

‘Herald of Victory’: Iran Hits Biggest US Base in West Asia

By targeting the US base in Qatar, Tehran showed it is not intimidated by Trump’s bullying



Traces are seen in the sky after Iran’s armed forces say they targeted The Al-Udeid base in a missile attack in Qatar on June 23.

Iranian missiles turn Tel Aviv into a ghost town

By Garsha Vazirian

TEHRAN – With air raid sirens blaring daily and the threat of attacks looming every second, cities across the occupied territories, especially Tel Aviv which has come under attack several times in the past days, have become eerily quiet.

Israelis have either left Tel Aviv for regions they deem safer, or are spending most of the day in underground shelters, Hebrew media reports.

The 21st wave of Iran’s Operation True Promise III, executed with precision and tactical innovation by the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) Aerospace Force, struck deep into the heart of the occupied territories on Monday, while Iran’s integrated air defense network successfully neutralized a massive wave of over 130 Israeli drones.

A symphony of strategic punishment

Marking a significant evolution in tactics, wave 21 of Operation True Promise 3 commenced pre-dawn Monday. ▶ [Page 2](#)

US attack on Iran and final collapse of international order

By Xavier Villar

MADRID – On June 22, 2025, the United States bombed Iranian nuclear facilities in a coordinated strike with Israel, shattering any remaining illusions about the nature of the so-called international order.

Far from being an isolated or reactive action, the bombing crowned a sustained campaign of pressure that, under the guise of diplomacy, concealed a deliberate strategy of suffocation and provocation. Like the war launched by Israel on June 13, the U.S. attack lacked any legitimate legal or strategic justification. By every measure, it was a premeditated and unprovoked act of aggression.

The offensive, which unleashed destructive power on the facilities at Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan, not only violated the principle of sovereignty enshrined in the United Nations Charter but also blatantly undermined the nuclear non-proliferation regime. All three sites were under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). ▶ [Page 3](#)

Rafael Grossi’s role in provoking war on Iran

By Soheila Zarfam

TEHRAN – The recent attacks on Iran’s peaceful nuclear facilities have raised serious questions about the role of international oversight institutions in escalating tensions—especially when their neutrality is seen to have diminished over time.

At the heart of the growing controversy is Rafael Grossi, Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). His handling of Iran’s nuclear file has drawn sharp criticism from Iranian officials and sparked broader debate among analysts about the risks of politicized reporting in already unstable environments.

Tensions between Tehran and the IAEA have been simmering for years, but recent developments have brought them to a head. In the days leading up to the first wave of Israeli strikes on Iran, a report from the Agency citing uranium enrichment levels in Iran “higher than those in countries without military nuclear programs” was widely referenced as justification by the Israeli regime. The timing of the report, its tone, and the broader diplomatic context have since come under scrutiny. ▶ [Page 3](#)

With Araghchi in Moscow, Iran and Russia forge united front against US-Israeli warmongering

TEHRAN – As Iran grapples with unwarranted and illegal attacks from both Israel and the United States, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi underscored the vital coordination between Tehran and Moscow on critical regional and nuclear matters.

Araghchi’s visit to Moscow on Monday, during which he met with Russian President Vladimir Putin, was characterized as a “pivotal moment” for the region. He lauded the historic and deeply entrenched ties between Iran and Russia, noting the evolution of their cooperation into a strategic alliance.

The talks followed a brazen attack by American forces, who violated international law by striking three peaceful Iranian nuclear sites – Natanz, Isfahan, and Fordow – just a day prior. Russia’s UN envoy had already blasted this aggression during an emergency Security Council session on Sunday. ▶ [Page 2](#)

US deliberately sabotaged diplomacy, says Iran’s foreign ministry after American strikes

TEHRAN — The spokesperson for the Iranian Foreign Ministry has strongly condemned the ongoing joint U.S.-Israeli military strike on Iranian territory, calling it a “deliberate sabotage of diplomacy” that coincided with Tehran’s preparations to enter a new round of nuclear negotiations.

The remarks come amid rising tensions in the region, with Iranian leaders warning that the attacks jeopardizes not only peace efforts but also the very foundations of international law.

Esmail Baghaei addressed the media during his weekly press briefing on Monday, stating that the strikes took place just as Iran was preparing to join the sixth round of diplomatic talks with a country that, he noted, “has now become an active participant in the war against Iran.” ▶ [Page 2](#)

World says no to war: Global protests erupt after U.S., Israel strikes on Iran

By Ramin Radfar

TEHRAN – A wave of mass protests has swept across many cities worldwide following the coordinated U.S. and Israeli airstrikes on Iran’s nuclear facilities on June 22 and 23.

The strikes, which targeted key Iranian nuclear sites of Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan, have sparked outrage among civil society groups, peace activists, and anti-war organizations, raising alarm over the risk of wider regional conflict.

