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BiBi sends message of peace to the Iranian people after murdering 10,000s of Palestinian women and children

The Israeli Version of Woman



U.S. 'maximum pressure' bound for maximum defeat: Araghchi

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In a recent series of posts on his X account, Araghchi highlighted that the initial implementation of the so-called maximum pressure campaign Trump implemented during his first term as the U.S. president led to a substantial setback for Washington.

The official noted, "Maximum Pressure 1.0 compelled 'Maximum Resistance' and ended in 'Maximum Defeat' for the US."

The second version of Maximum Pressure will lead to the second version of Maximum Failure for the United States, he added.

In 2015, Iran successfully negotiated the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with the P5+1 nations, which include China, France, Russia, the U.K., the U.S., and Germany.

Trump, who withdrew the U.S. from the nuclear deal in May 2018, has been elected as the 47th President of the United States and is set to assume office in January 2025.

The U.S. unilateral exit from the nuclear agreement resulted in the implementation of anti-Iran sanctions that many have deemed illegal under international law. ▶ Page 3

Turning the tables: Americans abased by Ansarullah attacks

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN- Yemen's Ansarullah movement has seriously challenged the US hegemony in West Asia, particularly in light of Washington's unwavering support for the Israeli regime's warmongering and military adventurism in the region.

Nearly two weeks after Israel launched its US-backed genocidal war on Gaza on October 7, 2023, the Yemeni army began firing missiles and drones at Israel in support of Palestinians in the besieged enclave.

Yemen's armed forces have also been targeting Israeli-linked ships in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden since November last year.

The Yemeni army later broadened the scope of its attacks targeting American and British warships. These attacks have been in response to airstrikes carried out by these countries against Yemen with the aim of compelling it to cease anti-Israel operations.

On Tuesday, the Yemeni army struck a significant blow to the US Navy through the execution of two "specific military operations" off the country's coast. ▶ Page 5



Life



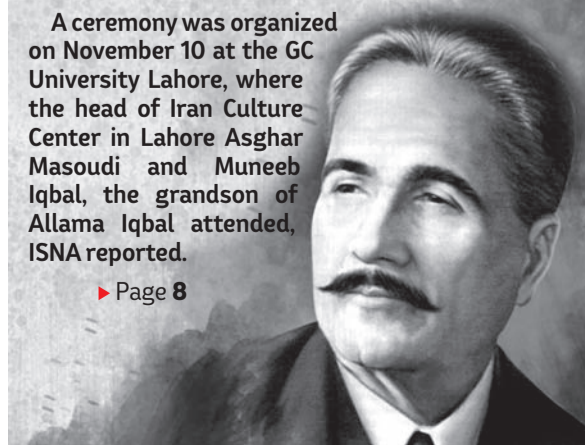
Freedom

Allama Muhammad Iqbal commemorated in Lahore, Tehran

TEHRAN-On the occasion of the 147th birthday of poet Allama Muhammad Iqbal, commemoration ceremonies were held in Iran and Pakistan.

A ceremony was organized on November 10 at the GC University Lahore, where the head of Iran Culture Center in Lahore Asghar Masoudi and Muneeb Iqbal, the grandson of Allama Iqbal attended, ISNA reported.

▶ Page 8



National handicrafts exhibit opens in Tehran amid calls for cultural, economic synergy

By Afshin Majlesi

TEHRAN - Iran's 37th National Handicrafts Exhibition opened yesterday in Tehran amid calls for cultural preservation and economic strength.

Addressing the opening ceremony, the Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts, Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri, highlighted the significant role of artisans in fostering creativity and economic growth.

"Our handicraft artists are talented and motivated, with a genuine passion for creating job opportunities," he stated, expressing hope that the public would actively support local artisans by attending the exhibition.

The minister also emphasized the government's commitment to nurturing creative industries, noting, "Our administration's strategy prioritizes support for innovative craftsmen, aiming to ensure that these unique products receive the attention they deserve." ▶ Page 6

Hezbollah kills and injures over 1,100 Israeli troops

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN - Hezbollah has revealed its fighters have killed over 100 Israeli officers and soldiers while injuring over 1,000 others on the Lebanese border.

The casualty rates were announced in a report published by the resistance movement's operations room on the latest battlefield developments.

It noted the deaths and injuries of the Israel occupation forces (IOF) are only on the Lebanese border and don't include troops killed and injured in occupied Palestine.

Hezbollah said its fighters continue to confront the Israeli aggression on Lebanon, inflicting severe losses on the "enemy's army in personnel and equipment, including officers and soldiers, across the frontlines and into the depth of occupied Palestine."

IOF infantry units have been trying to invade southern Lebanon since late September. ▶ Page 5

Hezbollah will reject any compromise on sovereignty: geopolitical expert

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT- The announcement that Israeli Chief of Staff Herzi Halevi had approved new plans to expand the ground invasion of southern Lebanon coincided with reports from inside Israel that Washington and Tel Aviv have agreed on a formula for a "settlement" in which the interests of Israel are ensured at the expense of Lebanon and its sovereignty.

To discuss the issue, the Tehran Times exclusively interviews Dr. Bilal Al-Laqisthe, an expert in geopolitical affairs.

Following is the text of the interview:

A month and a half after the Israeli aggression on Lebanon, what helped Hezbollah to withstand despite suffering harsh tribulations?

The most important factors that have helped Hezbollah to withstand, and perhaps the chief factors, ▶ Page 5

TEHRAN PAPERS

What is Argentinian diplomat looking for in Iran?

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

In a note, Hamshahri discussed the visit of International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Grossi to Tehran. It wrote: Rafael Grossi's last trip to Tehran was in May of the current year. He intended to meet and talk with the president during that trip, but it did not happen and he made a trip to Isfahan to participate in a nuclear conference and then left Iran. Just over a month later, the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency approved a resolution against Iran, which, according to many member countries, was more political than technical. Now, after a few months, this Argentinian diplomat is traveling to Tehran to meet with some of Iran's top officials, including the president, the minister of foreign affairs, and the head of the Atomic Energy Organization. The director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency said in a meeting that the JCPOA nuclear agreement "means nothing" because "nobody applies" or "follows" the agreement. We must try to put Iran's nuclear program back into the agreed framework; but in a newer version!

Ham Mihan: Facing America

Ham Mihan wrote Iran is involved with America bilaterally in several fields, including the nuclear issue and sanctions. Regarding the issue of Israel, due to the full support of the United States for it and Iran's support to the resistance groups, the two countries inevitably face each other. America has a large military and political presence in the Persian Gulf. Bahrain and Qatar host two main U.S. bases. Iraq can also be considered one of the points of contention between the two countries. Therefore, many conflicts of interest arise in the Persian Gulf. Due to the conflict of interests between the two countries over strategic issues, analysts believe that Iran and America should establish direct contact, not through intermediaries or messengers. Some people also believe that the two countries should not only establish direct contact but also establish a diplomatic relationship. They also say given the sharing of interests we should eventually work with the Americans. The proposal on this issue has always faced a reaction from the extremists, but the results of the analyses show that Iran needs to take this decision today. Of course, a decision in this regard should be taken by a body superior to the government.

Arman-e-Emrooz: Riyadh summit and support for Palestine

In an analysis, Arman-e-Emrooz dealt with the Arab and Islamic summit in Riyadh and said: Most of the Arab and Muslim leaders made harsher speeches against Israel in this meeting (on Nov. 12) to the extent that some Israeli media and analysts were surprised by Bin Salman's words. In his speech, the Saudi crown prince spoke strongly against "collective genocide" in Gaza and the need to stop it and again condemned the (Israeli) attack on Iran. With the full support of America and the lack of effective and collective Arab and Islamic action, Israel saw itself completely free to go on with the war and genocide. The meaning of this action was that these countries, having influential and strong lobbies in America, could prevent the deep humanitarian crisis in Gaza, but they did not. One of the important reasons was looking at this war and its fate from the viewpoint of regional conflict with Iran. The gap and tension in the region, especially in the last decade, between Iran and these countries became so deep that these actors, especially Saudi Arabia and the UAE, along with other factors, looked at the normalization and strengthening of relations with Israel as a balancing act against Iran, because they considered defeat and weakening of Israel as a reward to Iran.

Iran: Tehran's innovative diplomacy

The Islamic Republic system is taking advantage of the opportunity provided by the Pezeshkian government to develop foreign relations and the government has appeared active in this area. For example, at the height of military tension between Tehran and Tel Aviv, Foreign Minister Seyyed Abbas Araghchi implemented innovative diplomacy with Arab countries. This seems easy due to the multitude of conflicting issues and destructive extra-regional provocations. According to Reza Nasri, an expert on foreign policy issues, accelerating regional diplomacy for effective presence in new regional arrangements can help lead to the establishment of a new order as soon as possible. Therefore, this approach can act as a barrier against any possible confrontational policy in the region in the light of a possible heightened tension between Iran and America.

U.S. 'maximum pressure' bound for maximum defeat: Araghchi



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Trump, who withdrew the U.S. from the nuclear deal in May 2018, has been elected as the 47th President of the United States and is set to assume office in January 2025.

The U.S. unilateral exit from the nuclear agreement resulted in the implementation of anti-Iran sanctions that many have deemed illegal under international law. These sanctions, maintained under the Joe Biden administration, have sought to disrupt financial channels necessary for purchasing essential goods and medicine, while also undermining supply chains by limiting suppliers willing to facilitate the sale of humanitarian goods to Iran.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Israel's West Bank annexation call shows racist, expansionist agenda: Foreign Ministry

TEHRAN – Esmail Baqaei, spokesperson for Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, condemned the comments made by a cabinet minister of Israeli regime advocating the annexation of the West Bank on Wednesday.

Baqaei characterized the remarks as further evidence of Israel's "racist and expansionist agenda," pointing to decades of aggression, displacement of Palestinians, and ongoing seizure of Palestinian land.

On Monday, Israel's Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich ordered preparations for the annexation of the occupied West Bank ahead of US President-elect Donald Trump taking office in January 2025.

In a statement, Smotrich voiced his hope that the new administration in Washington will recognize Israel's push for "sovereignty" over the occupied territory.

Baqaei described Israel's longstanding policies as a systematic effort to dismantle Palestinian identity and rights, noting that Israel's approach over the last 76 years has been to establish settlements across Palestinian lands, continuously expanding Israeli-controlled territories.

He described this process as part of a larger scheme that he said equates to a genocidal agenda aimed at eradicating the Palestinian presence, citing the brutal nature of recent escalations over the past year.

Israeli Minister Bezalel Smotrich ordered preparations for West Bank annexation on Nov. 11, renewing his previous calls to extend Israeli control over occupied territories

The spokesperson reminded the international community of its moral and legal obligation to prevent acts of genocide and to counter war crimes and other violations against humanity.

In a pointed critique, he expressed disappointment with the United States and Germany, accusing them of impeding efforts to hold

Israeli leaders accountable before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Baqaei called for the United Nations Security Council and global leaders to take decisive action against what he described as Israel's acts of aggression in Palestine, as well as in Lebanon and throughout the broader West Asia region.

Baqaei further argued that an entity such as Israel, which he claims disregards international law and the principles of the United Nations Charter, undermining UN institutions and norms, should be questioned in terms of its standing within the UN framework.

