along Iran's southeastern border, have been captured or killed.

Pakpour also highlighted that Tehran possesses information indicating that "hostile intelligence agencies" have tasked these militant groups with efforts to destabilize the region.

The Taftan attack was carried out on the same day Israel targeted Iran's territory with airstrikes.

Iran, Pakistan pledge enhanced cooperation against terrorism



TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has announced that Iran and Pakistan are committed to strengthening their cooperation in counter-terrorism efforts.

This comes after meetings with Pakistani officials on the activities of regional terrorist groups during his visit to Pakistan.

Following a series of consultations, Araghchi reported that both nations reached several significant agreements, underscoring a unified approach to addressing mutual security concerns. "We held very productive meetings, and we made important agreements. Our discussions on regional developments revealed that Iran and Pakistan's positions are closely aligned," Araghchi stated to

reporters on Wednesday.

The talks covered a range of security issues, particularly focusing on the instability in Afghanistan and the urgent need to address terrorism affecting the border regions between Iran and Pakistan. Araghchi highlighted that the shared border areas are frequent targets of violent extremist groups, emphasizing the necessity of coordinated action and information-sharing to enhance border security.

Araghchi also pointed to what he described as a "close link" between these terrorist organizations and Israel, accusing them of acting in coordination to destabilize Iran. According to Araghchi, terrorist groups escalated their attacks on the same day Israel reportedly launched aggressive actions against Iran, resulting in the tragic loss of ten Iranian police officers. "Our friends in Pakistan's government share our perspective on this, and we have agreed to step up our operations against these terrorist groups and improve our level of coordination," he emphasized.

The meetings further explored various dimensions of Iran-Pakistan relations, with Araghchi noting that there are significant opportunities for collaboration beyond security, particularly in economic, political, cultural, and social spheres. He highlighted the strong people-to-people connections between the two countries, calling them vibrant and promising, as both sides work toward fostering these ties.

Araghchi also underscored Iran and Pakistan's shared commitment to supporting Palestinian rights and condemning what he described as Israel's "longstanding genocide and violence" against Palestinians. He noted that both nations are actively advocating on this issue in international forums, stressing the need to address and resolve the Palestinian crisis.

The Iranian foreign minister arrived in Islamabad on Monday for a two-day visit, during which he held discussions with his Pakistani counterpart Mohammad Ishaq Dar. Their talks focused on addressing region-

al security challenges, including the Palestinian issue. Araghchi also met with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, where the discussions centered on counter-terrorism cooperation and strengthening bilateral relations.

This visit follows a recent surge in violence in Iran's southeastern Sistan and Baluchistan province, where, on October 26, ten Iranian border guards were killed in an attack near the Pakistan border. Local police reported that the ambush occurred in Taftan County's Gohar Kuh district, where gunmen attacked police vehicles. The so-called Jaish al-Adl terrorist group, based in Pakistan, claimed responsibility for this incident, marking it as one of the deadliest terrorist attacks in the region in recent months.

This escalation of violence has underscored the urgency of the cooperative measures agreed upon by Iran and Pakistan to counter these threats, aiming to secure both nations' border areas from future attacks.

Iran will continue to back Resistance, vows Quds commander

TEHRAN – The deputy coordinator of the IRGC Quds Force stated that the Islamic Republic of Iran is committed to supporting the Axis of Resistance with full strength and will deliver a robust response to any provocations from the Zionist regime.

Major General Iraj Masjedi made these remarks during a commemoration ceremony for martyrs Seyed Hassan Nasrallah, the late secretary general of Hezbollah, and Major General Abbas Nilforoshan, a senior commander of the IRGC Quds Force in Lebanon who lost his life alongside the Hezbollah chief in an Israeli airstrike in September.

Masjedi conveyed that the gathering signifies the enduring legacy and strength of the martyrs' path, reiterating Iran's position that any threats from the Zionist regime will be met with a powerful response, and such actions should be anticipated.

He stressed that it is unacceptable for adversaries to threaten Iran and act against its interests while expecting restraint in return.

IRGC commander affirmed that the Islamic Republic of Iran will provide unwavering support to the Islamic Resistance Front, which includes Hezbollah, Hamas, and other allied forces, and will respond decisively to any aggression from the Zionist enemy.

Any threat against Iran will be met with firm, resolute response

In similar remarks on Wednesday, Admiral Shah-

ram Irani, the Commander of the Islamic Republic of Iran Navy, gave a strong statement regarding the country's defense capabilities, emphasizing that the armed forces are fully prepared to respond decisively to any potential threats.

In an interview with Iranian media, held on the sidelines of the National Conference on New Marine Technologies at the Naval University of Noshahr, which focused on Antarctic Studies, Admiral Irani highlighted the heightened readiness of Iran's military forces.

'Tehran will provide unwavering support to the Islamic Resistance Front, which includes Hezbollah, Hamas, and other allied forces'

"The current state of readiness and the capabilities of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are at a level where any threat posed against our nation will be met with a firm and resolute response," said Admiral Irani. His comments come amid growing regional tensions and global uncertainties, reinforcing Iran's commitment to safe-

guarding its national security.

On October 1, the Islamic Republic launched approximately 200 missiles targeting the Israeli military, as well as espionage and intelligence bases across the occupied territories, as part of Operation True Promise II.

This operation was a retaliatory measure following the Israeli regime's assassinations of prominent Palestinian and Lebanese Resistance leaders, as well as a senior commander from the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC).

Then, in the early hours of October 26, Israel launched attacks on two Iranian border provinces, Ilam and Khuzestan, along with Tehran. However, Iran's integrated air defense system successfully intercepted and neutralized the aggression.

Iran has made it clear that it will respond to this latest Israeli act of aggression and will not relinquish its rights.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has also warned the United States and Israel that they will definitely receive a crushing response for their atrocities.

"The enemies, both the US and the Zionist regime, should know that they will definitely receive a teeth-breaking response for what they are doing against Iran and the resistance front," he said in a meeting earlier in the week.

Tehran raises alarm on Lebanon's deteriorating humanitarian situation

TEHRAN – The ambassador and permanent representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations in Geneva expressed grave concerns regarding the deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Lebanon, attributing this crisis to the aggressive actions and inhumane behavior of the Zionist regime.

A meeting of the International La-

bor Organization's board of directors convened to assess the impact of the Zionist regime's aggression on Lebanon's labor market.

This gathering included representatives from 180 countries and labor and employer unions.

During the meeting, Ali Bahreini presented data highlighting the ex-

tensive damage to Lebanon's economic infrastructure and urged the international community to take immediate measures to safeguard this infrastructure, halt the ongoing attacks by the Zionist regime, enhance the support for the International Labor Organization's regional office in Lebanon, and conduct a thorough evaluation of the crisis's effects on

workers, employers, and the labor market.

In conclusion, Bahraini reaffirmed the Islamic Republic of Iran's unwavering solidarity with the Lebanese people and called for prompt action from the international community to uphold Lebanon's sovereignty and assist its citizens during this challenging period.

SPORTS

Iranian giants stumble in AFC Champions League,

TEHRAN – Iran's football powerhouses, Esteghlal and Persepolis, have shown another disappointing performance in the 2024/25 AFC Champions League Elite.

Despite high hopes and expectations from their passionate fan bases, both teams have struggled to make a significant impact on the continental stage.

In a competition that was once dominated by the Iranian clubs, Esteghlal and Persepolis have managed to secure only five points from a possible 24, a dismal return that has left fans questioning the state of the Iranian football.

Esteghlal's recent 3-0 defeat to Saudi Arabia's Al Hilal was their fifth consecutive loss in both domestic and international competitions, while Persepolis's 1-1 draw against Al Gharafa was another missed opportunity.

The poor performances of Iran's top clubs have coincided with a decline in the overall quality of the Iranian football. A combination of poor management, aging players, and the rise of rival nations, particularly Saudi Arabia, has contributed to this downward trend.

Esteghlal, under the guidance of South African coach Pitsso Mosimane, have been in a freefall. The team's recent domestic form has been equally as poor, with losses to Zob Ahan, Kheybar Khorramabad, and Tractor. Mosimane has been unable to turn things around so far, and the pressure is mounting on him to deliver results.

Persepolis, the reigning Iranian league champions, have also struggled. Despite taking the lead against Al Gharafa, they were unable to hold on and were fortunate not to concede more goals. The Spanish coach, Juan Carlos Garrido, has been unable to inspire his team to the same heights they reached last season.

With only a few games remaining in the group stage, it is becoming increasingly likely that both Esteghlal and Persepolis will fail to qualify for the knockout rounds.

This would be a major blow for Iranian football and would further damage the reputation of the country's clubs on the continental stage.

The poor performances of Iran's top clubs have raised serious questions about the future of the Iranian football. Unless significant changes are made, it is difficult to see how the country's clubs will be able to compete with the best teams in Asia.

AFC Champions League Two: Sepahan victorious over Sharjah

TEHRAN – Sepahan football team of Iran revived their 2024/25 AFC Champions League Two hopes after a 3-1 win over UAE's Sharjah FC in their Group C tie on Tuesday.

