

United against apartheid: More than 500 scholars ask UNGA to unseat Israel for violating intl. law

# Should Be Fired



► Page 5

## Iran pushes for Israel's expulsion from UN and full arms embargo at Riyadh summit

TEHRAN – In a call for international action, Iran's Deputy Minister of Legal and International Affairs, Kazem Gharibabadi, urged the United Nations to expel Israel and implement a comprehensive arms embargo and economic sanctions against it.

Gharibabadi's statements came during a high-stakes joint meeting in Riyadh on Sunday, where foreign ministers from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Arab League gathered to address the escalating violence in Palestine and Lebanon.

During the meeting, Gharibabadi thanked Saudi Arabia for convening the emergency summit, commending the country's leadership amid the severe and worsening crisis across the region. ► Page 2

## Palestine issue: Both the symptom and the root cause should be addressed

By Dr. Jin Liangxiang

SHANGHAI – The Palestine issue has existed for more than seven decades, and the latest round of the conflict between Palestine and Israel has lasted more than one year.

The Palestine issue is at the core of regional agendas despite efforts to sideline it, and is believed to be finally resolved. While addressing the urgent symptom of humanitarian disaster due to Israel's military actions, the international community will have to work together to deal with the root cause of the problem, which is the hegemonic policy of external actors.

The most pressing aspect of the Palestine issue certainly should be to relieve the terrible humanitarian disaster in Gaza and the West Bank as well. ► Page 5

## Israeli news outlet admits ethnic cleansing in northern Gaza

By Wesam Bahrain

TEHRAN – The Israeli news outlet Haaretz has reported on Israel's war crimes in the besieged northern Gaza.

Yaniv Kubovich, the military correspondent for Haaretz, says, "The area looks like it was hit by a natural disaster," after joining Israeli occupation forces on a tour of Gaza last week.

The left-leaning Israeli news outlet reported that "the Israeli military is conducting an ethnic cleansing operation in the northern Gaza Strip. The few Palestinians remaining in the area are being forcibly evacuated, homes and infrastructure have been destroyed, and wide roads in the area are being built and completing the separation of the communities in the northern Strip from the center of Gaza City." ► Page 5

## Grossi due in Tehran on Wednesday for key talks

TEHRAN – Rafael Grossi, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), is scheduled to travel to Iran on Wednesday after following an invitation from the Iranian government.

During his visit, Grossi is expected to engage in high-level discussions with Iranian officials and participate in technical talks regarding the joint statement established with Iran in March 2023.

"It is essential that we make substantive progress in the implementation of the joint statement agreed with Iran in March 2023," Grossi said. "My visit to Tehran will be very important in that regard."

"The essential matter is for Mr. Grossi to take decisive actions to tackle the challenges, which are primarily political," remarked Mohammad Eslami, Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), in reference to the implementation of the 2023 agreement.

Grossi's forthcoming meetings in Tehran will further develop the conversations he had with Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi during the United Nations General Assembly in September, as indicated by an IAEA statement.

On October 31, the IAEA chief shared on X that he had a "timely and substantive exchange" with Kazem Gharibabadi, Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs, while preparing for his visit to Iran. ► Page 3

## Capacity of Iran's renewable power plants to rise 500 MW by late Mar. 2025

TEHRAN – The capacity of Iran's renewable power plants is going to increase by 500 megawatts (MW) by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20, 2025), an official with Iran's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA) said.

"Considering the capacity of the new power plants under construction, the capacity of renewable power plants will increase by 500 megawatts by the end of the current year," Ali Shabnavard, the director general of SATBA's Office for Supervision of Construction and Production of Power Plants said.

This trend shows the serious determination of the Ministry of Energy and the government to overcome the imbalance of electricity supply and demand by the development of renewable energy in the country, he stressed.

He put the current nominal capacity of the country's renewables at 1,371 MW, adding that just last week 53 MW was added to the capacity of the country's renewable power plants.

Over the past few years, the Iranian government has taken serious measures to accelerate the growth and development of renewable energies in the country. ► Page 4

## Debunking the anti-Iran hysteria

By Xavier Villar

MADRID – Few figures so clearly embody the pompous, condescending, and aggressive approach of the West when analyzing the situation in West Asia—particularly in Iran—quite like British columnist and former military officer Richard Kemp.

Before securing his weekly column in The Telegraph, where he regularly delivers anti-Iran diatribes, Kemp served as an infantry commander deployed in Afghanistan, where he led the so-called Operation Fingal from July to November 2003. His experiences in Afghanistan became the cornerstone of his public career after his retirement, and, alongside journalist Chris Hughes, he published Attack State Red, a detailed account of his campaign in Afghan territory. ► Page 3



## Leading Iranian, Saudi generals hold talks in Tehran

TEHRAN – In a major advancement for bilateral relations, senior military leaders from Iran and Saudi Arabia met in Tehran to discuss opportunities for strengthened collaboration.

Leading a distinguished military delegation, Lieutenant General Fayyadh bin Hamed al-Ruwaili, Chief of the General Staff of the Saudi Armed Forces, arrived in Iran on Sunday.

During the discussions with Major General Mohammad Hossein Bagheri, the Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, the two generals addressed a variety of topics focused on expanding defense diplomacy and fostering stronger ties between the two countries. ► Page 3

## Deputy minister highlights growing public role in Iran's handicrafts sector

TEHRAN – On Sunday, Maryam Jalali-Dehkordi, Deputy Minister of Handicrafts, underlined the significant public engagement within Iran's handicraft sector at a press conference for the 37th National Handicrafts Exhibition.

Held at the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts headquarters, the event underscored evolving policies and the ministry's emphasis on fostering collaboration across rural and urban communities.

Jalali-Dehkordi explained that the ministry's recent policies have prioritized public participation, which has led to a greater role for local organizations, knowledge-based companies, and public-private partnerships. ► Page 6

TEHRAN PAPERS

The continuation of past policies will be detrimental to Trump

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



دموکرات و جمهور یخواه؛ مقهور مقاومت

In a note, Jam-e-Jam discussed the behavior of Donald Trump's second administration. It wrote: In the first round of his presidency (from 2017-2021), due to his unfamiliarity with the serious responsibility and considering his personality, which was mostly unpredictable, Trump pursued positions that we might see as a serious difference in his performance in the second round. If the Americans intend to confront the Islamic Republic and continue their past behavior, according to the experiences of the past four decades, it is quite clear that they will not succeed to achieve their goal. It must be borne in mind that conflicts and tensions just cause many problems for the world economy. It seems that Trump, given his thoughts, is more focused on causing tension inside Iran, and accordingly, media networks that mainly launch negative propaganda campaigns against the Islamic Republic are focusing more on the internal issues of our country these days. However, the criterion for Iran will be the official behavior of the new American administration (which will be inaugurated on January 20), and then it will be possible to judge what should be the reaction. They know that an approach like the past will not have an effect and will make us more determined to pursue our goals, and it is not in their interest to continue hostile policies towards our country.

Hamshahri: A miscalculation in dealing with America

Hamshahri wrote some people think that if we congratulate Trump on his presidency, negotiations will be easy and simple, and the problems in Iran-U.S. relations can be solved. A look at the reaction of America in different years and during the presidency of the Democrats and Republicans shows that the Americans never took an explicit and official position regarding the election of the presidents in Iran, even during the period when an Iranian president gave the green light to establish relations with the U.S. Basically, Iran and the U.S. don't congratulate election of new presidents in each country. Therefore, the

IOMOU endorses Iran's remote ship inspection initiative to boost regional port state control

TEHRAN - The Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding (IOMOU) on Port State Control has endorsed Iran's initiative to conduct ship inspections remotely, according to a senior official from Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO).

Allahmorad Afifipour, the PMO's director general for maritime affairs, confirmed that this proposal was approved during the 27th IOMOU meeting in Tanzania in late August.

The method, introduced by Iranian delegates, is set to be implemented within a year, with any necessary updates to be communicated to the IOMOU committee, as stated in a PMO press release on Saturday.

Afifipour emphasized that this Iranian initiative would enable member states to perform inspections promptly, even when physical access to vessels is restricted due to factors such as pandemics, security concerns, or unmanned ships. This approach ensures that safety inspections are not hindered, he noted.

It is important to highlight that the approved Iranian proposal will be formalized as an official document within the IOMOU framework and will complement the existing ship inspection methods in the Indian Ocean region.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

suggestion by some reformist and moderate figures that Iran should establish diplomatic relations with the U.S. by congratulating the U.S. president is completely worthless and even looking at the reality of the matter, it can put Iran in a weak position.

Siasat-e-Rooz: The misconception of West-leaning figures

Siasat-e-Rooz devoted its editorial to miscalculations by some pro-West figures regarding interaction with the United States. The paper said: During the Biden era, Europe suffered from the interactions of the White House, and maintaining the unilateralism of the United States was costly for Europe, and now, in the era of Trump, Europe does not have the necessary political power, as it does not have the components of economic and security independence. Based on this, the gap between Europe and the United States during the Trump era and using it for Iran's goals and interests is an illusion that originates from the mentality of some West-leaning figures and does not bring any achievements. The truth is that Europe in the Trump era will be obedient to the United States, as it was in the Biden era because it has practically lost its economic and security power and has no choice but to surrender to Washington. Therefore, the wrong understanding of the relations between Trump and Europe should be abandoned today, and steps should be taken by economic, political, cultural, social, and military bodies to impose another defeat on the global domination system.

Donya-e-Eqtasad: The necessity to reveal lies of the enemies

In a commentary, Donya-e-Eqtasad addressed the weakness of our media in publishing news related to important events or issues. It said: Two weeks after Israel's aggression against Iran, foreign media are still exaggerating Israel's attack, and unfortunately, in terms of media, they do not receive an equal response from Iranian sources. For years, the West, with the help of its mainstream media, has been imposing narratives of wars and operations on the opponents and even the world. Israel's attack is never underestimated, but the enemy's attacks were strategically useless and tactically ineffective and can never be compared with Iran's heavy attack on the Nevatim airbase. Let's know that the media has no less power than the military power. The West, especially America, has been using its media for military purposes for years. Why shouldn't our media have such a position? Miscellaneous and sometimes unbelievable content by multiple media is not a solution either. It is necessary to carry out such an important matter by one or more faithful media persons.

Abolfazl Amouei appointed as parliament speaker's special assistant for international affairs



TEHRAN - Speaker of the Iranian parliament Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf has appointed Abolfazl Amouei as his Special Assistant for International Affairs.

The appointment follows a recent call from Iran's Supreme Leader, urging Parliament to strengthen its influence in global matters and foreign policy.

Amouei, a seasoned diplomat and former Tehran representative in Iran's 11th parliament, brings extensive experience to the role, having served as spokesperson for the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee.

Amouei also has a background in journalism, having previously held the position of editor-in-chief at the Tehran Times.

Iran pushes for Israel's expulsion from UN and full arms embargo at Riyadh summit



From Page 1 ▶ He referred to the ongoing situation in Gaza and Lebanon as a disgrace to humanity and a double injustice inflicted on populations who, he claimed, have been deprived of their fundamental rights for over seven decades under foreign occupation.

The Iranian official emphasized the unwavering support from the United States and other Western nations for Israel's actions, which he noted as war crimes, crimes against humanity, ethnic cleansing, racial discrimination, and genocide.