According to Baqaei, Israel's policies are incompatible with the values and obligations expected of UN member states.

The spokesperson also emphasized that these continued pressures and crimes against Palestinians would not weaken the Palestinian people's resolve to fight for their rights.

He expressed confidence that Palestinians would persist in their struggle for self-determination and liberation from the shackles of military occupation and apartheid.

20th Iran-Turkey Joint Consular Committee convenes in Ankara

TEHRAN – The 20th Joint Consular Committee meeting between Iran and Turkey took place in Ankara on Wednesday, with consular deputies from the foreign ministries of both countries in attendance.

Vahid Jalalzadeh, Deputy Consular of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Burhanuddin Doran, Deputy Consular of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, participated in the discussions.

During the meeting, the representatives highlighted the strong neighborly ties and the "excellent, brotherly relations" between the two countries across political, economic, and cultural domains.

The two sides addressed various consular matters, including issues concerning students and nationals, enhanced judicial, legal, and

police collaboration, implementation of agreements related to the transfer of convicts and extradition of criminals, and movement of citizens. They underscored the importance of regular legal meetings to address the concerns of citizens from both nations.

The Iran-Turkey Joint Consular Committee acts as a vital forum for the two countries to recognize and tackle matters related to the welfare of their citizens, while also supporting the well-being of their expatriate communities. With the conclusion of the 20th meeting, both nations reiterate their commitment to strengthening bilateral relations and promoting deeper understanding among their populations.

Additionally, coinciding with Vahid Jalalzadeh's visit to Turkey for the 20th Joint Consular Commit-



tee meeting, a gathering of heads of the Islamic Republic of Iran's diplomatic missions in Turkey took place at the Iranian Embassy in Ankara.

In this session, the ambassador, along with the Iranian consuls

general from Istanbul, Erzurum, and Trabzon, discussed various issues pertinent to their respective jurisdictions and exchanged ideas on enhancing consular services for Iranian nationals residing in Turkey, aiming to resolve their challenges.

Tehran plans to repatriate 1,000 Afghan prisoners in agreement with Kabul

TEHRAN – The Deputy Minister for International Affairs and Human Rights at Iran's Ministry of Justice, along with the head of the foreign convict transfer committee, has announced a plan to repatriate 1,000 Afghan prisoners to Afghanistan within the next two months.

Askar Jalalian stated on Wednesday that an agreement regarding the transfer of convicts was established with Afghanistan in 2005, and the current interim government in Kabul is obligated to adhere to this official agreement.

Jalalian mentioned that he will be traveling to Kabul to discuss the transfer of Afghan prisoners currently in Tehran, as well as the repatriation of Iranian prisoners to Afghanistan.

He emphasized that the relationship between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Afghanistan is strong across various sectors, noting that both nations share a common language and numerous cultural ties.

Jalalian acknowledged that some adversaries may not favor the strengthening of Iran's relations with its neighbors; however, he affirmed the importance of nurturing the deep-rooted connections between the two

nations.

The head of the convict transfer committee further elaborated that the plan is to facilitate the return of a thousand Afghan prisoners within the next two months, allowing them to serve their sentences in Afghanistan.

Jalalian highlighted that the Islamic Republic of Iran's approach to this transfer is grounded in principles of human rights, as returning these convicts to their homeland enhances their chances of successful reintegration into society.

The Deputy Minister for International Affairs and Human Rights noted that the majority of these prisoners are incarcerated for drug-related offenses, while some have committed crimes where the private aspect has been resolved, leaving them to serve time for the public aspect of their offenses.

"The repatriation process will be carried out in compliance with international law and collaboration with Afghan authorities. This initiative will influence the wider relationship between Iran and Afghanistan, as well as the general circumstances of Afghan migrants and refugees in the area," Jalalian concluded.

China lauds 'progress' in Iran-Saudi ties after mediating 2023 rapprochement

TEHRAN – The Chinese Foreign Ministry has expressed strong support for the constructive interactions between Saudi Arabia and Iran, emphasizing their role in fostering enduring good-neighborly relations.

During a press briefing, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Lin Jian noted that Saudi-Iran relations have been on a positive trajectory and China appreciates this progress.

Lin Jian stated that Saudi Arabia and Iran have been engaging in positive interactions at various levels, further solidifying their reconciliation and playing a crucial role in fostering regional peace

and stability.

China remains committed to supporting both nations as they advance together, enhancing mutual trust, and achieving enduring good-neighborly relations and friendship, the spokesman said.

The remarks come after several high-ranking visits between Iran and Saudi Arabia took place in the past month.

Iran and Saudi Arabia restored diplomatic ties in March of 2023 under a China-brokered deal. The two West Asian countries have agreed to move towards establishing a security cooperation pact.

More terrorists eliminated in SE Iran as IRGC continues hunt



Dozens of terrorists killed, arrested in the past two weeks as IRGC continues drill in SE Iran

TEHRAN – The Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) Ground Forces' ongoing military exercise in southeastern Iran, which began over two weeks ago, has yielded more results in the fight against terrorism.

Over the past 48 hours, four terrorists linked to the Israeli regime were killed, seven apprehended, and five surrendered to provincial security forces, according to Major General Ahmad Shafaei, the exercise's spokesperson.

Shafaei, in a statement on Wednesday, emphasized the successful coordination between intelligence and operational forces, coupled with invaluable support from local residents, in achieving these results. The ongoing exercise involves participation from Sabran units, Special Forces, Rangers, helicopters, grassroots units, and Basij ranks, as well as various intelligence agencies including the General Directorate of Provincial Intelligence and the IRGC Intelligence Organization.

The Security Martyrs Operational Exercise, conducted in designated areas, aims to enhance and maintain security in southeastern Iran. Shafaei reiterated the commitment of the Quds Base of the IRGC Ground Force to continue operations until all exercise objectives are achieved.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

BiBi sends message of peace to the Iranian people after murdering 10,000s of Palestinian women and children

The Israeli version of woman, life, freedom

By Soheila Zarfam

TEHRAN – As Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu struggles to break the logjam in its regional war campaign, he is looking for off-ramps that would help him avoid a direct military conflict with Iran so he can heed his criminal forces' failures in Gaza and Lebanon.

In a video message released on Tuesday, Netanyahu looked tired and defeated as he called on those who participated in riots that rocked Iran in the fall of 2022 to persevere and not allow their "dreams" to "die".

"I hear your whispers. Women, life, freedom," he said before repeating the infamous slogan in Persian. "Don't lose hope," he added.

What were the 2022 riots about?

The death of a young Iranian woman called Mahsa Amini in the fall of 2022 became the catalyst for protests that very soon turned into deadly riots. Amini lost her life a couple of days after being taken into custody by Iranian police. Footage shows her collapsing inside a police station while speaking to a female officer.

Speculation about why she collapsed began soon after she was transferred to a Tehran hospital. In a video released by Iran's judiciary months after her passing, Amini's father can be seen next to her daughter's hospital bed confirming to a judiciary official that he sees no injuries to her, as had previously been announced by the medical staff.



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks in a video statement addressed to the Iranian people, November 12, 2024

Amini's eventual passing, however, became the event the West and Israel needed so badly to wreak violence inside Iran. Medical doctors residing outside the country used her scans to claim Amini had been beaten up by police, giving Western media a hand in forming a narrative that made the public angry. "To be honest, Mahsa Amini's brain scans showed no signs of injuries. The only thing visible was the indication of a previous surgery," said an Iranian-American doctor with a large social media following on X, a year after the young woman passed. "I did not want to announce this during the time because I did not want to hurt the movement," he added.

The riots that killed about 300

people, including around 100 security forces, fizzled some time by the end of the fall due to a lack of resonance with the general public. Thousands of rioters, the majority of whom were in their late teens or early twenties, were also released from jail under an order by the Leader of the Islamic Revolution the same year.

What is Netanyahu looking for?

Netanyahu said he is willing to help Iranian women pursue their "rights" a year after he began what's been labeled as a full-on genocide in the besieged Gaza Strip. The politician's war efforts have so far killed tens of thousands of women and children, with thousands more expected to join the carnage.

Despite being his characteristically

deceitful and condescending self in the Tuesday message, Netanyahu differed starkly from his previous aggressive address in August, where he told Iranians the "long arm of Israel" could reach any point within their country.

According to Mahdi Mohammadi, national security advisor to Iran's Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf, Netanyahu's public posturing of military confrontation with Iran is a smokescreen. Mohammadi, speaking to the Tehran Times, believes Israel's true strategy is to pressure the United States into resuming a more aggressive "maximum pressure" campaign against Iran, relying on sanctions and intelligence operations to destabilize the country.

He argues that both Netanyahu and incoming U.S. President Donald Trump understand a full-scale military conflict with Iran would be uncontrollable and spiral into a regional war, a scenario they wish to avoid. "Netanyahu's message is essentially a signal to Trump's team that Israel has not changed its main strategy regarding Iran and does not intend to create a strategic diversion," Mohammadi stated. He anticipates a renewed focus on Iran's internal affairs under the new U.S. administration, but adds that Iran has learned from past experiences and will not passively accept such pressure. Iran, he says, will formulate its own strategic response.

Marco Rubio poised for US secretary of state, promising a tougher approach on Iran

By Xavier Villar

MADRID – Various U.S. and international media outlets have reported that Marco Rubio could be appointed as the next Secretary of State in Donald Trump's administration. This would place him at the helm of U.S. foreign policy, with the responsibility of managing international relations and safeguarding the country's geopolitical interests.

Rubio, who was elected as the senator from Florida in 2010, has maintained a firm stance against the geopolitical adversaries of the United States, particularly China, Iran, and Cuba. His approach has been marked by a hardline position toward these countries, which he views as strategic threats.

However, his stance on Russia has shown some nuances in recent years. While he previously expressed belligerent rhetoric toward the Kremlin, it is likely that Rubio will align himself with Trump's plans, which include pressuring Ukraine to seek a negotiated settlement with Russia and remain outside of NATO. In recent interviews, Rubio, 53, suggested that Ukraine should prioritize a diplomatic solution with the Kremlin rather than focusing all its efforts on reclaiming the territories occupied by Russia in the past decade.

Furthermore, he was one of the 15 Republican senators who voted against the \$95 billion military aid package for Ukraine approved in April, highlighting his preference for negotiation over military escalation in the conflict.

Marco Rubio is known for his firm support of both the Israeli regime and its colonial expansion

In a September interview with NBC, Marco Rubio stated, "I'm not pro-Russia, but unfortunately, the reality is that the war in Ukraine will end through a negotiated agreement." This statement suggests a pragmatic stance on the conflict, aligned with the Trump administration's approach to Ukraine.

If confirmed as Secretary of State, Rubio is likely to place unprecedented emphasis on Latin America in U.S. foreign policy. Mauricio Claver-Carone, one of his allies and former president of the Inter-American Development Bank, who also worked on Latin American issues in the National Security Council during Trump's first term, remarked: "We are in a historic moment where Latin America, more than ever, will be the focal point of the U.S. presidency."