In securing the second win of the campaign, Sepahan moved onto six points, one behind their beaten opponents and four adrift of Jordan's Al Wehdah SC to make it a three-way fight for the two qualifying spots to the knockout stage.

Sepahan went on the attack from the opening whistle and forced Adel Al Hosani into a double save as early as the sixth minute with the Sharjah custodian blocking Bryan Dabo's attempt before recovering to push Kaveh Rezaei's follow-up onto the bar.

Amin Hazbavi opened the scoring for Sepahan in the 12th minute and Arya Yousefi made it 2-0 in the first half's stoppage time.

Luazinho pulled a goal back in the 61st minute but Javad Aghaeipour scored Sepahan's third goal in injury time.

Iran to compete at 2024 Cerebral Palsy World Cup

TEHRAN – Iran football team traveled to Salou, Spain to participate at the 2024 Cerebral Palsy World Cup.

Iran are drawn in Group D along with Ireland, Venezuela and Germany.

The 2024 IFCPF World Cup continues IFCPF's commitment to promoting CP Football, a sport recognized by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and featured in the Paralympic Games since 1984.

Reigning Men's World Cup champions, Ukraine, will defend their title in Group A, facing Argentina, host country Spain, and the yet-to-be-announced 'Team 16'.

The Women's tournament will feature teams from the U.S., Denmark, Australia, Ireland, and Japan in what promises to be an intense competition.

- Men's World Cup Groups:
 - Group A: Ukraine, Argentina, Spain, TBD
 - Group B: Brazil, England, Canada, Japan
 - Group C: United States of America, Netherlands, Australia, Thailand
 - Group D: Iran, Ireland, Venezuela, Germany

Alireza Jahanbakhsh signs for Heerenveen

TEHRAN – Alireza Jahanbakhsh joined SC Heerenveen with immediate effect.

The 31-year-old winger has joined the Dutch side on a free transfer after his contract with Feyenoord expired last summer.

Jahanbakhsh signed a contract until the summer of 2025 and will play in Friesland with shirt number 30.

Jahanbakhsh has previously played for Brighton & Hove Albion and AZ and NEC. He also has 89 international matches for Iran national football team, in which he scored 17 times.

Gharagozlou wins silver at 2024 World Snooker

TEHRAN – Iran's cueist Ali Gharagozlou lost to Muhammad Asif of Pakistan in the 2024 IBSF World Snooker Championship final in Doha, Qatar on Wednesday.

In a thrilling final of the Championship, Asif defeated Gharagozlou 5-3 to claim the title.

Asif won the IBSF World Snooker Championship for the third time.

Reigning Asian champion Gharagozloo advanced to the semi-finals by defeating India's Sourav Kohari 4-1.

He also defeated Egypt's Mahmoud Elhareedy 5-0 in the semi-final.

Esteghlal, Persepolis discover rivals at Hazfi Cup Round of 32

TEHRAN – Iranian football teams Esteghlal and Persepolis learned their opponents at the 2024-25 Hazfi Cup Round of 32.

Esteghlal, the most decorated team in the tournament, has been pitted against Mes Kerman and its archrival Persepolis is to face Mes Soongoun.

The Hazfi Cup is an Iranian knockout football competition held annually by the Football Federation of Iran.

- Sepahan is defeding champion.
- Hazfi Cup draw in full:
 - *Esteghlal v Mes Kerman
 - *Persepolis v Mes Soongoun
 - *Zob Ahan v Havadar
 - *Tractor v Gol Gohar
 - *Chadormalou v Malavan
 - *Pars Jonoubi v Sepahan
 - *Shams Azar v Shahin Tehran
 - *Esteghlal Khuzestan v Paykan
 - *Foolad Khuzestan v Foolad Hormozgan
 - *Nassaji v Mes Shah-e Babak
 - *Shenavar Sazi Qeshm v Mes Rafsanjan
 - *Fard Alborz v Kheybar Khoramabad
 - *Sanat Naft Abadan v Aluminum
 - *Shahrdari Noshahr v Shahrdari Astara
 - *Be'sat Kermanshah v Shahrdari Bandar Abbas
 - *Palayesh Naft Bandar Abbas v Yaran Salamat Iranian

Iran's aviation fleet to improve

TEHRAN – The caretaker of Iran's Civil Aviation Organization (CAO) said the condition of the country's aviation fleet is going to improve by indigenizing the knowledge for manufacturing aircraft parts and engines and supporting domestic companies active in this field.

Speaking in a brainstorming session with

heads of domestic airline companies, Hossein Pourfarzaneh appreciated the airlines' efforts in keeping the air transport industry afloat, especially during the sanctions, and said: "Over the past years, airlines have resolved their challenges and problems using their own assets, but this type of problem-solving is definitely costly."

Petchem industry requires 168 mcm of gas per day based on 7th plan

TEHRAN – Acting Head of Iran's National Petrochemical Company (NPC) Hassan Abbaszadeh says that the petrochemical industry requires 168 million cubic meters (mcm) of gas per day for the implementation of the development projects defined in Iran's seventh National Development Plan (2022-2027).

The official said that the figure is 205 million cubic meters per day in the eighth development plan.

Based on the seventh plan, the country's petrochemical production capacity is planned to increase by eight percent to reach 130 million tons, Shana has reported.

As IRNA reported, the Islamic Republic is also going to invest over \$40 billion in the petrochemical industry for the eighth National Development plan to further expand the mentioned sector and complete its value chain.

Currently, Iran accounts for 2.8 percent of the world's petrochemical capacity and about 28 percent of the capacity of this industry in the region, and with the plans made, the capacity of the petrochemical industry will increase significantly in the horizon of the seventh development plan.

According to the latest data released by the National Petrochemical Company (NPC) the capacity of Iran's petrochemical production will reach 103 million tons by the end of the current Iranian year (late March 2025).

Also, considering that about 60 petrochemical projects are planned to go operational during the seventh National Development Plan, 35 million tons will be added to the country's petrochemical capacity by 2027.

However, in order to achieve development goals, set for the seventh and eighth National Development Plan, the country needs at least \$70 billion of investment annually. Achieving this figure and realizing the mentioned target is a focal point for cooperation between the government and the

Apple export stands at \$124m in 7 months

TEHRAN – Iran exported \$124 million of apples in the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20–October 21), the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) reported.

As the IRICA has reported, the value of Iran's agricultural products export increased by 28 percent in the seven-month period of this year, as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

According to the IRICA report, the country exported 3.8 million tons of agricultural products worth \$2.2 billion in the first seven months of the current year, also indicating a 16 percent rise in terms of weight, year on year.

As previously announced by the IRICA, Iran exported about 3.2 million tons of agricultural products valued at \$1.7 billion in the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20–September 21), registering an increase of 26 percent in value year on year.

According to the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration, the exports of the mentioned products also increased by 20 percent in terms of weight.

The value of Iran's exports of agricultural and

Mousavi appointed as Iran's deputy oil minister for intl. affairs

TEHRAN – Iranian Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad has appointed Ali-Mohammad Mousavi as his deputy for international and commercial affairs, Shana reported.

In his decree, Paknejad has urged Mousavi to take the necessary measures for ensuring a dynamic energy diplomacy, maintaining an ef-

fective communication with all energy related areas, and promoting Iranian oil industry in the international arena.

Mousavi previously served as the caretaker of the International Affairs Department at the Iranian Oil Ministry.

Iran to develop railway transit under CIS agreement

TEHRAN – The Head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways (known as RAI) Jabar-Ali Zakari has attended the 81st meeting of the Council for Rail Transport of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, to negotiate the possibility of transit rail freight through CIS countries.

As Mehr News Agency reported, since the largest volume of Iran's rail transit is through CIS countries, one of the main goals of Iran's membership in this council is to obtain permission for Iranian rail freight to be transported through the rail network of CIS countries, and in this regard, negotiations and necessary measures are being carried out.

The CIS Rail Transport Council meets twice a year, with the heads of member states present.

The Russian Federation chairs



this council, and Iran is also present as an affiliated member of this council.

In this meeting, various issues such as research and development plans for international rail transportation, presentation of performance reports of members in freight and passenger transportation, performance reports

of institutions and specialized commissions of the Council, tariff policy of railways for international transit, and also the status of mutual settlements between the members of the Council are discussed and then approved.

The 81st meeting of the CIS Rail Transport Council is held concurrently with the 30th anniversary

of the establishment of the Uzbekistan Railways, and Zakari also plans to hold talks with the head of the railways of Uzbekistan to discuss ways of increasing international rail transport between the two countries.

Commonwealth of Independent States, also known as the CIS, was formed in 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union and is comprised of Armenia, the Azerbaijan Republic, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

The development of economic relations with the CIS member countries has been one of Iran's major priorities in recent years, and cooperation in the field of transportation and transit with these countries, especially after the recent geopolitical developments, has become more important for both sides.

Tehran, Tokyo explore avenues of economic co-op

TEHRAN – The Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) hosted a meeting with Japan's Ambassador to Tehran Tamaki Tsukada in which the two sides explored avenues for economic cooperation.