According to Gharibabadi, this support effectively shields Israel from accountability and gives it carte blanche in its dealings with Palestinians and neighboring nations. He stated that Palestinians have an undeniable right to defend themselves and resist occupation without requiring approval from any external party.

While acknowledging the collective efforts of OIC and Arab League member states, Gharibabadi underscored Iran's stance that the current measures were insufficient. He stressed that

the Islamic Republic of Iran expects more tangible and impactful actions from the international community to halt what he described as Israel's violations.

In addition to sanctions, Gharibabadi called for immediate and practical steps, such as establishing a ceasefire in both Palestine and Lebanon, opening humanitarian corridors, releasing Palestinian detainees, and facilitating the dignified return of refugees to their homeland. He also advocated for international aid to begin the reconstruction process in

Gaza, which has suffered extensive damage from ongoing hostilities.

Highlighting Israel's blatant disregard for the United Nations, Gharibabadi cited incidents in which Israel allegedly undermined UN efforts: disregarding the UN Charter, denouncing the UN Secretary-General as undesirable, restricting the activities of UNRWA (the UN agency for Palestinian refugees) in occupied territories, and ignoring the International Court of Justice's provisional orders.

He stated that these actions, alongside what he views as continuous aggression, warrant Israel's expulsion from the UN.

Gharibabadi concluded his remarks by calling for the reactivation of the UN's apartheid committee to address Israel's systemic violations of international law and its expansion of conflicts across the region, including Lebanon, Syria, and Yemen.

He urged member states to issue a strong condemnation of Israel's policies, which are part of a broader strategy to destabilize the region.

National strength, not foreign leaders, secures our interests: Iran parliament speaker

TEHRAN - Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf has emphasized that Iran's capacity to protect its interests remains unaffected by changes in foreign leadership, including the recent election of Donald Trump as the U.S. president.

Speaking at a parliamentary session on Sunday, Qalibaf highlighted that Iran's strategy is rooted in national power and "revolutionary rationality," rather than dependency on foreign nations.

He acknowledged that while U.S. presidents may differ in their approach toward Iran, this variation does not sway Iran's resolve. "Our national power and the intelligent, authoritative conduct of the Islamic Republic determine our adversaries' behavior towards us," Qalibaf remarked, reinforcing that the shifts in foreign leadership will not impact Iran's strategic direction as long as it relies on its domestic

capabilities and the strength of Iranian willpower.

Qalibaf praised the internal resilience of the Iranian people, which he described as essential to shaping global powers' policies toward Iran. He urged Iranian officials to focus on strengthening the country's defense capabilities and addressing economic issues, seeing these steps as vital to enhancing Iran's deterrence in the face of international pressures.

Reflecting on the Trump presidency, Qalibaf reiterated that Iran will continue to prioritize sovereignty and rational decision-making, ensuring that its policies are guided by national interests rather than external influences. His remarks come at a critical moment as Trump takes office as the 47th president of the United States, following his victory with 76 million votes and 312 electoral votes.

In his address, Qalibaf stressed that Iran's



long-term security and success lie in its independence and dedication to addressing the needs of its people, securing a future that is resilient to the tides of international politics.

He also urged Iranian officials to enhance Iran's defensive power and solve economic problems to boost the country's deterrence in the face of external threats and pressure.

Iraq reaffirms opposition to airspace use in attacks against Iran



TEHRAN - In a reaffirmation of Iraq's stance on neutrality and sovereignty, Iraq's National Security Advisor, Qasim al-Araji, underscored the country's firm opposition to any unauthorized use of its airspace for military strikes against Iran or other neighboring countries.

During a meeting on Saturday with Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, al-Araji emphasized Baghdad's commitment to upholding regional stability and preventing Iraq's airspace from being leveraged for hostile actions.

In this meeting, the two sides reviewed strategies to boost security and stability, implement border control agreements, and strengthen cooperation against terrorism and smuggling.

Al-Araji, who arrived in Tehran on Sunday, also met with Iran's military attaché in Baghdad, Major General Majid Qolipour.

A statement from al-Araji's office highlighted that the talks centered on strengthening cooperation between Iraq and Iran to enhance regional security and uphold border control agreements. Both sides discussed bolstering their coordinated efforts in combating terrorism and thwarting smuggling activities—a persistent challenge along their shared border.

This reaffirmation from Iraq comes amid recent escalation following Israel's airstrike on Iranian military sites, using US-controlled Iraqi airspace to carry out the attack.

According to Iranian officials, on October 26, Israeli fighter jets launched projectiles at Iranian military positions in Tehran, Khuzestan, and Ilam provinces, resulting in the deaths of four Iranian servicemen and one civilian, as well as some infrastructural damage. Iran's General Staff confirmed these strikes utilized airspace managed by the United States in Iraq.

The incident has added fuel to already heightened regional tensions. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi publicly denounced the attack, stating that Israel's actions were a violation of Iran's sovereignty, facilitated by the US military's presence in the region.

Iraq has taken the issue to the international stage; government spokesman Basim al-Awadi confirmed that Baghdad submitted a formal protest to United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and the UN Security Council. In this letter, Iraq condemned Israel's alleged use of its airspace for the operation and reiterated its call for respect of its territorial integrity.

Iran completes 25-km of Eastern border wall to strengthen security

TEHRAN - Iran's Army Ground Forces have successfully completed a 25-kilometer section of the country's eastern border wall, reinforcing national security and strengthening anti-smuggling measures.

Brigadier General Nozar Nemati, the deputy commander of the Army Ground Forces, announced the milestone on Sunday, highlighting the strategic importance of the border closure effort in line with international agreements.

Nemati elaborated on the scope of the border closures, noting that the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Army have successfully secured approximately 1,600 kilometers of borders in the eastern, western, southwestern, and northwestern regions, working in collaboration with border guard units to ensure enduring security.

The Iranian commander further stated that the armed forces have prioritized border closure through coordinated actions from the command structure and support from various system components.

Brigadier General Nemati reported that 25 kilometers of wall have been constructed along the eastern borders since the initiation of this project and emphasized that, due to the established infrastructure, the installation of the border wall is progressing systematically and at an accelerated rate.

"Once this project is finalized, both the public and officials will recognize the benefits of this initiative, which aims to enhance security, curb smuggling activities, and support the economy of the nation and its border communities," the commander concluded.

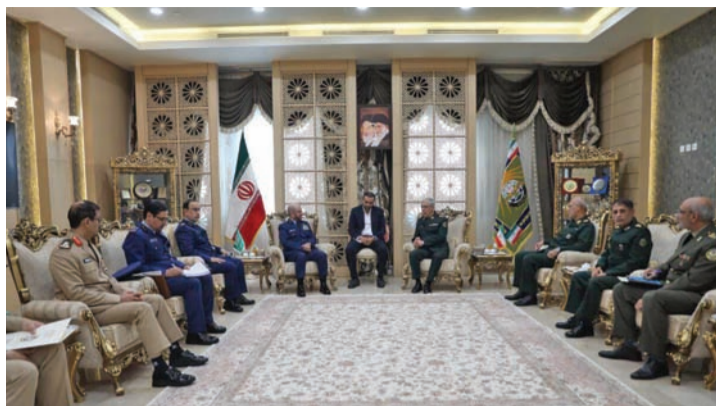
The border closure initiative, covering multiple provinces, plays a vital role in Iran's overarching strategy to maintain its territorial integrity and ensure the safety of its citizens. By improving border security protocols, Iranian authorities aim to more effectively regulate the movement of people and reduce the threats linked to unlawful activities such as drug trade and human trafficking. This effort is focused on bolstering national security and curbing illegal operations along Iran's borders.

# Leading Iranian, Saudi generals hold talks in Tehran

From Page 1 ▶ Major General Bagheri extended an invitation to Saudi Arabia for participation in a naval exercise, stating, "We welcome the participation of the Saudi Arabian Navy in next year's Iranian naval exercise, whether by sending naval units or joining as observers."

General Fayyadh bin Hamed al-Ruwaili responded, "The Beijing agreement offers a strong basis for strengthening bilateral cooperation, and we see it as a strategic opportunity for both nations."

This meeting comes in the wake of the landmark agreement reached in March 2023, when Iran



and Saudi Arabia, under a Chinese-brokered initiative, decided to restore diplomatic ties. A key element of this agreement includes

the implementation of a security cooperation pact, signaling a new era of collaboration between the two influential nations.

In a previous discussion last year, Bagheri spoke by phone with Saudi Arabia's Defense Minister, Prince Khalid bin Salman al-Saud, to examine regional dynamics and strengthen defense collaboration between the two nations.

The Iranian Major General and the Saudi Arabian DM engaged in discussions on crucial issues facing the Muslim world, emphasizing the importance of unity.

They extended invitations to each other to visit their respective countries, reflecting a commitment to fostering closer relations.

## Grossi due in Tehran on Wednesday for key talks

From Page 1 ▶ This will mark Grossi's return to the Iranian capital since his last visit in May.

Iran considers the use of nuclear and chemical weapons a "cardinal and unforgivable sin," as per the religious decree from Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

Since the 1970s, Iran has been a signatory to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear

Weapons (NPT) and is recognized for its extensive cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

In 2015, Iran successfully negotiated a nuclear agreement with the P5+1—a coalition of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council (China, France, Russia, the U.K., and the U.S.) alongside Germany—resulting in the establishment of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Recently, Donald Trump, who had pulled the U.S. out of the nuclear accord in May 2018, has been elected as the 47th President of the United States and is scheduled to take office in January 2025.

The unilateral withdrawal from the nuclear agreement was coupled with unprecedented sanctions deemed illegal under international law, aimed at weakening Iran's economy and exerting extreme pressure on the Iranian populace.

## Debunking the anti-Iran hysteria

From Page 1 ▶ Additionally, Kemp serves as director of the UK Friends of the Association for the Wellbeing of Israel's Soldiers (UK-AWIS), the British branch of AWIS, an Israeli organization managed by the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) and led by General Yoram Yair. This organization is dedicated to supporting Israeli soldiers and their families with resources and aid.

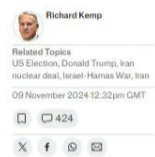
In his latest opinion piece, published on November 9 under the headline "Iran Wants War with the United States," Kemp asserts that Donald Trump's recent victory in the U.S. elections represents Iran's worst "nightmare." Without pausing to substantiate this claim, Kemp contends that during the Biden administration, Iran allegedly enjoyed economic benefits due to the U.S. president's "appeasement" policy, which Kemp claims helped bolster Iran's political position on the international stage.

In his article, Kemp lists a series of alleged concessions made by the Democratic administration to the Islamic Republic, without providing further analysis, and ultimately concludes that, under Trump's presidency, the stance would be radically different. Kemp even goes as far as to suggest that, regardless of the measures Trump decides to take directly against Iran, it will be crucial to remove all the «restrictions» that Biden supposedly imposed on Israel.

It is hard to take these statements seriously. No reasonably informed observer could claim, without embarrassment, that the Biden administration has placed any restrictions on Israel. Just look at the situation in Gaza, where the U.S. has not only supported Israel but actively backed its military actions. The same unconditional

### Richard Kemp Iran wants war with the United States

The alleged plot against Donald Trump is a clear casus belli



support can be seen in the ongoing campaign in Lebanon, where U.S. authorities continue their unwavering endorsement.