International mobilization: A call for peace and restraint

In Europe, some of the largest demonstrations took place. In The Hague, Netherlands, an estimated 5,000 demonstrators—originally assembled for an anti-NATO protest—shifted their focus to condemn the U.S. attacks on Iran. ▶ [Page 4](#)

Son of toppled Shah align with Iran’s enemies, seeks power through foreign intervention

TEHRAN – The exiled son of the Iranian Shah toppled in the 1979 Islamic Revolution has once again seized the moment to push its long-failed ends.

Reza Pahlavi, who has spent over 40 years attempting to install himself in Iranian political life with no popular mandate or legal legitimacy, has repeatedly turned to Iran’s arch enemies for support -- a pattern that reveals the desperation and political opportunism underlying his ambitions.

This time, as tensions escalate in the region following a wave of Israeli and American military aggression against the Islamic Republic, ▶ [Page 4](#)



Citizens mourn Red Crescent martyrs in heartfelt Tehran ceremony

TEHRAN – Dozens of Tehran residents and Red Crescent volunteers gathered in Haft-e Tir Square on Sunday to honor the memory of three aid workers killed in a recent Israeli strike.

The crowd covered a damaged ambulance—hit during the attack—with flowers, in a symbolic gesture of mourning and solidarity.

The targeted strike, part of the latest wave of aggression by the Israeli regime, led to the martyrdom of three Iranian Red Crescent personnel who were providing emergency assistance at the time.

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

The time has come to act

Siasat-e-Rooz dedicated its editorial to the criminal attack on Iran by the United States and wrote: In a major war crime, the U.S. state terrorism launched targeted strikes on Iran's nuclear facilities in Fordow, Isfahan and Natanz with bunker-busting bombs in violation of international law, NPT to the UN Charter. Trump proved that his calls for diplomacy and promises are lies, and that diplomacy has practically no meaning for the West. Today, Iran's strategic patience is over due to the miscalculation of the U.S. and the Zionists and a deception by the Europeans, and the time for a decisive response to make the aggressors regret has come. In the meantime, Europe cannot be on the safe side because they have also officially shown that they are partners and facilitators of the crimes of the Zionists and the U.S., and their oil interests in many regions and their companies are a legitimate target in the major economies of in the region. The great men of Yemen are a reliable partner and ally who can change the court of history alongside Iran. Today, diplomacy must move from the West to the East and warn countries such as Russia, China, and India that the West will soon come after them and that Iran is a place that the world needs to protect.

Jam-e-Jam: America's great mistake and its consequences

In a note, Jam-e-Jam addressed the aggressive U.S. attack on Iran and said: The U.S. strikes on Iran's nuclear facilities took place in a situation where, according to U.S. intelligence agencies, Iran's nuclear activities as a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) were completely peaceful and within the framework of commitments to international law, including Safeguards Agreement. On the other side, the U.S. is the first and only user of a nuclear bomb against the people of a country (Japan). In this regard, it has once again become clear that American officials do not have the authority to make any comments about a peaceful program. The important point is that the United States and other allies of the Zionist regime should know that nations have become more aware of their ill-intentions and will not be deceived by their lies. It will not be too far that Western nations will bring European and American leaders and individuals such as Mr. Grossi, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to court for their lies.

Hamshahri: Options on the table to punish America

In an analysis, Hamshahri discussed possible options to punish America after the criminal attack on Iran and wrote: Speculation about the quality of Tehran's response to the U.S. attack on Iran's nuclear infrastructure is running high in regional and international media outlets as Iran weighing up various options. Although Iran's missile capability can be considered one of the main options in giving a decisive response to the recent American aggression, the point is that the Islamic Republic can use various tools, such as operations by resistance groups, direct missile attacks on U.S. bases, advanced cyberattacks, accelerate nuclear program, close the Strait of Hormuz, and target economic interests to "punish the aggressor." Iran can take tangible steps to develop its nuclear program as it did in response to the U.S. withdrawal from the JCPOA in the past. Current statistics show that Iran produces a significant amount of uranium with different purities at various levels every month. Now, more than a thousand advanced IR-6 centrifuges and about 700 IR-2M units are in operation.

Shargh: Diplomacy active in state of security emergency

In an article, Shargh analyzed Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi's visit to Turkey to participate in the Istanbul summit. It wrote: In the days when developments on the ground and political pressure have simultaneously exposed Iran to one of the most complex crises in recent years, the responsibility of the Foreign Ministry to accurately, effectively and timely reflect the official position has gained double importance. In such circumstances, the participation of the Iranian foreign minister at the Islamic Foreign Ministers' Meeting is not merely ceremonial, rather it is part of a grand foreign policy strategy to highlight Iran's official assessment of the developments in the region and the world (following Israel and the United States' air strikes of Iran's nuclear facilities). The Istanbul summit provided Iran with an opportunity to use diplomatic channels, amidst the tense military atmosphere, to express its official position in a rights-based format based on regional interaction. The attempt to use the capacities of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, consulting with key countries, and raising the issue in the form of an emergency meeting shows that the Iranian Foreign Ministry, despite working in a security emergency situation, continues to adhere to the path of dialogue, clarification of Tehran's position, and utilization of multilateral tools.

