



Tehran-Damascus: Resilient Ties

Capitals of Iran and Syria recently hosted high-level officials to enhance coordination on critical regional issues

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Why does Iran firmly support Syria?

By Afifeh Abedi

TEHRAN – The visit of Syria's Foreign Minister to Iran, following trips to Damascus by the Leader of the Islamic Revolution's senior advisor and Iran's Minister of Defense within the span of a week, carries significant messages regarding bilateral, regional, and international relations.

In recent days, Israel has issued threats against Syria through various channels, even raising the possibility of assassinating Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. The Israeli regime's demand from Syria is to refrain from cooperating with the Resistance Axis and from transferring weapons to Hezbollah in Lebanon.

In response to these threats, Ali Larijani, the Leader's senior advisor, traveled to Damascus and Lebanon with a message of Iran's firm support for the territorial integrity, people, and governments of Syria and Lebanon. ▶ Page 3

Diplomatic aggression against Lebanon mounts

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT – Caution prevails regarding the future of the ceasefire negotiations coinciding with the tour of the US presidential envoy Amos Hochstein in Beirut.

The Lebanese negotiators, i.e. Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri and caretaker Prime Minister Najib Mikati, had already informed the US embassy in Beirut of Lebanon's position on the US proposal for a ceasefire.

The US proposal, consisting of more than 12 clauses, involves two problematic clauses, one regarding "the right of both parties to self-defense" and the other regarding "membership of the committee monitoring the implementation of UN resolution 1701".

The Lebanese negotiator doubts the Israeli enemy's insistence on the "right of self-defense" ▶ Page 5

Tel Aviv on fire amid Hezbollah attacks

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN – Hezbollah has staged one of its largest attacks on Tel Aviv in response to the deadly Israeli aggression on the Lebanese capital, Beirut.

On Monday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu outlined three conditions for a settlement with Hezbollah.

He told the Israeli Knesset that these included impunity for the regime to violate Lebanon's sovereignty in the south, something that has been rejected by the Lebanese parliament speaker.

U.S. envoy Amos Hochstein arrived in Beirut on Tuesday to exchange the Israeli side's conditions for a truce.

His visit coincided with one of the deadliest Israeli attacks on Lebanese civilians since the war erupted.

The Lebanese resistance responded to the Israeli aggression with-range ▶ Page 5

From the Caucasus to Latin America: World unites against Israel's crimes

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN – Anti-war protesters seize every opportunity to express their deep resentment against Israel's atrocities in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon.

In addition to staging global street protests, pro-Palestine activists have taken advantage of international events to highlight Israel's brutalities.

The UN climate summit in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, is one of the international events that has been eclipsed by prevailing anti-Israel sentiments. The 12-day climate conference known as COP29 began on November 11.

Amid growing anger at Israel's crimes, President Isaac Herzog canceled his ▶ Page 5

Tehran, Beijing, Riyadh unite to condemn Israeli aggression against Iran

TEHRAN – In a joint statement published on Tuesday, Iran, China, and Saudi Arabia condemned Israel for its October attack against Iranian territory.

Representatives from the three nations convened for their second trilateral meeting in Riyadh since Iran and Saudi Arabia restored diplomatic ties under China's mediation in March of 2023.

The participants included Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Majid Takht-Ravanchi, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Deng Li, and Saudi Deputy Foreign Minister Waleed Abdul Karim Al-Kharaji.

The trio strongly denounced Israel's attack against Iran and reaffirmed their commitment to upholding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic.

Israeli warplanes fired missiles at military installations inside Iran from Iraqi airspace on October 26. While the attacks failed to reach their objectives, they took the lives of five Iranians, including four Army personnel working for the air defense forces.

Elsewhere in the joint statement, the three states also condemned the ongoing Israeli aggression against Gaza and Lebanon, emphasizing the need for an immediate cessation of hostilities. ▶ Page 2

Genocide supporter turned human rights activist

By Soheila Zarfam

TEHRAN – A recent Globe and Mail article by Robert Fife details an alleged assassination plot against 84-year-old former Canadian Special Envoy on Holocaust Remembrance and Justice Minister Irwin Cotler. Who tried to assassinate him? Iran, the report says.

The article claims Cotler's been under 24/7 police protection for over a year. And yet, someone thought it was crucial to "warn" him about an imminent threat last month, telling him that he was going to be attacked by "agents" linked to Iran within the next 48 hours.

The article further claims that the FBI has also contacted Cotler regarding related assassination operations and that the former politician himself has warned about Iranian interference in elections and the spread of disinformation.

Fife says Cotler is being "targeted" due to being a "critic" of the Iranian government

Who is Irwin Cotler?

Cotler served as Canada's justice minister and attorney general from 2003 to 2006. He was once Ottawa's special envoy on Holocaust remembrance as well. Western media says Cotler has been a "human rights activist" since he retired from politics in 2015. A closer look at his whereabouts and links, however, shows he has been anything but. ▶ Page 3

Iran-Venezuela Joint Economic Committee meeting kicks off in Caracas

TEHRAN – The 10th meeting of the Iran-Venezuela Joint Economic Committee opened in Caracas on Monday with representatives of dozens of public and private companies and institutions, along with government officials from both countries in attendance.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the economic meeting, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Yvan Gil emphasized the historic cooperation between the two countries and noted that thanks to the strong political relations, about 300 agreements have been finalized between the two countries.

"In the past two years, we have signed about 80 contracts, we witnessed the visit of President Nicolás Maduro to the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2022 and the visit of late President Ebrahim Raisi to Caracas in 2023, and now we continue making progress in this joint committee meeting," the official said. ▶ Page 4



Iranian team grabs gold medal at INO 2024

TEHRAN – Isfahan University of Technology, representing Iran, won the gold medal at the second International Nanotechnology Olympiad (INO 2024), which was held from October 17 to 18 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The Iranian team competed with participants from Thailand, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Malaysia.

Hamid-Reza Qorbani, Ph.D. student of metallurgy engineering; and Nima Dehqan, B.S student of metallurgy engineering, proposed a project named 'Using sunlight to produce clean hydrogen fuel', IRNA reported.

This year, the presented projects focused on global challenges facing nanotechnology applications in the development and production of new (alternative) ▶ Page 7

Zionism abuses Judaism, Iran's Zarif tells Jewish people in video message

TEHRAN – In a video address to the global Jewish community, Mohammad Javad Zarif, Iran's Deputy President for Strategic Affairs, sharply criticized Zionism, calling it a betrayal of the Ten Commandments and an ideology rooted in racism and hatred.

Zarif accused the Zionist regime of exploiting the memory of Holocaust victims to further a colonial agenda of apartheid and expansionism, describing this as a profound distortion of Jewish values and principles.

Zarif's remarks aimed to draw a stark distinction between Judaism as a faith and Zionism as a political movement, urging Jewish communities worldwide to resist the secular ideology cloaked in religious rhetoric. ▶ Page 2



TEHRAN PAPERS

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

Self-proclaimed reformists are permanent absentees of history class

In an analysis, Kayhan pointed to the false hope of a group of reformers on Trump. It wrote: According to the American Antiwar website, in the future, the countries of the world may no longer be willing to sign an agreement with the United States due to its failure to fulfill its promises. Reneging on promises is not just limited to violation of America's commitment during Donald Trump's administration. The behavior of the Democrats throughout history also confirms America's violations of agreements. Democrats and Republicans are known as the "serial killer of international agreements". The point is that the parties victim to this disloyalty are not just countries hostile to America, but the United States' allies as well. The American government also has a black record of disloyalty against Iran. America's disloyalty against Iran, England, France, Russia, Egypt, Libya, North Korea, Afghanistan, Ukraine, etc. is accessible with a simple search through the internet. However, the self-proclaimed reformists close their eyes to these obvious facts and are very eager to negotiate with Trump. In this situation, it can be said with certainty that the reformers are the permanent absentees of the history class.

Sobh-e-No: A strategic step to strengthen Axis of Resistance

In a note, Sobh-e-No discussed the visit of senior Iranian officials to Damascus and said: During recent months, Syria has been a common destination for senior Iranian officials. These trips have a clear message about the depth of Iran-Syria relations as well as Tehran's strategic goals in the region. These trips are carried out in a situation in which the Axis of Resistance in the region is under immense pressure from Western actors and their regional allies. Iran, as one of the main actors of the Axis of Resistance, by sending its senior officials to Syria, emphasizes its determination to strengthen this axis and deal with threats. As one of the most important links of the Axis of Resistance, Syria plays a key role in confronting the plans of Israel and the West in the region. The visit of Iranian officials shows Tehran's commitment to support Bashar al-Assad's government and guarantee stability in this country. These trips also carry a clear message to Israel and its allies. By strengthening relations with the Damascus government, Iran shows that it will continue

to stand against Israel's expansionist policies and will not allow the Axis of Resistance to be weakened.

Siasat-e-Rooz: They should be severely punished

Siasat-e-Rooz devoted its editorial to sanctioning the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Line (IRISL) and one person and four Iranian and Russian entities under the pretext of being involved in the transfer of Iranian drones to Russia for use in the war in Ukraine. The paper said: The Europeans' aim with these measures is to pressure Iran. In addition to repeating human rights claims, activating the opposition abroad, and inciting terrorists in the eastern border areas of Iran, they want to spread lies in the Board of Governors against Iran. The European troika (Britain, France and Germany) has declared preparation of an anti-Iran resolution in the Agency. They plan to put extensive pressure on Iran to take advantage of it in possible future negotiations. On the other hand, the West is trying to dissuade Iran from responding to the Zionist regime's recent violation of Iran's territory. They also seek to insinuate that they will undermine the new multilateralist world order based on interactions between Iran, China, Russia, and other emerging powers.

Hamshahri: Western ballyhoo against Iran after Trump election

In a commentary, Hamshahri addressed the lies of the Western media against Iran and said: By abusing the lie of "Iranian officials' talks with Elon Musk", the Western media are trying to make it appear that the Islamic Republic is now in a weak position with Donald Trump's victory in the U.S. elections, an approach which, of course, is not unprecedented in recent months and years. After the victory of Donald Trump in the American elections, a new phase of commotion against Iran was triggered by the Washington-Tel Aviv axis. One of its main goals is to launch a new psychological war against Iran. The false depictions of the strategies considered by the Islamic Republic about the recent developments show that the other side, rather than having coherent and effective strategies to confront Tehran, tries to make Iran look weak to pave the way ahead for itself. But the "True Promise II" operation showed Israel and the West that their efforts were useless.

Zionism abuses Judaism, Iran's Zarif tells Jewish people in video message

From page 1 ▶ The Iranian official opened his address with a message of peace and respect to followers of Prophet Moses and all Abrahamic religions. He highlighted Iran's historical role in supporting oppressed communities, referencing instances of Jewish liberation and refuge throughout history.