Kemp might argue that his reference to "restrictions" specifically pertains to limitations in the context of Iran, suggesting that under Trump, Israel would have a free hand to act as it pleases against the Islamic Republic. However, this argument overlooks a crucial reality: Israel has not exercised restraint due to U.S. pressures, but because of its own assessment of the risks involved in a direct conflict with Iran. Such a confrontation would incur immense material and human costs for Israel, even with the full backing of the United States.

In other words, Israel has not exercised restraint because the United States has demanded it, although it is true that Washington has attempted to prevent the conflict from escalating directly. In reality, Israel has assessed that an attack on Iran's key infrastructure, such as its nuclear or oil facilities, would provoke such a massive Iranian response that it would be unsustainable, particularly at a time when Israel's strategy of occupation in northern Lebanon is

facing increasing challenges.

In his role as a pro-Israel hooligan, Kemp even touches on the subject of hostages captured by Hamas during the «Flood of Al Aqsa» operation, suggesting that Trump would have issued an ultimatum to the Palestinian group to release the hostages before his inauguration in two months. However, the crucial aspect Kemp ignores is the absolute disregard shown by the Israeli government for the lives of these hostages and the demands of their families. According to reports in Israeli media, the Netanyahu government believes the hostage situation will "resolve itself in a natural and tragic way," and plans to use their deaths as a new pretext for the permanent occupation of Gaza and the establishment of Jewish settlements in the region. In other words, the hostages have always been nothing more than a convenient excuse to continue the colonial occupation of Gaza.

Lastly, and as might be expected, the former commander turned columnist seizes upon the alleged assassination attempt on Donald Trump by Iran to justify an attack, asserting in his article that "Iran's intention to assassinate Donald Trump

constitutes a casus belli, warranting the elimination of the Iranian regime." However, Iran's Foreign Minister, Abbas Araghchi, mocked this story in a post on the social media platform X (formerly Twitter), pointing out that no one in their right mind could believe that a supposed assassin could be in Iran while maintaining direct communication with the FBI.

This type of news serves no other purpose than to continue fabricating a chain of equivalencies, where the signifier «Iran» is immediately associated with concepts such as «terrorism» or «destabilization.» In essence, it is a discursive construction designed to project the image of Iran as a «disobedient» state that, therefore, deserves to be disciplined at any cost.

Equally relevant is the profile of the article's author: as already noted, Richard Kemp is a senior British military officer in the reserves. In the West, it is becoming increasingly common for active or retired military personnel to appear in the media as "experts in political and geopolitical matters," while the voices of other specialists are relegated to a marginal space. This does not, of course, include "native informants," whose role in the media seems to be limited to reinforcing the narrative already established by the West.

The fact that the author of an article titled "Iran Wants War with the United States" is a former military officer who commanded an infantry battalion in Afghanistan and also heads an Israel friendship organization directly linked to the Ministry of Defense carries a clear political meaning. The narrative he promotes is constructed not only around his military experience but also in line with an entirely anti-Iranian agenda.

## 3 terrorists killed, 9 arrested in IRGC op. in SE Iran

TEHRAN – In the ongoing "Martyrs of Security" drill in southeast Iran, the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) has neutralized key terrorist threats, according to Brigadier General Ahmad Shafaei, spokesperson for the exercise.

As part of the operation, IRGC Ground Forces based at the Quds Headquarters in Sistan-Baluchestan Province have successfully neutralized multiple terrorists.

The latest results include two terrorists surrendering, three being killed, and nine others apprehended. General Shafaei announced Saturday.

Since the exercise began on October 26, 15 terrorists have been killed, 33 detained, and two have surrendered to authorities, marking significant progress in stabilizing the region.

The IRGC Ground Forces have committed to maintaining their crackdown on terrorist activities in southeast Iran as the operation continues.

**Iran praises Pakistan's border operation targeting terrorists**

Iran's General Staff of the Armed Forces announced that the Pakistani army has successfully targeted terrorist groups operating along the Iran-Pakistan border, effectively dismantling elements posing a regional security threat.

According to a statement from the Iranian Armed Forces' Communication Center, "These terrorist factions, backed by external powers, serve as proxies for the United States and the Zionist regime, using the Iran-Pakistan border as a launchpad for destabilizing activities."

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

## Zionist regime's defenses faltered under Iran's Operation True Promise: commander

TEHRAN – The commander of the Joint Air Defense Headquarters of the Army has declared that during Operation Truth Promise II, the global community observed the failure of the Zionist regime's defense systems against Iran's determination and military strength.

Brigadier General Ghadir Rahimzadeh, while visiting the air defense sector in the northwest of Iran, remarked, "Today, despite facing numerous pressures, sanctions, and threats, the Islamic Republic of Iran has boldly and strategically emerged as a leading power in the region, and we will steadfastly continue on this path."

He further noted that the adversary is persistently attempting to conspire against the sacred system of the Islamic Republic.

Rahimzadeh stated, "The malicious

actions of the Zionist regime over the past year, despite the enemy's media campaigns, have not altered the balance of power within the Resistance Axis, and the fighters of this axis will persist in their efforts until the liberation of the al-Quds."

He underscored, "The occupying Zionist regime has suffered significant setbacks from the Resistance Axis, and the changes in its military leadership reflect its desperation in the face of the resistance's strength."

Operation True Promise II was a military response executed by Iran's Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) aimed at the occupied territories, prompted by Israeli hostilities.

This marked Iran's second direct military response against the Israeli regime, following the initial Operation True Promise in October 2023.

### Iram named for N. Korea and Kyrgyzstan matches

TEHRAN – Amir Ghalenoei has invited 28 players to Iran national team for two matches against North Korea and Kyrgyzstan in the 2026 FIFA World Cup qualification.

Team Melli are scheduled to play North Korea on Nov. 14 in Laos and will face Kyrgyzstan in Bishkek five days later.

Iran and Uzbekistan lead Group A with 10 points, while Kyrgyzstan and North Korea sit fifth and sixth with two and three points, respectively.

The Asian section of the 2026 FIFA World Cup qualification will act as qualifiers for the 2026 FIFA World Cup for national teams of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC). AFC teams have been allocated eight direct qualifying slots and one inter-confederation play-off slot.

The qualification process involves five rounds; the first two also serving as qualification for the 2027 AFC Asian Cup.

#### Squad

##### Goalkeepers:

Alireza Beiranvand (Tractor), Payam Niazmand (Sepahan), Hossein Hosseini (Esteghlal), Mohammadreza Akhbari (Gol Gohar)

##### Defenders:

Ali Nemati (Foolad), Shoja Khalilzadeh (Tractor), Mohammadamin Hazbavi (Sepahan), Mohammadmehdi Zare (Gol Gohar), Saleh Hardani (Sepahan), Aria Yousefi (Sepahan), Milad Mohammadi (Persepolis), Omid Noorafkan (Malavan), Mohammadhossein Knaanizadegan (Persepolis)

##### Midfielders:

Saeid Ezatollahi (Shabab Al Ahli), Mohammad Karimi (Sepahan), Mohammad Ghorbani (Orenburg), Saman Ghoddos (Al Ittihad Kalba), Mohammadjavad Hosseinejad (Dinamo Makhachkala), Mohammad Mohebbi (Rostov), Mehdi Ghaedi (Al Ittihad Kalba), Alireza Jahanbakhsh (Heerenveen), Ali Gholizadeh (Lech Poznan), Amirhossein Hosseinzadeh (Tractor), Rouzbeh Cheshmi (Esteghlal)

##### Strikers:

Mehdi Taremi (Inter Milan), Sardar Azmoun (Shabab Al Ahli), Shahriar Moghanlou (Al Ittihad Kalba), Saeid Saharkhizan (Orenburg)

### Saharkhizan scores against Dynamo Makhachkala

TEHRAN – Orenburg lost to Dynamo Makhachkala 2-1 in the 15th round of the Russian Premier League (RPL) on Saturday.

Iranian forward Said Sakharhisn gave the visiting team the lead in the 13th minute.

Egas Kasintura leveled the score in the 78th minute and Gamid Agalarov scored the winner in the added time.

Dynamo won their first victory in eight matches and with 15 points took the 10th place in the standings of the RPL. Orenburg have eight points and sit 16th in the league.

### Hajisafi on target as AEK beat Asteras

TEHRAN – AEK football team achieved a comfortable win in the Greek Super League match against Asteras Tripolis on Saturday.

Ehsan Hajisafi opened the scoring for the host in the ninth minute and Paolo Fernandez (31st).

Asteras were reduced to 10 men in the 36th minute after Oluwatobiloba Alagbe was shown a red card.

Levis Garcia scored for Athens in the 58th minute to make the scoreboard 3-1.

Asteras midfielder Theofanis Tzandaris was also sent off in the 70th minute.

AEK lead the table with 21 points and Asteras are sixth with 16 points.

### Hugo Miguel parts company with Sepahan: IPL

TEHRAN – Hugo Miguel Pereira de Almeida parted ways with Sepahan football team shortly after the draw against Nassaji.

Sepahan earned a late 1-1 draw against Nassaji in Isfahan's Fooladshahr Stadium on Saturday.

The Portuguese coach announced his retirement in the locker room just a week after he replaced his countryman Jose Morais.

Under his leadership, Sepahan defeated Sharjah 3-1 in Group C of the 2024-25 AFC Champions League Two Tuesday night.

### Iran take bronze at 2024 Asian Senior Beach Volleyball Championships

TEHRAN – Iran's Abbas Pourasgari/Alireza Aghajanihasab defeated China's Wu Jiaxin/HA Likejiang 2-0 (21-15, 21-17) to win a bronze medal in the 2024 Asian Senior Beach Volleyball Championships on Sunday.

Thomas Potts/Jack Pearse defeated Nicolaidis/Carracher in an all-Australian final to earn a gold medal in the men's division.

Also, Wang Jingzhe/Xia Xinyi defeated compatriots Xue Chen/Zeng Jinjin in the women's gold medal match.

Australia claimed a bronze medal by defeating Japan.

The competition was held in Santa Rosa, Philippines.



### Namazi takes gold at Lagos Para Table Tennis Open

TEHRAN – Zahra Namazi of Iran won a gold medal at the Lagos Para Table Tennis Open on Saturday. She defeated Nigeria's Kafayat Olaitan 3-0 in the Women's Class 7-8 final.

Iranian male table tennis athlete Mohammaderfan Gholami had previously won a bronze medal in the Men's Single Class 9. The 6th Lagos Valuejet Para Table Tennis Open was held on Nov. 7-9 at the Molade Okoya-Thomas Hall of Teslim Balogun Stadium, Lagos.

The event brought participants from Iran, UK, Iraq, Cameroon, Benin Republic, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire, Uganda, and host Nigeria in the prestigious event.

## EAEU exclusive exhibition in Tehran rescheduled for late Feb. 2025

TEHRAN - The 3rd Exclusive Exhibition of EURASIA in Iran which was scheduled to be held in early December has been rescheduled and will be held from February 21 to 24 at the Tehran Permanent International Fairgrounds.

In this exhibition, the pavilions of Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Armenia will be held and the Eurasian exhibitors will showcase their latest products and achievements alongside the Iranian companies.