US deliberately sabotaged diplomacy, says Iran's foreign ministry after American strikes

From page 1 ▶ "This military aggression occurred merely two days before negotiations were set to resume," Baghaei said. "It was an outright betrayal—not just of diplomacy and dialogue—but also of moral principles, human civilization, and the hard-won legal norms established after the Second World War. It sends a dangerous message to the international community that dialogue can be discarded at will."

He stressed that such actions would not deter Iran from defending its sovereignty, adding, "There is no doubt that we will draw lessons from this moment. Should we fail to do so, it will not only be a failure for our government, but for our people, our history, and future generations."

Baghaei reiterated that the Islamic Republic remains firmly focused on defending the nation: "Our full attention is devoted to protecting the territorial integrity and dignity of Iran. We will not allow distractions or side issues to weaken our resolve. Our top priority right now is to defend our homeland resolutely and repel the aggression of those who, with backing from the United States and certain European countries, have launched an unjust and unlawful war against this nation."

American B-2 bombers attacked Iran's nuclear facilities in three locations on Sunday. That came 10 days after Israel began a deadly military campaign against Iran, which has so far resulted in the death of over 400 civilians and injury of more than 2000 others. Iran has been responding with daily waves of missile and drone attacks targeting Israeli sites across the occupied territories. Massive destruction has been recorded in major cities like Tel Aviv, Haifa, and Ashdod, despite the Israeli regime's extensive attempts at censoring the aftermath.

'Iran never targeted civilian sites'

He also rejected accusations that Iran had targeted civilian sites in recent operations, saying such claims are "completely unfounded."

"The Iranian armed forces have acted solely within the framework of legitimate self-defense. Only military targets have been selected—targets that are fully lawful under international law. It is essential to remember that we did not start this war. It was imposed on us."

'Diplomatic consistency must not be perceived as weakness'

Baghaei pushed back against suggestions that Iran's continued willingness to pursue dialogue, even in the face of military provocation, should be perceived as weakness.

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](#))



Iranian missiles turn Tel Aviv into a ghost town

Iran launches new-generation missiles in latest wave of Operation True Promise III

From page 1 ▶ Unlike previous focused strikes, this wave represented a nationwide offensive, meticulously targeting strategic assets from the northernmost reaches near the Lebanese border to the southern fringes of Gaza, encompassing the central nerve centers of the Israeli regime.

An IRGC spokesman, in a ground-breaking announcement, declared, "For the first time, the Kheibar (Ghadr H) multi-warhead ballistic missile was employed, utilizing novel and surprise tactics for more precise, destructive, and effective impacts."

This advanced weapon system, utilizing both solid and liquid fuel propulsion alongside sophisticated intelligent drones in a complex combined operation, penetrated the vaunted layers of the Israel's air defense shield with remarkable efficacy.

The results were immediate and profound. Critical infrastructure and military command centers bore the brunt of Iran's righteous retribution.

Strikes were confirmed across a wide array of locations, including Safed, Tel Aviv, Ashkelon, Ashdod, and Beit She'an (Bisan).

The impact on Ashkelon was particularly severe. "The power station was hit," reported one driver trapped amidst the chaos, a statement corroborated by the regime's Energy Minister, Eli Cohen, who admitted to power cuts affecting 8,000 homes in the south.

The Israeli Electric Company further conceded damage to a "strategic facility" in the south, causing significant disruption.

The northern territories were not spared. The Northern Command headquarters of the Israeli military itself was struck, a direct hit demonstrating the reach and accuracy of Iranian missiles.

The attack on Haifa yielded a stunning admission from the enemy.

Contrary to initial claims of an interceptor malfunction, the Jerusalem Post, quoting the regime's military, was forced to acknowledge, "The IDF admits that the missile hit in Haifa on Sunday was not due to a failed interceptor launch, but a rare case where the air defense radar completely missed an Iranian ballistic missile."

With Araghchi in Moscow, Iran and Russia forge united front against US-Israeli warmongering

From page 1 ▶ Araghchi's discussions with Putin also coincided with the latest phase of Operation True Promise III, a large-scale response from Iran's armed forces unleashing advanced missiles deep into occupied territories. This comes after days of relentless Israeli-American aggression, beginning with the assassination of top Iranian commanders and scientists on June 13.

The Trump administration's direct entry into the war on Sunday represented a dangerous escalation, with U.S. forces deliberately targeting internationally protected facilities.