"Our nation has been a symbol of peaceful coexistence among various religions, cultures, and ethnicities for over two millennia," Zarif remarked. "From liberating the Jews under Babylonian captivity 2,600 years ago to welcoming those fleeing Nazi persecution during World War II, Iran has always opened its arms to the oppressed. This tradition continues today as we assist Palestinians, Lebanese, and Syrians displaced by aggression and apartheid."

Zarif sharply criticized Zionism as a movement that exploits religious identity to mask its colonial and racist agenda. He argued that Zionism distorts Judaism to justify violence and oppression, warning that such actions harm the dignity and security of Jewish people globally.

"Zionism abuses the memory, blood, and lives of Holocaust victims," Zarif said. "It is nothing but racism, chauvinism, militarism, and apartheid. It deceitfully claims to represent Jewish people while, in reality, it sacrifices Jews and Gentiles alike at the altar of its expansionist agenda."



He also targeted Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, accusing him of sabotaging peace efforts such as the 2015 Iran nuclear deal. "Netanyahu and his extremist allies obstructed what could have been a turning point for regional peace, choosing instead to stand on the wrong side of history," Zarif said.

Zarif linked Zionism to broader regional instability, accusing Israel and its allies of unleashing a "machinery of death and destruction" across West Asia. He cited the ongoing violence in Gaza as evidence of a genocidal campaign, claiming it has resulted in over 50,000 civilian deaths, including more than 10,000 children.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

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for the air defense forces.

Elsewhere in the joint statement, the three states also condemned the ongoing Israeli aggression against Gaza and Lebanon, emphasizing the need for an immediate cessation of hostilities.

The Iranian and Saudi delegations reaffirmed their dedication to fully implementing the Beijing Agreement, emphasizing their continuous efforts to strengthen neighborly relations based

on the principles outlined in the United Nations Charter and the Statute of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

Furthermore, both Saudi Arabia and Iran acknowledged and appreciated China's constructive and ongoing involvement in overseeing the execution of the two West Asian countries' rapprochement.

The People's Republic of China, for its part, expressed its steadfast commitment to con-

tinue supporting and encouraging initiatives taken by Iran and Saudi Arabia aimed at further strengthening their bilateral ties.

Additionally, the joint statement collectively called for the continuous provision of humanitarian aid to Palestine and Lebanon, cautioning that the ongoing cycle of violence and tension represents a significant threat to both regional and global security, as well as maritime safety.

The three nations voiced their backing for a comprehensive political resolution in Yemen, emphasizing adherence to internationally recognized principles and the leadership of the United Nations.

On Monday, Takht-Ravanchi led a delegation to the Saudi capital, where he engaged in separate bilateral discussions with El Khereiji.

Their talks focused on enhancing and broadening bilateral relations across multiple sectors, while also reviewing and exchanging perspectives on the latest regional and international developments.

Tehran denounces "illegal" EU, UK sanctions on shipping

TEHRAN – Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman, Esmail Baqaei, strongly condemned the recent sanctions imposed by the European Union and the United Kingdom on Iranian shipping, dismissing them as legally baseless.

Speaking on Tuesday, Baqaei denounced the sanctions targeting Iranian individuals and entities, including the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines, as unjustified and predicated on the unsubstantiated and refuted claim that Iran is supplying ballistic missiles to Russia.

Baqaei argued these actions violate international law and breach commitments made under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). He directly refuted the EU and UK allegations of missile transfers to Russia, citing the Ukrainian President's acknowledgment that no such transfers have occurred. He declared the sanctions "unjustifiable and



lacking any legal or logical foundation."

Baqaei further asserted that the sanctions, particularly those affecting Iranian civil aviation and the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines, constitute a clear violation of human rights and international obligations, harming the Iranian people.

He emphasized the fundamental principles

of freedom of navigation and maritime trade, freedom of the European Union and the United Kingdom accountable for their alleged violations of international maritime law.

These statements followed Monday's announcement by the Council of the European Union of sanctions against Iran's shipping sector and several Iranian and Russian individuals and entities.

The UK government simultaneously declared sanctions against Iran's aviation and shipping sectors, and a Russian cargo vessel, citing support for Russia's military efforts in Ukraine.

Iran maintains that these sanctions are unwarranted and represent an unacceptable infringement on its sovereignty.

The West has never provided evidence to support its claims of Iranian weapons deliveries to Russia for use in the Ukraine war.

Iranian military delegation attends Pakistan's IDEAS 2024 Arms Exhibition

TEHRAN – A high-ranking Iranian military delegation is in Karachi, Pakistan, participating in the Pakistan International Arms Exhibition, IDEAS 2024.

The delegation, led by Brigadier General Mojtaba Ramzan-zadeh, was warmly greeted at Jinnah International Airport by Pakistani officials and Colonel Mohammad Mohsen Shahabi, Iran's military attaché in Pakistan.

According to the Iranian Army's public relations office, the visit includes participation in IDEAS 2024 as well as attendance at defense and security conferences.

This year marks a significant milestone for Iran's participation in IDEAS. For the first time, the Islamic Republic has its own pavilion at the exhibition, showcasing advancements in its indigenous defense, aerospace, and electronic warfare industries.

IDEAS 2024, organized by Pakistan's Defense Export Promotion Organization (DEPO), is themed "Weapons for Peace; Global Cooperation and Strategic Partnership."

Tuesday's opening ceremony, considered the largest event of its kind in Pakistan's defense industry, was attended by the Pakistani Defense Minister and



Pakistan's Defense Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif tours the Iranian exhibit at the 12th International Defense Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS-2024) in Karachi, November 19, 2024.

representatives from 55 countries.

The event promises a wide display of cutting-edge military technology from global manufacturers, including drones, submarines, missiles, tanks, weapons systems, and fighter jets.

When visiting Iran's pavilion, Pakistan's Minister of Defense Khawaja Muhammad Asif praised the country's homegrown achievements in the military sector as a "source of pride."

High-ranking bilateral meetings

According to the Army's statement, Iran's visiting delegation is also scheduled to hold meetings with Pakistani military leaders.

The relationship between

Iran and Pakistan has witnessed a notable deepening in recent years, marked by a concerted effort to expand bilateral cooperation across a wide spectrum of sectors.

While economic and cultural ties are steadily strengthening, the expansion of military cooperation stands out as particularly significant, given that both countries confront similar threats, ranging from cross-border terrorism and drug trafficking to the destabilizing efforts of extra-regional powers.

Reports say Tehran and Islamabad have carried out at least two joint military operations in the past year.

Iran demands WMD-free zone in response to Israeli actions in Gaza

TEHRAN – Iran's UN ambassador, Amir Saeid Iravani, asserted that Israel's actions in Gaza and its broader regional aggression highlight the urgent need for a West Asia zone free of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs).

Speaking at the fifth session of the "Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction" on Monday, Iravani stated that the "genocidal war" in Gaza and Israel's aggression against other regional countries make the creation of a WMD-free zone more critical than ever.

Iravani expressed deep disappointment that Israel has consistently opposed international calls for such a zone, a proposal first put forth by Iran in 1974. He voiced concern over Israel's accumulation of various WMDs without adhering to any binding international disarmament agreements or accepting verification mechanisms. He argued that Israel's opposition to a WMD-free zone serves to shield its own WMD program from accountability.

Iravani condemned Israel's actions, including acts of terrorism and sabotage targeting civilian nuclear programs and scientists, citing Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu's nuclear threats against Iran at the 78th UN General Assembly and an Israeli minister's proposal to use nuclear weapons in Gaza.

He demanded immediate intervention from the UN Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). He emphasized the grave danger posed by WMDs in Israel's hands and reiterated the necessity of a WMD-free zone to address Israel's capabilities and eliminate these weapons from the region.

Tehran-Damascus: Resilient Ties

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TEHRAN – Iran has a strong will to expand cooperation with Syria in various fields and it will continue to stand by the Syrian nation and government, according to the country's foreign minister.

In a joint press conference with his Syrian counterpart Bassam Sabbagh following their meeting in Tehran, Abbas Araghchi said they had "very positive" discussions on the war in Gaza and Lebanon and the "strategic and solid" relations between the two countries.

"We welcome Syria's stability and unity, and condemn any attempts to destabilize the country," he said.

Denouncing Israel's repeated aggressions against Syria and Lebanon, Araghchi underscored the hostile and expansionist nature of the Zionist regime. He called on the international community and the United Nations to hold Israel accountable and end their prolonged inaction.

Addressing Israeli and Western threats against Iran, Araghchi emphasized Iran's demonstrated resolve to confront any aggression, particularly from Israel. He affirmed Iran's right to respond



decisively to any acts of hostility, declaring, "Iran has proven to the Israeli regime and any aggressor that we will not allow any attack on Iranian territory to go unanswered."

He stressed that Iran's decisions are rooted in careful deliberation and wisdom, not impulsiveness. "We respond at the appropriate time, making decisions with insight rather than emotion," he noted, highlighting Tehran's calculated approach to regional challenges.

Araghchi also pointed to the

failure of the U.S. "maximum pressure" strategy, contrasting it with Iran's successful policy of "maximum resistance." He urged Washington to abandon its ineffective pressure tactics in favor of "maximum rationality," arguing that such an approach would yield better outcomes.

US urged to pursue maximum rationality: Araghchi

He said the strategy of maximum pressure from the US has failed, as evidenced by Iran's resilience.

"The policy of pressure does

not work, and we have demonstrated in practice that when they adopted a maximum pressure strategy, Iran implemented maximum resistance, and US officials have admitted that their policy has failed."

He suggested that instead of pursuing maximum pressure, the Americans must adopt a policy of maximum rationality and this would likely yield different results.

The Syrian foreign minister stated that the escalation of Israeli tensions in the region is part of an American and Zionist project aimed at redrawing the map of the area, with Israel serving as a tool for this objective.

Sabbagh said while they have succeeded in driving out many terrorist groups, some remain concentrated in northern Syria, where the government has been actively fighting.

"The Israeli regime has failed to achieve its goals and seeks to keep Syria preoccupied within its own territory, but they will not be distracted by these issues," he said.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Nothing hindering completion of Iran-Russia strategic agreement: envoy

TEHRAN – Iran and Russia are on track to finalize a comprehensive strategic cooperation treaty, as confirmed by Kazem Jalali, Iran's Ambassador to Russia.

In an interview with the Russian news agency RIA Novosti on Tuesday, Jalali emphasized that there are no obstacles in reaching an agreement on a comprehensive strategic cooperation, noting that the necessary preparations are already in place.

While the specific date for the Iranian president's visit to Russia for the signing ceremony remains undecided, Jalali stated that both nations are actively coordinating to find an appropriate time for this significant diplomatic event.

Tehran and Moscow previously established a 20-year strategic agreement in 2001, encompassing collaboration across various sectors including industry, technology, security, energy, and the development of nuclear power plants.