As the TCCIMA portal reported, in this meeting, the two sides exchanged views on creating a platform for the development of economic relations between the private sectors of the two countries and discussed ways of improving trade relations between Iran and Japan.

In an interview recently conducted by Tasnim news agency, the Japanese envoy has said that the Japanese companies are interested in cooperating with Iran in the energy sector, especially in the hydrogen and ammoniac fields.

"Japanese companies are interested in participation in Iran's energy sector like overhaul of factories and energy equipment," Tsukada stated.

Mentioning the long-lasting history of cooperation between the two countries and the negative impacts that the U.S. sanctions have had on the level of economic exchanges between the two countries, the ambassador said: "If the international conditions improve, I am sure that oil and energy companies in Japan will again show their interest in participating in the Iranian market."



The envoy estimated the current value of trade between the two countries at about \$100 million, noting that this figure is significantly low considering the two sides' capacities and potential for expanding economic ties.

Also, in a meeting between Iranian Transport and Urban Development Minister Farzaneh Sadegh and Japan's ambassador to Tehran on October 29, the two sides stressed cooperation in transportation, infrastructure, and technology development.

Speaking in the meeting, Sadegh underlined Iran's geopolitical position as the link between East and West and said: "Japan can reach countries in the region, including Central Asia and the Caucasus, through Iran."

She further noted that the two countries can

expand their cooperation in areas such as intelligent transportation systems, safety, transportation infrastructure technologies, and smart and earthquake-resistant urban construction technologies.

The minister invited Japanese officials to visit Iran to get familiar with the capabilities and capacities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the country's unique bridges and tunnels, and to discuss the areas for cooperation.

Another important issue discussed in this meeting was the need to establish direct flights between Iran and Japan, which was emphasized by both parties.

Sadegh also suggested that a meeting be held between the port officials of the two countries in order to examine the areas of cooperation in the field of maritime transportation.

The Japanese ambassador also pointed to the long-standing and historical relations between Iran and Japan and said: "The thousand-year history of the relationship between the two countries has provided a good basis for deepening joint cooperation in the field of human settlement, exchange of knowledge, technology and holding training courses."

He expressed satisfaction with the progress achieved in this field and called for further development of such cooperation.

Iran-China 7-month non-oil trade stands at \$18.8b

From page 1 ▶ In a meeting with Chinese Ambassador to Tehran Cong Peiwu on October 15, Iranian Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Abdolnaser Hemmati emphasized the importance of implementing the memorandums of understanding (MOUs) signed between Iran and China.

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

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

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

Both sides also highlighted the commitment of their statesmen to comprehensive development, expressing hope that consultations between senior officials of Iran

and China will continue to expand bilateral relations.

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

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

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

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

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

Also, in a meeting with Iran's

Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Head Mohammad-Ali Dehghan Dehnavi on October 28, Chinese Ambassador to Tehran Cong Peiwu emphasized that his country is willing to strengthen trade ties with Iran in all fields.

The ambassador emphasized the importance of enhancing trade cooperation between Iran and China.

He highlighted the necessity of developing trade relations across all economic sectors and expressed China's willingness to strengthen trade exchanges with Iran in every field.

Dehghan Dehnavi, for his part, emphasized that trade cooperation between Iran and China is at its highest level, adding that the Trade Promotion Organization of Iran is keen to enhance and grow constructive trade relations between the two countries.

Additionally, he highlighted that Iran's membership in regional agreements like BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization will facilitate trade cooperation.

Dehnavi also underscored the importance of developing bilateral ties through international exhibitions, technology transfer, and commercial advancements in the industrial and mining sectors.

It is worth mentioning that Mohammad Aghajani, the head of the Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO), was also present at the meeting and shared his insights on developing joint cooperation between Iran and China in the mining and mineral industries.

He emphasized the importance of transferring modern technologies from China to Iran, noting that this updated knowledge would enhance productivity in mining and enable the processing of mineral products with higher added value.

Moreover, he pointed out that sharing knowledge and experiences between mining experts and engineers from both countries could help improve skills and standards in the industry.

Iran and China officially signed the document for 25-year comprehensive cooperation in March 2021.

The document was signed between Iran's former Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi at the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

Back in December 2022, Iran and China finalized 16 MOUs under the framework of the two countries' strategic 25-year agreement.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Kish Invex 2024 underway in southern Iran

TEHRAN – The 11th Kish International Exhibition of Exchange, Banking, Insurance and Privatization (Kish Invex 2024) kicked off in southern Kish Island on Tuesday.

Kish Invex is held annually as a platform to

showcase the capacities and capabilities of Iran's exchange, insurance and banking companies.

The exhibition provides an opportunity to strengthen Iran's relations with other coun-

tries, especially by exchanging information among domestic and foreign economic operators and holding specialized meetings on current economic issues.

Harris hubris versus Trump tricks

Chickens come home to roost: Democrats' pro-Israel stance backfires in presidential election

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN - Democrats suffered a humiliating defeat in the US presidential election in the wake of their unwavering support for Israel's brutal war on the Gaza Strip.

Former President Donald Trump emerged victorious against his Democratic rival, Vice President Kamala Harris in the election held on Tuesday.

Trump has made a historic comeback four years after leaving the White House, following his attempt to overturn the 2020 election to keep himself in power. It culminated in his supporters' mob attack on the US Capitol on January 6, 2021.

Since then, the billionaire real estate tycoon has faced two presidential impeachments, criminal conviction and many other criminal charges.

Trump's victory now means that he has paid no electoral consequences for his attempt to overturn the result of the previous presidential vote.

Victory speech

Trump, a former reality star, declared victory in the presidential election a few hours before being confirmed as the winner.

Trump vowed at his Mar-a-Lago resort early Wednesday to deliver a strong and prosperous economy after millions of his voters turned to him amid frustration over high prices for food and housing.

"I want to thank the American people for the extraordinary honor of being elected your 47th president and your 45th president," Trump said.

The 78-year-old added, "This will truly be the golden age of America."

Trump is the second president to serve non-consecutive terms after Grover Cleveland in the late 1800s.

Trump vanquished Harris following what had been predicted to be a neck and neck race.

He has for the second time defied the aspirations of millions of Americans for a female president following his 2016 defeat of Hillary Clinton.

Harris had maintained a small lead over Trump in the national polling averages since entering the race at the end of July.

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 his vice president.

Like Trump, Harris had outlined her plan to "build an economy where we bring down the cost of living".

Washington warmongering

Nonetheless, amid the cost-of-living crisis and high inflation, the US spends taxpayer money on military adventurism beyond its borders.

Trump has vowed to end the war between Ukraine and Russia shortly after taking power. The US has spent tens of billions of dollars on this war, but it has failed to weaken Russia. In the meantime, the escalating energy crisis



resulting from the conflict has taken a heavy toll on American citizens and Europeans.

Both Republicans and Democrats wanted to pit Russia and Ukraine against each other. But Trump, on behalf of some Republicans, is now playing the blame game.

American people are also fed up with the US over spending their taxpayer money on Israel's war machine in West Asia.

Since Israel launched war on Gaza in October 2023, the United States has spent a record of around \$18 billion on military aid to the regime of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The onslaught has so far claimed the lives of more than 43,400 Palestinians in Gaza.

Israel has also killed about 3,000 people in Lebanon amid exchanges of fire with the Hezbollah resistance movement since October last year and the massive bombing campaign against the Mediterranean nation that began more than a month ago.

Voters in Michigan's Dearborn, the largest majority Arab-American city in the United States, turned their back on Harris over her support for Israel's war on Gaza.

Biden and Harris have thrown their full weight behind the Israeli genocidal war in Gaza and brutal strikes in Lebanon. But Israel has failed to achieve its goals, which mainly include the elimination of Hezbollah and Hamas resistance movements.

Condemning crimes

Over the course of the Gaza war, huge anti-war protests have been staged throughout the United States.

American protesters have denounced the Biden administration for supporting Israel and arming the regime.

Prior to Biden's withdrawal from the presidential race, protesters in some swing states called him "Genocide Joe" over his complicity in the Israeli carnage in Gaza.

In March, a pro-Palestine activist interrupted Biden's campaign speech in Atlanta.

"You're a dictator, Genocide Joe...Tens of thousands of Palestinians are dead. Children are dying," the activist shouted.

It stood out a mile that Arab American voters, who played a key role in determining the fate of presidential election, would turn their back on Democrats over their unwavering support for Israel.

In the Democratic primaries, particularly on Super Tuesday, a significant number of people, including Arab and Muslim voters who helped Biden beat Trump in the 2020 election marked their ballots "uncommitted".

Harris is now facing the consequences of the US administration's failure to stop Israeli barbaric attacks. She has supported Israel's aggressive military operations in Gaza and Lebanon, aligning with the regime's narrative that these strikes target Hamas and Hezbollah positions.

Utter disgrace

The city of Dearborn, Michigan, is the largest majority Arab American city in the United States. In a rebuke of the Biden administration's handling of Israel's onslaught on Gaza and Lebanon, its residents broke in favor of Trump.