Rubio, whose grandfather fled Cuba in 1962, maintains a firm opposition to normalizing relations with the Cuban government, a



Trump could name Rubio as his secretary of state, a senator known as an Iran hawk

position he shares with Trump. Additionally, as chairman of the House Subcommittee on Latin American Affairs, he has been a consistent and outspoken critic of Nicol s Maduro.

He is also one of the most prominent figures in the U.S. Senate for his critical stance toward China. In 2020, due to his support for the protests in Hong Kong, he was sanctioned by the Beijing government.

Regarding Iran, Rubio has adopted a position that some experts describe as firmly anti-Iranian, emphasizing the need for economic and political pressure on the country while rejecting any policy of appeasement. In a tweet, Rubio wrote: "Iran wants to destroy Israel to become the dominant power in the Middle East. The policy of appeasement will not change their behavior."

In July 2024, Rubio, alongside Democratic Senator Alex Padilla, introduced the "Mahsa Amini Human Rights and Accountability for Security Act" in the Senate, which seeks to impose additional sanctions on the Islamic Republic for "human rights violations."

During the Republican National Convention supporting Trump's candidacy, the likely next Secretary of State stated, "Under Trump's presidency, the Islamic Republic was on the brink of collapse, but under Biden, they have money to support Hamas."

Marco Rubio is known for his firm support of both the Israeli regime and its colonial expansion. As Vice Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, he visited the occupied territories in April, and in November 2023, he co-organized a bipartisan screening for Congress members of a film that purportedly documented the atrocities committed by Hamas on October 7. However, some of the claims were later refuted by media outlets and the United Nations.

He is also characterized by his vigorous defense of Israel's alleged "right" to respond to Iranian attacks. After the Iranian offensive against Israel in October, he declared, "Those who demand Israel show 'restraint' should remember that Israel has the capacity to inflict damage that threatens the Iranian regime and has already shown restraint by not doing so."

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

NOVEMBER 14, 2024

Straight Truth
TEHRAN TIMES

3

SPORTS

Iran aim to secure 2026 World Cup ticket against N. Korea

TEHRAN – Iran will face DPR Korea in Group A of the Asian Qualifiers – Road to 26 knowing that victory will almost surely secure their ticket to the FIFA World Cup 2026.

Iran, on 10 points, lead the standings ahead of Uzbekistan on goal difference with both sitting six clear of the United Arab Emirates and Qatar after just four matches.

Seeking a fourth consecutive appearance at the FIFA World Cup and seventh overall, Iran's qualification campaign has been serene.

The opening two matchdays saw the Central Asian side registering 1-0 wins over Kyrgyz Republic and UAE, with a tough 0-0 draw with Uzbekistan following.

Iran, however, were at their scorching best against Qatar on Matchday Four as they cruised to an emphatic 4-1 win and with their key players all available, they will fancy their chances against DPR Korea in the neutral venue of Lao National Stadium KM16 in Vientiane.

While DPR Korea still have a mathematical chance of securing one of the two top spots which will guarantee automatic qualification, they will need to win their remaining matches and hope other results go in their favor.

With just two points on the board, victory is a must against Iran and DPR Korea can be expected to produce their best as they strive to keep their campaign alive.

Two Iranian athletes gat ban for doping

TEHRAN – Iranian boxer Roozbeh Safari and powerlifter Azam Baniasadi have been suspended after failing a doping test for the banned substance.

Safari has been tested positive for Stanozolol and is banned for four years.

Safari is ineligible from Oct. 21, 2024 to Oct. 20, 2028.

The female powerlifter has been banned for three years from Oct. 14, 2024 to Oct. 14, 2027.

Baniasadi's dope sample was found to contain steroids Stanozolol, Metandienone.

Iranian veteran wrestler Kolahi dies

TEHRAN – Former Iran national team Greco-Roman wrestler Hashem Kolahi passed away on Wednesday.

He died at the age of 68 due to a heart attack.

Kolahi competed in the men's Greco-Roman 90 kg at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal, Canada and won a gold medal five years later in the 1981 Asian Wrestling Championships in Lahore, Pakistan.

Tehran Times extends deepest sympathy to Kolahi's family, loved ones, and friends over his demise.

Iran coach Ghalenoei wary of North Korea threat

TEHRAN – Iran national football team head coach Amir Ghalenoei says that they are cautious of North Korea's "threat" in the 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifier.

Team Melli are scheduled to meet North Korea on Thursday at the neutral venue of Lao National Stadium KM16 in Vientiane.

Iran, on 10 points, lead the standings ahead of Uzbekistan on goal difference with both sitting six points clear of the United Arab

Emirates and Qatar after just four matches.

"We are well aware that we have a tough game. The Korean team are a strong team in defense.

They also work very well and quickly in attacks. In this game, we have to go to the field with more focus and responsibility than the previous matches. We got a good result in the previous two games, but those two matches went down in history," Ghalenoei said.

The Team Melli coach says that the match against North Korea and Kyrgyzstan are "the most important" matches of the national team.

"We must play with high concentration from the first minute to the 90th minute. We have analyzed North Korea and we know that how strong they are.

Even in the match against Uzbekistan, where they lost, or in the match against the UAE, where they shared the spoils, they could have won the match, so we must face this opponent with full attention," he added.

Asked his is there any challenge ahead of Iran football team against the Korean team, Ghalenoei said, "Fortunately, we don't have any special challenge ahead of us and the players are ready to play.

I have to thank the Iran Football Federation, because we traveled to Laos by direct flight, otherwise it would endure a 30-hour trip.

However, the truth of the game is when the referee blows the whistle to start the game, and I hope that the players of the national team will start and finish their work in this match with the same concentration they had in the game against Qatar and use the opportunities effectively.

In response to the question that the history of matches between two teams, North Korea have always been a difficult opponent, Ghalenoei said, "Football in Asia has progressed and you can see this in the World Cup qualifiers.

North Korea have also shown that they are a good team with a plan, and their past results prove this. The matches against North Korea and Kyrgyzstan are our most important matches and we want to do our best to secure our berth in the World Cup."

Iran to edge closer to fourth straight World Cup: FIFA

TEHRAN – Iran are edging closer to the door marked 'fourth straight World Cup appearance', FIFA.com wrote.

With a fit and firing Mehdi Taremi and Sardar Azmoun, Iran have one of the deadliest strike forces on the continent.

A stingy – and desperate – Korea DPR has the quality to slow the Iranian assault but given that the team are winless through their first four outings, anything less than maximum points here in neutral Laos will make the Korea's task of reaching a third World Cup a whole lot harder.

Iran have lost only one of its last 24 World Cup qualifying matches.

2024 Cerebral Palsy World Cup: Iran, Ireland match postponed

TEHRAN – Iran and Ireland match in Group D of the 2024 Cerebral Palsy World Cup scheduled for Wednesday has been postponed after heavy rain.

Due to anticipated inclement weather all games scheduled to be played on Nov. 13 have been postponed.

The match will be held on Thursday, the organizers announced.

Team Melli began the tournament with a 4-0 win over Venezuela in their opening match.

The 2024 Cerebral Palsy World Cup is being held in Salou, Spain.

Iran currently implements 40 FATF clauses, awaits revision of two remaining



TEHRAN – The Chairman of the Iranian Expediency Council has announced that 40 out of 42 FATF clauses are currently being implemented in the country, with only two requiring revisions.

During a meeting with economic activists from the private sector on Wednesday, Ayatollah Sadeq Amoli Larjani stated that despite the challenges posed by FATF and SWIFT sanctions, the majority of the FATF laws are in effect.

SWIFT sanctions involve the exclusion or restriction of access to the SWIFT (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication) network, which is a messaging platform that enables international financial transactions among banks and various financial institutions globally.

Amoli Larjani explained that any remaining issues with parliamentary approvals regarding FATF compliance will be addressed through a process outlined by Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei. The Supreme Council of Supervision within the Iranian Expediency Council will oversee the implementation of FATF-related policies, ensuring they align with Iran's constitution and general policies.

"Any discrepancies will be returned to the Guardian Council for parliamentary reconsideration," he added.

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an international body founded in 1989 by the G7 nations to address issues related to money laundering, terrorist financing, and other threats that undermine the integrity of the global financial system. Currently, the FATF includes 37 member jurisdictions and 2 regional organizations, encompassing most of the world's major financial hubs.

Since 2016, the FATF has been collaborating with Iran to rectify shortcomings in its anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing measures. The successful implementation of these 40 recommendations is essential for Iran to achieve its objective of being removed from the FATF's list of "high-risk jurisdictions" and to enhance its access to the international financial system.

Tehran, Beijing sign MOU on trade co-op expansion



TCCIMA Chairman Mahmoud Najafi-Arab (R) and CCPIT Beijing Chairman Guo Huaigang

TEHRAN- Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines, and Agriculture (TCCIMA) and China Council for the Promotion of International Trade Beijing Sub-council (CCPIT Beijing) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to expand trade cooperation, IBNA reported.

As reported, the MOU was inked by TCCIMA Chairman Mahmoud Najafi-Arab and CCPIT Beijing Chairman Guo Huaigang during a meeting of TCCIMA trade delegation with Guo Huaigang in Beijing, during which suggestions were made for the development of bilateral cooperation.

Addressing the mentioned meeting, Guo Huaigang pointed to the relations between China and Iran and said: "The relations between China and Iran have a very long and old history, and fortunately, in the field of economy and trade, the relations between the two countries have expanded year by year to the point that it is more than 10 years that China has been Iran's first trade partner."

He said China Council for the Promotion of International Trade Beijing Sub-council (CCPIT Beijing) is the biggest office of this council in the whole of China.

This office operates in the fields of facilitating trade and investment, helping to familiarize with commercial and international laws and regulations, holding meetings and exhibitions and bilateral exchanges with foreign counterparts.

"China Council for the Promotion of International Trade Beijing Sub-council (CCPIT Beijing) is considered as the foreign trade information bank in Beijing and we are happy to sign a cooperation memorandum with the Tehran Chamber of Commerce today; an event that can make our members and you get to know each other and exchange information between you and us to expand the economic relations of the two countries", he further reiterated.

Addressing the same meeting, the chairman of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines, and Agriculture (TCCIMA) said: "We in the Tehran Chamber are interested in developing economic relations with CCPIT Beijing", adding: "Tehran is a city of 14 million people and has many similarities with Beijing."

About half of the country's gross domestic product is related to companies based in Tehran. and the Tehran Chamber of Commerce is the largest chamber in Iran, where more than 60 percent of Iran's entrepreneurs in the field of foreign trade, who are active in the fields of commerce, industry, mining, and agriculture, are members of the Tehran Chamber."

Pointing out that he has traveled to China many times due to his specialized field of activity, which is the pharmaceutical industry, Najafi-Arab said: "The slope of economic growth and development changes in China in the past few decades has been very tangible and amazing for me", adding: "The value of trade between Iran and China, excluding oil and gas, was 33 billion dollars last year, and we are very interested in developing our relations with China, and Tehran Chamber of Commerce and CCPIT Beijing can play a key role in this due."

He further invited CCPIT Beijing Chairman Guo Huaigang to visit Tehran.

It should be mentioned that this meeting was held on the sidelines of the TCCIMA delegation visiting China International Import

Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai.