On October 11, the head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) said that the preferential trade agreement (PTA) between Iran and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) has canceled customs tariffs on 87 percent of the goods exchanged between the two sides.

Mentioning the fact that the two sides are currently finalizing a free trade agreement (FTA) as well, Mohammad Ali Dehghan Dehnavi said: "The free trade agreement with the member countries of Eurasia will facilitate and increase the volume of our trade exchanges."

According to Dehghan Dehnavi, Iran's observer status in the EAEU has also been approved and will be officially announced at the union's next assembly.

Reducing costs, creating opportunities for joint ventures, and creating new markets have been achieved through foreign trade agreements, he said.

Earlier that month, Dehghan Dehnavi said the Islamic Republic's trade with the EAEU has increased by 2.5 times over the past four years.

"Four years ago, we entered a preferential trade agreement with Eurasia, and tariffs on exported goods were reduced or zeroed, during this period, the trade with the member countries of this union has increased 2.5 times," he said in a meeting with the members of the Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) on October 6.

The official said the FTA with EAEU has been reached and is being pursued by the members of the union to be implemented.

"We also signed the free trade agreement with the members of the Eurasian Economic Union and the agreement is under revision by the parliament. Three of the five Eurasian member countries have already

approved the agreement," the official said.

"Eurasia is Iran's first major experience in free trade based on which 87 percent of tariffs [on export goods] are removed, businessmen must prepare themselves for new competition in this market. Besides, the EAEU member countries also want to supply their goods to Iran," he added.

The Eurasian Economic Union was established in 2015 at the initiative taken by the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, and Belarus.

Afterward, the Republic of Armenia and Kyrgyzstan joined the Union.

Iran and EAEU reached a preferential trade agreement in 2018, based on which about 862 commodity items are currently subject to preferential tariffs.

The agreement came into effect on October 27, 2019.

Earlier this month, Iranian Industry, Mining, and Trade Minister Mohammad Atabak and Andrey Slepnev, the minister in charge of trade of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), discussed ways of expanding economic cooperation in a meeting on the sidelines of the Eurasian Business Forum in Armenia.

In the meeting, the Iranian side emphasized the need to establish an insurance company under the Eurasian Economic Union to provide the necessary guarantees regarding Iran's technical and engineering exports to the region.

The two sides also discussed the increase in trade between Iran and the Eurasian Economic Union and the implementation of the FTA.

Another focal point of the negotiations was the unification of the standards of the member countries of the EAEU with Iran to facilitate exports to the union.

In this meeting, the Iranian industry minister invited Slepnev to visit the third round of the Eurasia Exhibition in Iran.

The 3rd Eurasian International Exhibition in Iran is scheduled to be held at Tehran Permanent International Fairgrounds from December 3 to 6.

The periodic economic forum of the Eurasian Union was held on September 30 and October 1 in Yerevan, Armenia, and Iran was the special guest of this meeting.

reason why our capital market should not develop and reach at least 300 to 400 billion dollars of gross domestic product," he added.

Emphasizing that big steps should be taken in this regard, the official continued: "I have decided to work to this end with high motivation to play a small role in the development of the country."

The head of the Securities and Exchange Organization pointed to the capital market as a regulatory and supervisory body and said: "In this regard, our mission is to protect the rights of shareholders, promote market efficiency and facilitate capital formation, which are connected to each other like the sides of a triangle. But the question is, which of these factors can be the driving force as a more independent variable?"

"The important variable is the improvement of market efficiency, that is, the formation of more capital, which, in addition to increasing capital, also preserves the rights of shareholders," he finally said.

In late January, the deputy governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) stressed the need for diverse financing tools in the country, noting that such tools are currently being provided by the stock market.

"To reduce the speculative and profit-seeking activities of dealers in the country, financing tools should be diversified," Mohammad Shirjijan said.

"The capital market is an institution that directs capital to production in an efficient manner. Now, to accelerate the process of resource transfer and high productivity, the financing should be directed to the enterprises," the official explained.

# Capacity of Iran's renewable power plants to rise 500 MW by late Mar. 2025

TEHRAN - The capacity of Iran's renewable power plants is going to increase by 500 megawatts (MW) by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20, 2025), an official with Iran's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA) said.

"Considering the capacity of the new power plants under construction, the capacity of renewable power plants will increase by 500 megawatts by the end of the current year," Ali Shabnavard, the director general of SATBA's Office for Supervision of Construction and Production of Power Plants said.

This trend shows the serious determination of the Ministry of Energy and the government to overcome the imbalance of electricity supply and demand by the development of renewable energy in the country, he stressed.

He put the current nominal capacity of the country's renewables at 1,371 MW, adding that just last week 53 MW was added to the capacity of the country's renewable power plants.



Over the past few years, the Iranian government has taken serious measures to accelerate the growth and development of renewable energies in the country.

Diversification of financing models for renewable projects, increasing the ceiling of guaranteed electricity purchase, providing the possibility of buying and selling renewable electricity in the green board of the Iran Energy Exchange (IRENEX), and providing the possibility of exporting renewable electricity have been the most important measures taken for this purpose.

Iranian Energy Ministry has also put it on the agenda to add 10,000 MW to the capacity of the country's renewable power plants by the end of 2025.

In January 2022, the Energy Ministry and some of the country's private contractors signed memorandums of understanding (MOU) to cooperate in the construction of new renewable power plants across the country.

Iranian renewable power plants generated 264 million kilowatt-hours (Kwh) of electricity in the fifth Iranian calendar month of Mordad (July 22-August 22), registering a

23-percent growth compared to the same month in the previous year.

According to SATBA data, renewable power plants generated over 1280 Kwh of electricity since the beginning of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20).

The electricity generated by renewable sources also increased by nine percent in the fourth Iranian calendar month of Tir (ended on July 21) compared to a month earlier.

In late July, SATBA Head Mahmoud Kamani said 600 renewable power plants with a total capacity of 13,500 MW are under construction across the country and with these power plants going operational the share of renewables in Iran's power generation will reach 15 percent.

"We hope that by implementing these power plants, the share of renewable energies in Iran's electricity production will increase to more than 15 percent in the next two years," Kamani said.

## Iran-Turkey 7-month non-oil trade stands at \$9.9b

TEHRAN- The value of non-oil trade between Iran and Turkey stood at \$9.9 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 Rezvani said that Turkey was the second top trade partner of Iran among its neighbors in the seven-month period.

As previously announced, Iran exported non-oil goods worth \$2.4 billion to Turkey in the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-September 22).

Turkey was the fourth export destination of Iran among its other neighbors during the six-month period.

Iran also imported commodities worth \$5.1 billion from Turkey, which made the country the third source of import for Iran in the first half of the year.

During a meeting between a delegation of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines, and Agriculture (TCCIMA) and the senior directors of the Turkish Exporters Union (TIM), the two sides explored the ways to improve and develop trade relations between the private sectors of the two countries.

In the meeting, held at the place of TIM in Istanbul, in the first week of September, the areas of development of commercial cooperation between the private sectors of the two countries were discussed and the use of advantages and capacities in the fields of tourism, food, textile and pharmaceutical industries was emphasized, the TCCIMA portal reported.

In this meeting, TCCIMA Head Mahmoud Najafi-Arab referring to the trade balance of 1.6 billion dollars between the two coun-

tries, which is also positive for Turkey, mentioned the re-export of some Iranian products through this country as one of the opportunities to optimize the trade relations between the two countries.

Recalling that Turkey has great power and experience in the field of tourism, he mentioned the use of the capacity of Turkish tourism companies to cooperate with the Iranian tourism industry and to increase the attraction of foreign tourists to Iran as another area of development of relations between these two neighboring countries.

Najafi-Arab also pointed to Iran's high power and knowledge in the textile industry and said that by setting up a joint cooperation program, the global expertise of Turkish companies can be used to strengthen the branding of Iranian products in international markets.

The TCCIMA head then pointed to the technical knowledge and expertise of Iranian companies in the pharmaceutical industry, especially in biotech drugs and probiotic industries, and emphasized on strengthening cooperation between the two countries in these sectors.

Addressing the same meeting, TIM Deputy Chairman Ahmet Gulec explained about this large Turkish private sector union and reminded that currently 150,000 Turkish exporters are members of this union and 61 export associations of this country also form the body of this large entity.

According to him, this union covers 27 product groups in the agricultural, industrial, mining and service sectors, and supporting Turkish exporters for their greater presence in the world markets is one of the main goals of the union.

He further put the export value of Turkey in 2023 at \$357 billion and the import value at \$410 billion, and reminded that the country plans to rise the value of products export to \$375 billion and the value of services export to \$200 billion by 2028.

He called the joint investment and the construction of Turkish factories in Iran and vice versa, among the capacities of joint cooperation and reminded that the TIM is ready to cooperate and interact with the TCCIMA to strengthen and develop the exports of the companies of the two countries.

In early July, Director of Asia and the Pacific Office of the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) International Affairs Department Niloufar Asadi said a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Iran and Turkey should replace the previous trade agreements between the two countries to boost economic exchanges.

In a meeting with the Consul General of Iran in Istanbul, Asadi referred to a previously reached preferential trade agreement between Iran and Turkey under the framework of the Group of Eight Developing Islamic Countries (D8) and said: "Considering the shortcomings of the previously signed preferential trade agreement and the necessity to improve and develop it, I suggest that a free trade agreement between the two countries replaces the previous agreements."

During a meeting on October 29 between Iranian Minister of Transport and Urban Development Farzaneh Sadeh and Turkish Ambassador to Tehran Hicabi Kirlangic, the Iranian minister said Iran and Turkey play a fundamental role in regional transit and freight transportation as the bridge between East and West.

## TEDPIX drops 8,800 points on Sunday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), fell 8,876 points to 2,137,971 on Sunday, which is the second day of the Iranian calendar week.

TSE is one of the four Iranian stock exchanges, and the most important one. The other three ones are Iran Mercantile Exchange (IME), Iran Energy Exchange (IRENEX), and Iran's over-the-counter (OTC) market, known as Iran Fara Bourse (IFB).

In mid-September, the head of Iran Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO) said the entity will take the necessary measures to ensure that the direct and indirect interests of the stock market are considered in next year's budget bill.

"We are taking special measures in relation to the budget bill and issues that directly or indirectly affect the capital market," Hojatollah Seyedi stated.

He has also said that improving the stock market's efficiency is the main priority of the SEO in the current government administration

"In the 14th government, our mission is to protect the rights and interests of shareholders, facilitate the formation of capital, and improve the efficiency of the market which is the priority of the SEO programs," Seyedi underlined.

"The capacities of the capital market are huge and I believe that this market has room for a leap and now we are on the threshold of that leap," the official further noted.

"Now, in addition to great capital and capabilities of the companies, we have powerful workforces, investors and competent managers in the market, so there is no

## Iran's rice production rises 10% with cultivation methods

TEHRAN - Director of Agriculture Ministry's Wheat and Rice Plan Sohrab Sohrabi says using new cultivation methods has increased Iran's rice production

by 10 percent in the current crop year compared to last year.

Stating that 16 percent of the country's rice is harvested by the ratooning method, Sohrabi said:

"The use of high-yielding seeds, flattening of land and implementing new cultivation methods have increased the amount of rice production in the country."