Araghchi emphasized Iran's continued close consultations with Russia, particularly on nuclear matters, where Moscow has proven a staunch ally. He acknowledged Russia's crucial role in past negotiations and its

Israel's targeted killings seek to break Iran's resolve: Pakistan researcher

By Faramarz Kouhpayeh

Muhammad Murtaza, a Pakistani researcher in international relations and Project Manager at the Pak Institute for Peace Studies, believes the Israeli regime is pursuing a dual strategy against Iran: one, to create political instability and insecurity inside the country; and two, to instill a broader sense of national insecurity.

According to him, over the years, the Israeli regime has established a complex network of spies and operatives inside Iran to carry out acts of sabotage in parallel with its overt military attacks.

During an interview with the Tehran Times, Murtaza analyzed the motivations behind Israel's recent assaults on Iran, the role of U.S. support in enabling these aggressions, and the broader implications for stability in West Asia. He outlined Israel's two-pronged strategy—combining sabotage with brute force—addressed the distortions in Western media coverage, and called for multilateral action to confront the rising tide of violence.



Netanyahu visits ruins in Rehovot

The paper noted the absence of any interceptor debris, irrefutably confirming the Iranian missile's successful penetration and impact.

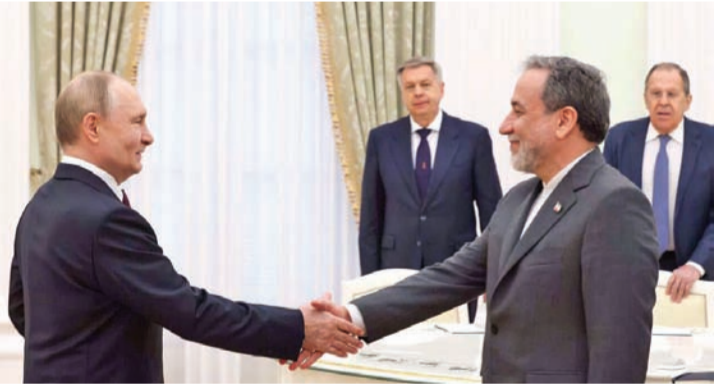
Images circulating widely showed panicked members of the Knesset, including cabinet minister Idit Silman, fleeing to shelters, their faces etched with palpable terror.

The sight of an Israeli military helicopter landing on Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv further fueled speculation of significant unreported military casualties concealed by the regime's strict censorship.

The relentless nature of Iran's operations was emphasized by an IRGC statement: "Impact-oriented operations will continue with the use of new special tactics and the vulnerabilities of air defense systems, becoming more powerful and crushing; combat drone operations will not cease for a moment throughout the day, forcing the usurpers of the occupied territories to constantly experience sirens, flight, and shelters."

An Al Jazeera reporter remarked on the unprecedented scenes of destruction, stating, "These images, as you see now, show the effects of destruction in Tel Aviv; these scenes are unprecedented and have occurred for the first time since the declaration of Israel's existence."

Analysts point to reports detailing Israel's pervasive censorship regime, strongly suggesting that the true extent of the strategic damage inflicted by Iranian strikes, particularly



steadfast support amid escalating tensions driven by "the reckless actions of the Israeli regime and the US."

Araghchi condemned the attacks as blatant violations of the UN Charter, asserting that Iran's actions are purely defensive. He expressed grat-

itude to Russia for its unwavering commitment to international law and conveyed warm greetings from Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and President Masoud Pezeshkian.

Perhaps the most telling consequence of Iran's sustained and powerful campaign is the societal unraveling within the occupied territories.

Channel 12 of the Israeli regime painted a stark picture of Tel Aviv, stating, "Direct Iranian attacks on Tel Aviv have transformed this city, once a symbol of dynamism and vitality, into an empty city, triggering a wave of mass migration of its residents."

The Hebrew-language media outlet detailed a metropolis in flight: "The city, always known for its hustle and traffic, is now empty of residents, and families, young couples and students are leaving the city. Safe rooms have become a scarce commodity, shops are empty, and even parking lots declared free by the municipality remain unused; because the city is fleeing from itself."

Drone onslaught meets iron guard

While delivering punishing blows, the Islamic Republic simultaneously stood firm against a significant act of Israeli aggression on Monday.

The regime initiated a wide-scale operation featuring its most advanced unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), reportedly accompanied by the use of fighter jets in another act of aggres-

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itude to Russia for its unwavering commitment to international law and conveyed warm greetings from Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and President Masoud Pezeshkian.

Putin himself denounced the US-Israeli strikes as "baseless and

sion.

Iran's Air Defense Command issued a triumphant communique Monday: "From the beginning of the transgressions of the vile Zionist regime until 7:00 AM this morning, the defenders of the Velayat sky, with complete vigilance and readiness of the defensive equipment and weapons at their disposal, confronted more than 130 reconnaissance-combat suicide drones, such as various types of Hermes, Heron, and Harop suicide drones, and succeeded in destroying and shooting them down in all parts of the country."

This figure represents one of the largest drone interception operations in military history.