Running from November 5 to 10, the 7th CIIE attracted 3,496 exhibitors from 129 countries and regions. It also set a new record with 297 Fortune Global 500 companies and industry leaders attending the event.

Some Iranian high-ranking officials, from government and private sector, have traveled to Shanghai to visit the CIIE and evaluate the country's needs in various sectors as well as the export potential of Iranian companies in order to develop exports, in addition to examine the existing obstacles in the path of Iranian companies' exports to China, in interaction with Chinese officials and companies, and hold consultations to resolve them.

Najafi-Arab, who traveled to Shanghai on the head of an Iranian trade delegation, met with some entrepreneurs of the private and state-run sectors of China as well as Iranian businessmen living in eastern China in two different meetings upon arriving in Shanghai to attend the CIIE, and discussed with the Chinese sides the conditions and fields of economic relations development, with the focus of attracting investment in projects in the field of renewable energy, processing and food industries, agricultural products, medicine and medical equipment, housing construction, etc.

As reported by the TCCIMA Public Relations Department, Mohsen Bakhtiar, Iran's ambassador to China, Ali Mohammadi, Iran's consul general in Shanghai, and Mohammad-Ali Dehghan Dehnavi, the head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO), were also present in these meetings, and discussed the challenges facing the development of Iran-China relations by private sector entrepreneurs.

In these meetings, the TCCIMA head announced the readiness of the Tehran Chamber to host trade delegations from China in various fields of production and trade, and emphasized the need for the two sides to get to know each other as much as possible about the capabilities and capacities of the two countries in meeting the needs and also joint investments.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony of Iran's pavilion in the CIIE, which was also participated by the TPO head and Iran's ambassador to China, Najafi-Arab said: "This huge commercial event provides a valuable opportunity to introduce the export capacities and capabilities of Iran in various industrial and agricultural fields and to strengthen the economic and commercial relations between Iran and China."

Pointing out that Iran and China are big trade partners in the region, he said: "Last year, the bilateral trade, excluding oil export, between the two countries reached about 33 billion dollars."

This cooperation continues to grow through trade development in various fields including mining, petrochemicals, food, agriculture and new technologies. The figures show the high capacity of the two countries to expand cooperation, but the relations between the two countries can be developed far beyond this. We should use these capacities optimally by increasing delegation exchanges and developing joint projects and carry out commercial and industrial exchanges on a wider level."

Stating that prominent Chinese companies from the state-run and private sectors have been and are participating in Iran's oil and gas development projects, Najafi-Arab considered this as an indication of China's serious desire to invest in Iran's important economic sectors, and said: "Creating new fields of cooperation in the areas of clean energy, nanotechnology, artificial intelligence, joint production of electric cars, development of digital infrastructure and specialized tourism are among the priorities that can greatly contribute to the development of bilateral relations, and we, as the Tehran Chamber of Commerce, are ready and want to raise cooperation in these fields to a new level."

The head of the Tehran Chamber added: "In order to strengthen these ties, we propose to create joint economic zones in the form of multilateral consortia, so that by providing tax and customs incentives, new investments will be provided and the level of bilateral cooperation will be increased."

Armenia seriously determined to invest in Chabahar port

TEHRAN- Deputy Minister of Economy of the Republic of Armenia Narek Hovakimyan emphasized his country's serious determination to invest in Iran's southeastern strategic Chabahar port.

Hovakimyan, who has traveled to Tehran at the head of a trade-economic delegation of the private sector active in transportation, made the remarks in a meeting with Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization Head Ali-Akbar Safaei, the website of PMO published on Wednesday.

The Armenian official said that having high-level relations and free transportation is Yerevan's special strategy for developing relations with neighboring countries.

Stating that the Republic of Armenia is determined and



serious to develop economic relations and presence and investment in Chabahar port, he said Yerevan's presence in Chabahar port will remove the Armenia from the impasse of not having access to open waters.

The deputy economy minister of the Republic of Armenia

further pointed out that the development of trade relations between Yerevan and Tehran will cause the Islamic Republic of Iran to use Armenia's transportation routes to export its own products.

The PMO head, for his part, said that the investment of the Armenian private sector

in Chabahar port will further develop the economic relations between Tehran and Yerevan.

Safaei, who is also Iran's deputy transport and urban development minister, added that the development of commercial and economic relations and interactions with neighboring countries, especially the Republic of Armenia, is considered one of the main strategies of the government of Mr. Pezeshkian and the Ministry of Transport and Urban Development.

He also announced the readiness of his organization for Armenia's investment in the northern ports of Iran and said that through the ports in the north and south of Iran, Yerevan can export its domestic products and logistics, and it also has the possibility to use the port facilities for import.

Iran exports non-oil goods worth \$1.1b to India in 7 months

TEHRAN- Iran has exported non-oil commodities valued at \$1.1 billion to India 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 Rezvaniyar said that India was the seventh top export destination of the Iranian non-oil goods in the mentioned seven-month period.

Iran has exported \$2.217 billion worth of goods to India during the past Iranian calendar year (ended on March 19), according to an official with Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO).

Noting that Iran's balance of trade with India turned positive last year, Hadi Talebian Moghaddam put Iran's last year's imports from India at \$1.916 billion.

The value of trade between Iran and India reached \$1.836 billion in 2023, according to India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The trade exchange between the two countries declined by 26 percent in 2023 compared to the previous year, the figure was reported to be \$2.499 billion in 2022.

According to the Indian Ministry data, Iran

exported commodities valued at \$699 million to India during the past year, registering no significant change from 2022.

Petroleum products were the top goods imported by India from Iran in 2023, and India imported \$221 million worth of such products from Iran this year. The import of Iranian oil products by India in 2023 increased by 26 percent compared to the previous year. Raw materials for dye production and various fruits were also among the top exported goods to India in 2023.

India's exports to Iran in January-December 2023 experienced a 35 percent decrease and reached \$1.187 billion. In the previous year, India had exported \$1.847 billion worth of goods to Iran.

Rice was the top export product of India to Iran in 2023. India's rice exports to Iran decreased by 34 percent in 2023, falling from \$1.98 billion in 2022 to \$723 million.

India's tea export to Iran also declined by almost a third, from \$86 million in 2022 to \$30 million in 2023. The country's fruit exports to Iran however increased by 14 percent and reached \$55 million and spice exports decreased by 28 percent to \$15 million. As previously announced by the former head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs

Iran's oil production stands at 3.259 million bpd in Oct.: OPEC

TEHRAN - The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in its latest report has said Iran produced 3.259 million barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil in October, while the figure was 3.327 million bpd in September.

Based on the OPEC data, the oil production by the organizations' member states has increased 466,000 bpd from the output in September to 26.535 million bpd in October.

According to the organization's reported, Iran's heavy oil price increased by \$1.47 (0.6 percent) from \$73.59 in September to

\$74.06 in October.

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

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

Back in April, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported

that Iran's oil production in 2023 saw an increase of 500,000 bpd in comparison to the previous year, reaching 3.1 million bpd.

According to IMF data, Iran's oil sector recorded a noteworthy growth of 15 percent in 2023. Over the three years of late President Ebrahim Raisi's tenure, this sector experienced double-digit growth; therefore, the oil sector saw 10.1 percent, 10 percent, and 15 percent growth, respectively, in 2021, 2022, and 2023.

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

bpd in 2024.

Iran's gas production also increased from the equivalent of 4.8 million barrels of oil per day in 2022 to the equivalent of 5.1 million bpd in 2023. According to IMF, the figure is expected to rise by 300,000 bpd to reach the equivalent of 5.4 million bpd in 2024. Iran exported 14 million barrels of oil per day in 2023, indicating an increase of 500,000 barrels compared to its oil export data in the previous year, and it is expected that in the current year, an additional 100,000 barrels will be added to Iran's oil exports, reaching 1.5 million bpd.



Abbaszadeh appointed as head of National Petrochemical Company

TEHRAN - Iranian Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad has appointed Hassan Abbaszadeh as his deputy for the petrochemical affairs and the head of Iran's National Petrochemical Company (NPC).

Abbaszadeh has previously served as the caretaker of the NPC, Shana reported.

National Petrochemical Company is one of the major subsidiaries of Iranian Oil Ministry.

Non-oil goods worth \$718m exported from Isfahan province in 7 months

TEHRAN - As announced by a provincial official, 1,093 million tons of non-oil commodities valued at \$718.631 million were exported from Isfahan province during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-October 21).

Rasoul Kouhestani, the director-general of the province's Customs Department, said that the non-oil export from the province fell 15 percent and 19 percent in terms of worth and weight, year on year.

The official named petrochemical products, iron and

steel, dairy products, carpet, and copper as the major exported products, and Pakistan, Iraq, Afghanistan, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as the major destinations of the products exported from the province in the mentioned seven months.

As previously announced by the former head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), the value of Iran's foreign trade reached \$99.7 billion during the first seven months of the present Iranian year.

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

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

Saying that the value of the country's non-oil export rose 15 percent in the first seven months of this year, as compared to the same period of time in the past year, the official put the weight of

non-oil export at 88.7 million tons in the mentioned seven-month, with 11.48 percent growth, year on year.

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

According to Rezvaniyar, the average value of each ton of exported goods has increased by three percent to \$367 and the average worth of each ton of imported products has risen six percent to \$1,819 in the first seven months of this year, as compared to the same time span of the past year.

Hezbollah kills and injures over 1,100 Israeli troops

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN - Hezbollah has revealed its fighters have killed over 100 Israeli officers and soldiers while injuring over 1,000 others on the Lebanese border.

The casualty rates were announced in a report published by the resistance movement's operations room on the latest battlefield developments.

It noted the deaths and injuries of the Israel occupation forces (IOF) are only on the Lebanese border and don't include troops killed and injured in occupied Palestine.

Hezbollah said its fighters continue to confront the Israeli aggression on Lebanon, inflicting severe losses on the "enemy's army in personnel and equipment, including officers and soldiers, across the frontlines and into the depth of occupied Palestine."

IOF infantry units have been trying to invade southern Lebanon since late September.

The Hezbollah report covers the latest ground confrontations with the IOF in the western and eastern sectors of the Lebanese border.

On the western side, the reports said that "due to intensive and concentrated strikes by the resistance, the Israeli army has withdrawn from most towns it had advanced into, retreating behind the border, except for the continued presence of Division 146 units in the forests of Labuneh and east of al-Naqoura, where they attempt to advance toward Wadi Hamoul from the eastern side of the town."

Since October 28, 2024, no IOF infiltration attempts have been recorded in the border towns of the western sector, the report said.

Instead, the Hezbollah operations room says the IOF conducts repeated sweeps from border positions, targeting areas it has withdrawn from with artillery fire and airstrikes.

In the Maroun al-Ras area, Hezbollah says its fighters carried out more than 24 opera-



tions using missiles and attack drones against the IOF positions and gatherings of forces that advanced into the Lebanese territory.

Additionally, 26 missile and artillery strikes targeted settlements, which house air defense and missile bases, command centers for participating battalions, weapons depots, and vehicle assembly areas under the command of Division 36 in the IOF.

"When an Israeli force attempted to infiltrate from the town of Yaroun toward western Maroun Al-Ras, our fighters ambushed and engaged the infiltrating force with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades, inflicting casualties among the enemy."