According to the official, the country's rice production reached 2.7 million tons in the current year, which is a new record high.

## Govt. takes new measures to manage production financing

TEHRAN - Iranian Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Abdolnaser Hemmati has said important decisions have been made by the government's economic coordination headquarters regarding production financing.

"Today, important and good decisions were made in the monetary and financial field at the government's economic coordination



headquarters regarding production financing," Hemmati wrote on his social media.

"The purpose of these decisions is to reduce the liquidity bottlenecks, facilitate and develop financial resources, and adjust the effective financing rates for supporting production growth," the minister said.

## Iranian companies take part in EIMA 2024

TEHRAN - Representatives of Iranian private sector have participated in the 46th edition of EIMA International, the world exhibition of agricultural me-

chanics that was held from 6 to 10 November 2024 in Bologna, Italy.

AS IRIB reported, nearly 1750

companies from 50 different countries including Iran participated in EIMA 2024.

Over 60,000 models of mod-

ern agricultural machines, tools and equipment that are supposed to help the future of world agriculture were showcased in this year's event.

# Israel should be fired

## United against apartheid: More than 500 scholars ask UNGA to unseat Israel for violating intl. law

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN- Since its establishment in 1948, Israel has brazenly violated international law in the wake of its atrocious crimes in Palestine and beyond.

Israel's blatant disregard for international conventions has become increasingly evident since the regime initiated its campaign of genocide against Gaza on October 7, 2023.

Israel stands accused of genocide at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) amid its massacres in the besieged Palestinian territory. The genocidal case was brought up by South Africa.

In late January this year, the ICJ ordered Israel to do all it can to prevent death, destruction and any acts of genocide in Gaza. But Israel turned a blind eye to the ruling and continued its deadly strikes in the Gaza Strip.

Over a year into the Gaza onslaught, Israel has killed more than 43,600 Palestinians in the enclave. According to a UN analysis of verified deaths released on Friday, nearly 70% of the victims have been women and children.

Meanwhile, the ICC chief prosecutor has been seeking arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his former war minister Yoav Gallant. In May, Karim Khan called on the court to consider the arrest warrants against Netanyahu and Gallant over committing war crimes and crimes against humanity in the Gaza Strip.

But Israel and its main West-



Israel has slaughtered more than 43,600 Palestinians in Gaza since launching war on the territory in October last year.

ern supporters have intensified pressure on the ICC to drop the case.

Against the backdrop of such violations, more than 500 scholars and practitioners of international law, international relations, conflict studies, politics and genocide studies have urged the United Nations General Assembly and its member states to unseat Israel from the world body.

In a joint letter, they outlined a comprehensive array of violations committed by Israel over the past decades.

It pointed to the consistent breach of resolutions issued by the Security Council and the General Assembly as well as ICJ rulings.

The signatories said the UN

General Assembly should fire Israel as it expelled apartheid South Africa in 1974.

"To permit Israel to continue participating in the General Assembly as it commits grave illegalities that pose a threat to international peace and security in contravention of the premises of the UN Charter aggravates a crisis of legitimacy in the international legal order," they said.

The letter added, "The unseating of the Israeli state, by contrast, signals that the General Assembly, as well as the UN more broadly, remains dedicated to defending and protecting the rights and principles upon which the UN was founded nearly eighty years ago."

The letter brings to mind the Israeli UN ambassador's utter

contempt for international law at a General Assembly session back in May.

On May 11, Gilad Erdan pulled out a paper shredder at the podium of the General Assembly and shredded a copy of the UN Charter. He wanted to vent his anger at the assembly's resolution in support of Palestinian membership.

### Historic boycott

Last month, more than 1,100 authors also launched "a mass boycott of Israeli publishers complicit in the dispossession of the Palestinian people."

A coalition of solidarity groups said in a press statement that the declaration was the biggest cultural boycott against Israeli institutions in history.

"Signatories have stated that they cannot in good conscience engage with Israeli institutions without interrogating their relationship to apartheid and displacement," it said.

Global resentment against Israel's decades-long atrocities in Palestine has been growing in the face of the Gaza carnage.

The Israeli apartheid regime is experiencing unprecedented international isolation due to its brutal war in Gaza which has expanded into Lebanon.

Israel's growing isolation is rooted in the resilience of Palestinians and the stiff resistance put up by Hamas on the battlefield against Israeli forces who are armed to the teeth.

## Israeli news outlet admits ethnic cleansing in northern Gaza

From page 1 ▶ In an editorial on November 6, the newspaper said, "The Israeli public must look at what its army is doing in its name in the northern Gaza Strip straight in the face. In early October, the Israel Defense Forces announced a military operation, and for more than a month now, the area around the towns of Jabalya, Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahia have been under a tight siege."

The paper said a UN official has called it, "A siege within a siege within a siege."

In an analysis, the newspaper said the Israeli military "has expelled residents from the northern quarter of Gaza and is preparing to keep hold of the area. It said, "This raises concerns that, contrary to his declarations, Netanyahu plans to realize the resettlement vision

of his extreme-right partners – even at the cost of the hostages' lives."

Kubovich, quoting the military, also reported on November 8 that Israel won't allow residents to return to their homes in the north.

"No one is returning to the northern area. There is no return to the north, and there will not be," military sources said, Kubovich said.

### "Targeting anyone remaining in northern Gaza"

"The military acknowledged that this is the implementation of 'certain parts' of the 'General's Plan,' developed by retired senior officers, which calls for the forcible expulsion of the entire Palestinian population to the southern half of Gaza, south of the Netzarim corridor (the

Gaza River area)," Haaretz's Kubovich said.

He added, "According to the plan, anyone choosing to remain in northern Gaza would be considered a Hamas militant and could be targeted. The plan also called for blocking the entry of humanitarian aid into the north."

The acknowledgment by the newspaper, which seriously criticizes Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's policies, adds to the growing global outrage on what the Israeli occupation forces are doing in Gaza.

Analysts have pointed out that while Haaretz has spoken out against Netanyahu and the war on Gaza, it does not necessarily mean that the news organization has turned pro-Palestine.

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

## Palestine issue: Both the symptom and the root cause should be addressed

From page 1 ▶ The last thirteen months have seen the most serious humanitarian disaster in the Gaza Strip as caused deliberately by human behaviors. More than 43,000 people have lost their lives, most of them women and children. More than 86% of buildings in Gaza, according to reports, have been destroyed since October 2023. About 2 million people have been forced to move from one place to another time and again. Potential physical casualties and trauma are even harder to assess

Immediate ceasefire, as a precondition for any humanitarian relief, should prevail anything at the current stage of the conflict. Hamas's proposal for the permanent withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Gaza Strip is reasonable, but Israel's ambition is to keep the permanent freedom of taking military actions in Gaza, which is implied in Israel's statement of the so-called new security mechanism. Despite difficulties, the international community should conscientiously make more efforts to pressure Israel for an unconditional and sustainable ceasefire. Otherwise, the humanitarian situation will grow even worse.

Besides the most urgent issue, the international community will have to work together to address the root cause of the issue. A Chinese medical saying goes that we need to treat the symptoms first when the disease is acute and treat the root cause when the disease becomes mild. The acute humanitarian disaster needs first-hand treatment to stop bleeding, but in the longer term, the international community will have to deal with some of the problems deeply behind the scenes. The current conflict is just one symptom of the disease, but if the root cause is not addressed, similar tensions could happen even more frequently. That is actually the reason why the stories of conflict have been repeated over the last decades.

Israel's approach to maximizing its territorial and security interests, which has gone too far beyond UN General Assembly resolution 181 in 1947, is the reason behind the lasting conflict and the current atrocities. But why can Israel stay on this approach for so many years without being held accountable? The reasons are simply there that Israel's aggressive policy has been unconditionally supported by external hegemonic actor.

For many years it was the U.S. that had supported Israel with its military building disproportionate to its requirement. The last year has seen that the U.S. not only had not reduced its assistance to Israel but had provided a large amount of military assistance

to Israel worth about 18 billion dollars, which had even encouraged Israel for its aggressive military actions in Gaza and other parts of the region. The U.S. has also provided political support in various multilateral institutions sheltering Israel from any punishment and adopted obvious double standards on Israel's nuclear program by intentionally closing its eyes.

The U.S. support and indulgence for Israel's maximalist approach constituted the root cause of Israel's aggressive policy. Without U.S. indulgence, Israel can never afford to pay the material and moral cost of its aggressions in the region.

Though the world has no reason to oppose the U.S. as a nation, it has every reason to oppose its hegemonic policy in the region, in particular on the Palestine issue.

Some would argue that resistance forces in the region are the causes of instability and turmoil in the region. Such an argument exists in the U.S. and European countries. It also exists in non-Western countries, which have been influenced by the narratives of the West. But in reality, it is reasonably argued that today's problem in the region and in some way in the world is that resistance against hegemony and power politics is far from enough.

Iran is among the very few countries that have contributed greatly to resistance against hegemonic policies of external actors in the region. Without Iran's resistance, the region could have been in a more dangerous situation, and the humanitarian situation in Palestine could be even more serious.

The U.S. remained, remains and will remain to be the single most powerful actor for a long time in the world and in the region as well. But, fortunately, the world has awakened to the double-standard policy of the U.S. regarding Gaza and is noticing the growing efforts to reverse U.S. hegemonic policy. The unity of the Muslim world, and BRICS and SCO, as two examples, are seeing robust development.

The future will naturally see the growing efforts to reverse the U.S. hegemonic policy. However, the world should also be sober that the decline of the U.S. power will be a very long process with ups and downs, and it could be even longer for the U.S. to give up its mentality of maintaining hegemonic policy. The approaching Trump presidency could see even worse trajectory. While being optimistic about the final outcome, the world needs to be patient and resolute as well.

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



Protesters march in Montreal, Canada, to condemn the Israeli genocidal war in Gaza and Lebanon.



People in the French capital, Paris, hold mass demonstrations in solidarity with Palestine and Lebanon.



A six-hour music event was performed by renowned artists at the University of Tokyo, Japan, in a show of support for Palestine.

## Unveiling Elam: The Dawn of Iranian Civilization at Persepolis



SHIRAZ - The National Museum of Iran inaugurated the exhibition "Elam: The Dawn of Iranian Civilization" at the Persepolis Museum on November 6.

The inauguration ceremony of the month-long exhibition was attended by the deputy minister of cultural heritage, Ali Darabi, the National Museum director, Jabreail Nokandeh, and Fars province's tourism chief, Mohammad Sabet-Eqlidi along with a host of cultural heritage enthusiasts and journalists.

The event, which coincided with the third International Multimedia Festival of Cultural Heritage, showcases 40 lesser-seen artifacts from ancient Elam, spanning periods such as the Proto-Elamite (2700-3300 BC), Old Elamite (1700-2400 BC), Middle Elamite (1500-1000 BC), Neo-Elamite (550-740 BC), and the Achaemenid era (Darius I, 522-486 BC).

The collection features gold, silver, and terracotta objects unearthed from significant archaeological sites including Susa (Royal city), Chogha Zanbil, Chogha Mish, Tall-e Malyan, Arisman, Sialk, Jalyan, Marvdasht, Arjan, Jubeji, and Persepolis. This marks the first independent exhibition dedicated to Elamite civilization, aiming to highlight the Elamite heritage of the Achaemenids, who regarded themselves as descendants of Elamite rulers from Anshan and Susa.