This original pact was automatically extended for an additional five years in 2020, while both nations agreed to initiate the drafting of a new long-term strategic agreement.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov announced on November 1 that an updated agreement between Iran and Russia is anticipated to be finalized for signing soon, highlighting that this strategic partnership is a pivotal element in reinforcing the ties between the two countries and promoting peace and security both regionally and globally.

Strong ties unaffected by nuclear deal discussions

The Iranian ambassador also reiterated that the relations between Iran and Russia will remain



Russia's Vladimir Putin (R) and Iran's Masoud Pezeshkian shake hands during their first meeting, held on October 11, 2024, in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. Pezeshkian is set to travel to Russia to sign a bilateral strategic agreement.

strong, irrespective of any potential future nuclear agreement with European countries.

He stressed that the solid bond established through Iran and Russia's neighboring relationship and common interests ensures that "no foreign factor" will obstruct the development of their partnership and collaboration.

On Sunday, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi declared that Iran is willing to engage in discussions about the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), with potential negotiations with European countries on the horizon.

In alignment with this view, Majid Takht-Ravanchi, Iran's deputy foreign minister for political affairs, expressed to the Financial Times on Monday that the JCPOA "could still serve as a foundation and be updated to reflect new realities."

Signed in 2015, the JCPOA involved Iran and the P5+1 nations—China, France, Russia, the U.K., the U.S., and Germany.

Donald 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.

Why does Iran firmly support Syria?

From Page 1 ▶ Iran views Israel's aggressive attacks on Lebanon and Syria as part of an American-Zionist war against the Islamic nations of the region, even though Washington and Tel Aviv attempt to portray this conflict solely as a war against the Resistance Axis. It is evident, however, that the Resistance Axis stands as a staunch barrier to the imperialist plans of the U.S. and Israel in West Asia. Moreover, if the Resistance Axis is undermined, the next step would be the weakening and fragmentation of other regional countries.

Within the Resistance Axis framework, a critical point of note is that if the American-Zionist plan achieves its goals in Syria, its next targets will be the sovereignty and unity of Iraq, Lebanon, and specifically Iran. From Iran's perspective, therefore, supporting Syria

equates to defending the security of Islamic nations—a responsibility that all Islamic and Arab countries should embrace. Tehran's support for Damascus also constitutes a defense of Iran's territorial integrity, executed beyond its borders.

The war in Syria has not been, nor will it be, an easy endeavor for the American-Israeli alliance. Since 2011, this alliance, alongside various terrorist groups and with the logistical, financial, and human support of certain hostile regional states, has waged a comprehensive war to collapse Syria's political system and seize control of the country. However, the eventual defeat of the terrorist group ISIS dampened the flames of this conflict, although the war persists.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Genocide supporter turned human rights activist

How Western media is propagating new lies against Iran

From Page 1 ▶ An Israeli media outlet reporting on the alleged assassination plot against Cotler said Iran is trying to get rid of someone who has been a "staunch supporter of Israel" throughout his long career. The outlet which prides itself on being an advocate of the "Jewish state" further explains how Cotler has "stayed by Israel's side" in the past year, refusing to follow in the footsteps of Western figures criticizing Tel Aviv for its ongoing crimes in Gaza.

It is unclear how a "human rights activist" can be supportive of a genocide. It seems the former politician is perfectly comfortable watching the live-streamed carnage in Gaza—Palestinian children and women reduced to ashes—while bloviating about how all human beings should be respected and protected.

According to information gathered by the Tehran Times, Cotler is also a noble champion of the Muja-

Iran allegedly planned to assassinate human-rights crusader Irwin Cotler

ROBERT FIFE > OTTAWA BUREAU CHIEF
PUBLISHED YESTERDAY



hed-in-e-Khalq Organization, a terrorist group that has the blood of over 18,000 Iranians on its hands and openly boasts about its plans to kill more people.

Flaws, flaws...and flaws

There are significant flaws in Fife's reporting, who is an avid advocate of aggression against Iran based on his previous texts on the country.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Iran secure hard-fought win over Kyrgyzstan

TEHRAN – Iran national football team defeated Kyrgyzstan 3-2 in Group A of the 2026 World Cup qualification on Tuesday.

Mehdi Taremi gave the visiting team the lead in the 13th minute at the Dolen Omurzakov Stadium in Bishkek and Saleh Hardani made the scoreboard 2-0 in the 33rd minutes.

Joel Koko pulled a goal back with a header six minutes into the second half and converted his penalty four minutes after the hour mark.

Sardar Azmoun scored Iran's third goal with a header in the 76th minute.

Team Melli almost secured their berth in the 2026 World Cup with 16 points.

Earlier in the day, Uzbekistan defeated DPR Korea 1-0 and are second with 13 points.

Daei: Great honor to be alongside Ronaldo, Messi

TEHRAN – Iran football legend Ali Daei says that it's a great honor to be along Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi as the world's best goalscorers.

Twenty years ago today, Daei became the first man to score 100 international goals. He discusses that feat and being emulated by two legends.

"I think it started to feel achievable when I crossed 80 goals. Until then, I hadn't really thought about it – I was focused on winning games, helping my team, and representing my country with pride. But as I got closer, the idea became more real, and I knew it could happen if I just kept pushing," Daei said in an interview with FIFA.com.

How did it feel to become the first man in history to reach 100 international goals in front of your adoring public at the Azadi?

"It was an unforgettable moment. Playing at the Azadi is always special, but reaching 100 goals there took it to a whole new level. I felt that I achieved this not only for myself but for everyone who had been there with me, supporting me. That moment was a victory for the entire nation of Iran," he said.

"Breaking records is part of football, and I'm happy that a player like Ronaldo was the one to do it. He's an exceptional and hard-working player, and he's proven those qualities throughout his career. Ronaldo is a huge role model for young players, and his record shows that anything is possible.

"Messi is a genius and a unique player. He has incredible vision and game intelligence, and watching him play is always a joy. Messi is one of the greatest in history and, like Ronaldo, he inspires millions of people around the world.

"It's a great honor to be along with them. Football has always been a big part of my life, and being alongside players like Ronaldo and Messi makes all my hard work worth it. The achievement is more than just a number to me. It's a testament to the love I have for the game," Daei said.

Patrice Carteron reaches agreement with Sepahan

TEHRAN – French coach Patrice Carteron has been chosen to take charge of Sepahan football club.

Carteron, 54, led Qatari club Umm Salal last season.

He has previously led Cannes, Egyptian Al Ahly, Morocco's Raja CA, Mali national team and Saudi teams Al-Nassr and Al-Ettifaq.

Carteron will replace Portuguese coach Jose Morais.

Sepahan lead the Iran football league with 21 points out of 10 matches.

The team also have a chance to advance to the 2024/25 AFC Champions League Two next stage.

Iran defeat Saudi Arabia at 2024 IWBF U23 Asia Oceania Championship

TEHRAN – Iran defeated Saudi Arabia 76-24 at the 2024 International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF) U23 Asia Oceania Championship on Tuesday.

Iran started the competition on Monday, defeating the Philippines 80-28 but lost to Australia 71-48 later in the day.

Iran also lost to Japan 65-58 in their third match.

The Iranian team will play Thailand and India in the following days.

The championship has brought together seven nations – Iran, Australia, India, Japan, Saudi Arabia, the Philippines, and Thailand—to compete for the coveted title and the spots in the 2025 IWBF Men's U23 World Championship.

The top three teams will qualify for the 2025 IWBF Men's U23 World Championship.

The 2024 IWBF U23 AOZ Championship is being held in Bangkok, Thailand from Nov. 17 to 22.

Iran beat Brazil at 2024 Cerebral Palsy World Cup semifinals

TEHRAN – Iran beat Brazil 4-0 in the 2024 Cerebral Palsy World Cup underway in Salou, Spain on Tuesday.

Iran had previously defeated Venezuela 4-0, Ireland 3-0, Germany 4-0 and the U.S. 3-0.

Team Melli will face powerhouse Ukraine in the final on Friday.

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

The competition is being held in Salou, Spain.

Sanat Mes fail to reach 2024 Asian Club League Handball Championship SF

TEHRAN – Sanat Mes of Iran were defeated against Sharjah of the UAE 36-25 at the 27th Asian Men's Club League Handball Championship on Tuesday.

Mes started the Group B losing to defending champions Khaleej Club of Saudi Arabia 31-22 but defeated Oman's Ahli Sidab 33-19, Kuwait's Kazma 26-20 and Al Duhail of Qatar 27-26 in their next matches.

The tournament is being held from Nov. 11 to 22 in Doha, Qatar and will serve as a qualifier for the 2025 IHF Super Globe.

Iran wins four seats at Asian Table Tennis Union committees

TEHRAN – Iran has secured four seats at Asian Table Tennis Union (ATTU).

During the executive meeting of the ATTU, held simultaneous with the Asian Championship in Kazakhstan, four Iranians were appointed as main members of various ATTU committees.

Fatemeh Keyvani was reappointed as the head of the Gender Equality Committee for another four years. Sima Limouchi was named the head of the newly established Para Table Tennis Committee.

Additionally, Mehrdad Babadivand, as the longest-serving member, was elected to the coaches and youth committee, while Simin Rezaei was appointed to the referees' committee.

Iran-Venezuela Joint Economic Committee meeting kicks off in Caracas



From page 1 ▶ Transportation Minister Ramon Blazquez, the Venezuelan head of the joint committee, also said both sides reaffirmed their commitment to previous agreements and seek to increase cooperation in all areas.

He emphasized the commitment of the two sides to find mechanisms that would allow the improvement of economic cooperation

and announced that Iran and Venezuela are planning to reactivate commercial flights between Caracas and Tehran.

The official also announced plans to restart the assembly plant of Iranian cars in the South American country.

Elsewhere in the meeting, Iranian Ambassador to Venezuela Hojatollah Soltani said Venezuela is a "land of opportunities," a new phase of cooperation has begun, and both governments strongly support expanding relations.

Oil, finance, insurance and banking, foreign trade, science and technology, industry, agriculture, fisheries, mining, transportation, and tourism are among the areas of cooperation between Iran and Venezuela to be discussed over four days in specialized committees of the 10th Joint Committee meeting.

Horticulture exports bring Iran \$3b of revenue annually

TEHRAN – Iran's Deputy Agriculture Minister for Horticulture Affairs says horticultural products account for about 50 percent of the country's annual agricultural exports and Iran exports about \$3.0 billion of such products every year.

According to Mohammad-Mehdi Boroumandi, Iran exports nearly three million tons of horticultural products to more than 100 countries around the world, annually, IRIB reported. "With about three million hectares of gardens in the country, we produce nearly 26 million tons of horticultural products annually," Boroumandi said in a specialized meeting on the matter in Tehran on Monday.

He said Iran is self-sufficient in the production of all kinds of fruits, except for four tropical fruits: banana, pineapple, coconut, and mango. Of course, these are produced in the

country, but the production does not meet the domestic demand.