On the eastern side of the border, the IOF has retreated from four villages, including the strategic area of al-Khiam, under fire from Hezbollah.

"Following the precise operation in al-Khiam and after tracking Division 91's movements at the eastern edges of Hula and around the al-Abbad border post, our fighters launched qualitative missiles at a gathering of Israeli forces and equipment, causing massive explosions, casualties, and extensive damage to the site and the vehicles within it," the report said.

In Kfar Kila, as the engineering units of the IOF's Division 98 were demolishing homes and

infrastructure, Hezbollah fighters "struck two bulldozers and an armored personnel carrier with guided missiles, killing and wounding the personnel within. Attempts to extract the casualties were met with intense missile barrages."

The second part of the report covers Hezbollah's "Khaybar Operations", which the Lebanese resistance forces started on October 1 to attack sensitive Israeli targets.

"Since its initiation, the Khaybar operations series has included 70 operations, targeting 33 strategic objectives up to 145 km south of Tel Aviv, such as military, logistics, air, and naval bases, air defense and missile sites, command centers, communication and intelligence bases, and training camps," it stated.

It also noted that Hezbollah's air force participated in 22 operations within the Khaybar series, launching more than 60 advanced drones with a range of up to 145 km, reaching the southern outskirts of Tel Aviv.

On the resistance movement's missile force, the report said Hezbollah continues targeting enemy concentrations at military sites and bases along the Lebanese border along with strategic, security, and military Israeli bases.

"Various types of missiles, including precision-guided ones used for the first time, have been deployed."

Since September 17, 2024, over 1,020 missile salvos have been launched, 125 of which have been fired in the past week alone.

"On November 6, 2024, for the first time, the missile force launched the Fateh 110 missile, striking the Tzrifin base located 130 km from the closest point to the Lebanese-Palestinian border."

Section four of the report explains how Hezbollah's air force operations continue to target Israeli sites and "exhaust the enemy's military".

"Cameras operated by frightened settlers - prompted by on-going alarms in all settlements and cities since our drones breached the border - document repeated Israeli failures to down resistance drones, which reach their targets with precision, causing losses in the Israeli army ranks."

Israeli ground losses since the attempted invasion of southern Lebanon include:

- Over 100 killed and 1,000 wounded among Israeli army officers and soldiers.

- Destruction of 43 Merkava tanks, eight military bulldozers, two Hummer vehicles, two armored personnel carriers, and two troop carriers.

- Downing of four Hermes 450 drones and two Hermes 900 drones.

Hezbollah also warned the IOF that its decision to launch the second phase of its ground operations in southern Lebanon "will only lead to more losses and failures".

The Lebanese resistance movement says it has taken "all defensive measures to engage in a prolonged battle, preventing the enemy from achieving its goals."

Despite Israeli claims to control border villages, Hezbollah continues to launch missiles from the Lebanese border deep into Israel, repeatedly surprising the regime's military.

Hundreds of thousands of Israelis continue to be forced to hide in shelters.

Hezbollah hits Israeli war ministry in Tel Aviv

Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement said it launched a drone attack targeting Israel's military headquarters and war ministry in central Tel Aviv on Wednesday afternoon.

In a statement, Hezbollah said it carried out its first air attack on the Kirya military base. The resistance group said the base was

the headquarters of the Israeli war ministry and general staff, as well as its war management room and the air force's war control and supervision authority.

The statement said the attack was carried out with a squadron of attack drones and the targets were hit accurately.

Political ploy: US ultimatum on Gaza aid aimed to woo voters

More than a month has passed since the US gave Israel a deadline to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Gaza or face consequences.

The 30-day deadline expired on Tuesday but the administration of President Joe Biden has said it will not limit arms transfers to Israel as it had threatened to do so.

Tariq Habash, who was the first of Biden's political appointees to resign from the administration due to Washington's support for Israel's genocidal war on Gaza, said the backtracking is no surprise.

He said it seemed the ultimatum was merely an attempt to reassure the Democratic Party base not to worry about Gaza.

"This felt like a political ploy that this was not something this administration was ever actually serious about enforcing. The reality is, despite missing on pretty much every single metric, we have no intention of enforcing US law," Habash told Al Jazeera.

He added. "The administration is not doing what needs to be done to ensure that lifesaving aid reaches Palestinian civilians."

OCHA: Israel let UN deliver aid to north Gaza shelters, then attacked the area

The UN's humanitarian agency (OCHA) said Israel has denied or impeded all of its attempts to provide food and healthcare to tens of thousands of people trapped in besieged northern Gaza so far this month.

The agency said Israeli authorities allowed only one mission by the World Food Program (WFP) to enter on November 11, according to Al Jazeera.

The WFP convoy included two trucks carrying life-saving ready-to-eat rations and

wheat flour, and one truck carrying bottled water. The aid was delivered to the Mahdia al-Shawwa School, which was sheltering displaced Palestinians, and a nearby public shelter, OCHA said. But shortly afterwards, Israeli forces surrounded the area, shelled it and forced people to flee.

Earlier, Palestinian media reported that Israeli forces had set fire to Mahdia al-Shawwa School and destroyed the building.

Turning the tables: Americans abused by Ansarullah attacks

Yemeni army targets Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN- Yemen's Ansarullah movement has seriously challenged the US hegemony in West Asia, particularly in light of Washington's unwavering support for the Israeli regime's warmongering and military adventurism in the region.

Nearly two weeks after Israel launched its US-backed genocidal war on Gaza on October 7, 2023, the Yemeni army began firing missiles and drones at Israel in support of Palestinians in the besieged enclave.

Yemen's armed forces have also been targeting Israeli-linked ships in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden since November last year.

The Yemeni army later broadened the scope of its attacks targeting American and British warships. These attacks have been in response to airstrikes carried out by these countries against Yemen with the aim of compelling it to cease anti-Israel operations.

On Tuesday, the Yemeni army struck a significant blow to the US Navy through the execution of two "specific military operations" off the country's coast.

"The first operation targeted the American aircraft carrier (Abraham) located in the Arabian Sea with a number of cruise missiles and drones," the spokesman for the Yemeni Armed Forces said.

Yahya Sarea added, "The other operation targeted two American destroyers in the Red Sea with a number of ballistic missiles and drones."

He noted that the operation had "successfully achieved its objectives".

The US Defense Department admitted that US warships were targeted but did not acknowledge the attack against the Abraham Lincoln vessel.

Pentagon spokesperson Air Force Major General Patrick Ryder told reporters following the attacks that two US-guided missile

destroyers - the USS Stockdale and USS Spruance - were hit by at least eight one-way attack drones, five anti-ship ballistic missiles and three anti-ship cruise missiles.

He claimed that the United States military's Central Command (CENTCOM) forces "successfully repelled" the Yemeni army's attacks during a transit of the Bab al-Mandeb strait, which connects the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden.

Since January this year, the US and the UK have conducted multiple airstrikes in Yemen, claiming to target Ansarullah's positions, with the most recent operations taking place over the weekend.

The US has so far failed to force the Yemeni army to stop its attacks against Israel and the regime's ships.

The Ansarullah movement has stressed that it will halt the strikes only if Israel ends its war of genocide on Gaza, which has so far claimed the lives of more than 43,700 Palestinians.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has said that US strikes against Yemen aim to "further degrade" Ansarullah's military capability to "protect and defend US forces and personnel in one of the world's most critical waterways".

For now, the targeting of US warships, including the Abraham Lincoln vessel, clearly indicates that American strikes against Yemen have backfired.

The Yemeni army has also shot down nearly a dozen US drones over the country's airspace in the wake of the Gaza war.

The Yemeni military has significantly upgraded its capabilities, enabling it to effectively target sophisticated US naval vessels and aircraft.

Hezbollah will reject any compromise on sovereignty: geopolitical expert

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT- The announcement that Israeli Chief of Staff Herzl Halevi had approved new plans to expand the ground invasion of southern Lebanon coincided with reports from inside Israel that Washington and Tel Aviv have agreed on a formula for a "settlement" in which the interests of Israel are ensured at the expense of Lebanon and its sovereignty.

To discuss the issue, the Tehran Times exclusively interviews Dr. Bilal Al-Laqtishe, an expert in geopolitical affairs.

Following is the text of the interview:

A month and a half after the Israeli aggression on Lebanon, what helped Hezbollah to withstand despite suffering harsh tribulations?

The most important factors that have helped Hezbollah to withstand, and perhaps the chief factors, I almost say, are faith, readiness, and commitment to the spirit of Wilayah (guardianship). These three foundations have enabled the resistance to move from receiving blows to taking the initiative and regaining momentum.

Wilayah, according to Hezbollah's belief, is the guarantee for any group or movement that seeks to transform a threat, no matter how severe, into an opportunity, and create a breakthrough and a chance for hope.

Do you think Hezbollah's strategy of "hurting the enemy" will work to shorten the war?

Definitely. Tactic is one of the most important, prominent and first factors in shortening the war, because the Zionists are accustomed to occupying what is around them, and if

there is no one to resist and repel them, they will complete their expansionist project and even realize their goals. What we are witnessing today is the beginning of a decline in the wishes of the enemy and a retreat from its previously proposed goals that were almost imaginary, as it began to sense its failure on the ground.

What about the negotiations? To what extent are they serious? And, why do you think they failed?

Currently, there are no negotiations or serious diplomatic efforts; rather attempts to pressure Lebanon to admit it was defeated. This is far from reality. There will be no serious negotiations until the magic turns on the magician, and we are witnessing how Hezbollah is gradually regaining the initiative. I expect that in the coming days we will approach the path of serious diplomacy with an emphasis on the clear and unwavering policy of the resistance (movement), especially with regard to UN Resolution 1701, as Hezbollah rejects any compromise on sovereign rights. We believe the Israeli side will ultimately back down and stop the hostilities.

What will follow the November 5 US elections? Has the deep state in Washington been convinced that its proxy, Israel, has failed?

As it is becoming clear, the crimes of genocide and destruction are the most that the enemy can achieve. However, they do not positively serve its interests, neither politically nor militarily, so we notice its bet on an active role for Trump to get it (Israel) out of Gaza and the Lebanon quagmire and determine the features of the next stage, i.e. the day after the war, taking into account that the

Americans, from our point of view, will fail, as it failed after the liberation of the south in 2000, to impose conditions in favor of the Zionist entity.

What about the countries that have normalized ties with Israel? Have they, in turn, become convinced of the futility of normalization with the occupation regime?

In fact, Israel's inability to achieve any advance in the ground offensive has weakened its position, regionally and internationally, and placed it in the category of exposed and threatened countries. This failure has embarrassed the countries that have normalized ties with Israel. Hence, I assume that they will gradually begin to distance themselves from it as the occupation entity has proven that it is even unable to protect itself.

What are the prospects for the current war?

The Zionist entity has exhausted all its operational goals without achieving anything essential in terms of security politics. The occupation is today stuck in a dead-end and unable to transform killing and destruction into an achievement. It is currently immersed in a cycle of open violence and endless fighting.

Instead, the Axis of Resistance is determined to support the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people. It also rejects any conditions that affect the sovereignty of any of its countries. In the future, it (the Axis of Resistance) is moving towards expanding the scope of its cooperation with many countries in the region as it has been proven that we have no bright future without rapprochement and liberation from the hegemony of the US and the Zionist entity.

