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Millions of Iranians travel to the late general's hometown to mark the fifth martyrdom anniversary

We Will Continue Soleimani's Path: Pezeshkian

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Iraqis mark 'Leaders of Victory' martyrdom anniversary

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Lebanese citizens protest improper treatment of Iranian flight passengers

TEHRAN – Public anger over the mistreatment of passengers on an Iranian flight led to protests in Lebanon on Thursday night.

Lebanese citizens held demonstrations near Beirut-Rafic Hariri International Airport and outside the Iranian Embassy.

People were outraged by an incident in which Iranian and Lebanese passengers, including Iranian diplomats, arriving on a Tehran-Beirut flight at Rafic Hariri International Airport, faced stringent body searches and invasive luggage inspections, according to Al-Manar.

This resulted in hours-long delays and significant frustration among the travelers.

The actions, which drew resistance from the Iranian diplomats, contravened the Vienna Convention of 1961, a law that grants diplomats immunity from such inspections.

Protesters in Beirut accused airport officials of implementing American and Israeli agendas in Lebanon, questioning why no such measures were implemented against U.S. and European flights. ▶ Page 2



Time to stand on the right side of history

By Mohammad Mahdi Imanipour
President of the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization

TEHRAN – To begin my note, I would like to sincerely congratulate the leaders and followers of Prophet Jesus, son of Mary (peace be upon them), all over the world, on the arrival of the New Christian year, 2025.

Let us hope that, by the grace of God Almighty and in the light of the teachings of that divine Prophet, we will witness the establishment of comprehensive peace, lasting security, and true freedom in the current turbulent world in the New Year.

The bitter realities that are unfolding today in Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, and other parts of the West Asian region have jeopardized the lives and security of millions of people, including Christian citizens of these countries, and have made the sweetness of the transition to the New Year bitter for them. In this regard, there are some points that seem necessary to recall and emphasize in these early days of 2025. ▶ Page 2

Iran's renewable energy capacity reaches 1,520 MW

TEHRAN – Iran's renewable energy capacity has grown significantly under the 14th administration, reaching 1,520 megawatts (MW).

According to IRNA, the country's energy imbalance and the critical need to expand renewable energy use have been a priority for the administration.

President Masoud Pezeshkian has consistently emphasized the importance of renewable energy development, urging immediate intervention to resolve any obstacles to its expansion. This commitment has driven significant growth in renewable energy capacity.

Installed capacity for renewable power plants, which stood at 1,231 MW at the beginning of the current administration, increased by 289 MW to reach 1,520 MW by the end of December. Solar power plants dominate the sector, generating 781.86 MW and accounting for 60 percent of the total capacity. Wind power plants contribute 376.3 MW, representing 29 percent, while small hydroelectric plants produce 104.04 MW, making up 8.0 percent of the renewable energy mix. ▶ Page 4

Shameful scandal at Beirut Airport: Dirty schemes against Hezbollah continues

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT – Based on the instructions of the Lebanese Ministry of Interior, known for its anti-Hezbollah policy on the orders of Washington, Beirut Airport's security service for the second time in a week has subjected an Iranian passenger airplane to a thorough inspection.

The inspection took place following what Al-Hadath TV, known for its source of funding and rhetoric, claimed "Western sources have told Al-Hadath that Iran plans to transfer millions of dollars to Hezbollah today via a Mahan Air flight from Tehran to Beirut."

All passengers were subjected to a humiliating inspection. Additionally, in a blatant violation of diplomatic norms, the small personal bag of an Iranian diplomat working at the Iranian embassy in Beirut was thoroughly inspected.

These provocative measures under the pretext of the possibility of transferring money to Lebanon are not new,

Israel remains in the crosshairs of Yemeni fire

TEHRAN- Israel has been making desperate attempts to deter Yemen's Ansarullah movement from firing missiles and drones at its cities and towns.

Over the past weeks, missiles and drones from Yemen have struck Israel nearly every day, sending millions of Israelis scrambling for shelter.

Early Friday morning, the Yemeni army launched a drone and missile that set off air raid sirens in broad swaths of Israel. The attacks caused multiple injuries.

Shortly after Israel launched war on Gaza in October 2023, the Yemeni army began to target strategic and military sites in Israel in a show of solidarity with Palestinians in the enclave. Most Yemeni projectiles have penetrated Israel's sophisticated aerial defense system.

Late last month, an American missile defense system battery were used in the interception of a ballistic missile launched at Israel from Yemen.

But the THAAD, or Terminal High Altitude Area Defense System, has failed to protect Israel from Yemeni attacks.

An Ansarullah official said Friday's missile launch highlights yet more failure by the US military's THAAD.

Jabalia: The "ghost town" that haunts the Israeli army

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN- Israel has stepped up attacks in the Gaza Strip more than 450 days after initiating its war of genocide against the besieged Palestinian territory.

According to Gaza's Government Media Office on Friday, Israeli airstrikes across the Palestinian enclave killed more than 70 people over the previous 24 hours.

In a statement, the media office added that the Israeli army carried out deadly strikes in areas, including in the so-called humanitarian zone of al-Mawasi in Khan Younis and the Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza.

"The Israeli airstrikes targeted civilians and infrastructure in horrific crimes added to the occupation's dark record," the statement said.

Israel has devastated Jabalia since launching a new offensive in northern Gaza in early October 2024.

Israeli media says the Jabalia refugee camp has been left a "ghost town" with no buildings left intact.

The daily newspaper Maariv reported that the camp is now only home to stray dogs. ▶ Page 5

Saint Sarkis Cathedral: a landmark of Armenian heritage in Tehran

TEHRAN – Saint Sarkis Cathedral stands as one of the most iconic landmarks of downtown Tehran, symbolizing the rich heritage of the Armenian community in Iran.

Completed in the early 1970s, the cathedral is an Armenian Apostolic church named after Saint Sarkis the Warrior. It is situated at Karimkhan Zand Street, near the junction of Nejatollahi Street (formerly Villa Street).

Architecture and design

As the largest church in Tehran, Saint Sarkis Cathedral measures 36.5 meters in length and 17.8 meters in width. Its white concrete structure, covered inside and out with white marble, showcases a harmonious blend of medieval and modern architectural styles.

Initially built without interior columns, the hexagonal dome was later supported by four columns to ensure structural stability. ▶ Page 6



Ammar festival wraps up, honoring resistance figures

TEHRAN- The closing ceremony of the 15th edition of the Ammar Popular Film Festival took place at the Andisheh Hall of the Art Bureau in Tehran, with the presence of families of martyrs and international guests.

During the ceremony, Ali Mayadeen's correspondent Ali Mortada and Yemeni artist Kamal Sharaf were honored, along with the distribution of awards across various categories.

During his tribute, Ali Mortada addressed the crowd, extending greetings to those who instill fear in the hearts of occupiers and expressing solidarity with Iran. He stated, "I want to tell the Lebanese that this is Iran, and the Iranians are with us. Lebanon is strong; we have killed more than 120 Zionist soldiers and wounded thousands, halting the economy of the Zionist regime." ▶ Page 8