The downed drones, described by the Command as "among the most advanced reconnaissance-combat and strategic equipment of the enemy," included high-value models like the Hermes 900, Hermes 45, and Heron.

The destruction of a Hermes drone in Markazi province was particularly highlighted.

The Zionist aggression was not limited to military targets but extended to blatant war crimes.

Attacks struck near civilian and sensitive locations in Tehran and Karaj.

Projectiles hit Evin Prison, causing damage to parts of the facility, including its infirmary. Iran's Judiciary Media Center confirmed the attack, stating, "All facilities are being used to manage the prison complex and the situation is currently under control," while condemning the act as "clearly contrary to international laws."

In another cowardly strike, a building adjacent to the Iranian Red Crescent Society (Hilal Ahmar) was hit.

A Red Crescent relief worker reported, "The buildings next to the Red Crescent Society were again subjected to a brutal attack by the filthy Zionist regime... Thank God, the Red Crescent building and our colleagues are safe."

This location had been targeted before, underscoring the regime's disregard for international humanitarian law and its deliberate targeting of areas associated with humanitarian work.

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unjustified," welcoming Araghchi's visit as a chance to jointly address the crisis.

"We are glad you are here in Moscow," Putin stated, emphasizing the opportunity to "jointly assess the situation and explore solutions."

The Russian leader reaffirmed his country's firm stance, referencing earlier condemnations by the Foreign Ministry and at the UN. He underscored the enduring and strategic nature of Russia-Iran relations, rooted in mutual trust.

Putin pledged Moscow's commitment to supporting the Iranian people and pursuing a peaceful resolution to the conflict, also requesting Araghchi to extend his regards to Ayatollah Khamenei and President Pezeshkian.

Gaza and Lebanon depicts the continued resistance against Israel's imperial ambitions in the region.

Israeli regime believes that the time is ripe to bring change in Iran, with allies weakened-like a domino effect. This comes with a two-pronged strategy. To create unrest within Iran to destabilize it politically and to create an environment of insecurity within Iran. To achieve this, for years it has established an intricate network of spies and facilitators within Iran that carried out different sabotage operations parallel to Israel's blatant act of aggression on June 13. The assassinations come in context to weaken the system in Iran and to give impression that by knocking out its top tier of its political, military and scientific community Iran has reached at cul-de-sac. Secondly, the use of brute force is to coerce Iran to surrender and to cease support of Palestinian people, to which Iran is committed since the inception of the Islamic Revolution.

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](#))

‘Herald of Victory’ : Iran hits biggest US base in West Asia

By targeting the US base in Qatar, Tehran showed it is not intimidated by Trump’s bullying

By Faramarz Kouhpayeh

TEHRAN – Iran targeted the biggest U.S. base in West Asia on Monday, firing the same number of missiles American forces used on Iran’s nuclear sites over the weekend to hit the Al Udeid Air Base in the Persian Gulf country of Qatar, according to a statement by Iran’s Supreme National Security Council.

In a separate statement, the Iranian Armed Forces said the country is ready to hit more American targets in the future if Washington persists with its aggression against Iran. “The will of the powerful, popular Armed Forces of Iran will ensure that any repeat of mischief will only accelerate the collapse of America’s military presence in the region, their humiliating retreat from West Asia, and the realization of the shared aspiration of the Islamic Ummah and freedom-seeking nations

of the world—the eradication of the cancerous Zionist tumor,” the statement read.