Safavid-era mihrab discovered in Isfahan's Sorkhi mosque



TEHRAN - In Isfahan, a significant discovery has been made during the restoration of the western prayer hall of the historical Sorkhi Mosque.

A rare mihrab, hidden for centuries, has emerged during restoration efforts, according to Seyyed Rouhollah Seyyed Alasgari, the deputy tourism chief of Isfahan province.

Seyyed Alasgari on Tuesday explained that the rediscovered mihrab is the mosque's original prayer niche dating back to the Safavid period, ISNA reported.

Covered during the Qajar era, this mihrab had been concealed to make way for a smaller, new Qajar-era mihrab that was aligned with slight adjustments to the qibla, the direction Muslims face during prayer.

"Fortunately, the Safavid mihrab was not destroyed but was instead covered by the Qajar modifications," Seyyed Alasgari noted, adding that the newly discovered structure has remained largely intact beneath the later addition.

The Sorkhi Mosque, a cherished Safavid

monument, was registered as a national historical site in 1936 under registration number 275.

Located on Isfahan's Chaharbagh-e Paean Street in the Sorkhi Mosque Alley, it was constructed in 1014 AH (1605-1606 CE) by an individual named Khalaf, a servant of Shah Abbas I.

The mosque's original name, "Sofrechi Mosque," eventually shifted to "Sorkhi Mosque" due to the distinctive red bricks used in its dome.

The mosque also features an entrance inscription in thuluth script on white and cobalt blue mosaic tiles, indicating its construction year, and a water basin on the western side with an inscription dated 1117 AH (1705-1706 CE), further attesting to the building's historical significance.

A mihrab is a niche in the wall of a mosque or religious school (madrasa) that indicates the direction of Mecca (qibla), which Muslims face when praying. It is the architectural and symbolic focal point of religious buildings.

A mihrab is usually decorated with inscriptions on a background of cobalt blue, turquoise, golden yellow, white, and dark green tile mosaic.

The outermost rectangular band contains cursive verses from the Holy Quran.

The frame around the niche is generally decorated with arabesque designs outlined in blue and interspersed with floral blossoms. Moreover, it usefully bears an inscription from the hadith (sayings of the Prophet Muhammad, PBUH), written in angular kufic script.

UN Tourism to host intl. conference on tourism for rural development in Vietnam

UN Tourism, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Vietnam, will convene global and local leaders, policy makers, and industry pioneers for the First Conference on Tourism for Rural Development from December 9 to 11.

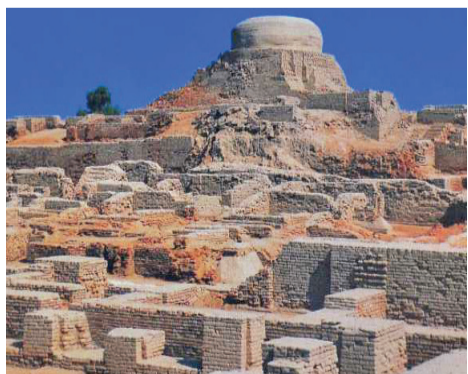
The Conference will bring together representatives from national and local governments, international organizations, and the private sector to showcase around a shared vision for tourism as a catalyst for rural upliftment and inclusive development. Centered on empowering local communities, it will showcase best practices and strategies designed to create enduring, positive change. Sessions will explore how equitable tourism can generate jobs, safeguard cultural and natural resources, and foster social inclu-

sion, with particular emphasis on supporting women and youth. Topics under discussion include adequate policy framework, financing, market access, product development, the links with agriculture and governance.

One of the conference's main themes will be the role of communities in sustainable tourism development in rural areas. By encouraging local participation in tourism planning and development, the event aims to help rural communities harness tourism in ways that are economically beneficial and culturally and environmentally respectful. Special attention will be given to involving local communities in governance and decision-making processes to achieve equitable tourism benefits.

(Source: UN Tourism)

Glimpses of World Heritage sites: Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro



Indus valley and is one of the world's three great ancient civilizations.

The discovery of Moenjodaro in 1922 revealed evidence of the customs, art, religion and administrative abilities of its inhabitants. The well planned city mostly built with baked bricks and having public baths; a college of priests; an elaborate drainage system; wells, soak pits for disposal of sewage, and a large granary, bears testimony that it was a metropolis of great importance, enjoying a well organized civic, economic, social and cultural system.

Moenjodaro comprises two sectors: a citadel area in the west where the Buddhist stupa was constructed with unbaked brick over the ruins of Moenjodaro in the 2nd century CE, and to the east, the lower city ruins spread out along the banks of the Indus.

Here buildings are laid out along streets intersecting each other at right angles, in a highly orderly form of city planning that also incorporates systems of sanitation and drainage.

(Source: UNESCO)

National handicrafts exhibit opens in Tehran amid calls for cultural, economic synergy

By Afshin Majlesi

TEHRAN - Iran's 37th National Handicrafts Exhibition opened yesterday in Tehran amid calls for cultural preservation and economic strength.

Addressing the opening ceremony, the Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts, Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri, highlighted the significant role of artisans in fostering creativity and economic growth.

"Our handicraft artists are talented and motivated, with a genuine passion for creating job opportunities," he stated, expressing hope that the public would actively support local artisans by attending the exhibition.

The minister also emphasized the government's commitment to nurturing creative industries, noting, "Our administration's strategy prioritizes support for innovative craftsmen, aiming to ensure that these unique products receive the attention they deserve."

Elsewhere in his remarks, Salehi-Amiri shared plans to enhance the nation's export strategy, focusing particularly on Persian carpets and textiles to delicate ceramics, wood carvings, and metalworks, visitors have the opportunity to experience firsthand the range of craftsmanship that has defined Iranian culture for centuries.

He concluded by emphasizing ongoing initiatives to bolster and streamline the development of Iran's handicraft industry, underscoring the cultural and economic impor-



tance of the sector to both rural and urban communities.

This year's exhibition bears the theme "Handicrafts in Urban and Rural Areas: The Foundation for Unity and Identity-Based Economic Development."

The event highlights Iran's rich tradition of handicrafts and gathers artists and craftsmen from all 31 provinces, each presenting their unique contributions to the country's cultural heritage. From intricate Persian carpets and textiles to delicate ceramics, wood carvings, and metalworks, visitors have the opportunity to experience firsthand the range of craftsmanship that has defined Iranian culture for centuries.

Visitor impressions

In an interview with the Tehran Times, several visitors expressed

deep admiration for the exceptional quality and wide variety of handicrafts on display.

A Tehran resident, Laila, commented, "I've been to similar exhibitions before, but this year's event seems larger and more comprehensive. It's wonderful to see artisans from different regions gathered in one place to share their skills and heritage. It reminds me of how important it is to preserve these traditions."

Another visitor, Majid from Isfahan, noted the exhibition's appeal to younger audiences. "It's inspiring to see so many young people here, especially since handicrafts are often associated with older generations. This exhibition does a great job of making it accessible and interesting for everyone, regardless of age."

For some attendees, the exhibition

brought a new appreciation for Iran's artistic diversity. "I came here with my family, not expecting much beyond beautiful objects," said Zahra, who had traveled from Shiraz for the event. "But now I see that each piece tells a story about a region, its people, and their way of life. The exhibition is not just about items for sale; it's about the preservation of history and culture."

A space for cultural exchange and inspiration

The venue itself has been meticulously designed to create a warm, inviting atmosphere where artisans can interact with visitors. Many booths offer live demonstrations, allowing attendees to observe traditional techniques in action. Artisans are eager to share stories behind their creations, revealing the dedication and skill required to produce such intricate pieces.

Local craftsman Ali, who has been handcrafting ceramics for over 20 years, expressed his excitement about this year's exhibition. "It's a privilege to represent my province and meet people who genuinely appreciate the work we do. Exhibitions like this one are essential for keeping our heritage alive and inspiring the next generation of artists and craftsmen."

The four-day exhibition will run until November 16, hosted in exhibition halls 7, 8, 9, 10, and 27 of the Tehran Permanent International Fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Esfahak named one of UN Tourism's Best Tourism Villages for 2024

TEHRAN - The historical village of Esfahak, nestled in Iran's South Khorasan province, has achieved international recognition by being named one of the Best Tourism Villages for 2024 by UN Tourism.

The tribute highlights Esfahak's remarkable transformation from a site devastated by a 1978 earthquake into a flourishing cultural and eco-tourism destination that celebrates sustainability and heritage.

The registration was announced by Iran's Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts, Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri, on Wednesday, during the opening day of Iran's 37th National Handicrafts Exhibition.

"Esfahak's resilience and dedication to preserving its cultural heritage serve as an inspiration," said Salehi-Amiri, lauding the village's progress and its embrace of sustainable tourism.

Severely damaged by the 1978 earthquake that struck Tabas, Esfahak was once deemed uninhab-



itable, with residents living in temporary tents. Later, they built makeshift wooden rooms, known as Otagh-e-Choobi (wooden rooms), as they began rebuilding their lives.

With a commitment to sustainability and cultural preservation, villagers re-established the community over the years, developing eco-lodges and restoring traditional homes using ancient

adobe techniques.

Esfahak's transformation into a cultural and eco-tourism destination has garnered attention for its unique architecture and sustainable practices, earning the village the prestigious Asia Architecture Award. Today, it attracts tourists from across the world, drawn to its picturesque adobe structures and commitment to preserving local identity.

Since 2021, the Best Tourism Villages initiative has aimed to promote sustainable tourism in rural areas, focusing on preserving natural landscapes, cultural heritage, and indigenous lifestyles, including gastronomy and local values. Esfahak's inclusion on this global list is a testament to its villagers' dedication to revitalizing their heritage and turning it into a sustainable tourism hub that honors its past while embracing a prosperous future.

In 2020, Esfahak won a TO-DO Award that is annually presented by the German Institute for Tourism and Development.

Artifacts dating back 4,000 years discovered in Sari

TEHRAN - Local police have uncovered four ancient clay artifacts estimated to be around 4,000 years old in Sari, the capital of Mazandaran province in northern Iran.

Abdollah Hassanzadeh, the police commander of Sari county, announced the discovery, revealing that the objects were seized following a tip-off regarding illegal antiquities trading in the area, ISNA reported on Tuesday.

According to Hassanzadeh, law enforcement officers from the Gol-

ma station in Sari conducted extensive intelligence gathering and police investigations. With authorization from the judicial authorities, officers raided the suspect's residence, where they discovered the relics.

The recovered items include pottery vessels and clay jars believed to date back to the Iron Age, the commander said.

The suspect was taken into custody and a file has been opened for further legal proceedings. Experts from the Cultural Heritage Depart-

ment are currently assessing the historical value of the artifacts.

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



in jungles and mountains, waterfalls, and caves are among the major tourist attractions in the province.

Archaeologists in China reconstruct 5,000-year-old ancestor's face

In northeastern China, archaeologists have used advanced 3D technology to reconstruct the face of a man from more than 5,000 years ago.

The skull, discovered in a Neolithic tomb in Liaoning province, has been digitally transformed into the likeness of a young man believed to have lived during the Hongshan culture period.