"We are among the countries in the world that use the least amount of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, the average consumption of pesticide per hectare in the world is more than 2.5 kilograms or 2.5 liters per hectare, while we use less than one liter," the official further said.

He further mentioned some of Iran's capacities in the agricultural sector, especially in horticultural production, saying: "In the north, in Mazandaran province, which is the center of citrus production in the country, we produce three million tons of citrus fruits every year, including oranges and tangerines, and we also produce kiwis in Mazandaran and Gilan provinces, that's why we rank fourth in the world in kiwi production."

NIDC puts renovation of drilling equipment atop agenda

TEHRAN – The head of National Iran Drilling Company (NIDC) has stated that increasing the company's productivity from 67 percent to 90 percent is the priority of the NIDC's future plans, adding that in this regard, modernizing and renovating the drilling equipment is on the agenda.

"The plan to modernize and rebuild the fleet of drilling operations and technical services from the allocated credit by the National Iranian Oil Company in line with other strategies to use the available capacities is on the agenda of this company," Mehran Makvandi said.

On November 9, the head of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) announced the allocation of \$800 million to the National Iranian Drilling Company for the modernization of the company's drilling equipment.

"Increasing productivity and reforming the company's structure, along with work discipline, should be among the priorities at the National Iranian Drilling Company," Hamid Bovard stated. National Drilling Company is an operational company and discipline should be at the forefront of its work. Today, different rigs with different equipment are operating in this company, which can definitely bring a lot of revenues for the country, the official noted.

NIDC is a subsidiary of National Iranian Oil Company which was founded in 1979 and is based in Ahwaz, southwestern Iran. The com-



pany engages in the exploration, development, and drilling of oil and gas wells. It owns and operates drilling rigs and equipment for providing drilling services.

On November 1, Mohammad-Ali Beygzadeh, the director of research, technology and construction engineering at NIDC, said that the company has managed to indigenize the knowledge for manufacturing 610 drilling equipment items in collaboration with domestic manufacturers and engineers over the past two years.

He said by localizing these items, more than 1.586 trillion rials (about \$3.172 million) has been saved for the company.

According to the official, the mentioned items were manufactured by 160 domestic companies including 85 knowledge-based firms. NIDC has also signed 90 deals with the country's universities and research centers for conducting research studies related to the drilling industry, he noted.

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), rose 14,063 points to 2,269,515 on Tuesday, which is the fourth day of the Iranian calendar week.

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

In mid-September, the head of Iran Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO) said

the entity will take the necessary measures to ensure that the direct and indirect interests of the stock market are considered in next year's budget bill.

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

He has also said that improving the stock market's efficiency is the main priority of the SEO in the current government administration "In the 14th government, our mission is to

TPO holds meeting to review preparations for 3rd EAEU expo in Tehran

TEHRAN – Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) held a meeting at the Tehran Permanent International Fairgrounds on Monday to review the preparations for holding the third Exclusive Exhibition of Eurasia in Iran which is scheduled to be held from February 21 to 24.

The meeting was attended by TPO Head Mohammad-Ali Dehghan Dehnavi, Iran's Ambassador to Russia Kazem Jalali, and some of Iran's commercial attaches in Eurasia, the TPO portal reported.

Speaking in this meeting, Dehghan Dehnavi underlined the significant role of exhibitions in the development of foreign trade and announced TPO's full support for holding the third EAEU exhibition in Tehran.

Referring to the signing of the free trade agreement between Iran and the members of the Eurasian Economic Union, he said: "About four years ago, Iran signed a preferential trade agreement with the members of the Eurasian Union, which had favorable results in the development of trade with Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Armenia."

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

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

According to Dehghan Dehnavi, Iran's observer status in the EAEU has also been approved and will be



officially announced at the union's next assembly.

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

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

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

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

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

"Eurasia is Iran's first major

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

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

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

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

The agreement came into effect on October 27, 2019.

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

In the meeting, the Iranian side emphasized the need to establish an insurance company under the Eurasian Economic Union to

provide the necessary guarantees regarding Iran's technical and engineering exports to the region.

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

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

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

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

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

The value of Iran's exports to the members of the EAEU increased by 16 percent in the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-August 21) as compared to the same period last year, according to the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA).

Mohammad Rezvaniyar said the Islamic Republic exported 2.2 million tons of commodities worth \$748 million to the members of the Eurasian Economic Union in the mentioned five months, IRIB reported.

Exports to the EAEU also increased by 35 percent in terms of weight, according to Rezvaniyar.

Meanwhile, Iran imported 3.9 million tons of goods valued at \$1.6 billion from the members of the Eurasian Economic Union in the said five months.

Aluminum ingot output exceeds 350,000 tons in 7 months

TEHRAN - Production of aluminum ingot in Iran reached 352,423 tons in the first four months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-October 21), according to the data released by the Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO).

Based on the IMIDRO data, the country's seven-month production of aluminum ingot stood at 367,091 tons in the previous year.

Among the country's four major producers, South Aluminum Corporation (SALCO) had the best performance in the mentioned seven months, producing 144,496 tons of aluminum ingots, followed by Iranian Aluminum Company (IRALCO), producing 100,998 tons, Almahdi Aluminum Com-

pany, producing 87,227 tons, and Iran Alumina Company, producing 19,702 tons of ingots.

Iran produced more than 635,000 tons of aluminum ingots over the past Iranian calendar year. The country's aluminum mills continued with their production over the past year and posted a slight one percent year-on-year increase despite the energy restrictions.

According to IMIDRO, the country's aluminum production stood at around 632,000 tons a year earlier.

Iran Alumina Company produced some 222,138 tons of alumina powder, 374,106 tons of alumina hydrate, and 598,599 tons of bauxite in the one-year timespan.



Iranian officials estimate the country's aluminum sector has a value of \$22 billion, which is sufficient to meet the country's aluminum needs.

At present, Iran is the 18th biggest aluminum-producing country in the world.

Completing value chain to ensure balanced development of petchem industry

TEHRAN – The head of Iran's National Petrochemical Company (NPC) has said that completing the value chain and developing complementary industries is going to ensure a balanced and sustained development of the country's petrochemical industry.

"The development of the industry in all sectors must be pursued seriously, and for this purpose, all the people active in the petrochemical industry must pay attention to the development of complementary industries according to the existing capacities in the country," Hassan Abbaszadeh said in a meeting with

NPC officials on Monday.

Stating that the provincial development of complementary industries, in addition to job creation, can create more added value, he said: "The development of downstream industries should be pursued and implemented seriously, and the National Petrochemical Company is ready for any cooperation in this regard."

Emphasizing the existence of suitable capacities for investment in complementary industries, Abbaszadeh said: "The portfolio of petrochemical products can be diversified with the cooperation of holdings

and petrochemical companies.

Based on Iran's seventh National Development Plan (2022-2027), the country's petrochemical production capacity is planned to increase by eight percent to reach 130 million tons.

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

Currently, Iran accounts for 2.8 percent of the world's petrochemical capacity and about 28 percent of the capacity of this industry in the

region, and with the plans made, the capacity of the petrochemical industry will increase significantly in the horizon of the seventh development plan.

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

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

TEDPIX gains 14,000 points on Tuesday

protect the rights and interests of shareholders, facilitate the formation of capital, and improve the efficiency of the market which is the priority of the SEO programs," Seyedi underlined.

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

"Now, in addition to great capital and capabilities of the companies, we have powerful workforces, investors and competent manag-

ers in the market, so there is no reason why our capital market should not develop and reach at least 300 to 400 billion dollars of gross domestic product," he added.

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

The head of the Securities and Exchange Organization pointed to the capital market as a regulatory and supervisory body and said:

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

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

From page 1 ▶ missiles and drones to strike Tel Aviv and its suburbs.

Footage shows extensive damage in the Israeli commercial hub including high-rise buildings set ablaze and streets filled with panic and emergency services.

In one area, Israeli police confirmed that “these are not interception fragments (from the Iron Dome and other Israeli air defense systems); it was a direct hit, and there is fear of building collapses.”

Israeli media said sirens sounded across at least 20 cities, stretching from Netanya to Tel Aviv, causing a power outage in parts of Tel Aviv. Videos circulating online showed areas of Tel Aviv’s suburbs without electricity.

A recent Hezbollah attack on Haifa struck an energy plant that left parts of Haifa in the dark.

The number of rockets, missiles, and drones launched overnight from Monday to Tuesday is not clear.

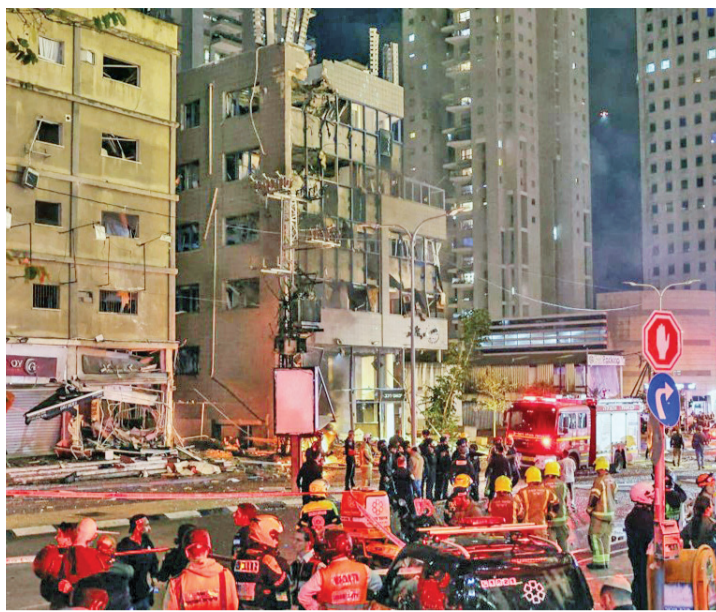
At one point Israeli media reported at least four missiles had targeted “Tel Aviv in the latest barrage.”

A direct hit struck what Hebrew media claimed was adjacent to a shopping mall in the Ayalon Mall area.

Following the attack, Ben Gurion Airport was forced to close.

The Israeli military acknowledged that several rockets fired from Lebanon struck Tel Aviv, including Ramat Gan.

Other areas of Israel also came under attack. One rocket hit a bus in Bnei Brak, setting it ablaze, according to reports. Others indicated it was damaged from a nearby explosion.



An Israeli media outlet reported among the missiles that landed in Tel Aviv was a Fateh 110 missile, which is a surface-to-surface missile recognized for its signifi-

Hezbollah maintains military equation: Tel Aviv for Beirut

cant destructive power. It is engineered to strike critical targets with pinpoint accuracy within a margin of up to ten meters.

Dozens of casualties have been reported. The final death toll is yet to be revealed.

At the same time, Haifa and its surrounding areas also came under attack. One hospital in Haifa said, “We received 39 injured people from Shfaram”.