Harris suffered a humiliating defeat in Dearborn because back in 2020 Biden won the city with a 74.2 percent of the vote, compared to 24.2 percent for Trump.

Trump had pledged to bring an end to the Gaza conflict; however, it is evident that his primary intention was to diminish Harris's voter support.

Harris and Trump are just different sides of the same coin. Neither of them will care a whit about the lives of Palestinian and Lebanese people who are being massacred by the Israeli regime. Harris's loss only indicates that Americans sought to express their frustration with the US administration's backing of Israel.

Dismantling deep-rooted development barriers needs the solidarity of the Global South

From page 1 ▶ China is an advocate of BRICS development and an actor in promoting the implementation and deepening of greater BRICS cooperation. Under the BRICS and other multilateral frameworks, China's close cooperation with Iran is an important manifestation of South-South cooperation. In recent years, China and Iran have been making progress in pragmatic cooperation in various fields, including politics, economy and trade, and culture, and the potential of bilateral cooperation is constantly being released.

On October 23, Chinese President Xi Jinping attended the 16th BRICS Summit and proposed a speech titled "Combining the Great Strength of the Global South to Build Together a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind". In this speech, President Xi stated that in order to promote the high-quality development of the greater BRICS, we should build a BRICS committed to peace, innovation, green development, justice and closer people-to-people exchanges. BRICS can be the defender of common security, the pioneer of high-quality development, the practitioner

of sustainable development, the leader in reforming global governance system, and the advocate of harmonious coexistence among all civilizations

Since its establishment, the BRICS cooperation mechanism has increased its internal cohesion in the economic, political and security fields. However, the deep-rooted contradictions in global development are multifaceted, involving the realization of international justice, North-South relations, the gap of wealth, the peace deficits, and civilizational mistrust, which are complex and intertwined. Dismantling deep-rooted development barriers in global development requires stronger and closer solidarity and collaboration of the Global South.

Upholding equity and justice

The problem of global inequality has existed for a long history. As economic globalization has developed to this day, the distribution of power on the international political stage has not matched economic power. The national strength of the Global South countries has continued to increase, but their influence and voice have

not matched the efficiency of the increase in national strength.

The concept of economic globalization of neoliberalism is actually the economic ideology dominated by developed economies. This economic mode often ignores the development vision of other developing countries and exacerbates inequality in the international community. The existing global value chain once condoned the concentration of wealth in the North at the expense of the interests of the South countries. Only when the South countries gain more powerful voice and more rights of representation, can the world fundamentally rethink the way out for human development, give priority to people-oriented development needs more fairly, and consider truly sustainable fairness.

The rise of the Global South represents the hope of establishing a real fair and equitable international order. The BRICS countries can take openness and inclusiveness as their concept, pursue fairness and justice, practice true multilateralism, and then serves the common interests of humanity in

global governance.

Sustaining development

Innovation is the driving force of development. A new round of scientific and technological revolution and industrial transformation requires the cultivation of new productivity and the harmony between human and nature. Green is the color of the era we live in. Only sustainable and coordinated development can truly bridge the development gap between the North and the South. This gulf in development used to be reflected not only in political and economic status, but also in sense of ecological system.

From the evolution of ecological politics, the global metabolic rift has existed for a long time. The ecological debt owed by northern countries is equivalent to strengthening the unequal power relations in the international system. Southern countries should neither fall into the dilemma between utilizing resources and promoting development, nor should they be held back by the ecological politics defined by developed countries.

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](#))

No place in Israel safe from Hezbollah missiles

From page 1 ▶ He underlined that the resistance in Lebanon stands on a solid foundation, with strength in numbers, specialization, power, courage, and defiance against the fiercest enemies.

"His Eminence Sayyed Nasrallah... continues to inspire us in martyrdom, and will remain alive through his sacrifice. He will continue with us, and we with him. The Resistance will endure and grow," Qassem underlined.

The new Hezbollah leader also said Gaza will remain resilient, firm and unyielding, and it will achieve victory.

He noted, "We will make the enemy seek to stop its aggression, and we are building on the battlefield, not on political movements."

Touching on the elections in the United States and the possibility of political talks to end the Israeli aggression on Lebanon, which critics have accused of serving Israeli interests, the Hezbollah chief said, "When the enemy decides to stop its aggression, negotiations will take place through indirect talks via the Lebanese government and President (parliament speaker) Nabih Berri, who carries the banner of political resistance."

With regards to the elections in the United States, and how this may end the Israeli aggression on Lebanese civilians, expand it or affect the Lebanese resistance, Sheikh Qassem noted, "Hezbollah does not rely on the American elections, which hold no value for us. We will depend on the battlefield, and the occupation is losing in this area, not winning, and we will prevent it from achieving its goals. The strength of the resistance lies in its continuity despite the military disparities, and with the power of will and confrontation, in which we are stronger."

Our exclusive option is to prevent the occupation from achieving its aggression's goals, and in our dictionary, there is only the continuation of resistance. In our dictionary, there is only 'raised head,' and our fighters will

not bow to anyone except Allah, and they can only be victorious. In our dictionary, there is only endurance, patience, and remaining in the field until victory, and we cannot be defeated."

He also warned, "[Israeli Prime Minister] Netanyahu refuses to set an end date for the war, as his plan extends beyond Gaza, Palestine, and Lebanon to reshape the Middle East."

However, Sheikh Qassem noted, "Netanyahu does not realize that he is facing a Resistance with fundamental strengths, including unwavering beliefs and martyrdom-seeking fighters unafraid of death. Among the Resistance's key strengths are its preparations and capabilities in weaponry, abilities, and training."

He added, "The occupation also relies on its ground army, which does not serve it well, as it fears close combat and faces a resilient Resistance on the [Lebanese] border."

As Sheikh Qassem was speaking, Hezbollah announced that its fighters targeted another Merkava tank in the settlement of Metula with an anti-tank guided missile, resulting in its destruction and the deaths and injuries of its crew.

Earlier, Hezbollah targeted the Israeli Yoav barracks and Kela Camp in the occupied Syrian Golan with missile barrages.

Among its other operations on Wednesday, the resistance also "targeted the Nahal Gershom headquarters (a divisional headquarters of the Galilee Division 91 under the command of the Northern Region in the Israeli) enemy army with an assault drone, hitting the target precisely."

The Rawiya Base (the headquarters of the Armored Battalions of Brigade 188 in the Israeli Army) in the occupied Syrian Golan was also struck with a missile barrage.

Another statement said Hezbollah fighters targeted, "Tzrifin Base (which includes military training colleges) near Ben Gurion Airport, south of Tel Aviv, with a barrage of qualitative rockets."

Hezbollah targets an Israeli military base in the vicinity of Ben Gurion Airport for the first time.

Siege of Hezbollah or the last nail in the American coffin!

US embassy moves to take control of Beirut Airport

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Bridging cultures: The significance of Chinese ceramics in Iran's National Museum



TEHRAN - On Tuesday, a specialized meeting titled "Silk Road and Cultural Exchanges between Iran and China" was held alongside a joint exhibition between the Shanghai Museum and the Malek Library and National Museum.

Four speakers shared their insights on the cultural connections between the two great nations. One of which was Leila Khamoushi, an expert on Islamic period artifacts at the National Museum of Iran, who presented a compelling narrative about the collection of Chinese artifacts from the Sheikh Safi al-Din Ardabili Shrine kept in the national museum of Iran.

Khamoushi highlighted the historical significance of these ceramics, tracing their journey from being endowed to the shrine to their transfer in 1935 to Dar al-Fonun and later to the National Museum of Iran. She also provided an overview of the trade relations between Iran and China, particularly emphasizing the role of the port of Siraf in early Islamic centuries during the expansion of maritime trade routes.

Khamoushi pointed out that during the Yuan dynasty, Persian was somewhat familiar in China, and Iranian merchants actively participated in the trade, fostering the growth of Islamic culture in China. She noted the influence of Chinese ceramics during the Ming dynasty, a time that coincided with the Timurid and Safavid periods in Iran, where the artistry of Chinese porcelain saw significant evolution and inte-

gration with local styles.

In the concluding part of her presentation, Khamoushi addressed the various seals and marks on Chinese ceramics, categorizing them into Chinese and Iranian. She explained that while Chinese marks usually indicate the dynasty or the manufacturer, Iranian seals include significant inscriptions, such as those from Shah Abbas, showcasing 300 years of porcelain-making and cultural exchange between Iran and China.

Another speaker at the event, Hassan Bastani Rad, head of the Silk Road Research Center at Shahid Beheshti University, discussed Iranian heritage on the Silk Road in China and cultural exchanges between the two countries.

Siavash Sattari, president of the Iranian Puppetry Artists Association, spoke on the evolution of puppetry along the Silk Road.

Furthermore, Ali Mohammad Saghafi, head of the China Studies Desk at the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization, addressed Iran's historical and cultural artifacts across China.

According to organizers, the meeting served to reinforce the importance of these artifacts in illustrating the deep historical ties and mutual influences that have shaped the artistic and cultural landscapes of both nations.