Unveiling the face of a Neolithic ancestor

The recently reconstructed face of a man from the Hongshan culture, a Neolithic society that flourished more than 5,000 years ago, was created by researchers from the Liaoning Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology, working alongside experts from Jilin University

This ancient face was reconstructed from a remarkably well-preserved skull, found in a tomb in the city of Chaoyang. According to Li Haibo, the deputy director of the institute, the man is believed to have been between 25 and 30 years old at the time of his death.

"It is the first reconstruction based on an actual Hongshan ancestor's skull," said Li. "The reconstructed face can be considered the closest to reality achieved to date."

Collaboration across disciplines for precise results

To accurately reconstruct this individual's face, researchers combined expertise from various

fields. Anthropology provided context about cultural markers and lifestyle, while anatomy guided the reconstruction of the skull's structure and facial details.

Computer science enabled the use of 3D imaging technology, and artistic expertise helped refine subtle features such as eye shape, skin tone, and hair color.

Together, these disciplines allowed the team to carefully identify the man's gender, approximate age, and physical characteristics, creating a remarkably realistic image of someone from 5,000 years ago.

(Source: greekreporter.com)

One thousand Afghan prisoners to be repatriated

TEHRAN – Iran is planning to send over a total of 1,000 Afghan prisoners to their home country within the next two months.

According to the latest statistics, less than 10 Iranians are currently imprisoned in Afghanistan, IRNA reported.

A majority of Afghan prisoners are convicted of drug-related crimes, Askar Jalalian, the deputy justice minister announced on Wednesday.

Highlighting friendly relations between the two countries, Jalalian said the two neighboring countries need to cooperate more to remove problems.

He went on to say Afghan prisoners are repatriated on their own free will.

However, those who have been sentenced to death, have private plaintiffs or are indebted won't be transferred.

In 2006, Iran and Afghanistan signed an agreement on the repatriation of prisoners.

Iran's support for refugees

Iran's support for refugees is demonstrated through its inclusive policies, which encompass protection, assistance, education, and healthcare, inspiring the global community and positively impacting the lives of refugees.

As the second-largest refugee-hosting country, Iran is currently host to one of the largest and most protracted refugee pop-



ulations in the world, the majority of whom are Afghan refugees.

The country is home to over 800,000 registered refugees and some 2.6 million undocumented Afghans.

Currently, more than 500,000 Afghan children – including undocumented Afghans and those who have newly arrived in Iran following the Taliban takeover – are benefiting from Iran's inclusive education policies, one of the most progressive in the world.

In total, Iran hosts some 4.5 million Afghans of varying status – including resident permit holders, undocumented Afghans, and family passport holders – many of whom have been in the country for an extended period and require support to strengthen their resilience.

Iran's generous and exceptional

services for refugees despite unfair economic sanctions have exceeded expectations and international responsibilities.

The government of Iran has made a very generous effort to provide services to millions of refugees and foreign nationals despite difficult living conditions and oppressive economic sanctions imposed on the country.

However, Nader Yar-Ahmadi, an official with the National Organization for Migration, in the 75th Annual Session of the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (ExCom) which was held from October 14 to 19 in Geneva, Switzerland, said in case the international community refrains from taking responsibility and fairly sharing the burden of hosting refugees, the Islamic Republic of Iran will probably revise its immigration policies.

The official made the remarks in a meeting held on the sidelines of the annual session with Flippo Grandi, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

The Iranian official said the increase in foreign nationals' population along with educational, economic, cultural-social, and health infrastructure pressure on one hand and the lack of consistency between the UNHCR budget and the needs and costs of refugees in the country on the other hand have caused numerous problems, IRNA quoted Yar-Ahmadi as saying.

The official emphasized less than one percent of the costs of refugees have been paid for; hosting more refugees is improbable, and they have to return to their home country.

"The priority of the country is to resettle vulnerable refugees in third countries, despite promises made in your last visit to Iran in the calendar year 1400 (2021 – 2022) to provide more vulnerable refugees with insurance, sadly, not only did the number of those covered not increase, but also decreased from 120,000 to 95,000 individuals.

The official acknowledged that with the increase in the number of Afghan nationals, the situation has become more complicated for the country as the aid has not been proportionate to the provided services to refugees in these 40 years.

Iran to mark Antimicrobial Resistance week

TEHRAN –Health ministry is planning to observe Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) week from November 18 to 24 to highlight avoiding the irrational prescription of antibiotics.

Antimicrobial Resistance occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites change over time and no longer respond to medicines, making infections harder to treat and increasing the risk of disease spread, severe illness, and death.

As a result of drug resistance, antibiotics and other antimicrobial medicines become ineffective and infections become increasingly difficult or impossible to treat.

In 2022, Iran was classified as the largest consumer of antibiotics among 63 countries, and the trend has been soaring over the past three years, the health ministry's website reported.

The week-long campaign aims to raise awareness among public and health workers about AMR and encourage behavior change towards the cautious use of antimicrobials and observe proper hygiene practices.

To do so, the health ministry will use effective communication, education, and training programs.

Other recommended strategies include preventing infection transmission in society and in healthcare settings, strengthening surveillance systems in monitoring the level of microbial resistance and the amount of antimicrobial



drug consumption, optimizing the use of antimicrobial drugs and supporting research.

Each day of the week focuses on a specific topic.

Monday, November 18, Community engagement to maintain the effectiveness of antimicrobials

Tuesday, November 19, waste management safeguards the environment against resistant microbes

Wednesday, November 20, Prevention of infection, prevention of anti-microbial resistance

Thursday, November 21, Veterinary and responsible use of antimicrobial medicines to maintain their effectiveness

Friday, November 22, Rational use of antimicrobials helps maintain their effectiveness

Saturday, November 23, Mass media role in maintaining the effectiveness of antimicrobials

Sunday, November 24, Research and technology to maintain the effectiveness of antimicro-

bial medicines

AMR is a global issue that requires different sectors related to the health of humans, animals, plants, and the environment to cooperate in the form of an integrated approach named 'one Health approach'.

AMR, global health threat

A global action plan to tackle the growing problem of resistance to antibiotics and other antimicrobial medicines was endorsed at the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly in May 2015. It aims to galvanize global efforts to address the growing threat of AMR.

AMR poses a threat to global health, food security, and achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

AMR puts a strain on health systems by diminishing the effectiveness of treatments, leading to prolonged illnesses and increased healthcare costs.

Simultaneously, AMR poses a threat to food security as it can spread through the food chain, impacting both animal and human health and causing economic losses in the agricultural sector.

AMR is directly responsible for 1.3 million deaths and contributes to 5 million deaths every year.

AMR also threatens the economic future, with an estimated global annual cost of up to US\$3.4 trillion by 2030 and 28 million people pushed into poverty by 2050.

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Special clinic to relieve bereaved coronavirus families

A special clinic will be opened for the first time in the country to provide free psychological services to families who have lost their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The clinic is called "Soog" (literally meaning mourn) will be inaugurated at Shahid Beheshti Educational and Medical Center in Zanjan province on Wednesday.

The outbreak of coronavirus has changed the lifestyle of many families. Sudden changes in life cause stress, while the coronavirus itself has doubled the stress due to its contagion and the number of lives it has claimed in the world to date.

افتتاح 'کلینیک سوگ' برای تسکین خانواده‌هایی که اعضای خود را بر اثر کرونا از دست داده‌اند

نخستین کلینیک سوگ در کشور برای ارائه خدمات رایگان روان‌شناختی به خانواده‌هایی که اعضای خانواده خود را به دلیل ابتلا به کرونا از دست داده‌اند افتتاح خواهد شد. این کلینیک ۲۳ مهرماه امسال در مرکز آموزشی درمانی شهید بهشتی زنجان کار خود را آغاز خواهد کرد. شیوع ویروس کرونا باعث شده است تا سبک زندگی بسیاری از خانواده‌ها دچار تغییر شود. ایجاد تغییرات ناگهانی در زندگی باعث ایجاد استرس می‌شود. این در حالی است که خود ویروس کرونا به دلیل واگیردار بودن و نیز آمار فوتی‌هایی که تا به امروز در دنیا به جا گذاشته، این استرس را دوچندان کرده است.

'COP29 decisions should help reduce climate change impacts'

TEHRAN – Shina Ansari, the head of the Department of Environment, has said the decisions that will be adopted by the representatives of the countries attending the United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP29, should contribute to mitigating the effects of climate change.

The official is attending the 29th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change which is taking place from November 11 to 22 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

She made the remarks on the sidelines of the opening session, in a meeting with Qatari Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Abdullah bin Abdulaziz bin Turki Al Subaie, dot-ai.ir reported.

The two sides discussed ways for boosting cooperation. During the meeting, Ansari highlighted that Iran and Qatar are among the countries most affected by climate change, particularly, sand and dust storms (SDSs).

"Climate change has already impacted several provinces and caused severe environmental issues in the country. However, addressing the consequences of climate change requires collaborative efforts of regional countries," she added.

The official said that Qatar is a member state of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME) which further underscores the significance of the two countries' cooperation.

Referring to marine ecosystems' significance in climate change, Ansari said the capabilities of the ROPME have been neglected. "We expect this environmental convention among Persian Gulf states to take effect."

The official went on to voice the country's interest in fostering environmental cooperation as well as sharing expertise and experiences with all neighboring countries, particularly Qatar.

Ansari expressed optimism that enhancing collaborations between Iran and Qatar would encourage neighboring countries to help launch a specialized working group to tackle sand and dust storms.

Qatar ready to cooperate with Iran to address SDSs

Qatar's newly appointed ambassador in Tehran Saad bin Abdullah Al-Mohammad Al-Sharif in a meeting with Ansari on Sunday in Tehran announced that Qatar is completely prepared to collaborate with Iran in the fight against sand and dust storms (SDSs).

Highlighting the friendly relationship between the two countries, the Qatari official said, "Qatar pays great attention to environmental issues. In this regard, we are fully prepared to cooperate with Iran to combat sand and dust storms, and we would also like to receive Tehran's proposals on managing this phenomenon."

Ansari, for her part, expressed Iran's interest in expanding environmental collaborations, sharing expertise with Qatar.

The official went on to say that dust is one of the most important environmental issues in Iran which has also impacted the region for a long time and has had numerous environmental impacts on several provinces. Regional cooperation is needed to manage the problem.

Ansari said the geographical proximity, and close relationships of the two countries, and their memberships in the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME) further underscores the significance of the two countries' cooperation.

"We are also interested in boosting cooperation around the ROPME convention and utilizing its capacities to solve the environmental issues of the Persian Gulf," Ansari noted.

COP29 an opportunity to condemn sanctions

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.



Botanical garden hosting chrysanthemum festival

The National Botanical Garden is hosting a festival of chrysanthemum flowers which will run through December 15.

More than 500 chrysanthemum varieties in some 100 different colors are on display.



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NOVEMBER 14, 2024

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Beware, beware of sinfulness. By God, He has veiled His servants' guilt so much as if He has forgiven them.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon:11:48 Evening: 17:27 Dawn: 5:09 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:35 (tomorrow)

Exhibition looks Back at Columbia's Gaza solidarity encampments

It's been eight months since the Gaza Solidarity Encampments at Columbia University in New York, the U.S., launched an international student movement targeting institutional complicity in Israel's attacks on Palestine. After multiple police raids, hundreds of arrests, and campus suppression, a new collective has formed from the school's intersecting pro-Palestine movements.