Amid the overnight attack, Hezbollah put out a statement that read, “Within the framework

of the Khaybar operations, our fighters launched an air attack with a squadron of qualitative suicide drones on sensitive military points – which will be announced later – in the city of Tel Aviv.”

On Tuesday morning, footage showed the aftermath of a rocket fired from Lebanon that had made an impact on the Beit Lid military base north of Tel Aviv.

Reports circulated that Hezbollah targeted Ramat Gan’s security complex with a missile aimed at a building belonging to the Military Intelligence Unit 8200.

Early Tuesday morning, Hezbollah issued the first statement related to its assault on Tel Aviv.

“As part of the Khaybar series of operations, and with the call of ‘We are at your service O Nasrallah’, the fighters of the Islamic Resistance at 8:45 PM on Monday 18-11-2024, targeted the Tel Haim base (belonging to the Military Intelligence Division of the ‘Israeli’ enemy army), 120 kilometers from the Lebanese-Palestinian

border, in the city of Tel Aviv with a barrage of qualitative missiles and a squadron of attack drones, hitting their targets accurately.”

A squadron of attack drones on the Regavim base (a military base containing training camps for the Golani Brigade) 65 kilometers from the Lebanese-Palestinian border in the southeast of the occupied city of Haifa, was also struck and hit their targets accurately, Hezbollah announced.

Another statement declared that “resistance fighters targeted an Israeli drone of the Hermes 450 type over the skies of Al-Taybeh with a surface-to-air missile. The drone was successfully shot down and seen ablaze.”

On Tuesday morning, Tel Aviv woke up to more explosions as air raid sirens sounded in dozens of cities in central and northern Israel. Another Hezbollah missile barrage has been reported.

Hezbollah said it targeted “a training base for the Paratroopers Brigade in the Karmiel settlement with a rocket barrage” on Tuesday.

Israeli media cited former senior Shin Bet official Adi Karmi as saying, “Striking the home front from Hezbollah is a major achievement with significant importance.”

Israeli activist Uri Feltman conceded that “Netanyahu’s claim of wiping out 80% of Hezbollah’s missiles was pure fantasy.”

What concerns those in Tel Aviv is that Hezbollah’s capability to strike them with missiles and drones remains intact.

It also shows that Israeli defenses are increasingly vulnerable, and strikes by the Lebanese resistance movement are getting more accurate.

Diplomatic aggression against Lebanon mounts

From page 1 ▶ that is already enshrined in international laws, insisting that it cannot be included in a ceasefire agreement because the purpose is to obtain “legitimacy” for any aggression carried out after the war under the pretext of “self-defense”.

Besides, the Lebanese side has reservations about the membership of both Germany and the UK in the committee monitoring the implementation of UN resolution 1701, as well as the committee’s working mechanism.

During a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said: “We were presented with three options regarding dealing with Hezbollah. My fourth option, however, is to destroy its missile capabilities,” ruling out that a “settlement” with Lebanon would be applicable.

Netanyahu stressed his adherence to the

demands of the “freedom of action of the Israeli army” along with preventing the entry of weapons into Lebanon via Syria.

Netanyahu’s position was followed by the assassination of Hezbollah’s media relations official, Muhammad Afif, in the heart of Beirut, and a raid on a civil services center in Zuqaq al-Blat, which led to the murder of five Lebanese civilians. Israel sought to justify the crime by alleging that it targeted one of Hezbollah’s operations rooms.

Axios, which is linked to the Israeli intelligence unit 8200, revealed, according to Israeli officials, that the goal of intensifying the raids on Beirut is to increase pressure on Hezbollah to accept the ceasefire agreement. Axios also said that Tel Aviv has demanded that the Biden administration guarantee its freedom of movement in Lebanon.

The Israeli army radio further confirmed

Washington’s commitment to “supporting the entity’s right to move in Lebanon against threats that cannot be delayed.”

In turn, the US embassy has doubted the efficiency of the negotiations in a desperate attempt to cover up Washington’s inability to pressure Tel Aviv as well as a crisis of confidence between the two parties.

Meanwhile, Hezbollah struck Tel Aviv, the suburbs of Tel Aviv, Safed, Haifa, Karmiel, and sites and gatherings of occupation army soldiers. It also confronted an attempt to occupy the border city of Khiam and shot down a Hermes 450 drone.

The US-led Israeli aggressors now have a golden opportunity to accept what Lebanon accepts, otherwise, they will be forced to accept even worse and more painful conditions in the coming days.

Israel has killed nearly 17,500 children in Gaza



A Palestinian man holds the body of his child killed in Israeli strikes at Nasser hospital in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip in July this year. Reuters

Israel has killed 17,492 children in Gaza since declaring war on the Palestinian territory in October last year, that’s according to a report published by the Government Media Office in Gaza.

The report was released concurrent with the 40th day of the Israeli genocidal war on Gaza.

The slain kids are among nearly 44,000 Pal-

estinians who have been slaughtered by the regime since the start of the conflict.

In June, the United Nations added Israel to its so-called “blacklist” over committing abuses against children in armed conflict.

The UN blacklist has already included terror groups such as ISIL, al-Qaeda and Boko Haram.

Ukraine fires US missiles on Russian territory, Putin lowers nuclear threshold

Ukraine used US ATACMS missiles to strike Russian territory for the first time on Tuesday, Moscow said, in an attack regarded by Russia as a major escalation on the war’s 1,000th day.

Russia said its forces shot down five of six missiles fired at a military facility in the Bryansk region, while debris of one hit the facility, causing no casualties or damage, Reuters reported.

Ukraine said it had struck a Russian arms depot around 110 km (70 miles) inside Russia and caused secondary explosions. It did not specify what weapons it had used.

President Joe Biden gave approval just this

week for Ukraine to use the medium-range US missiles for such attacks, which Moscow has described as an escalation that would make Washington a direct combatant in the war and prompt retaliation.

Meanwhile, President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday formally lowered the threshold for Russia’s use of its nuclear weapons over Biden’s decision.

Putin has previously warned the US and other NATO allies that allowing Ukraine to use Western-supplied longer-range weapons to hit Russian territory would mean that Russia and NATO are at war.

End of the West

By Dirk Kurbjuweit

Donald Trump’s return to the White House shows that liberal democracy has failed. It proved unable to provide a coherent structure to the post war era.

One era is coming to an end and a new one is beginning. Nothing marks this shift as clearly as the election of Donald Trump to a second term as president of the United States. The West has lost its dominance and the shared foundation of values, which has been crumbling for some time. It is now collapsing. There are tensions everywhere – between countries and within societies. The right wing is on the rise in Italy, France and Germany. The West as a bloc of liberal democracies no longer exists.

The Western world blossomed after 1945, a reaction to a pair of totalitarian systems: National Socialism and Stalinism. Hitler’s Reich served as a reminder that such a catastrophe must not be repeated. And the Soviet empire behind the Iron Curtain, while also seen as a threat, emboldened Western countries to invest in a shining counter-model: social and liberal democracy.

Prosperity for all

The system’s strength was its concern for people, for the individual. Prosperity for all through social equality, more rights for women, the absence of authoritarian impositions by the state. All of this made the West attractive in the decades that followed World War II. Those who lived in the West enjoyed their freedoms and their high standard of living. A broad center developed, the pillar of liberal democracy.

The age of totalitarian ideologies, which were essentially political religions, was followed by a phase of rationality, of scientifically based reason. Politics was pursued with

the utmost solemnity, because so much was at stake: preventing the return of fascism and standing up to the Soviet Union.

Western countries joined forces in NATO. Individual countries were less important than the alliance as a whole. National borders became permeable, disappearing completely in some cases. Internationalization, the European Union, citizen of the world: It was, despite a few shortcomings, a good era. Unfortunately, it is now over.

How could that which began so promisingly now end with Donald Trump, a man who disrupts the system and whose policies are rooted in lunacy?

The initial steps forward in liberal democracies were social advances. But at some point, the social questions were considered to have been largely resolved and the era of social democracy came to an end. The majority of society, after all, was doing well. Progressive politics shifted to fresh challenges: doing away with patriarchy and establishing new freedoms for minorities – important projects to be sure.

But this shift was not managed well. Center-left politicians in particular – the Democrats in the U.S. and the Greens in Germany, for example – paid too little attention to the fact that the issue of equity, that concerns of social decline, don’t simply vanish when the general level of prosperity is high. The resulting impression was that center-left parties did too little for workers, for the center of society. The high cost of living is now seen as one of the most important reasons for Trump’s victory.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

From the Caucasus to Latin America: World unites against Israel’s crimes

From page 1 ▶ planned visit to the conference citing “security considerations”.

However, an Israeli delegation including ministers participated in the climate conference. Anti-Israel protesters have expressed their opposition to Israel’s participation.

Concurrent with the start of the COP29 conference, activists held a gathering and denounced the Israeli genocide in Gaza.

On Saturday, protesters also staged a gathering calling for an energy embargo on Israel.

“When we’re calling for an energy embargo, we’re calling it because it’s the primary source that is fueling this genocide. We need action and not commitment. Words are empty. We need this action to be in front of us. People in the region have been speaking out, but governments are not matching that action at all. So, we need to see these commitments happening. We need that energy embargo,” said Mohamed Kamal from the Egyptian group Greenish.

Elsewhere in Latin America, the G20 summit was also overshadowed by Israel’s carnage in Gaza and deadly strikes in Lebanon.

The summit was held in Brazil’s Rio de Janeiro this week. On Monday, leaders of the world’s 20 major economies issued a statement that referred to the “catastrophic humanitarian situation in Gaza and the escalation in Lebanon”. They called for “comprehensive” ceasefires in Gaza and Lebanon.

On the sidelines of the summit, people held rallies to express solidarity with Palestinians.

The demonstrators condemned the Israeli genocide in Gaza and called for a ceasefire in the Palestinian territory. Holding banners and flags, they demanded that Brazil sever ties with Israel.

Israel has killed about 44,000 Palestinians in Gaza since launching war on the territory in October last year.

Israeli strikes in Lebanon which began a day after the Gaza war have also left more than 3,500 people dead in the country.

Israel has turned a blind eye to



Protestors near G20 summit demand immediate ceasefire in Gaza and Lebanon

growing calls to bring an end to its genocidal war in Gaza and brutal airstrikes in Gaza.

Protests against Israel’s brutalities in West Asia have become a regular occurrence across the globe including in Western countries.

People in the West have called on their governments to stop arming Israel and exert pressure on the regime to end its brutal

wars on Gaza and Lebanon.

Western leaders, however, have ignored such calls and refused to take any practical action against Israel.

Nonetheless, global protests, such as those held in the Caucasus and Latin America, reflect an increasing wave of indignation toward Israel’s actions.

Anniversary of Imam Reza's arrival in Neyshabur registered in Iran's tourism calendar

TEHRAN - The anniversary of Imam Reza's (the eighth Shia Imam) historic entry into Neyshabur has officially been added to Iran's tourism calendar.