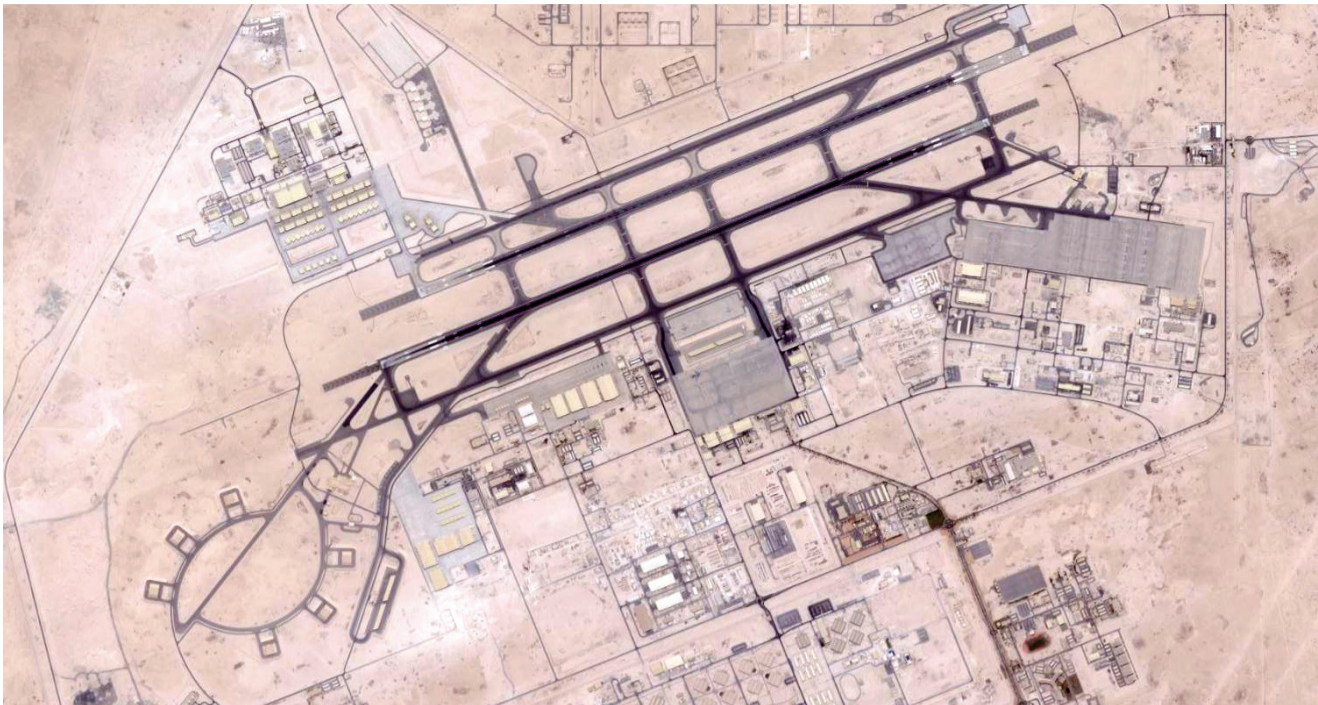
The Iranian attack came after U.S. President Donald Trump ordered strikes on three Iranian nuclear sites in the early hours of Sunday. Analysts and officials had been warning him against the move, stating that it could lead to an all-out regional conflagration.

Iran has also been firing missiles and drones at the occupied territories on a daily basis, responding to the regime’s ongoing ariel campaign that begun on June 13, and has so far resulted in the death of over 400 Iranian civilians and injury of 2000 others. Large swathes of Israeli neighborhoods now lie in ruins, according to reports by Hebrew media.

Situated southwest of Doha, Qatar, Al Udeid Air Base has been the most critical U.S. military in-

stallation in West Asia, serving as the nerve centre for American operations across the region. Its significance stems from a combination of geographic positioning, advanced infrastructure, and operational capabilities that make it indispensable to U.S. military strategy in area. It has also been serving as the forward headquarters of U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) and the home of the Combined Air Operations Center (CAOC).

It is believed that the base was evacuated before the strikes. Experts believe Iran is capable of carrying out the same type of attacks against the 18 other American bases scattered across West Asia.



A satellite image of the U.S. military's Al-Udeid Airbase in Qatar, taken a few days before the Iranian missile attack

US attack on Iran and final collapse of international order

From page 1 ► and there was no indication or proof that Iran was diverting its nuclear program toward military ends. Nevertheless, Washington and Tel Aviv opted for unilateral action, eroding not only international legality but also the last remnants of trust in multilateral mechanisms.

A foretold aggression

For those who have closely followed the Iranian dossier, the offensive came as no surprise. For months, the U.S. had ramped up its rhetoric around the so-called “Iranian threat,” despite the IAEA itself confirming the peaceful nature of Iran’s nuclear activities. In retrospect, U.S. diplomacy—presented as an effort to prevent escalation—has revealed itself to be a calculated stalling operation. Each round of negotiations, each gesture of supposed de-escalation, was merely a tactic to buy time as the attack was being prepared.

The coordination between Washington and Tel Aviv has been evident from the outset. Israel’s operations on June 13, which marked the beginning of a new phase of hostilities against Iran, served as a test balloon to gauge Iran’s response capacity and lay the groundwork for U.S. intervention. The narrative of a “legitimate response,” carefully crafted by both regime, is as predictable as it is cynical: nuclear powers acting as judge, jury, and executioner in a global are-

na they themselves have engineered.

The instrumentalization of law

International law explicitly prohibits the use of force except in self-defense against an armed attack or through a UN Security Council resolution. Neither condition was met in this case. What occurred is not an exception but part of a long-standing pattern of instrumentalizing legal norms by hegemonic powers. In this framework, rules are not universal but malleable: applied rigorously to adversaries and ignored when they inconvenience allies—or oneself.

From its inception, the international legal system has been shaped to serve the interests of power. The non-proliferation regime, which imposes strict limitations on countries in the Global South while allowing nuclear powers to maintain their arsenals with no serious commitment to disarmament, is one of the clearest expressions of this asymmetry. The moral categorization of states—“responsible democracies” versus “dangerous regimes”—enables a differential application of legality, a neocolonial logic that reproduces the old imperial order with new vocabulary.