The National Museum of Iran, established in 1937 in Tehran, serves as the country's principal museum and a vital institution for preserving and showcasing Iran's archaeological and cultural heritage. The museum houses a diverse collection of artifacts that span from prehistory to the Islamic era, including invaluable pieces such as ancient pottery, textiles, and coins. As a center for research and education, the National Museum plays a crucial role in fostering an understanding of Iran's rich history and its connections to other cultures, particularly through significant collections like the Chinese ceramics that highlight the interactions along the Silk Road.

Traditional felt-making in Semnan province



TEHRAN - Felt-making by pressing and rolling woolen fibers has long been practiced in many villages across Semnan province.

The craft called Namad-mali ("felt beating") by the locals, involves creating Namad, which is a modest flooring.

To create a felt piece, the felt maker starts by arranging colored wool according to a specific design on a base fabric known as Karbas, similar to canvas. Layers of combed wool are added, and the entire piece is rolled and pressed repeatedly, with hot water applied throughout the process.

While the basic process of felt-making is similar across various regions of Iran, the felts from Semnan are distinguished by their unique patterns, colors, and textures, reflecting the local cultural and environmental influences.

Historically, felt is believed to be one of the earliest forms of floor covering known to humanity. A well-known legend in Semnan tells of how Prophet Solomon's son, a shepherd, inadvertently created the first felt. After unsuccessfully trying to weave wool from his sheep, he, in frustration, began to beat the wool with his fists, weeping over it. His tears mixed with the wool fibers, binding them together and forming the first felt.

In Semnan, felt is primarily made from the long-fiber wool of sheep, shorn in the spring. Despite the labor-intensive nature of the craft, felt can be produced within a single day, making it an accessible and relatively inexpensive textile.

Felt is crafted without the use of a loom or knitting. The process relies on moisture and pressure. Wool fibers are laid out and repeatedly pressed and rolled under hot water, causing the fibers to interlock and form a durable, compact fabric.

Though traditionally used as floor coverings, felts from Semnan also serve various purposes, including traditional covers, horse blankets, kitchen accessories, dolls, and even garments. Patterns used for them often feature abstract motifs inspired by nature, such as solar symbols, paisley, and geometric shapes like diamonds.

Glimpses of World Heritage sites: Aksum

Situated in the highlands of northern Ethiopia, Aksum symbolizes the wealth and importance of the civilization of the ancient Aksumite kingdom, which lasted from the 1st to the 8th centuries CE.

The kingdom was at the crossroads of the three continents: Africa, Arabia and the Greco-Roman World, and was the most powerful state between the Eastern Roman Empire and Persia. In command of the ivory trade

with Sudan, its fleets controlled the Red Sea trade through the port of Adulis and the inland routes of north eastern Africa.

The ruins of the ancient Aksumite Civilization covered a wide area in the Tigray Plateau. The most impressive monuments are the monolithic obelisks, royal tombs and the palace ruins dating to the 6th and 7th centuries CE.

(Source: UNESCO)

Iran emphasizes sea tourism development amid baseless claims over its triple islands

TEHRAN - Iran's deputy tourism minister, Ali-Asghar Shalbfian, alongside several experts and private investors, convened on Tuesday to discuss strategies for advancing marital tourism within the framework of the Seventh National Development Plan.

The meeting, hosted by Iran's Chamber of Commerce, aimed to foster growth in the country's tourism sector over the next five years.

A significant highlight of the discussion was the emphasis on developing sea tourism around the strategically important Iranian islands of Abu Musa, Greater, and Lesser Tunbs. This initiative is seen as a direct response to baseless territorial claims by the United Arab Emirates.

Shalbfian underscored the pivotal role of the Seventh National Development Plan in revitalizing the tourism industry, advocating for policies that encourage investment and enhance infrastructure.

"To sustain tourism projects, we must create incentives and establish mechanisms that motivate investors," he noted, stressing the need for collaborative efforts across government sectors.



Key proposals included tax exemptions for importing tourism equipment and leisure vessels, which are vital for sea tourism development but not locally manufactured. Shalbfian also highlighted the importance of private sector participation, proposing the delegation of certain tourism management roles to professional associations.

Gholamheydar Ebrahim-Bay-Salami, a University of Tehran academic, stressed the integral connection between tourism and political developments, advocating for robust government and parliamentary collaboration to invigorate the sector.

He emphasized the need for comprehensive plans to expand Iran's tourism market, traditionally seen as fragmented and small-scale.

Ali Rahimpour, a hospitality industry veteran, recommended the establishment of a dedicated committee to coordinate with other ministries and promote international awareness about Iran's tourism potential. He suggested this could counteract negative perceptions and claims regarding the islands.

The meeting concluded with calls for enhancing tourism standards, improving service quality,

and fostering skilled workforce development to meet the industry's growing needs.

Iran has always dismissed United Arab Emirates' assertions concerning Iran's three islands as unfounded.

The last time that the claim was repeated was on October 17, when a joint meeting took place in Brussels involving the leaders of the Persian Gulf cooperation council and the European Union. The concluding statement from this meeting included unfounded allegations regarding Iran's territorial integrity, urging Iran to cease its occupation of the three islands of the United Arab Emirates—Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb, and Abu Musa—asserting that this occupation infringes upon the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates and contravenes the principles of the United Nations Charter.

As legal experts say when British colonial rule ended in the region in 1971, which included the three islands, the newly formed states such as the UAE and Bahrain rightfully transferred ownership of the islands to Iran, as all historical records affirm their Iranian heritage.

Bay of Dolphins: a marine paradise of the Persian Gulf

TEHRAN - The Bay of Dolphins is an exceptional natural attraction situated between the islands of Qeshm and Hengam in southern Iran.

This enchanting marine haven is part of the Persian Gulf's ecologically rich and diverse region, offering visitors an opportunity to witness fascinating marine life, from playful dolphins to sea turtles and colorful fish.

The bay's vibrant biodiversity and scenic beauty, combined with cultural experiences on the nearby islands, make it a must-visit destination for nature lovers and adventure seekers alike.

Natural wonders of Qeshm Island

Qeshm, the largest island in the Persian Gulf, is renowned for its rich traditions, cultural heritage, and ecological diversity. Travelers flock to Qeshm for different reasons: some seek to experience southern Iranian culture, admiring the islanders' veiled garments and the rhythmic music played in the harbors. Others come for the gastronomic experience, savoring spicy seafood prepared with age-old recipes passed down through generations. But Qeshm's true magic lies in its pristine environment. It is a place where coral beaches, mangrove forests, and native wildlife coexist in harmony.

The Bay of Dolphins is one of Qeshm's crown jewels. This unique bay has evolved into a safe refuge for marine animals. Dolphins, the stars of the bay, are so abundant here that they have lent their name to the area.

Early in the morning, when the sea is calm, visitors have the best chance of spotting these delightful creatures swimming in groups, leaping through the waves, or playfully approaching boats.

A safe haven for marine life

The bay's location between Qeshm and Hengam provides a naturally enclosed and



protected environment, perfect for diverse marine species. In addition to dolphins, several types of sea turtles—such as red, green, and leatherback turtles—find sanctuary in these waters.

Moreover, the coral reefs around the islands offer habitats for a vast array of ornamental fish, mollusks, and other marine invertebrates, forming the foundation of a complex ecosystem. This biodiversity attracts not only marine animals but also migratory birds, enhancing the area's ecological importance.

Sources say that the coral reefs in the waters around Qeshm and Hengam islands play a crucial role in sustaining this vibrant ecosystem. As essential places for aquatic species, these reefs foster biodiversity by supporting marine mammals and fish at all stages of the food chain. With invertebrates at the base of this chain, the ecosystem becomes a rich environment for larger species, ensuring that Qeshm and Hengam remain thriving habitats for aquatic life.

Experiencing the Bay of Dolphins

Visitors can reach Qeshm by plane, or for those traveling domestically, it is common to journey to Bandar Abbas by bus or train and continue to the island by boat. For those seeking flexibility, private cars can also be ferried across the sea to Qeshm. The bay is accessible via guided tours offered by hotels

and local accommodations, which arrange boating excursions specifically designed for dolphin-watching.

Once on the island, tourists can choose from a wide range of accommodations, from hotels to eco-lodges in local villages. Water sports and diving opportunities abound along the beaches leading to the Bay of Dolphins, where boats are available for sightseeing trips.

A unique intersection of nature and culture

The Bay of Dolphins reflects not only the natural beauty of southern Iran but also the interconnection between Qeshm's ecological richness and cultural heritage. Hengam Island, located just a short distance away, complements the bay's marine attractions with its own unique charm. Together, these two islands form a harmonious environment where travelers can enjoy the best of both worlds: breathtaking wildlife and immersive cultural experiences.

Beyond dolphin-watching, visitors are encouraged to explore Qeshm's other natural wonders, including its mangrove forests, mud tidal zones, and rocky shores, all of which support diverse flora and fauna. The combination of coral reefs, sandy beaches, and marine invertebrates offers countless opportunities for eco-tourism enthusiasts to explore the natural beauty of this region.