That special occasion, according to the head of Neyshabur's cultural heritage, tourism, and handicrafts office, highlights the ancient city's pivotal role in religious and cultural tourism.

On Tuesday, Kamal Khani announced the registration, noting that it aligns with the national strategy of organizing and profes-

sionalizing event tourism.

"The move is part of a broader initiative under the government's transformation roadmap to promote tourism at local, provincial, national, and international levels."

Khani emphasized that registering events like this contributes to economic growth, social vitality, and cultural enrichment. "Tourism is a critical element in urban and rural development, and this initiative will pave the way for sustainable employment and economic progress," he said.

Archaeologists uncover prehistoric relics in northern Iran

TEHRAN - A team of archaeologists has recently unearthed significant artifacts and architectural remains from prehistoric times in the Chahardangeh district of Sari, located in eastern part of Mazandaran province, northern Iran.

The discoveries include pottery fragments, stone tools, bones, charcoal, burial evidence, hearths, and remnants of stone and mud-brick structures. These findings shed light on ancient cultural and economic practices and are expected to reveal insights into even older layers from the Chalcolithic and Neolithic periods, ISNA reported.

A region of cultural connectivity

The Chahardangeh district, part of the larger Hezar-Jarib region, serves as a critical juncture between the northern plains of eastern Mazandaran and the southern plains of Semnan, Damghan, and Shahroud. This

geographical positioning highlights the site's importance in studying cultural interactions across the Central Alborz Mountains during prehistoric times.

Collaborative research efforts

The excavations are being conducted at the "Qaleh Seri Terkam" archaeological site as part of a collaborative agreement between the University of Mazandaran and the provincial department for cultural heritage, tourism, and handicrafts.

Supported by the Iranian Research Institute for Cultural Heritage and Tourism, the first phase, completed in October, involved 48 test trenches to determine the boundaries and protection zones of the site.

According to Dr. Rahmat Abbasnejad-Seresti, head of the archaeological team and a faculty member at the University of Mazandaran, the boundaries will soon be formally

approved and communicated to relevant authorities.

The second phase, focused on stratigraphic excavation, commenced recently and will continue through December 5. The archaeological work involves experts from various universities, including Tehran University and the University of Art Isfahan, along with advanced graduate students.

Unveiling the past

Abbasnejad emphasized that Qaleh Seri Terkam, situated on a 1,300-meter-high mound near the Terkam River, holds clues to settlement patterns in the Chahardangeh region dating back to the 5th millennium BC. Despite previous limited research, the new findings promise to deepen understanding of key periods such as the Neolithic, Chalcolithic, Bronze, and Iron Ages.

First Announcement



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NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY AHVAZ-IRAN TENDER NO. : 08-38-0040002

Items	Material Description	Quantity
27	PARTS FOR "WENZEL" HYDRAULIC FISHING JAR 3-3/8 IN. OD., 1-1/2 IN. ID., 2-3/8 API IF CONN. VALVE MANDREL HOUSING	135NO

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.nisoc.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded.

The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 33,942/95 EURO or 15,858,859,544 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials through technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment Forms can be accessed via: www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab.

ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P., NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D., SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

NOTE: Based on enactment notified by Nisoc's Tender committee, foreign companies must submit a Bid Bond Guarantee amounting to aforementioned (paragraph 2) Euro amount. Otherwise, their quotations will not be considered.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex
Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran Tel. No.: 061 34 12 4644 Fax No.: 061 34 45 74 37
Public Relations www.shana.ir www.nisoc.ir <http://iets.mporg.ir>

First Announcement



1
1829990

NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY AHVAZ-IRAN TENDER NO. : 08-21-0340002

Items	Material Description	Quantity
1	TUBING 4-1/2 IN., API GRADE L-80 , SEAMLESS/VAM,N.VAM, PSL:2/ 13.5 PPF, DRIFT: 3.795 IN.	20,000LE

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NOTE: Based on enactment issued by Nisoc's Tender committee, foreign companies must submit a Bid Bond Guarantee amounting to aforementioned (paragraph 1) Euro amount. Otherwise, their quotations will not be considered.

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Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex
Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran Tel. No.: 061 34 12 4644 Fax No.: 061 34 45 74 37
Public Relations www.shana.ir www.nisoc.ir <http://iets.mporg.ir>

Second Announcement



Khuzestan Steel Company

No. :491670

KHOUZESTAN STEEL COMPANY INTENDS TO PURCHASE 300 MT LOW & HIGH CARBON SLAB CASTING POWDER WITH THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATIONS:

LOW&HIGH CARBON SLAB(steel grade)		
	%C Min	%C Max
Low carbon	0.01	0.07
High carbon	0.15	0.3

Casting speed(m/min)			
Thickness=200mm		Thickness=250mm	
min	max	min	max
0.7	1.1	0.5	0.9

MOLD DIMENSION			
Thickness (mm)		WIDTH (mm)	
min	max	min	max
200	250	800	1250

Bidders must perform the following actions according to the conditions announced in the advertisement:

Note1: ALL BIDS MUST BE INFORMED US WHICH PARTICIPATE IN OUR TENDER UP TO 23rd November, 2024. WHEN YOUR COMPANY IS CONFIRMED AND THE TENDER DOCUMENT IS SENT TO YOU, YOU MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE AFORESAID ADDRESS ON OR BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE 8th December, 2024. THE OPENING DATE OF ENVELOPES WILL BE AT 10 AM ON THE 10th December, 2024 IN THE BUYER'S CONFERENCE ROOM LOCATED AT THE HEAD OFFICE OF KSC AHVAZ-IRAN AND THE BIDDERS OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES CAN ATTEND THE MEETING OF THE TENDER.

Note2: BIDDER SHALL SUBMIT WITH TENDER A BID BOND ISSUED BY AN IRANIAN BANK OR BY A EUROPEAN FIRST CLASS BANK, IN THE AMOUNT OF 3.600.000.000 Rials OR 7.200 EUR FOR 800 MT MEDIUM CARBON SLAB CASTING POWDER AND MAY REDUCED IN PROPORTION WITH THE QUANTITY OF BIDDERS OFFER.

Note 3: FOR MORE INFORMTION PLEASE CONTACT WITH FOLLOWING DETAILS:

Tel No. : +98 61 32136159 Fax No. : +98 61 32908115
Mr.M.FARZINEJAD EMAIL : m.farzinejad@ksc.ir OR VISIT:<http://WWW.KSC.IR>

Second Announcement



Khuzestan Steel Company

INVITATION TO INTERNATIONAL TENDER(IN TWO STEPS)

No. :491669

KHOUZESTAN STEEL COMPANY INTENDS TO PURCHASE 800 MT MEDIUM CARBON SLAB CASTING POWDER WITH THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATIONS:

MEDIUM CARBON SLAB(steel grade)		
	%C Min	%C Max
Carbon	0.08	0.14

Casting speed(m/min)			
Thickness=200mm		Thickness=250mm	
min	max	min	max
0.7	1.1	0.5	0.9

MOLD DIMENSION			
Thickness (mm)		WIDTH (mm)	
min	max	min	max
200	250	800	1250

Bidders must perform the following actions according to the conditions announced in the advertisement:

Note1: ALL BIDS MUST BE INFORMED US WHICH PARTICIPATE IN OUR TENDER UP TO 23rd November, 2024. WHEN YOUR COMPANY IS CONFIRMED AND THE TENDER DOCUMENT IS SENT TO YOU, YOU MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE AFORESAID ADDRESS ON OR BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE 8th December, 2024. THE OPENING DATE OF ENVELOPES WILL BE AT 10 AM ON THE 10th December, 2024 IN THE BUYER'S CONFERENCE ROOM LOCATED AT THE HEAD OFFICE OF KSC AHVAZ-IRAN AND THE BIDDERS OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES CAN ATTEND THE MEETING OF THE TENDER.

Note2: BIDDER SHALL SUBMIT WITH TENDER A BID BOND ISSUED BY AN IRANIAN BANK OR BY A EUROPEAN FIRST CLASS BANK, IN THE AMOUNT OF 9.600.000.000 Rials OR 19.000 EUR FOR 800 MT MEDIUM CARBON SLAB CASTING POWDER AND MAY REDUCED IN PROPORTION WITH THE QUANTITY OF BIDDERS OFFER.

Note 3: FOR MORE INFORMTION PLEASE CONTACT WITH FOLLOWING DETAILS:

Tel No. : +98 61 32136159 Fax No. : +98 61 32908115
Mr.M.FARZINEJAD EMAIL : m.farzinejad@ksc.ir OR VISIT:<http://WWW.KSC.IR>

UNDP honors Iranian recipient of Equator Prize 2024



TEHRAN – In a ceremony held by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) on Monday, Miras Parishan Kazeroon (MPK), an Iranian Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), was honored as one of the winners of the prestigious Equator Prize 2024.

In August, the UNDP announced MPK as one of the prize's honorees.

This year, eleven indigenous peoples and local communities from eight countries across Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean were honored as the winners of the 2024 Equator Prize.

Selected from over 600 nominations spanning 102 countries, these winners exemplify the theme 'Nature for Climate Action' showcasing the transformative power of Indigenous and locally-led nature-based solutions in addressing the climate crisis.

MPK, an NGO established in 2014 and a grantee of UNDP's Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP), has been at the forefront of wetland conservation.

MPK focuses on raising awareness about the dangers wetlands face while strengthening community resilience against climate change.

Through a network of civil society organizations, MPK advocates for national collaborative protection systems and champions local climate adaptation efforts.

Recognized as a leader in wetland restoration, MPK employs innovative techniques and mobilizes environmental advocates to drive positive change.

Key initiatives of MPK include introducing alternative livelihoods to reduce reliance on nat-

ural resources and leverage local resources to protect and restore vital wetland ecosystems.

These initiatives involve establishing the Parishan International Wetland Research and Information Center, enhancing local communities' negotiation skills, and creating communication networks among stakeholders to engage in decision-making, policy development, and collaborative efforts for wetland conservation.

Additionally, they focus on raising public awareness and educating the next generation about the importance of wetland ecosystems and the impacts of climate change, empowering them to sustainably protect natural resources.

MPK has received numerous awards, including "National Hero for Wetlands" by the Department of Environment in 2022, first

place in "Innovative Ideas for Sustainable Livelihoods in Wetlands" in 2022, and recognition as one of six NGOs awarded the Energy Globe Foundation Prize in 2022.

In 2023, MPK earned first place in the "National Environment Award" presented by the Vice Presidency Organization of Environmental Protection.

UNDP Iran, through its projects, continues to support initiatives that benefit local communities, promote sustainable practices, and ensure the transfer of environmental knowledge and conservation of natural resources for future generations.

Equator Prize

The Equator Prize, organized biennially by the Equator Initiative within UNDP, honors exceptional community efforts in conserving and sustainably using biodiversity. As these sustainable initiatives gain momentum across the tropics, they contribute to a global movement of local successes that collectively advance the Global Goals.