The disintegration of order

The attacks on Iran have not only violated core principles of international law; they have also deepened

the structural crisis of the global order. The Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), once a central pillar of collective security, has been stripped of meaning. If IAEA compliance does not shield a state from military assault, what incentive remains to adhere to the rules?

The consequences are profound:

Delegitimization of the NPT: The aggression shows that adherence to the treaty offers neither protection nor recognition.

Incentives for nuclear deterrence: In a legal framework without guarantees, the development of deterrent capabilities becomes a rational option for Global South states.

Erosion of multilateralism: Unilateral actions replace institutional mechanisms, turning international security into a lawless power game.

Law as imperial technology

Contemporary international law remains anchored in a colonial architecture. Its institutions, language, and mechanisms of validation reflect the power dynamics forged after World War II and solidified during the Cold War. Within this structure, the Global South is not only surveyed but defined by others: its legality, rationality, and margins of action are subject to the judgment of Western powers.



The classification of Iran as a “threat” or “destabilizer” does not stem from verifiable facts but from a discursive apparatus that casts it as the uncontrollable “other.” Against this matrix, Iran’s response—measured, strategic, and legally grounded—not only disrupts imposed stereotypes but also reveals that the true threat to global order does not emanate from the periphery, but from the center.

Iran responds: Legality and resistance

Despite the brutality of the attack, Iran has chosen a calculated response. As government sources noted, key facilities had been evacuated days prior, amid growing sus-

picion of an imminent strike. This confirms that Tehran was not caught off guard, but rather acted with foresight and responsibility, avoiding escalation beyond what is required by the right to self-defense enshrined in the UN Charter.

Beyond the military dimension, Iran’s response targets a deeper front: the struggle for legitimacy. By denouncing the aggression through international bodies and invoking universal legal principles, Iran is shifting the debate from the terrain of force to that of justice. The potential closure of the Strait of Hormuz—raised by Iranian analysts—should not be seen as an irrational threat, but as a legitimate countermeasure

in response to the violation of its sovereignty.

From the perspective of a Global South historically subjected to violence and double standards, such responses represent acts of political dignity. This is not about breaking the rules, but about exposing their arbitrary nature. As demonstrated by the attacks from the U.S. and Israel, violence is not an accident of the system—it is one of its structural conditions.

The attack on Iran must not be analyzed in terms of proportionality or tactical wisdom, but rather as a manifestation of a deeper logic: that of an international system that has lost all capacity to arbitrate fairly among its members. The U.S. intervention, far from being a desperate move, was a conscious and premeditated decision, based on the belief that force remains the ultimate language of global politics.

As long as Washington and Tel Aviv act with impunity, and as long as law remains a tool of the powerful, international security will remain a mirage. The only path toward a truly equitable global order requires dismantling the colonial structures of international law and replacing them with inclusive legal frameworks that reflect not only the interests of the powerful, but also the dignity of peoples who have long been silenced.

Rafael Grossi’s role in provoking war on Iran

A diplomatic failure with catastrophic consequences

From page 1 ► While Grossi later clarified in an interview with CNN that the IAEA had found no evidence of a “systematic effort” by Iran to build nuclear weapons, this admission came days after the damage had been done. The report had already been cited in support of a resolution drafted by the E3 and the U.S. at the IAEA Board of Governors—one that accused Iran of non-compliance and arguably laid the groundwork, diplomatically speaking, for what unfolded soon after.

Iranian officials view this sequence of events not as coincidence but as consequence. Amir Saeid Iravani, Iran’s ambassador to the United Nations, addressed a letter to the UN Security Council strongly objecting to the “selective, politicized, and discriminatory” conduct of the IAEA leadership toward Iran’s peaceful nuclear program. The letter emphasized the consistent departure from the agency’s foundational principles: neutrality, professionalism, and objectivity.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei posted on social media last Thursday, directly addressing Grossi’s comments. He noted that Grossi had acknowledged

the absence of evidence too late—after a resolution had been drafted and an attack carried out. “You obscured this truth in your absolutely biased report,” Baghaei wrote, “which was then utilized by a genocidal warmongering regime to wage a war of aggression on Iran.”

The controversy has also drawn attention to a broader, more systemic issue: the vulnerability of international institutions to the political agendas of powerful states. For Iran, this is not the first time the IAEA has been accused of overstepping its mandate. But in the current context, the stakes appear higher than ever.

Earlier on this month, the Tehran Times revealed that Iran has uncovered sensitive IAEA-related documents in the occupied territories—documents that include confidential communications between Tehran and the Agency.

According to Tehran Times sources, these documents may not have been obtained through espionage but handed over through less clandestine means. As one source said: “this would only confirm what we’ve long suspected—that the IAEA is not merely a technical body, but a politi-



IAEA Chief Rafael Grossi during a meeting with then-Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett in the occupied territories on June 3, 2022.

cal instrument in certain hands.”