According to organizers, the exhibition seeks to connect the grandeur of the Achaemenid period with the rich cultures that preceded it.

## Glimpses of World Heritage sites: Iguazu National Park

Located in Misiones province in the northeastern tip of Argentina and bordering the Brazilian state of Parana to the north, Iguazu National Park, jointly with its sister park Iguacu in Brazil, is among the world's visually and acoustically most stunning natural sites for its massive waterfalls. The property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1984.

According to UNESCO, across a width of almost three kilometres the Iguazu or Iguacu River, drops vertically some 80 meters in a series of cataracts.

The river, aptly named after the indigenous term for "great water" forms a large bend in the shape of a horseshoe in the heart of the two parks and constitutes the international border between Argentina and Brazil before it flows into the mighty Parana River less than 25 kilometres downriver from the park. Large clouds of spray permanently soak the many river islands and the surrounding riverine forests, creating an extremely humid micro-climate favouring lush and dense sub-tropical vegetation harbouring a diverse fauna.

In addition to its striking natural beauty and the magnificent liaison between land and water Iguazu National Park and the neighbouring property constitute a significant remnant of the Atlantic Forest, one of the most threatened global con-

### Glimpses of Elamite Empire

The name Elam was given to the region by others— the Akkadians and Sumerians of Mesopotamia— and is thought to be their version of what the Elamites called themselves— Haltami (or Haltamti)— meaning "those of the high country." 'Elam', therefore, is usually translated to mean "highlands" or "high country" as it comprised settlements on the Iranian Plateau that stretched from the southern plains to the elevations of the Zagros Mountains.

Susa was formerly the capital of the Elamite Empire and later an administrative capital of the king of Achaemenian, Darius I and his successors of 522 BC. Throughout the late prehistoric periods, Elam was closely tied culturally to Mesopotamia. Later, perhaps because of domination by the Akkadian dynasty (c. 2334–c. 2154 BC), the Elamites adopted the Sumerian-Akkadian cuneiform script.

Documents from the second period, which lasted from the 16th to the 8th century BC, are written in cuneiform; the stage of the language found in these documents is sometimes called Old Elamite. The last period of Elamite texts is that of the reign of the Achaemenian kings of Persia (6th to 4th century BC), who used Elamite, along with Akkadian and Old Persian, in their inscriptions. The language of this period, also written in the cuneiform script, is often called New Elamite.

Although all three stages of Elamite have not been completely deciphered, several grammatical features of the language are known to scholars. These include a plural formation using the suffix -p, the personal pronouns, and the endings of several verb forms.

The Elamite language is an extinct language spoken by the Elamites in the ancient country of Elam, which included the region from the Mesopotamian plain to the Iranian Plateau. According to Britannica, Elamite documents from three historical periods have been found. The earliest Elamite writings are in a figurative or pictographic script and date from the middle of the 3rd millennium BC.

servation priorities. This forest biome historically covering large parts of the Brazilian coast and extending into Northern Argentina and Uruguay, as well as Eastern Paraguay, is known for its extreme habitat and species diversity, as well as its high degree of endemism.

Around 2000 plant species, including some 80 tree species have been suggested to occur in the property along with around 400 bird species, including the elusive Harpy Eagle. The parks are also home to some several wild cat species and rare species such as the broad-snouted Caiman.

Jointly with contiguous Iguacu National Park in Brazil, which was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1986, it constitutes one of the most significant remnants of the so-called Interior Atlantic Forest. Today, the parks are mostly surrounded by a landscape that has been strongly altered due to heavy logging, both historically and into the present, the intensification and expansion of both industrial and small-scale agriculture, plantation forestry for pulp and paper and rural settlements. Jointly, the two sister parks total around 240,000 hectares with this property's contribution being c. 67,000 hectares.

(Source: UNESCO)

# 19th-century Imam Jomeh House reopens after extensive restoration in downtown Tehran

By Afshin Majlesi

TEHRAN - A 19th-century house, named Khaneh Imam Jomeh or Khaneh Sadr-e Azam, reopened to the public on Sunday following a comprehensive restoration that spanned nearly five years.

Located in the heart of Tehran's Nasser Khosrow Street, near Imam Khomeini Square, the Qajar-era mansion is renowned for its intricate mirrorwork, vibrant plaster paintings, and delicate sash windows, which have made it one of Tehran's most exquisite historical houses.

The reopening ceremony was attended by several officials, including Vahidreza Anaraki, Tehran's District 12 Mayor, Shahab Talai-Shokri, the managing director of the Revitalization and Utilization Fund, and a number of city council members.

Speaking at the event, Nima Parafar, the private investor responsible for restoring the property, expressed satisfaction at overcoming bureaucratic hurdles to complete the project.

Originally budgeted at 30.7 billion rials, the restoration ultimately cost over 320 billion rials to address the extensive repairs required for the building's preservation, Parafar said.

"This mansion was in need of significant work to prevent deterioration," he added. "It's essential for historical buildings to generate income for maintenance, or else they fall into disrepair."

He said the restored mansion now includes spaces for hosting cultural events and a dedicated area for showcasing



fine Iranian handicrafts.

Khaneh Imam Jomeh, originally built as the residence of Mirza Aqa Khan Nuri, Prime Minister to Nasser al-Din Shah, has undergone several transformations. It was purchased in 1906 by Sayyed Abul-Qasim, the then-Imam of Tehran's Friday prayers, who contributed to its historical and cultural significance. The residence, now spanning about 1,000 square meters, is a fraction of its original 25,000 square meters.

Talai-Shokri stated that this restoration project exemplifies the government's renewed commitment to private-sector partnerships for maintaining Iran's rich architectural heritage.

"This restoration initiative in Tehran is intended as a model for municipalities across the country," he noted, adding that the government is drafting new policies to encourage private investment in restoring the estimated 10,000 privately owned historic structures nationwide.

The property, which was formerly managed by Iran's Ministry of Culture and Arts in the Pahlavi era, is now owned by the Iranian Fund for the Restoration and Exploitation of Historic Monuments, under the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts.

The Qajar-era mansion is renowned for its intricate mirrorwork, vibrant plaster paintings, and delicate sash windows.

Registered in Iran's National Heritage List in 1996, Khaneh Imam Jomeh stands as an emblem of Qajar-era architecture, symbolizing both historical gran-

deur and modern revival efforts in the Iranian capital.

The historic mansion has been leased for several years under conditions set by the Revitalization and Utilization Fund for Historical Places, provided the operator fulfills specific obligations.

Over the past few years, similar auctions have been conducted under close supervision by the Fund. However, some critics argue that leasing such sites does not always ensure better maintenance. Advocates of the program, on the other hand, contend that it offers a lifeline to prevent the gradual decay of historic monuments, emphasizing that limited government funding makes it challenging to restore all of these centuries-old sites independently.

Proponents also note that this model attracts private investors, as well-maintained historical accommodations appeal to both domestic and international tourists. The Fund, known by its Persian acronym Saabta, enables private businesses to manage and repurpose select historic sites, transforming them into hotels, traditional restaurants, or guest lodgings.

Iran is home to some of the world's oldest cultural treasures, including bazaars, museums, mosques, bridges, bathhouses, madrasas, and gardens, along with diverse natural and rural landscapes, 28 of which are listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites.

## Deputy minister highlights growing public role in Iran's handicrafts sector

From Page 1 ▶ "Handicrafts represent one of the most inclusive sectors for public involvement in production, sales, and exports," she said, emphasizing that the ministry has shifted its focus from individual efforts to organizational frameworks to bolster the industry.

The exhibition, taking place at the Tehran International Permanent Fairgrounds from November 13 to 16, is expected to draw artisans, craftspeople, and nomadic artists from all over Iran. For the first time, the exhibition will also offer a virtual format, allowing artisans to showcase their work online through apps like Basalam and several others.

As part of the new approach, the ministry is encouraging an integrated "ecosystem" for handicrafts to boost economic impact while preserving cultural identity.

The deputy minister noted, "In recent years, we've seen positive developments in the handicrafts sector... This has strengthened our support for artisans and helped integrate modern technology with traditional crafts."

This year's exhibition will emphasize rural and urban collaboration, with special attention on involving local leaders and organizations.

Jalali-Dehkordi pointed out that the 37th edition of the exhibition marks a clear shift in strategy, building upon both past experiences and the most recent guidance from national development policies, which now include a dedicated section for handicrafts



in Iran's Seventh National Development Plan.

In his remarks, Farzad Ojani, the secretary of the National Handicrafts Exhibition, emphasized that the ministry's new policies have focused on supporting marketing and restructuring fundamental frameworks. He highlighted the role of the private sector in advancing Iran's handicraft industry and enhancing the quality of Iranian handicrafts in the global market.

Last week, the Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian officially issued the National Document for the Development of Handicrafts, as a pivotal step to bolster the country's traditional arts and crafts sector.

The document, approved during the 903rd session of the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution on August 27, sets a comprehensive framework for revitalizing and promoting Iranian handicrafts on national and international stages.

The directive has been communicated to a wide range of governmental bodies, including the Ministries of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts; Economy; Foreign Affairs; Education; Agriculture; and Industry, among others. Key organizations like the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting, the National Iranian Standards Organization, and various chambers of commerce will also play roles in the document's execution.

The national strategy underscores the role of handicrafts as a cultural pillar, aiming to preserve and modernize traditional Iranian crafts while enhancing their contribution to the national economy. According to the document's text, its objectives include increasing the share of handicrafts in the GDP, expanding domestic and international markets, and promoting the cultural identity embedded in these crafts.

The document also highlights the need for technological integration, urging adaptation to innovations such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, and the metaverse to ensure the sector remains competitive and relevant in a rapidly evolving global market.

Currently, a selection of 13 cities and three villages in Iran have been registered by the World Council of Handicrafts as "world cities of handicrafts".

## Young Chinese ditching planes to travel long distances by bus and train

Lin En could have easily reached his destination in six hours had he caught a flight.

But during a trip earlier this year, the 23-year-old opted for a bus ride that took three days to cross from Xinjiang, in China's northwest, to Astana, Kazakhstan's capital.

Make no mistake. There was no premium in-bus entertainment, first-class dining or specially designed ergonomic seats on offer that made the ride particularly enjoyable.

The journey was a grueling one. The tens of

hours Lin spent strapped upright to his seat gave him unbearable back pain, as he later testified in a vlog on Chinese social media platform Xiaohongshu (Little Red Book).

But he kept doing it again and again. Over the past year, Lin has made several similar trips relying solely on ultra long-haul bus and train rides to get to his chosen destinations.

He isn't alone. A growing group of Chinese travelers are now turning to extreme forms of transportation for their vacations.

Most of them are young travelers, including recent university graduates, who have more free time than money.

Economic uncertainties brought by China's protracted property crisis, weak consumer demand and high youth unemployment rates also means young travelers are more inclined to look for cheap adventures.

Many of these travelers still seize rare opportunities to have fun, trying out local delicacies during stopovers and making friends along the way.

Traveling on overnight buses is pretty standard for backpackers around the world, but their Chinese counterparts have taken the challenge to another level.

