



Trump's Pipe Dream: A Losing Bet on Relocating Gaza Population

Israel slaughtered over 47,000 people in Gaza but failed to ethnically cleanse the Palestinian territory ▶ Page 5

Iranian Navy task force deployed to the Indian Ocean, Gulf of Aden

TEHRAN – The 100th combat and operational task force of Iran's Navy has set sail for distant waters with a mission that extends beyond combat and intelligence operations to include training duties.

Rear Admiral Hamzeh Ali Kaviani, Deputy Commander of the Navy, and various commanders and officials attended the deployment on Sunday.

This task force, consisting of the logistic support ships Bushehr and Lavan, will conduct patrols in the northern Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden.

Since 2008, the Iranian Navy has been deploying combat and operational task forces to ensure the security of shipping lanes and combat piracy.

The Navy's task forces have been regarded as pivotal in assisting vessels in distress, conducting military engagements, visiting allied ports, and escorting commercial ships upon request.

These missions demonstrate Iran's commitment to enhancing maritime security and fostering international cooperation within the region.

A call for BBC accountability

TEHRAN – War and its aftermath define a nation's identity and collective memory.

The sacrifices made by men and women during a nation's troubled history, endure long after the conflict ends, etched deeply into the shared consciousness of their people. This collective memory is not just an emotional connection; it forms the foundation of national identity, symbolizing resilience, honor, and unwavering commitment. The way a country preserves and honors the memory of its fallen heroes reflects its most cherished values.

A recent incident in Iran has brought the fragile nature of this collective memory into sharp focus, igniting widespread outrage across the country. Two teenage girls were filmed dancing at the memorial site for the unknown martyrs of the Sacred Defense era—the period of the Iran-Iraq War—in Tehran, a location imbued with immense national and emotional significance.

While many saw this act as deeply disrespectful and as an affront to the values and sacrifices of those who gave their lives in defense of the nation, what added further fuel to the fire was the way BBC Persian reported on the incident.

Rather than referring to the site as “the graves of unknown martyrs,” BBC Persian chose to describe it as “the graves of unnamed war casualties.” ▶ Page 2

17 feature, short films to attend 3rd Iranian Film Festival New York

TEHRAN—A total of 17 films from Iran will be screened at the 3rd edition of the Iranian Film Festival New York, which will take place from January 29 to February 6, at the IFC Center, New York, in collaboration with Daricheh Cinema and IFC Center.

The participants include 13 feature films and four short films. This annual event celebrates and promotes Iranian cinema, providing a key platform to showcase the diversity of the Iranian film industry, Mehr reported.

This year, the festival introduces a new section, Hidden Gems from Iran, featuring rare and lesser-seen films that offer a fresh perspective on Iranian filmmaking.

The program opens with the U.S. premiere of Oktay Baraheni's “The Old Bachelor,” which won awards at the Rotterdam and London film festivals, promising to captivate audiences with its provocative storyline and captivating performances by the glamorous Leila Hatami, Hassan Pourshirazi, and Hamed Behdad. ▶ Page 8

Killing Lebanese returning to destroyed homes is tragic

By Narges Pakdel

TEHRAN – Israeli soldiers killed at least 15 civilians and a soldier and wounded at least 80 others in south Lebanon as the people were returning to their homes after a deadline for the Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon had passed.

Killing ordinary people who were returning to their demolished homes is a tragedy. This tragedy took place after months of homelessness and ensuing problems. This tragedy was committed by invading forces whom war criminal Benjamin Netanyahu has called the “most civilized army” in the world.

Some of these thousands of citizens who were returning to their places of living are still grieving the loss of family members who were brutalized in Israel's intensive savage and indiscriminate bombardments of southern Lebanon. Just tragedy after tragedy.

Some pro-Israel officials in the West may argue that Israel had already warned the Lebanese not to return to their homes, but a return to one's home doesn't deserve cold-blooded murder. What a crime had they done that they were ruthlessly soaked in the blood? This is an important question that self-proclaimed defenders of human rights in the West, who blindly defend Israel, must answer.

Lebanese return to border villages but settlers refuse

By Sondoss AlAsaad

KHIAM – Up to the time of writing this report at least 15 citizens including a soldier in the Lebanese army were martyred and dozens more were injured as Israeli invaders attacked southerners returning to their towns and villages after the expiration of the 60-day deadline for the withdrawal of the invading army. The occupation forces also kidnapped other citizens. No official figures released yet.

The Israeli occupation forces opened fire on the armless citizens who stood directly in front of the Merkava tanks, amidst intensive patrols by the UNIFIL forces that blocked the roads to prevent them from advancing to their border towns.

The citizens went out in defiance of the threats by Avichay Adraee, the spokesman for the Israeli army. In parallel, the Lebanese army urged them to “adhere to the directives of the military units.”

President Joseph Aoun expressed his jubilation along the southerners, stressing that Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity are “non-negotiable.” Aoun said that he is following up – at the highest levels – the return of the displaced citizens and “guarantee their rights and dignity.”

Freed Palestinians: Traumatic conditions exposed

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN – The second batch of Palestinian prisoners freed from Israeli jails have shared harrowing stories of their time in Israeli prisons.

Upon their release, Israeli occupation forces also harassed them and their families, along with their supporters.

Below are some of the notable Palestinians freed by the resistance fighters in Gaza.

Mohammed al-Tous

Aged 69, he was dubbed “the dean of Palestinian prisoners” for being the longest-serving prisoner in Israeli prisons.

Al-Tous spent 39 years in Israeli jails after participating in national and resistance activities.

The veteran prisoner was first arrested in 1983 for six months after raising Palestinian flags on electricity poles in his hometown in the occupied West Bank.

His resistance activity against occupation led to his arrest again in 1985. Al-Tous was subjected to extensive periods of interrogation, during which his jailers used various types of torture methods.

▶ Page 5

HPV vaccination to be implemented nationwide

TEHRAN –The health ministry is planning to include the Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination in the country's immunization program to prevent the prevalence of cervical cancer and genital warts infection, an official with the health ministry has said.

“Genital warts are not common in the country, so the vaccination mainly focuses on the prevention of the infection,” IRNA quoted Alireza Raeisi as saying.

HPV vaccine, the same as the influenza vaccine, will be recommended for those at higher risk of getting the disease, the official noted.

In December 2024, vaccination is the best way to prevent the disease; the vaccine has already been introduced in 140 countries. ▶ Page 7



Kabul visit yielded tangible progress on critical bilateral issues: Iran FM

TEHRAN – Abbas Araghchi, the Iranian Foreign Minister, has called his visit to Kabul “productive, with tangible steps taken toward resolving key concerns.”

Araghchi arrived in Kabul on Sunday, leading a high-level political and economic delegation.

The visit aimed to discuss a range of issues affecting both Iran and Afghanistan, with a particular focus on regional security, water rights, migration, and economic cooperation.

‘Water rights: a shared responsibility’

Araghchi's first meeting was with Mullah Mohammad Hassan Akhund, the Prime Minister of Afghanistan. ▶ Page 3