A year-round destination with optimal seasons

Though Qeshm Island welcomes visitors throughout the year, the best time to visit is during the cooler months from mid-autumn to spring. During this period, temperatures are more comfortable, and the air is less humid, making it ideal for outdoor activities and dolphin-watching tours. In the summer months, the heat and humidity can be intense, which might limit outdoor excursions.

Ancient Mesopotamian clay seals offer clues to the origin of writing

The world's oldest known writing system may have had its origins in the imagery on decorated cylinders used to denote ownership or record transactions. Some of the symbols on these cylinder seals correspond to those used in proto-cuneiform, a form of proto-writing used in Mesopotamia.

The finding indicates that the invention of writing in Mesopotamia was a decentralized process, in which many people across a wide area contributed to the set of symbols used.

"There's been this longstand-

ing reconstruction of how writing appeared in Mesopotamia, which is arguably the earliest invention of writing in the world," says Silvia Ferrara at the University of Bologna in Italy. "We're retracing the trajectory in a way that's more, I would say, colorful, less straitjacketed."

The oldest known true writing system is cuneiform, invented around 3200 BC in Mesopotamia. It was preceded by a simpler system called proto-cuneiform, which was in use from 3350 to 3000 BC.

Proto-writing like proto-cune-

iform is distinguished by a lack of grammatical rules, which means it cannot convey complex meanings, says Amy Richardson at the University of Reading in the UK, who wasn't involved in the research. For instance, proto-cuneiform can be used to label something as "seven bushels of wheat", but only true writing like cuneiform can say "seven bushels of wheat will be delivered to you".

The origins of proto-cuneiform have often been traced to clay tokens. These came in a variety of shapes, such as discs

and spheres, and were often engraved with patterns. The tokens could be pressed into wet clay, creating a symbol. Some of the symbols on the tokens are similar to those found in proto-cuneiform, as documented by Denise Schmandt-Besserat at the University of Texas at Austin in her two-volume book Before Writing in 1992.

There is some evidence for a role of tokens in the origin of proto-cuneiform, says Ferrara. "But you cannot explain all the signs."

(Source: New Scientist)

Almost 620 earthquakes occur in a month

TEHRAN –A total of 619 earthquakes have been recorded across the country over the past calendar month that ended on October 21, according to the seismological networks of the Institute of Geophysics of the University of Tehran.

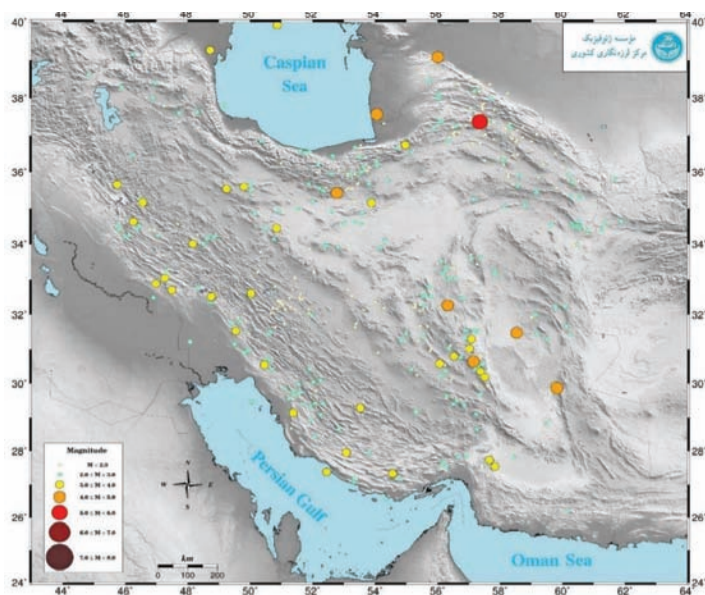
The epicenter of 18 earthquakes was in neighboring countries, namely Afghanistan (4), Turkmenistan (8), Iraq (2), Azerbaijan (2), Russia (1), and Armenia (1).

Of the total quakes, 1 had a magnitude of 5.1 on the Richter scale which occurred on September 22 with the epicenter in Bojnourd City, the capital of North Khorasan province.

Statistically, 277 earthquakes with magnitudes smaller than 2; 282 earthquakes with magnitudes between 2 and 3; 48 earthquakes with magnitudes between 3 and 4, and 11 earthquakes with magnitudes between 4 and 5 have occurred in the country.

Among the provinces of the country, North Khorasan with 117, Khorasan Razavi with 78, Kerman with 64, and Yazd with 62 recorded the highest number of earthquakes in the country.

A total of 6,949 earthquakes were recorded across the country over the past calendar year



(March 2023 –March 2024) according to the Seismological networks of the Institute of Geophysics of the University of Tehran.

Most of the earthquakes happened respectively in the north-eastern Khorasan Razavi, south-eastern Kerman, north-western West Azarbaijan, and eastern South Khorasan provinces, ISNA reported.

Statistically, 2,268 earthquakes were less than 2 on the Richter scale; 3,685 were between 2 and 3; 796 were between 3 and 4; 181 were be-

tween 4 and 5; 22 were between 5 and 6; and 5 were between 6 and 7.

The Iranian plateau is located in a very seismically active region of the world and is known not only for its major catastrophic earthquakes but also for the disasters relating to natural hazards, especially earthquakes.

About 2 percent of the earthquakes in the world occur in Iran but more than 6% of the victims of the world earthquakes during the 20th century are reported from Iranian earthquakes.

This shows the high level of vulnerability in Iran, according to Mehdi Zare, a professor of engineering seismology

Iran has entered a decade of earthquakes since the [Iranian calendar] year 1396 (March 2017-March 2018), as the Iranian plateau is shrinking by 30 millimetres per year, Mehdi Zare, professor of engineering seismology at the International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology (IIEES), has said.

The Strait of Hormuz region in the south of Iran has the highest seismic activity in the region and its formation is related to the continuation of the convergent movement between the Arabian plate and the central continental plate of Iran.

Tehran is also one of the most hazardous metropolises in the world in terms of the risk of different natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, subsidence, drought, landslides, fire following an earthquake, etc.

On the other hand, Tehran has a night-time population of over 8,300,000 with a mixture of old non-resistant structures as well as modern high-rise buildings that affect the vulnerability of this city.

SMUMS working on smart healthcare document

TEHRAN –Smart University of Medical Sciences (SMUMS) has compiled a smart healthcare document, which is currently going through the final stages of approval.

Once approved, the document is a valuable step taken towards digital transformation in the country's healthcare system, the health ministry's website quoted Hassan Bakhtiari, the SMUMS president, as saying.

He made the remarks in a meeting held before the inauguration of the second international congress on artificial intelligence (AI) in medical sciences which will be held in Tehran from December 18 to 20.

The SMUMS research center is a suitable place for conducting applied research and recruiting medical researchers. The center can also help develop treatment and reduce treatment costs, he noted.

Highlighting that most of the regional countries are pioneers in artificial intelligence, he said: "Iran needs to strengthen its position in the artificial intelligence sector in the region."

AI plays a key role in the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases. It also improves the quality of medical services.

Bakhtiari went on to say that by using AI technology, the development of medical services in disadvantaged and rural areas can be put on the agenda.

Telemedicine is one of the areas which AI can help establish health justice by provid-



ing access to advanced medical services in remote areas, he added.

The second international congress on AI in medical sciences is organized by Smart University of Medical Sciences. It will focus on topics such as digital health, medical data processing, personalized medicine, and artificial intelligence applications in pharmaceuticals and medical equipment.

Smart University of Medical Sciences

Smart University of Medical Sciences (SMUMS) is the first and only specialized university in e-learning and new technologies in the field of Medical Science in Iran.

SMUMS was established in 2016 in alliance with the Ministry of Health and Medical Education policies. Since its founding, the university has contributed to the growth of the virtual education approach in the country, by developing software, intro-

ducing new teaching strategies, and developing guidelines and regulations on virtual education.

SMUMS collaborates with several national and international health organizations to create, produce, and deliver virtual and blended programs to audiences around the world.

The creation of a national Learning Management System (LMS) known as the NAVID platform is a major accomplishment of the Smart University of Medical Sciences and is being used by almost 70 medical universities nationwide.

Another major project that was successfully designed and implemented by SMUMS is the first standard national Massive Online Open Course (MOOCs) platform, ARMAN, to provide nationwide equal educational opportunities. This platform has a wide range of interactive courses to choose from.

The Smart University of Medical Sciences has provided a virtual master's degree in "Medical Education," exclusively for faculty members of medical universities. To date, over 1500 professors have participated in this program. A virtual residency program of "Family Medicine" has been created in the SMUMS in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, and Medical Education. And since 2020 the SMUMS has launched a Ph.D. program for "e-learning in Medical Education.

ENGLISH IN USE

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Female Asiatic lion to join male companion

Iran will play host to a female Asiatic lion from Ireland to accompany the recently returned male lion under a population management program aiming at endangered species reproduction by the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, a veterinarian at Eram Zoo has said.