By highlighting the work of local and indigenous communities, the Equator Prize brings their achievements to the international stage, celebrating their commitment to sustainable development. This is the second time Iran has won this prize, the first being in 2015.

Intl. congress on health in emergencies, disasters to be held



risk management in mass gatherings, reproductive health, population youth, and disaster risk management.

It also centers on sustainable development based on risk awareness, technology development, intelligence decision-making based on big data technology in disasters, safety promotion, prevention and disaster risk reduction, passive defense, and coordination between the health sector and other organizations.

The congress revolves around climate change, health, food security, and integrated risk management of traffic accidents.

This congress will host 131 lecturers. Some 452 articles were submitted, of which 20 are selected to be presented in the congress by participants.

On the sidelines of the congress, a photo and a painting festival on floods, landslides, and earthquake faults are planned to be organized.

Taking proactive measures

In April, Mohammad-Hassan Nami, the former head of the Crisis Management Organization, said crisis prevention, as a crucial part of the crisis management process, involves adopting a proactive approach to avoid or minimize the devastating effects of disasters and ensure a safe living environment.

Currently, the world is grappling with many different crises such as desertification, climate change, and lack of fresh water, which highlight the significance of taking preventive measures," IRNA quoted Nami as saying.

Referring to the law on crisis management, he added even the law mandates to take preventive measures.

Therefore, the best possible ways to manage floods and earthquakes, as typical hazards in the country, are managing watersheds, and improving the building materials' resilience, respectively, he added.

"The construction of underground dams, especially in arid and semi-arid areas, is another viable approach to handle floods," Nami stated.

He went on to emphasize, "We should improve the resilience of building materials and constructions to be able to withstand at least a Richter 8 shake since some 62 percent of the country's land is situated on faults or on the margins of faults."

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

20% of areas in Iran at high risk of flood

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

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

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

بیست درصد ایران جزو مناطق با خطر سیل خیزی بالاست

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

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

Iranian team grabs gold medal at INO 2024

From page 1 ► energies including hydrogen fuel, wind energy, solar energy, nuclear energy, tidal energy, geothermal energy, and biomass energy.

The INO aims to provide a platform for young innovators and researchers to showcase their talents, collaborate with global experts, and address some of the world's most pressing environmental and technological challenges.

The promotion of scientific and technological interactions with related organizations in Malaysia is the most important peripheral goal of the event, IRNA quoted Afshin Ramzi, head of the Iranian team, as saying.

The third INO is set to take place in Taiwan in 2026. In 2018, the first INO was held from April 10 to 15 at Tehran's Pardis Technology Park and nine teams from four foreign countries competed at the event.

The participants presented their solutions for the global challenges related to water and wastewater treatment, agriculture, food and packaging, alternative energies, drugs and medication, information and communication through nanotechnology.

Iranian students' achievements

Students of Iran University of Science and Technology have managed to win first place in Eurasia Federation of International RoboSports Association (FIRA) Open competition 2024.

The competition was held from November 6 to 9 in Van, Turkey, bringing together 130 teams from eight countries.

The Iranian team comprised Alireza Abbasi, Mobina Lashgari, Alireza Mikaeili, and Shayan Ansarian. They ranked first in innovation and entrepreneurship, for designing 'infrsight

drones.

Iran grabbed five gold medals and two special awards in the International Science and Invention Fair (ISIF) 2024, which was held in Indonesia from November 5 to 10.

A total of 18 students from Iran attended the 47th WorldSkills Competition, winning 9 medals including a silver medal and medals for excellence.

The competition was held from September 10 to 15 in Lyon, France. Some 1,500 competitors from more than 65 countries and regions around the world gathered in Lyon to compete in different skills. Hasan Mohammadi and Hamid-Reza Hamidi won the silver medal, IRIB reported.

Iran grabbed a gold medal, two silver medals, and a bronze medal at the 36th International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI), ranking 9th among 96 countries.

Hosted in Alexandria, Egypt, the event started on September 1 and concluded on September 8, IRNA reported.

Each participating country selected a team of up to four contestants to represent their nation.

The team competed in a two-day competition. Each contestant competed individually to maximize their score by solving three algorithmic problems within five hours. Iranian students attended the event online and ranked ninth globally.

In a remarkable achievement, Iranian students won five gold medals, ranking first in the 17th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) which was held from August 17 to 27 in Vassouras, state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

UNICEF, Book City join hands to foster children's well-being

TEHRAN – The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Book City Institute have signed a three-year agreement to promote children's welfare and rights across the country.

The three-year partnership agreement was signed by UNICEF ad interim Representative in Iran, Monika Oledzka Nielson, and CEO and President of the Board of the Book City Institute, Mehdi Firouzan, in a ceremony on November 18.

Book City is an Iranian network of bookstores with over 100 active branches, where 1,500 employees introduce books and cultural products to their community.

This collaboration aims to leverage the unique strengths, networks, and expertise of both organizations to support the most vulnerable children in various provinces of the country, the UNICEF website announced in a press release.

As part of this partnership, the two partners will launch a series of advocacy and awareness-raising initiatives to foster a love for reading among children.

Key activities will include organizing book-reading leagues and clubs for vulnerable children, instituting cultural awards to honor children's book authors and publishers, and mobilizing resources to support UNICEF's critical programs in Iran.

Book City and UNICEF Iran will work together to respect and support children's rights in the workplace, marketplace and community. Both organizations aim to set an example by integrating best practices to advance children's rights into their operations and outreach.

"This partnership is a remarkable opportunity for UNICEF to leverage Book City's vast capacity and reach to extend vital messages to children and the general public," said Nielson.

"In Iran, the private sector holds immense potential to contribute resources, expertise, and innovations to support UNICEF in achieving meaningful results for the most vulnerable children. Today, UNICEF and Book City join hands to help Iran's children live their dreams, with smiles lighting up their faces," she further noted.

Through this partnership, UNICEF aims to deepen its engagement with the private sector in Iran, strengthening corporate commitment to the communities in which they operate.

In turn, UNICEF offers businesses opportunities to enhance their image, bolster brand trust, and inspire morale among staff and stakeholders.

For his part, Firouzan said, "I have devoted my entire life and career to the cultural advancement

of children and adolescents, so this partnership is a great honor for me.

UNICEF and Book City collaboration will strengthen the connections we have made with the universities and cultural centers over the past years and open new windows of opportunity for Book City."

Referring to Nielsen's speech, Firouzan added that Book City intends to put a smile on the faces of children and adolescents and guide them towards their dreams via cultural platforms adopting aesthetic knowledge.

Recent partnerships

On September 9, the Iran-Austria Joint Chamber of Commerce (IAJCC) and UNICEF signed a three-year agreement to work for the welfare and well-being of children in Iran.

As per this partnership, the IAJCC will mobilize its members' financial support for UNICEF programs in Iran. UNICEF and the IAJCC will also work together to offer opportunities for the business sector to mitigate negative impacts and yield positive results for children.

"UNICEF highly appreciates the support of the IAJCC to promote responsible business practices among private and public sector aimed at advancing children's welfare in Iran in different areas such as healthcare, nutrition, social protection, clean water, and education," said UNICEF former Representative in Iran, Robin Nandy, adding, "We look forward to more such partnerships to place children's rights at the heart of the corporate sustainability agenda."

The president of IAJCC, Nariman Sadri, for his part said, "Together with UNICEF, we are poised to make a significant impact in areas such as healthcare, clean water, and education, ensuring that every child in Iran has the opportunity to thrive."

The current country program between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and UNICEF, from 2023 to 2027, is focused on the following areas: Health and Nutrition, Education and Adolescent Empowerment, Child Protection, Social Policy, Emergency, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene as well as the climate change.

On July 8, UNICEF and Panter Group signed a three-year partnership agreement titled 'Creativity for All Children' to improve the lives of the most vulnerable children and adolescents in Iran.

The partnership provides financial support to UNICEF programs. As per this partnership, the Panter Group will donate part of the proceeds from the sale of its selected products to UNICEF.



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NOVEMBER 20, 2024

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

If the right usurped from us is given back to us we shall take it, otherwise we shall go on claiming it.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon: 11:50 Evening: 17:14 Dawn: 5:19 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:46 (tomorrow)

Veteran painter Ali-Akbar Sadeqi to be commemorated

TEHRAN- The veteran Iranian painter, illustrator and animator Ali-Akbar Sadeqi will be commemorated in a ceremony on Friday for his lifetime achievement in the world of painting.

Organized by the Society for the National Heritage of Iran, the event will be attended by a number of scholars, experts and artists and is open to the public, ISNA reported on Tuesday.

Born in 1937 and a distinguished graduate of the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Tehran, Ali-Akbar Sadeqi ranks among Iran's foremost surrealist painters. His artworks, deeply rooted in the myths and epic narratives of Persian literature, harmoniously blend Western surrealism with Eastern spirituality, elevating traditional themes to a realm of unique imagination. Sadeqi mastery has led to his works being preserved in museums globally, most notably the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art (TMOCA), which honored him in 2018 by dedicating its entire exhibition space to showcase his extensive body of work.

From a young age, Sadeqi was captivated by the rich narratives of the Shahnameh, Ferdowsi's epic masterpiece, which transported him into a world of heroic figures and legendary tales. The vivid imagery of Siavash riding noble steeds, the bravery of Rostam, and the valiant deeds of mythical heroes deeply influenced Sadeqi's artistic vision. This lyrical universe of legends profoundly shapes his worldview and recurs in his art, often reflecting the intricate aesthetics of traditional Persian miniature paintings and popular forms like coffeehouse art, reverse glass paintings, and lithographs.

Before entering university in 1958, Sadeqi began teaching painting in high schools during the 1950s. His early explorations with watercolor transitioned into oil painting shortly after, as he pursued a unique and innovative style inspired by traditional Iranian portraiture and coffeehouse art. Rooted in the Qajar tradition, Sadeqi's painting developed a distinctive flair characterized by surreal elements reminiscent of stained-glass art. His initial works spanned graphics and illustrations, showcasing his versatility and keen artistic eye.

Following the Iranian Revolution in 1979,

Sadeqi intensified his artistic endeavors. In 1989, he established the Sabz Gallery, which became a vital platform for displaying the works of contemporary Iranian artists until its closure in 2003. Over the past 60 years, Sadeqi has consistently contributed to Iran's artistic landscape, remaining an influential figure in both painting and graphic illustration.

In January and February 2018, a comprehensive retrospective exhibition featured over 200 pieces, including paintings, sculptures, drawings, illustrations, and select animated films. The event at the TMOCA celebrated Sadeqi's artistic journey and his myriad contributions to the field. Another significant exhibition took place in October 2016 at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) in collaboration with Shirin Gallery. His presence was also felt at Art Dubai Modern in March 2016, where his works garnered international acclaim.