For Lin's trip to Astana, the journey began at 6am from a bus station in Xinjiang. Minus a few intermittent breaks, he spent a total of 46 hours on the bus.

Every few hours, he had the luxury of stretching his legs when the driver pulled over for him and other passengers to get food.

On top of that, he spent most of the trip sitting with his back straight up.

"I couldn't sleep at all because of my back pain, so I just stayed up all night," he said in his Xiaohongshu video. "By the next morning, I was totally wiped out."

"Every minute after that was torture. I wanted to get there early — even more desperate than the driver!" he recalled.

(Source: CNN)

# Community-based rehabilitation covers 95% of rural population

TEHRAN – Some 95 percent of the country's rural population with about 450 thousand people with disabilities are covered by a community-based rehabilitation program.

The CBR program started in 1994, aiming to reduce poverty, IRNA quoted Fatemeh Abbasi, an official with the State Welfare Organization, as saying.

This program is carried out through the joint efforts of people with disabilities, their families, organizations and communities, and other governmental and non-governmental entities, especially in the fields of health, education, livelihood, and social affairs, she explained.

Currently, the activities of the community-based rehabilitation program are mainly focused on the access of people with disabilities to services in the fields of health, education, social empowerment, and rehabilitation, the official added.

She went on to say that these measures are carried out in cooperation with the ministry of interior, the ministry of health, the ministry of health, the ministry of sport, and non-governmental organizations, as well as the participation of community members through voluntary work or the formation of village or neighborhood CBR councils.

"For the time being, 1751 non-governmental institutions and 9176 community-based rehabilitation councils are cooperating with



us in the implementation of this program."

## CBR development strategy

CBR is a community development strategy that aims to enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities and their families and ensure their inclusion and participation in the community.

CBR was initially launched by the World Health Organization as a strategy to increase access to rehabilitation services at the community level for people with disabilities, but it has evolved into a much broader and multisectoral approach to community-based inclusive development.

It aims to achieve rehabilitation, equalization of opportunities and social inclusion by involving people with disabilities in community development processes. It presents an opportunity to operationalize

the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

CBR is implemented through the combined efforts of people with disabilities, their families, disabled people's organizations (DPOs), other community stakeholders including nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and relevant governmental bodies, particularly those responsible for health, education, vocational, and social services.

The program uses a grassroots approach to guide development priorities, mobilizes local capacity and resources, uses community strengths and structures, and often fills community service gaps.

## Rural development

Villagers and nomads play a vital role in the political, economic, and social developments of Iran. So, October 7 was declared in 2013 as the National

Day of Village and Nomads.

Despite their low population, they have a great contribution to all-out national development.

Although oil, industry, and service sectors hold a significant share of the national economy, the rural and nomadic economy is considered an inexhaustible source for the nation, compared to exhaustible natural resources.

Living far from pollution and current problems of cities and being less dependent on oil resources, they play a critical role in sustainable development.

Villagers and nomads take the lead in providing food, food security, and healthy food production.

They have a major role in the tourism and handicraft industry and they are sources of many cultures and traditions in the country playing an important role in ensuring the country's security, especially in borders and remote areas.

Some 25 percent of the country's population lives in villages, producing around 70 percent of food for the domestic market.

Currently, more than 90 percent of agricultural and food products are produced in villages. Some 25 percent of the country's meat products and 35 percent of handicrafts, as well as a major part of organic dairy products, including vegetable oil, milk, curd, and other materials, are produced by nomads.

## COP29 an opportunity to condemn sanctions on Iran's environment

TEHRAN –While the main focus of the United Nations Climate Change Conference, known as COP29, is to develop funds to help nations reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, illegal US sanctions have denied Iran's access to the needed technologies and financial resources.

The 29th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change will take place in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 11 to 22 November 2024.

A key focus of COP29 will be on finance, as trillions of dollars are required for countries to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect lives and livelihoods from the worsening impacts of climate change.

The main goals of the convention include stabilizing the greenhouse gas concentration in the earth's atmosphere, submitting periodic reports on the national climate change situation, and the amount of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as implementing programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Among the key priorities of COP 29 are securing a new goal on climate finance, ensuring every country has the means to take much stronger climate action, slashing greenhouse gas emissions, and building resilient communities.

The fact is that some countries have played the greatest role in the destruction of the environment, and they have the most facilities to prevent the resulting crisis.

However, there are countries that have done the least to contribute to environmental destruction. By imposing unfair sanctions, the first group has deprived the second of their rights to access needed resources to tackle these problems.

Iran is one of the countries that has been greatly affected by climate change. However, coercive measures have deprived the country of its rights in many sectors including the environment.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate the effects of climate change requires substantial funding to update technologies and make sure industries are efficient enough to emit less pollution into the atmosphere.

Iran's participation in COP29 is of great importance. Attending the conference will serve as an opportunity to hold international negotiations to defend the rights and interests of the country and call for ending cruel sanctions.

It should be noted that environmental issues are cross-border; when dust rises from a country like Iraq, Iran, and other neighboring countries are also affected. In such a situation, sanctions and restrictions are meaningless.

Developed countries committed to contribute 100 billion dollars by 2025, that is, by the next year, for developing countries to adapt to climate change and cut greenhouse gas emissions.

Considering the unfair financial sanctions of the United States against Iran, benefiting from the funds should be one of the main focuses of the Iranian delegation's negotiations.

Therefore, consultations in various sectors, particularly economic aspects, are of significance.

Hence, Iran will use the opportunity of COP 29 to raise the issue of the unfair sanctions imposed on the country to pave the way to utilize international environmental funds.

Despite all the unfair restrictions and sanctions, Iran has so far taken appropriate national measures to implement the provisions of the Climate Change Convention.

These measures include drafting a low-carbon economy document, a national climate change strategy plan, adding the issue of climate change to the seventh national development plan (2023-2027), and establishing the national climate change working group.

One of the important issues for the country in the climate change negotiations is emphasizing the country's vulnerability to climate change impacts, dealing with the issue of sand and dust storms originating from cross-border hotspots, and oppressive sanctions that prevent the import of technology and technical assistance required for imple-



menting the provisions of the convention.

Considering the importance of dealing with climate change and the use of international facilities, and world-class technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, Iran intends to attract suitable resources to implement plans focusing on lowering carbon dioxide production by calling on international communities to refrain from implementing unilateral unfair sanctions.

The Iranian delegation will be headed by President Masoud Pezeshkian.

President Pezeshkian's participation in COP29 can foster greater synergy in managing external dust sources in neighboring countries and removing barriers to joining the Paris Agreement.

Climate change is an important and serious issue, but it has not been taken seriously. A large number of current problems in the country are caused by the instability of water sources and global warming.

In this situation, the presence of the president can have a positive effect on the conference.

The president's attendance will be a credit to Iran's presence at the conference. It will also bolster the credibility of the country's efforts in addressing the challenges and significantly provide an opportunity for negotiating on environmental issues.

## 7th development plan on environmental issues

In the Seventh Development Plan, whose general policies were announced on September 2022 and the text of the bill was sent to the Iranian parliament (Majlis) for approval on May 2023, the "environmental issues" are mostly cited under the heading of "infrastructure affairs".

The importance of Iran's environment and protection is not taken considerably into account in the implementation of the 7th development plan of I.R. Iran, and we believe that various parts of Iran's life territorial stability, and national security will be exposed to more threats and gradual destruction.

Drought, population increase, air pollution, climate change, industrial and agricultural production, sanctions, inefficient use of water and natural resources, and non-implementation of existing environmental regulations fuel the existing environmental crisis.

## COP 29

UN Climate Change Conferences (or COPs) take place every year, and are the world's only multilateral decision-making forum on climate change that brings together almost every country on Earth.

To put it simply, the COP is where the world comes together to agree on the actions to address the climate crisis, such as limiting the global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, helping vulnerable communities adapt to the effects of climate change, and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

COP 29 will bring together world leaders and negotiators from the member states (or Parties) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to further global progress, with business leaders, young people, climate scientists, Indigenous Peoples, and civil society sharing insights and best practices to strengthen global, collective and inclusive climate action.

Also in focus will be the next round of national climate plans, or NDCs, currently being developed by countries ahead of next year's deadline and ensuring these bolder, fully implementable, and investable strategies and targets are economy-wide, focus on transitioning away from fossil fuels, and keep the world on track to 1.5 degrees of warming.

## GII 2024: Iran moves up in technology output, business sophistication

TEHRAN – According to the 2024 edition of the Global Innovation Index (GII) report, the Islamic Republic of Iran's ranking in knowledge and technology output, as well as business sophistication has improved from 55 and 117 in 2023 to 49 and 110 in 2024, respectively.

Also, the country's ranking in market sophistication and infrastructure has risen by two positions from 19 and 97 in 2023 to 17 and 95 in 2024.

However, Iran's ranking in creative output, human research, and capital, as well as institutions has lowered compared to 2023.

The Global Innovation Index ranks the world's leading economies according to their innovation capabilities.

According to this year's report, Iran ranks second among the countries of the Central and Southern Asian region, unchanged compared with the last two years.

India and Kazakhstan ranked first and third, respectively.

Iran ranks 5 among the 38 lower-middle-income group economies, which has improved compared to the 2023 ranking (6).



However, the country's ranking, among the 133 economies featured in the GII 2024, has dropped from 62 in 2023 to 64 this year.

Switzerland secured the first rank in the GII 2024 report with a score of 67.5 for the 14th consecutive year, closely followed by Sweden and the U.S. at the second and third positions with scores of 64.5 and 62.4, respectively.

As stated in the 2024 edition, over the past four years (2020-2024), the statistical confidence interval for the ranking of Iran in the GII 2024 is between ranks 56 and 80.

Iran performed better in innovation outputs (48) than in innovation inputs (85) in 2024.

Published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the report ranks Iran first in Market capitalization, and Trademarks by origin.

It ranks 3, 5, 8, 17, 19, 23, and 35 in Software spending, Gross capital formation, Graduates in science and engineering, market sophistication, Domestic market scale, Intangible asset intensity, and Tertiary education, respectively.

Iran (Islamic Republic of) ranks highest in Market sophistication (17), Knowledge and technology outputs (49), Creative outputs (52), and Human capital and research (64).

Iran (Islamic Republic of) ranks lowest in Institutions (133), Business sophistication (110), and Infrastructure (95).

The GII has ranked Tehran as the world's 38th-largest science and technology (S&T) cluster this year, down from 35 last year, according to a report released on Tuesday by the UN's WIPO.

## ENGLISH IN USE

### LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

## Iran exports medical equipment to 55 countries worldwide

Some 105 medical equipment produced by 23 Iranian companies are exported to 55 countries across the world, Reza Masaeli, an advisor to the health minister said on Sunday. "Currently, a total of 280,000 medical equipment is produced in the country," Fars quoted Masaeli as saying. "In recent years, the production of medical equipment in Iran has increased by 9 percent," he added. One of the main strategies of the Health Ministry is to boost exports, he said, adding that Iran exports medical equipment to 55 countries including Russia, Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Croatia.