The female lion, born 4 years ago, now is coming back to its motherland after being extinct for 8 decades, YJC quoted Iman Memarian as saying.

The lion has undergone genetic tests under the EAZA supervision, and the results have showed that the animal is completely healthy.

Both will be kept at Tehran Zoological Garden separately for a period, and then will live together.

شیر ماده ایرانی به جفت نر خود می پیوندد

دامپزشک پارک پردیسان و مدیر باغ وحش ارم از پیوستن شیر ماده ایرانی از ایرلند به جفت نر خود تحت نظر برنامه تکثیر گونه‌های در خطر انقراض خبر داد.

ایمان معماریان در گفتگو با باشگاه خبرنگاران جوان، اظهار کرد: شیرماده ایرانی که در باغ وحش دوبلین ایرلند به دنیا آمده و ۴ ساله است، پس از ۸۰ سال در راه بازگشت به وطن است.

شیر ماده ایرانی از نظر ژنتیک و نبود بیماری چک شده و هیچ گونه مشکلی نداشته، این شیر پس از استانداردسازی مورد تایید اتحادیه باغ وحش‌های اروپا به ایران جابه جا شد.

دو شیر ماده و نر ایرانی مدتی جدا از هم زیست خواهند کرد و به صورت تدریجی این دو گونه به هم معرفی خواهند شد.

Uzbekistan seeks to expand health, educational ties with Iran

TEHRAN – Uzbekistan has expressed interest in enhancing cooperation with Iran in different fields including health, education, and technology.

The country has asked Iran's health sector to provide online consultation to Uzbek professionals and establish a direct link between medical specialists of the two countries.

The Iranian health ministry welcomes expanding collaborations, aimed at mutual progress and development, with neighboring and friendly countries, Mohammad-Hossein Niknam, the Iranian deputy health minister has said.

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan is mainly focused on the treatment of cardiovascular diseases, and cancers among women and children, as well as orthopedic disorders and traumatology, he added.

Also, during a meeting held in Tehran on Wednesday, the head of the Organization for the Development of International Cooperation in Science and Technology, Hossein Roozbeh, and the vice president for the development of international cooperation of Uzbekistan, Fazliddin Muminov, discussed ways to expand scientific and collaborative efforts.

Expanding cooperation in the field of science, exchanging students and professors, promoting knowledge-based companies' collaborations, participating in scientific and technological events including technology exhibitions, and holding joint seminars, meetings, and symposia were among the most important focuses of the meeting.

Lauding Iran's high capacities in science and knowledge-based companies, the Uzbek official said, Iran is a powerful and prominent country in the region with high and strategic capabilities in knowledge and technology. By integrating Iran's capabilities with Uzbekistan's capacities, the two countries will benefit from remarkable progress.

"There is a potential capacity for boosting cooperation in education, interactions among professors and academics of the two countries, and exchanging test equipment, as well as technological knowledge-based products," he added.

The official further noted the interactions among officials and representatives of the two countries need to be followed up on to pave the way for effective collaborations.

Roozbeh, for his part, said there is a strong connection between the two countries in terms of history, culture, and shared identity which lays the ground for fostering education and technological cooperation.

Boosting interactions between the universities of the two countries will facilitate conducting joint activities.

Iran is willing to share its expertise in science and technology as well as education with Uzbekistan.

Uzbekistan eager to expand all-out cooperation with Iran

In May, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev said his country is eager to boost all-out cooperation with Iran, especially in trade, energy, mining, and health sectors.

"Iran is today a powerful country with great economic, cultural, and intellectual capabilities," Mirziyoyev said on May 7 while receiving the credentials of Mohammad-Ali Eskandari, Iran's ambassador to Uzbekistan at the Presidential Office.

"Uzbekistan is interested in expanding cooperation with Iran in the fields of mining, energy, chemical industries, agriculture, health, and pharmaceuticals," he stressed.

Iran's health sector a role model in the region

In October, the World Health Organization's (WHO) director for the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO) called Iran's health sector a role model in the region

WHO EMRO is interested in expanding cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran, IRNA quoted Hanna Hasan Balkhi as saying.

The official made the remarks in a meeting with Alireza Raeisi, the Iranian deputy health minister, and Mohammad-Hossein Niknam, the deputy health minister for international affairs, on the sidelines of the Seventy-first session of the WHO EMRO.

A delegation led by Health Minister Mohammad-Reza Zafarqandi participated in the seventy-first session of the WHO EMRO which was held in Doha, Qatar, from October 14 to 17.

"During my short visit to Iran a few months ago, I became familiar with the capabilities of Iran in the health sector; Iran is a role model in health in the region," Balkhi noted.

"Utilizing full potentials available in the [regional] countries is essential for us, and we will not hesitate to support the implementation of health programs," the official noted.

Raeisi, for his part, enumerated priorities in the country's health sector, namely completing the implementation of the family physician program and the electronic health record program.

Referring to non-communicable diseases as another important issue in the health sector, the official said, "Unfortunately, due to the crises in West Asia, the prevalence of non-communicable diseases has increased, and the onset age of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and obesity has lowered.

Therefore, we are planning to control the risk factors from childhood through old age. To achieve the goal, we need to develop plans in cooperation with the World Health Organization."

In May 2023, Ricardo León-Bórquez, the president of the World Federation of Medical Education, praised Iran for progress in the health sector, saying that the country's achievements are amazing.

"Iran has paid much attention to the importance of medical education and can be one of the key members of the World Federation of Medical Education in the accreditation process," he added.

He made the remarks in a meeting in Tehran with former Health Minister Bahram Einollahi, noting that the accreditation process of medical education, which was started by WFME in Iran in 2019, has progressed very well and Iran is moving in the right direction in this field.

Tehran, Tashkent discuss expanding tech co-op

In October 2023, the former Vice President for Science, Technology and Knowledge-based Economy Rouhollah Dehqani Firouzabadi traveled to Tashkent to discuss developing technological cooperation with Uzbekistan's Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation Ibrahim Abdurakhmanov.

Dehqani Firouzabadi was invited to attend the International Inno-week 2023, IRNA reported.

Apart from visiting the exhibition in which 25 Iranian knowledge-based companies took part, Dehqani Firouzabadi visited the Iran House of Innovation and Technology in Tashkent, lay the groundwork for concluding several technology contracts, and expanding knowledge-based exports.

On June 18, 2023, the Iran House of Innovation and Technology (iHiT) in the city of Tashkent was inaugurated, aimed at introducing knowledge-based, technological, and creative products of Iran to Uzbekistan, and facilitating scientific interactions and cooperation between the two countries, IRNA reported.

The private sector invested about \$4 million to establish the iHiT Tashkent.

The two sides signed a technological cooperation agreement worth \$10 million in the field of energy under the support of the house of innovation and technology.

Exporting technological products of Iranian knowledge-based companies is one of the important and key programs of the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology, and in this regard over the past years, with the support of the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology, the Iranian houses of innovation have been set up in several countries to develop the global market for knowledge-based products.

These centers have already been set up in countries such as Russia, Turkey, China, Syria, Kenya, Armenia, and Iraq.



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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

The mind of a wise man is the safest custody of secrets; cheerfulness is the key to friendship; patience and forbearance will conceal many defects.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon: 11:48 Evening: 17:22 Dawn: 5:08 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:33 (tomorrow)

Pakistani artists honor Palestinians facing horrors of Israel's Gaza genocide

Like their counterparts around the world, artists in Pakistan are using their mediums to express solidarity with Palestinians suffering through Israel's ongoing genocide in the Gaza Strip.

Works by young artists Ahsan Shahid and Annem Zaidi, along with veteran illustrator Ali Shah, honor the bravery and resilience of Palestinians – from mothers protecting their children to women who epitomize the spirit of resistance, Anadolu Agency reported.

Shahid, who is based in the commercial hub of Karachi, told Anadolu that his main aim was to highlight the "steadfastness of Gaza's mothers in the face of one of the most brutal aggressions in history."

His painting, titled "Gaza," shows the massive destruction caused by Israel's devastating assault, which has now killed or wounded nearly 146,000 Palestinians and has led to Israel facing a genocide case at the International Court of Justice.

In the foreground, a mother is shown trying to protect her kid, a mix of distress and defiance visible in her eyes.

"The painting mainly depicts the continued torment being faced by Gaza's mothers, who are trying to somehow save their kids," Shahid told Anadolu.

Zaidi used a glazing technique, layering translucent paints to build depth and vibrancy in her works, which shed light on decades of the Palestinian struggle.

Her painting, titled "Piece de Resistance," was Zaidi's way of honoring the Palestinian spirit and make them feel seen at a time when they have been abandoned by the international community.

It shows a faceless woman standing in a large white silhouette in sharp contrast to the black canvas, with a keffiyeh around her

neck and her head resting on her arm.

"My art has always been a reflection of my perspectives on subjects that are close to my heart. The situation in Palestine deeply saddens me, and it pushed me to use my platform to shed light on the struggles and resilience of its people through the universal language of art," Zaidi, a Kuwait-born artist, told Anadolu.