Sadeqi's painting style, often described as Iranian surrealism, marries traditional Persian artistic forms with dynamic, modern interpretations. His works are infused with Persian cultural motifs, lively compositions, and a distinct mythical essence characterized by vibrant colors and expansive canvases. This style draws heavily from the iconography and themes of the Qajar school, made famous through Coffeehouse paintings, which often depicted heroic narratives.

The meticulous detailing found in Sadeqi's paintings evokes the rich traditions of miniature art, often portraying heroes enmeshed in their internal struggles, rather than visible battles against external evils. Through pieces like "The Hanged Coat" and "Torture Armchair," a profound emotional resonance emerges—capturing the duality of defeat and resilience. These self-reflective works highlight the artist's connection with his characters, illustrating a timeless struggle that resonates deeply with viewers.

Moreover, Sadeqi's surreal creations extend beyond paint; he is also known for his animated movies, including acclaimed works such as "Flowers Storm," "Malek Khorshid," and more—further enriching his artistic legacy.

TEHRAN-Acclaimed Iranian conductor Ali Rahbari began his China concert tour in Beijing, where he conducted the Beijing Symphony Orchestra on November 17.

The concert was held at the National Center for the Performing Arts in Beijing, which is the largest theater complex in Asia, IRNA reported.

The performance included "Peer Gynt Suite" by the Norwegian composer and pianist Edvard Grieg, "Romeo and Juliet Fantasy: Overture" by the Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, and "Symphony No. 9" by the Austrian composer Franz Schubert.

Continuing his China concert tour, Rahbari will conduct other symphony orchestras in Hangzhou, Ningbo, and Wuhan until mid-December.

Born in Tehran, Rahbari, 76, was trained in Vienna as a pupil of Gottfried von Einem, Hans Swarowsky, and Karl Österreicher. On his return to Iran, when he was only 24 years old, he was appointed director of the Tehran Conservatory of Music and took a leading position in the cultural development of his country.

Early in his conducting career, Rahbari was the recipient of several major awards. In 1977, he won the prestigious Gold Medal at the Concours International de Jeunes Chefs D'Orchestre (The International Contest of Young Conductors) in Besançon, France, following a Silver Medal at the Geneva Conductor's Competition.

Noticed by the legendary Herbert von Karajan, Rahbari was invited by him to conduct the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra. After this triumphal debut with the orchestra, further engagements followed in 1980, 1982, and 1984. Karajan also paid him the enormous compliment of asking Rahbari to be his assistant at the Salzburg Easter Festival in 1980.

From this auspicious start, Rahbari's career has blossomed and to date he has conducted more than 120 orchestras around the world, working in most renowned opera houses, national and international scenes such as Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Orchestre National de France, Czech Philharmonic, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden, NHK Tokyo, Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Stockholm Philharmonic, Zürich Tonhalle Orchestra, the Berlin Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana, Barcelona City Orches-

Ali Rahbari begins China concert tour in Beijing



tra, Prague Symphony Orchestra, New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, and the English National Opera.

In 1985, Rahbari was appointed as the Czech Philharmonic's Permanent Guest Conductor. His achievements brought him the prestigious award of Dvorak Medal for his outstanding work with the Czech Philharmonic. Also from 1985, Rahbari became Principal Guest Conductor with the Belgian Radio and Television Orchestra, Brussels - the "BRTN" - and served as Chief Music Director from 1988 until 1996. It was during his time with the orchestra that he became well-known for his recordings of the standard orchestral repertoire together with operas, contemporary music and choral works and in 1994, he was honored with the Fuga Trophy by the Belgian Composers' Association for his outstanding achievements with the orchestra.

His recordings on Compact Disc alone number more than 250 and some of them were recorded by DISCOVER, NAXOS, and POLYGRAM. Rahbari's recordings of Verdi's and Puccini's operas have brought him international acclaim and recognition and as Chief Music Director of Koch Discover International (which he founded in 1992). He has discovered many young soloists and ensembles, helping them to make recordings and promoting them on the international scene.

From 1997 to 1999, Rahbari was appointed as principal conductor of Zagreb Philharmonic and Virtuosi di Praga. In 2000, he moved to South Spain as he was nominated as Chief Conductor and Music Director of the

Malaga Symphony Orchestra and remained in the city until 2004.

Gathering 60 Iranian musicians in 1997 from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Holland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States in Bregenz, Rahbari founded the Persian International Philharmonic. The result has been recording of several oriental pieces as Scheherazade from Rimsky Korsakov, Violin Concerto from Aram Khachaturian and Nohe Khan Violin Concerto, Composed by Rahbari at the age of 19, under the direction of Koch Discover International.

In 2003, Ali Rahbari obtained the Reward of Honor from the City of Malaga for Outstanding Artistic Achievements. The tour in Germany with the Malaga Symphony Orchestra in 2004 through Munich, Friedrichshafen, Düsseldorf, Regensburg, Köln, Braunschweig, etc. was a complete success resulting in standing ovations and excellent reviews in the media.

In 2005, Maestro Rahbari was invited to Iran as the Permanent Conductor of Tehran Symphony Orchestra. His return and performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, after thirty years in the country, became the biggest music event of the past three decades, as well as in the last few years, Maestro Rahbari has been more focused recently on writing new pieces as a composer to add to the repertoire (My Mother Persia Symphonic poems and many more pieces) in parallel to his conducting career, he has been mostly invited to fundamentally new orchestras for them to learn from his experience

mostly in Turkey.

Married to a violinist from Croatia, Ali Rahbari is father of five children. Something of a new Renaissance man, he is a passionate artist and has painted portraits of several international music personalities. He is also the avid designer of his charming home outside of Vienna. He speaks Persian, Italian, French, Spanish, Dutch, German and English.

Ali Rahbari was appointed by Valery Gergiev as permanent guest conductor of Mariinsky Theater in St. Petersburg since July 2022.

The Beijing Symphony Orchestra was founded in October 1977. In the 1990s, it underwent a significant reform and since then has held annual musical events, with 90-100 concerts given each year. Starting with the classics, the orchestra has performed various musical works, including operatic music, symphonic music, chamber music and contemporary music. It has cooperated with world-renowned maestros, instrumentalists and famous international orchestras to expand its repertoire.

The National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA), colloquially described as The Giant Egg, is an arts center containing an opera house in Xicheng, Beijing, China. The NCPA is semi-spherical in appearance and contains an opera hall, music hall, theater and art exhibition halls, restaurants, audio shops, and other supporting facilities. The approximate 12,000-square-meter building has aggregate seating for 5,452.

Art Palace to stage Dante's "The Divine Comedy"

TEHRAN-A performance loosely based on "The Divine Comedy" by the famous Italian writer and poet Dante Alighieri will go on stage at the Art Palace in Tehran from November 28.

Pouria Golestani is the director of the play. He also performs in it along with Yaser Khaseb, Sepas Rezaei, Ghazaleh Roghani, Hamid Rashid, Amin Varkesh, and Hamid Shamsheeri, ISNA reported.

An Italian narrative poem, "The Divine Comedy" is widely considered the pre-eminent work in Italian literature and one of the greatest works of Western literature.

The poem's imaginative vision of the afterlife is representative of the medieval worldview as it existed in the Western Church by the 14th century. It is divided into three parts: Inferno, Purgatorio, and Paradiso.

The poem discusses "the state of the soul after

death and presents an image of divine justice meted out as due punishment or reward," and describes Dante's travels through Hell, Purgatory, and Heaven. Allegorically, the poem represents the soul's journey towards God, beginning with the recognition and rejection of sin (Inferno), followed by the penitent Christian life (Purgatorio), which is then followed by the soul's ascent to God (Paradiso).

In the poem, the pilgrim Dante is accompanied by three guides: Virgil, who represents human reason, and who guides him for all of Inferno and most of Purgatorio; Beatrice, who represents divine revelation in addition to theology, grace, and faith, and guides him from the end of Purgatorio onwards; and Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, who represents contemplative mysticism, guiding him in the final cantos of Paradiso.

Dante Alighieri (1265-1321) was an Italian poet, writer, and philosopher. He is known for establishing the use of the vernacular in literature at a time when most poetry was written in Latin, which was accessible only to educated readers.

His use of the Florentine dialect for works such as "Divine Comedy" helped establish the modern-day standardized Italian language.

By writing his poems in the Italian vernacular rather than in Latin, Dante influenced the course of literary development, making Italian the literary language in Western Europe for several centuries. His work set a precedent that important Italian writers such as Petrarch and Boccaccio would later follow.

The play will remain on stage until December 15 at the Art Palace, located at No. 50, Zand-e-Vakil Alley, Razi St., Neauphle le chateau St., Hafez Ave.

Cartoon of Day



Netanyahu Speaking ...
Cartoonist: Emad Hajjaj from Jordan

Tehran University screens restored version of Dariush Mehrjui's "The Cow"

TEHRAN- A restored and colored version of "The Cow", directed by the late filmmaker Dariush Mehrjui, was screened at the Tehran University on Monday as part of a special event celebrating Iran's Book Week.

Written by the renowned author Gholam-Hossein Saedi based on his own short story, "The Cow" is considered by most critics to be the first film of the Iranian New Wave.

The film was restored in 2014 with the participation and cooperation of the Iranian Cinema Organization, the National Film Archive of Iran and the Pishgamane Cinemaye Aria Laboratory.

Produced in 1969, "The Cow" tells

the story of a middle-aged villager named Mashd Hassan (Ezzatollah Entezami) who is infatuated with his cow, the only one in the village. When the cow unexpectedly dies, he becomes so deranged that he begins to believe that he has become the cow. His friends decide to take him to the nearby city to be seen by a doctor.

The cast includes Entezami along with Firouz Behjat-Mohamadi, Parviz Fannizadeh, Jamshid Mashayekhi, Ali Nassirian, Ezatallah Ramezanifar, and Jafar Vali.

The movie is very well-known because of its psychological and social criticisms. There are several

psychological messages behind the main character's delusion of being a cow. It opens up Marx's theory of alienation and social alienation.

The movie has won several awards including the Best Screenplay prize at the second Iranian National Film Festival Sepas in 1970.

It was first screened internationally at Fortnight Directors at the Cannes Film Festival in 1971 and then the 32nd Venice Film Festival of the same year, receiving the FIPRESCI Prize. It was also awarded the Best Actor prize at the Chicago International Film Festival 1971 for the performance by Entezami.

The film explored themes of rural life and existentialism, ushering in a new direction for the industry. Its global recognition laid the foundation for the subsequent international success of Iranian cinema and left an enduring impact on the art form.

One of Iran's most prominent filmmakers, Mehrjui made 24 films during 53 years of professional career, most of which were inspired by literature and adapted from Iranian and foreign novels and plays.

Mehrjui, 83, was stabbed to death in 2023 alongside his wife Vahideh Mohammadifar, 54, at their home in Karaj, Alborz Province.