## تجهیزات پزشکی ایرانی به ۵۵ کشور دنیا صادر می شود

مشاور وزیر بهداشت گفت: در حال حاضر ۱۰۵ محصول تجهیزات پزشکی ایرانی که توسط ۲۳ شرکت ایرانی تولید می شود، به ۵۵ کشور جهان صادر می شود. به گزارش فارس، رضا مسائلی، اظهار داشت: در کشور بیش از ۲۸۰ هزار قلم تجهیزات پزشکی در کشور وجود دارد و در سال های اخیر، تولیدات تجهیزات پزشکی در جمهوری اسلامی ایران، ۹ درصد افزایش داشته است. وی توجه به صادرات را یکی از مهمترین راهبردهای اساسی وزارت بهداشت در راستای حمایت از تولیدات داخلی دانست و افزود: در حال حاضر ۱۰۵ محصول تجهیزات پزشکی ایرانی که توسط ۲۳ شرکت ایرانی تولید می شود، به ۵۵ کشور جهان از جمله کشورهای روسیه، آلمان، ایتالیا، بلژیک، هلند و کرواسی صادر می شود.



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## GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

*A wise man first thinks and then speaks and a fool speaks first and then thinks.*

**Imam Ali (AS)**

Prayer Times > Noon:11:48 Evening: 17:19 Dawn: 5:11 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:37 (tomorrow)

## Book on political career of Jean-Bedel Bokassa published in Persian

TEHRAN-The Persian translation of the book "Dark Age: The Political Odyssey of Emperor Bokassa" written by Brian Titley has been released in the book market across Iran.

Hamid Hashemi Kohandani has translated the book and Vazn-e Donya (literally meaning Weight of the World) Publication has published it, Mehr reported.

Originally published in 1997, the book recounts the turbulent political career of Jean-Bedel Bokassa (1921-1996), the flamboyant president-for-life and later emperor of the Central African Republic (CAR)/Empire.

It examines the myths and legends surrounding the man, and attempts to provide a balanced view of this controversial figure.

Following a lengthy career in the French Army, Bokassa seized power in the Central African Republic in 1966.

His flamboyance and excesses soon became legendary: he was accused of cannibalism, feeding enemies to lions and crocodiles, and beating schoolchildren to death.

Bokassa's tendency for self-aggrandizement culminated in 1977 when he named himself emperor and orchestrated a coronation in the style of Napoleon's. He was overthrown by French paratroopers in 1979 and went into exile, but returned to his homeland in 1985 to face a sensational trial.

Titley interprets Bokassa's authoritarian and self-aggrandizing style as an attempt to legitimize his regime in a context devoid of indigenous political structures and explores the troubled relations between France and its former colonies. Combining techniques of historical inquiry and investigative journalism, he has produced a fascinating account of a pivotal chapter in contemporary African history.

The author's examination of the actual nature of Bokassa's rule reveals a more complex picture than the commonly drawn

caricature.

The Napoleonic nation-building myth adopted by Bokassa was nearly as alien to his own country, Titley argues. Were it not for the poverty and strategic marginality of the CAR during the Cold War, the rest of the world might have taken Bokassa more seriously.

Titley finds a paradox in Bokassa's Napoleonic pretensions.

Although French imperial rule left the CAR a social and economic wreck, the country's postcolonial rulers felt varying degrees of extreme material, political, and even psychological dependence on French power.

Titley notes that Bokassa himself spent 20 years in the French military and held dual citizenship. Indeed, French officers handpicked him to lead the newly independent state's army precisely for his seeming lack of attachment to anything African.

Brian Titley is professor emeritus in the Faculty of Education, the University of Lethbridge.

A native of Cork, Ireland, he completed an undergraduate degree in history at the National University of Ireland before emigrating to Canada where he spent a number of years teaching in public schools. A B.Ed. and M.Ed. from the University of Manitoba followed, and in 1980 he earned a Ph.D. in the history of education from the University of Alberta. After a decade teaching in the Faculty of Education, the University of Alberta, he resigned his position to move to the Faculty of Education at the University of Lethbridge.

Brian's research interests have always been eclectic and he has six books to his name that examine authority and resistance in diverse historical epochs and settings: Africa, Canada, Ireland, and the U.S.

Brian has also produced more than 40 book chapters and articles and has contributed eight essays to the Dictionary of Canadian Biography.

## Cartoon of Day



No More Zombies in Amsterdam

Cartoonist: Mo Qasem from the Netherlands

# From Turkey to Iran: Onur Kaya shares his journey in children's theater

By Samaneh Aboutalebi

HAMEDAN- Turkish artist Onur Kaya brought his unique talents to the vibrant city of Hamedan as part of the international section of the 29th edition of Iran's International Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults, held from November 1 to 7.

In a 20-minute pantomime, Kaya impressed audiences with his artistry and shared his reflections on the world of children's theater.

In an interview with the Tehran Times, Kaya expressed his initial surprise upon discovering that the children's theater in Hamedan has been running for such a long time—specifically, for 29 years. "I did not know that Hamedan's children's theater has been ongoing for so long," he confessed.

He spoke positively about the long-established festival, noting that its history has cultivated a culture and audience for children's theater in the region. "My impressions of the festival are good. In my country, it is done largely in a similar way," he explained, drawing parallels between the theatrical landscapes of Turkey and Iran.

He praised the festival for its longevity and the high quality of participating groups, remarking, "Hamedan is a very good and modern city in Iran, and what is surprising is the number and quality of several theater venues around the city."

When asked about the themes that resonate within children's theatrical productions, Kaya emphasized that children's theater does not always have to convey a specific message. "I do not think children's theater should always have a specific message," he stated. While he recognizes the value of educational aspects, he believes the primary goal should be entertainment: "This in itself has many benefits."

Describing his creative process, Kaya pointed to his background in pedagogy as a vital component in working with children. "When



Turkish artist Onur Kaya performs during the 29th Iran's International Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults in Hamedan.

working with children, we should consider games specific to their age group," he noted. He underlined the importance of creating experiences that respect the innocence of childhood, asserting that theater for young audiences should be engaging without being overly didactic.

Kaya reflected on how Iranian children engage with performances, noting, "There is no difference between children in Iran and children in other countries. They are all participants, they are all excited, they are all full of energy."

Looking ahead, Kaya expressed enthusiasm about potential collaborations between Iranian and Turkish artists. "Cultural fusion and collaboration could be a good idea," he said, sharing his desire to stage a theater play featuring actors from both countries. He also mentioned his work as a producer, emphasizing the potential richness of storytelling that could arise from intercultural projects.

Regarding the educational impact of theater, Kaya asserted that the lessons imparted begin even before children enter the theater.

"What it brings to children should start at the door before entering the theater," he explained. He emphasizes the importance of teaching children values such as punctuality and planning while also providing experiential learning opportunities through engaging performances.

Kaya further discussed the broader implications of children's theater in fostering cultural understanding. He recognized the intrinsic value of international collaborations, declaring, "Getting to know directors from other countries is beneficial in itself." He believes that such interactions can cultivate a deeper understanding among diverse communities.

In closing, Kaya expressed hope for a more connected world, free from geopolitical tensions. "I hope that in the near future the world will be as soft and peaceful as a child's heart," he remarked.

The 29th Iran's International Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults was organized by the Dramatic Arts Center of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, supported by Hamedan Municipality and in partnership with the Hamedan province's Cultural and Islamic Guidance Office, as well as the Iranian Dramatic Arts Association.

Six international groups from Uzbekistan, Armenia, Iraq, Brazil, Turkey, and Russia, as well as special guests from Morocco, attended this edition of the festival.

The event aimed at enhancing unity and companionship, growth, awareness, and the confidence of Iranian children through the medium of theater 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 was held from November 1 to 7.

## Music producer Ardavan Jafarian appointed as vice-president of International Music Council

TEHRAN-Iranian music producer, festival manager, and composer Ardavan Jafarian has been appointed as the vice-president of the International Music Council (IMC) based at UNESCO's headquarters in Paris.

As the representative of Iran's Music Publishers Guild (IPPG), Jafarian has been a member of the Executive Board of the IMC since 2019, Mehr reported.

In the latest session of the UNESCO International Music Council board, Jafarian was elected as the vice-president of the Council upon the suggestion of Sheila Woodward, the president of the Council.

"It was also decided that I would be responsible for the training and development of Arab countries within the Council," Jafarian said.

"The 40th session of the executive board of the UNESCO International Music Council is comprised of representatives from the U.S., Belgium, Finland, Ireland, Mali, Brazil, Egypt, Thailand, and Kenya. Board members of this council are elected by direct vote of the members, and the management term for the board is two years.

This new term marks my third as a representative of Iran on the council," he added.



Ardavan Jafarian, vice-president of the International Music Council.

"The council's major activities over the past three decades include the adoption of the Five Music Rights Convention and efforts to implement it in different regions, supporting the development of non-governmental music organizations, establishing World Music Day, holding workshops and musical events to empower young musicians, and protecting the music of regions at risk.

Additionally, guiding and supporting continental confederations are among the most important activities of the council in recent years," Jafarian noted.

"The UNESCO International Music Council

was founded in 1949 and has more than 177 institutional members from 150 countries.

The council's other activities include approving legal support measures in the field of music and promoting fundamental music rights at the level of governments, legislative bodies, and global music activists.

It serves as a consultative body for UNESCO, and its headquarters is located in UNESCO's main building in Paris," he concluded.

IMC is the world's largest network of organizations and institutions working in the field of music. The council promotes access to music for all and the value of music in the lives of all people.

The Executive Board is elected every two years and the members will serve, without any salary or reimbursement, a two-year term, which is renewable twice.

Through its members and their networks, the IMC has direct access to over 1,000 organizations in some 150 countries and to 200 million people eager to develop and share knowledge and experience on diverse aspects of musical life.

## Tehran exhibition displaying Khayyam's poems in Persian, Latin calligraphy

TEHRAN- The Iranian Art Museum Garden is hosting an exhibition of bilingual calligraphic works inspired by the Persian poet Omar Khayyam, featuring the creations of two female calligraphers, Parisa Eftekhari and Niloufar Fattahi.

Entitled "Lines Without Borders," the exhibit showcases the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam in both Persian and Latin scripts, ISNA reported on Sunday.

The Persian section has been crafted by Parisa Eftekhari, a calligrapher known for her pen and ballpoint skills, while the Latin section, which includes Fitzgerald's translations of Khayyam's verses, is created by Niloufar Fattahi, a Latin calligraphy artist.

The focus of these two artists in the "Lines Without Borders" exhibition is on the ability to write and create calligraphy using a ballpoint pen. Following the exhibition, the artists plan to publish a book under the same title. The exhibition will run until November 24.

Omar Khayyam was a Persian mathematician, astronomer, and poet, renowned in his own country and time for his scientific achievements, but chiefly known to English-speaking readers through the translation of a collection of his quatrains in "The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam" (1859), by the English writer Edward Fitzgerald.

His poetic works delve into themes of love, nature, and the ephemeral nature of life, reflecting a profound philosophical in-

trospection. Khayyam's quatrains, typically composed of four lines, are lauded for their depth and wit, conveying complex ideas with remarkable simplicity.

Alongside his literary legacy, Khayyam made significant contributions to mathematics and astronomy, notably in algebra and the Gregorian calendar reform. His ability to bridge the realms of science and art has solidified his status as a monumental figure in Persian literature.