Another illustration, titled "Ruh ul Ruh," highlights the "crucial" role of women in Palestinians' struggle for freedom. "It centers around women (in Gaza) and delves into the complexities of human emotions and societal challenges," Zaidi explained.

Shah, a Karachi-based illustrator, used his works to put the spotlight on the spirit of Palestinian women and children.

His painting, titled "Flag of Struggle," portrays children carrying the Palestinian flag with a masked woman, whom he described as a "mother" protecting the kids.

"Israeli forces are deliberating targeting children in Gaza because they know they will carry the flag of struggle and freedom in the years to come," he told Anadolu.

With another piece, titled "Resistance," Shah said he wanted to show the "unimaginable" extent of destruction that Israel has caused in Gaza.

All of this is aimed at expelling Palestinians from their lands, but the "men of Gaza have decided to die on their feet instead of living on their knees," said the artist.

Israeli forces have "blown up their homes, destroyed hospitals, mosques, churches and orchards, but they have failed to suppress the spirit of the people of Gaza, especially its women and children," he added.

Hamedan festival honors foreign participants for their contributions to children's theater

By Samaneh Aboutalebi

HAMEDAN- A ceremony to honor international groups participating at the 29th edition of Iran's International Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults was held in Hamedan on Tuesday.

Six international groups from Uzbekistan, Armenia, Iraq, Brazil, Turkey, and Russia as well as special guests from Morocco were honored during the event, attended by high-ranking provincial officials, judicial panel and artists.

Speaking at the ceremony the Director General of the Dramatic Arts Center of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance Hamid Nili thanked all those involved in organizing the festival, stating that this year's festival symbolizes security, friendship, and love, and wishing that the guests might serve as good ambassadors for the land.

Nili expressed his appreciation to the Iraqi guests who brought the sacred banner of the holy shrine of Imam Hossein (AS) as a gift, emphasizing the symbolism of Imam Hossein (AS) for the community.

For his part, the Secretary of the festival Amir Mashhadi Abbas commented on the challenges of organizing such events, asserting that the joy of the city's children outweighs any difficulties faced by the festival team.

He also thanked the foreign groups whose performances contributed positively despite some venue-related issues.

The secretary of the festival expressed hope that collaborative efforts would lead to an even more distinguished festival next year.

Hamedan province's Governor-General Hamid Molanouri, expressed his gratitude to the artists and cultural figures present, acknowledging their role in



spreading joy and enthusiasm throughout the country and in Hamadan. He noted that various agencies had worked diligently to ensure the festival's success and extended his thanks to the artistic groups, which are the core of the festival, as well as to the judges who enriched the event.

"The people of Hamadan are proud, hospitable, and art-loving," Molanouri stated, emphasizing that hosting this festival is a source of pride for the community. He added that residents and authorities have developed a strong bond with the festival over the years and expressed hope that the event remains in Hamadan indefinitely.

Molanouri further emphasized the significant impact of the festival on the city, stating that the presence of artists has enhanced the knowledge of artists and contributed to social vitality. He lamented the failure to adequately provide Iranian youth with access to their history and culture, asserting that the arts serve as

a crucial bridge for a community eager to engage with its true essence.

Masoud Hosseini, the Mayor of Hamedan, also remarked on the festival's positive influence on boosting the tourism potential of Hamedan, expressing joy at nearing the festival's conclusion and noting the many positive developments witnessed in children and adolescent theater.

Reflecting on the joy and excitement of children during the festival's opening ceremony, he noted that the enthusiasm of families confirmed the success of the event through the smiles it brought to young attendees.

He also highlighted that, for many children in Gaza, Lebanon, and other nations suffering under oppression, such joyful experiences may seem like unattainable dreams, wishing for peace and justice to prevail across the globe.

The 29th Iran's International Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults is organized by the

Dramatic Arts Center of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, supported by Hamadan Municipality and in partnership with the Hamedan province's Cultural and Islamic Guidance Office, as well as the Iranian Dramatic Arts Association.

The event aims at enhancing unity and companionship, growth, awareness, and the confidence of Iranian children through the medium of theatre as well as achieving social participation of children and adolescents, promoting public culture, strengthening the foundations of family and inter-generational communication, and educating citizens and increasing responsibility through the active participation of Iranian children and adolescents in the production of theatrical works.

With the motto "Theater: Dialogue Without Borders", the 29th edition of Iran's International Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults will come to an end on Thursday.

Over 2,900 documentaries apply for 18th Cinéma Vérité

TEHRAN- More than 2,900 documentaries have applied for the 18th edition of Iran International Documentary Film Festival Cinéma Vérité, due to be held next month.

The submissions include 2,314 foreign documentaries from 123 countries and 628 local documentaries including short, semi-feature, and feature-length films, Honaronline reported.

The submitted documentaries hail from a diverse range of countries, including Canada, the United Kingdom, India, Brazil, Spain, Egypt, Turkey, Italy, Russia, Argentina, the U.S., China, France, Germany, Mexico, Indonesia, Portugal, and Greece.

The Documentary & Experimental Film Center (DEFC) organizes the 18th Cinema



Vérité. The festival tries to express the relationship between reality and truth through documentary films.

This year's edition of the festival will have several sections including the national competition, the international competition, the Martyr Avini Award, "Gaza, Palestine, Re-

sistance," commemoration ceremonies, and other programs on the sideline of the event.

In the last year's edition of the festival, "The Golden Thread" directed by Indian filmmaker Nishtha Jain won the main award of the feature-length documentary category of the international competition section, while in the semi-feature documentary category, the Lebanese documentary "Kalashnikov Society" by Christophe Karabache won the main award.

The special jury prize of the section was awarded to "Under Construction" from Finland by Markus Toivo and the short documentary "Vibrations from Gaza" by the Palestinian-Canadian filmmaker Rehab Nazzal was announced as the winner of the short documentary category.

Cartoon of Day



Children in Gaza
cartoonist: Mo Qasem from Palestine

European cities to host Hossein Alizadeh's concerts

TEHRAN- Hossein Alizadeh, the outstanding Iranian composer and virtuoso on the long-necked lute instruments tar and setar, will start his Europe tour with Hamavayan Ensemble from November 8.

Their first concert will be held in Munich, Germany, and the day after that, on November 9, they will perform in Zurich, Switzerland, Honaronline reported.

Back to Germany, Alizadeh will hold a concert in Frankfurt on November 10. Their next destination will be Amsterdam, the Netherlands, which will host their performance on November 13.

On November 15 and 16, Hamavayan Ensemble and Alizadeh will perform in Germany, first in Berlin and the next day in Cologne.

Sweden will be their next stop. Their concert in Gothenburg is scheduled on November 17 and on November 20, they will perform in Stockholm.

Alizadeh is considered one of

Iran's most cosmopolitan musicians. In his impressive career as a soloist, researcher and influential teacher, as well as through his compositions that have touched and inspired people inside and outside Iran for decades, he has significantly influenced the sound of contemporary Persian classical music and opened its path to world music. This is evidenced by numerous projects with artists from India, Azerbaijan, Armenia and many other musical traditions.

He has developed a new instrument from the traditional setar: the shourangiz, whose name means "to give passion".

With the Hamavayan Ensemble, which he founded in 1998, Hossein Alizadeh now brings to Europe a program of new compositions, which also features the new generation of musicians in Iran and displays the vibrancy of the tradition and its continuation in the present. The vocal pieces are compositions by Hossein Alizadeh on texts from clas-

sical as well as contemporary Persian poetry, and this program, too, will provide plenty of space for the art of improvisation – an essential part of Persian music.

Hamavayan Ensemble includes Zohre Gholipour and Mehdi Emami as vocalists, Behnam Samani on tombak and percussion, Houshmand Ebadi playing ney, Saba Alizadeh on kamancheh, Parisa Pooladian playing robab, and Ali Boustan on setar. Alizadeh will accompany the band, playing tar and shurangiz, a traditional Persian string instrument.

Born in Tehran, Alizadeh, 72, is a classical composer, researcher, teacher, and tar, setar, and shurangiz player who has made numerous recordings with prominent traditional vocalists including Mohammadreza Shajarian and Shahram Nazari.

From his beginnings in folk music in East Azarbaijan Province, he soon discovered the "Radif," the classical Iranian repertoire, which he masters like no

other.

He has held many concerts in and outside the country and performed with two national orchestras, as well as with Aref Ensemble, Shayda Ensemble, and Masters of Persian Music group.

He studied music at the Tehran University of Art. Later, he continued his studies at the University of Berlin, where he majored in composition and musicology.

Alizadeh was nominated for the 2007 Grammy Award along with Armenian musician, Djivan Gasparyan, for their joint collaboration in the album, "The Endless Vision". In 2008, he was voted as Iran's most distinguished musician of the year.

His collaboration in the composition of over 20 film scores, has won him the Crystal Simorgh Award at the Fajr Film Festival for the movies "Gabbah" (1995), "The Ugly and the Pretty" (1998), "The Song of Sparrows" (2008) and "The Queen" (2012). Alizadeh has also penned several books related to music.