Hinds House Collective (HHC) made its off-campus debut last weekend, November 9 and 10, with a simultaneous exhibition and teach-in event harkening back to the April takeover of Columbia's Hamilton Hall, Hyperallergic reported.

Hamilton Hall was renamed "Hind's Hall" by students and activists in tribute to five-year-old Hind Rajab. The Palestinian child was trapped in a car in Gaza with the bullet-riddled bodies of her dead uncle, aunt, and three cousins — all of whom were killed by an Israeli army tank. Rajab was eventually killed, as were two paramedics who responded to her frantic calls for help.

In a press statement, the anonymous collective cited Columbia University Interim President Katrina Armstrong's "vapid apology" to those "harmed" by the police during the encampment dissolution as the catalyst of its inception. "When a genocide is in place, we are not going to be silenced by fascist measures imposed by the Columbia administration," the group said.

The exhibition was mounted in the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity house on West 114th Street, which is the "closest privately owned building to Hind's Hall [Hamilton Hall]" and was therefore the ideal venue for the exhibition, HHC said. The group also collaborated with the Palestinian Museum in the city of Birzeit in the Occupied West Bank, utilizing the institution's ready-to-download exhibition materials throughout the space.

"The show felt like an urgent and resonant choice, especially given our history of solidarity—flying the Palestinian flag in 2016, 2019, and once again now, since October 2023," Alpha Delta Phi's Columbia chapter said. Hyperallergic visited the two-floor exhibition, simply titled HINDS HOUSE, upon its Saturday evening opening. With video and audio installations, sculptures and assemblage, and wide sweeps of painting and drawing across the yellow-painted walls of the house, the show recalled the aesthetics of an immersive experience. One room was entirely enveloped by a

pro-Palestine quilt that made its inaugural appearance on the steps of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in Manhattan in March and has since grown with additional squares over time.

Artist and writer Rebecca Goyette, who spearheaded the quilt project alongside several collectives including Hope in the Art World, explained that displaying the collaborative work in this way was "an opportunity to support Columbia students' activism, and created a soft space to contemplate the violence inflicted upon Gaza and the West Bank." "Keeping this project alive continues to stimulate artists' voices throughout, and ensures that this cause remains at the forefront of people's minds," Goyette continued, noting that squares will be added "until Palestine is free."

"In my lifetime, there's never been an issue that's been so intentionally silenced, so I want to normalize solidarity with Palestinians through this installation," she said.

Artist and fashion designer Meryl Ranzer took over two adjacent walls in the opposite common room with hundreds of mixed-media daily self-portraits dating from October 7, 2023, through the present. As the weeks progress, the text accompanying Ranzer's portraits shifts from singular words and emotions to calls such as "Ceasefire now," "End the genocide," and "Arms embargo now," indicating an evolution from processing one's own feelings to engaging in broader cries for systemic change as the atrocities persist.

In the first-floor corridor, artist Peloloca's sculptural rendition of the Palestinian cartoon Handala, a 10-year-old refugee child drawn by the late political cartoonist Naji al-Ali, stood with his back to the world. According to the cartoon's history, Handala will neither age nor reveal his face until Palestine gains autonomy and he can return to his homeland.

"Bringing Handala to Hind's House felt like a homecoming," Peloloca said. In the exhibition, the two-foot-tall sculpture was placed next to an altar dedicated to Hind Rajab.

"Witnessing this image of the children together — two hugely important figures of Palestinian Liberation — has been profound and emotional," Peloloca said. While Handala's growth is conditional upon his return, she implied, Rajab will never have the opportunity to age.

Cartoon of Day



Trump
Cartoonist: Mohammad Sabaaneh from Palestine

Uzbekistan's Tavakkal Sultonov shines at Iran's children's theater festival

By Samaneh Aboutaleb

HAMEDAN- The presence of Uzbek director Tavakkal Sultonov in the 29th edition of Iran's International Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults in Hamedan added a new perspective to the event. His play, "Musical Teahouse," written by Sergey Sedukhin, captured the attention of audiences and received an award for creativity in direction in the closing ceremony of the event last week.

In an interview with the Tehran Times during his stay in Hamedan, Sultonov expressed his admiration for the architectural style of Hamedan, noting its striking resemblance to his homeland in Uzbekistan.

"During our stay in this beautiful city, we felt at home and enjoyed both local and international performances," he shared.

"It's my first time attending festivals in Iran, and I have thoroughly enjoyed this experience. Over the past few days, I have watched most of the shows and am impressed by the exceptionally high quality of the works presented," he reflected on the performances.

"I was particularly astonished by the coordination of the shows and the thoughtful selections made by the jury, which I found to be commendable aspects of the festival."

Sultonov described his experience at the festival as unforgettable: "Despite it being our first time here, we received unprecedented warmth from the people of Hamedan, both during our performances and throughout our brief stay. This has truly amazed me."

Reflecting on the audience's connection, he noted, "Interacting with the spectators and feeling their emotions during our performance created



an irreplaceable experience for both me and my team."

Sultonov, speaking to the success of the festival as a global event, declared, "Having attended several festivals in Russia, Turkey, and Kazakhstan, I can say that this festival boasts significantly higher quality."

We take pride in our participation here and are thrilled to have had this opportunity."

He went on to explain the significance of the teahouse in Uzbek culture, stating, "Our play is called 'Musical Teahouse.' The concept of a teahouse exists not only in Uzbekistan but also in Iran, Turkey, and Tajikistan. It serves as a social space where people converse, laugh, and forge human connections."

The costumes in the play reflect the rich heritage of Uzbekistan, with performers wearing traditional national hats that vary in design and color for men and women.

Highlighting the cultural ties between Iran and Uzbekistan, Sultonov remarked on the historical connection to figures like Avicenna, who was born in Bukhara, Uzbekistan.

"I am incredibly happy to visit Iran and to pay my respects at the tomb of this great physician and philosopher," he stated.

He also noted that the cultures of Iran and Uzbekistan have long shared a friendly relationship, maturing together before the time of Avicenna.

Sultonov emphasized the historical friendship between Iran and Uzbekistan, hoping that this bond extends beyond football and into the arts: "When we think of Iran, the first thing that comes to our mind is the friendship we have shared."

I hope this connection continues, and we even wish to learn the Persian language."

Discussing the value of culture and art as means of fostering friendships among nations, he concluded, "Art knows no boundaries, and I firmly believe that culture and art can strengthen our ties and promote peace. We came to Iran with the spirit of friendship in hopes that it persists."

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 intergenerational 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.

Allama Muhammad Iqbal commemorated in Lahore, Tehran

TEHRAN-On the occasion of the 147th birthday of poet Allama Muhammad Iqbal, commemoration ceremonies were held in Iran and Pakistan.

A ceremony was organized on November 10 at the GC University Lahore, where the head of Iran Culture Center in Lahore Asghar Masoudi and Muneeb Iqbal, the grandson of Allama Iqbal attended, ISNA reported.

Through the event, the thoughts and ideas of the great poet were highlighted and a commitment was made to keep his message alive in the new generations.

Masoudi described Persian as the language of love and the modern Islamic civilization, noting that it serves as a suitable medium to convey the profound and elevated thoughts of Iqbal.

"In his works, love for the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and the Ahl al-Bayt (the Prophet's family) is evident," he noted.

Reading some of Iqbal's poetry, Masoudi noted that Iqbal Lahori was a multifaceted personality, with each aspect of his life worthy of its own book.

"Iqbal was a philosopher, poet, mystic, Islamic scholar, politician, and prominent social reformer who chose Persian as the vehicle for expressing his ideas," he added.

He further mentioned that, years before the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran, Iqbal had predicted this revolution and the emergence of Imam Khomeini (RA).

"In one of his poems, he described Iran at that time as a prison with high walls, prophesying that a great man would come and break the chains," Masoudi stated.

For his part, Muneeb Iqbal emphasized the influence of Allama Iqbal's poetry and ideas on the younger generation and his special attention to youth.

"Iqbal consistently addressed the youth as his primary audience, urging them to value high human and spiritual ideals."

For Iqbal, this issue was so important that he harbored the hope of establishing an independent Islamic country for Muslims, where they could live freely, honorably, and



securely practice their beliefs," he said.

Muneeb noted that Iqbal's love and devotion to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and the Ahl al-Bayt is clearly reflected in his poetry. "In many verses, Iqbal refers to the Prophet as a symbol and a perfect role model for Muslims."

This love and reverence for the Prophet and Ahl al-Bayt reflect Iqbal's deep faith in Islam and adherence to its principles," he added.

At the end of the ceremony, Muneeb Iqbal presented a commemorative plaque to Asghar Masoudi, recognizing his efforts in promoting Persian culture and language and commemorating Iqbal's legacy.

The plaque symbolized appreciation and respect for Masoudi's valuable services in strengthening cultural ties between Iran and Pakistan and expanding Iqbal's teachings among the younger generation.

Iran Culture Center in Lahore is one of the 85 cultural delegations of the Islamic Culture and Relation Organization in the world, established in 1956 based on the cultural agreement between Iran and Pakistan.

In another ceremony at the University of Tehran on November 12, Ambassador of Pakistan in Tehran Muhammad Mudassir Tipu said: "It is a matter of pride for us that the leader of the Islamic Revolution not only gives great importance to the poems of Allama Iqbal, but he has also memorized 2,000 poems of Iqbal."

"Allama Muhammad Iqbal has said about Iran and Pakistan that we are not just border neighbors but we have ancient cultural, historical and civilizational relations with

Iran," he noted.

"To strengthen friendship and foster further cooperation, agreements have been made, one of which includes establishing a chair for Urdu language and Pakistan studies in the Faculty of Literature at the University of Tehran.

The Urdu language department was initially established in 1991 in the Faculty of Foreign Languages at the University of Tehran, and now it has also been set up in the Faculty of Literature.

We hope, with the support of our dear friends at the University of Tehran, these activities will continue with strength," the ambassador added.

Muhammad Iqbal (1877-1938), widely known as Allama Iqbal, was a South Asian academic, poet, barrister, philosopher, and politician who is considered one of the most important figures in Urdu literature, with literary works in both Urdu and Persian languages.

Iqbal is admired as a prominent classical poet in Iran, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and also by international scholars of literature.

He is widely known as the poet of Islam or the poet of the East. However, about 60 percent of the works of Iqbal is in the Persian language which makes him equally popular in Iran. His poetry has been translated in many languages.

Though Iqbal is best known as an eminent poet, he is also a highly acclaimed Muslim philosophical thinker of modern times. He is called the spiritual father of Pakistan.

He was a strong proponent of the political and spiritual revival of Islamic civilization across the world, but in particular in South Asia; a series of lectures he delivered to this effect were published as "The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam."

After the creation of Pakistan in 1947, he was named the national poet there. He is also known as the "Hakeem-ul-Ummat" (The Sage of the Ummah) and the "Mufakkir-e-Pakistan" (The Thinker of Pakistan).