The implications of such a breach are far-reaching. Iran has already hinted that it may scale back cooperation with the Agency, possibly reverting to pre-JCPOA levels of engagement. The Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) warned that

continued politicization and lack of gratitude for Iran’s transparency could result in a shift in policy.

Meanwhile, Grossi has urged all sides to show restraint and return to the negotiating table. He emphasized that Iran is still expected to notify the Agency of any transfers of nu-

clear material between facilities, and admitted that the full extent of the damage to the Fordow enrichment site—hit during the Israeli strikes—remains unknown.

Yet Iranian officials remain deeply dissatisfied. Mohammad Eslami, head of the AEOL, has criticized Grossi for what he called “silence” in the face of Israeli attacks on nuclear facilities operating under IAEA safeguards. He also suggested that Tehran may pursue legal avenues against the IAEA chief, accusing him of failing to uphold the agency’s obligations.

Former Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif has taken an even firmer stance, calling for Grossi’s dismissal. In Zarif’s view, the Director-General’s “irresponsible and fallacious” reporting has not merely failed to deter conflict—it may have helped pave the way for it.

Following the airstrike on facilities in Arak, Iran sent a formal letter to the IAEA demanding that it condemn Israel’s actions. The agency’s lack of response only deepened Tehran’s sense of betrayal. Officials pointed out that, despite informing the IAEA of protective measures taken to safeguard nuclear equipment, Iran received no pub-

lic support. Instead, they argue, IAEA reports amplified doubts rather than acknowledged Iran’s compliance. This sense of disillusionment has added to concerns over the IAEA’s credibility at a global level. In Tehran, many now believe that transparency with the Agency has only made Iran more vulnerable. The principle of neutrality, they argue, is not being applied equally, and when impartial oversight becomes a political weapon, it undermines the very framework meant to ensure peace and security.

For now, the consequences—diplomatic, operational, and humanitarian—are already being felt and Rafael Grossi is now perceived as a figure whose conduct has actively contributed to the escalation of tensions. His selective silence on Israeli attacks, the timing and framing of Agency reports, and his ambiguous public statements have lent political cover to those seeking confrontation rather than dialogue. Iran has already said it will seek legal redress, as a message that neutrality must not be sacrificed without consequences. Grossi has crossed a line—one that may redefine how Tehran engages with the Agency going forward.

Trump escalates tensions with Iran by provocative remarks

TEHRAN – U.S. President Donald Trump has provocatively made comments regarding Iran's political system, echoing his past rhetoric and further heightening hostilities.

In a post on his social media platform, Trump reignited controversy by openly invoking the possibility of regime change in the ancient country. "It's not politically correct to use the term, 'Regime Change,' but if the current Iranian Regime is unable to MAKE IRAN GREAT AGAIN, why wouldn't there be a Regime change??? MIGA!!!" he wrote late on Sunday.

Trump's hostile remarks coincide with official American warnings to Tehran against any retaliation in response to recent U.S. airstrikes on three Iranian nuclear facilities in Natanz, Isfahan and Fordow.

It is noteworthy that the provocative lan-



guage from the U.S. president comes at a time when Iranian society has demonstrated remarkable unity and cohesion and resilience in the face of brutal illegal act of aggression that started by the Zionist regime of Israel on June 13.

30 Iranian sportspersons killed in Israeli attack

TEHRAN – After 10 days of Israel's attack on Iran, a total of 30 Iranian sportspersons have been killed so far.

Iranian authorities and local officials have strongly condemned the Israeli regime continued targeting of civilians and prominent figures, calling on the international community to take immediate action to halt such violations of international law.

Regional countries, including Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, the UAE, and Turkey, said they are concerned about the "œlasting consequences" strikes on Iran.

Parsa Mansour, a prominent member of padel team, Najmeh Shams, cyclist, Mehdi Ghaffari, young wushu athlete, Helena Gholami, a karate practitioner, boxer Rouhollah Salek, skate athlete Matin Safaeian, Saber Akbari, handball player, Tara Hajimiri, an

8-year-old gymnast, Pilates coach Niloufar Ghalehvand, Hamid Toumari, a shooting athlete, Mehdi Pouladvand, a rising star in Iranian equestrian sports, Vahid Khosrodad, kickboxing practitioner, Mojtaba Rezaei, zurkhaneh athlete, Ali Baghernia, boxer, Hamid Salari, Muay Thai, Abouzar Moradifar, taekwondo athlete, Amirali Amini, taekwondo practitioner, Mohammad Asadi, football referee, Reza Najafi, judo athlete, Delavar Amirkhani, wrestler, Akbar Azizi, weightlifter, Reza Bahrami, boxer, Mojtaba Hosseini Nasab and Mohammad Hezarkhani, zurkhaneh wrestlers, Amirmohammad Radmehr, volleyball player, Morteza Ebrahimi, judo athlete, Alireza Khalaj, futsal player, Hossein Eshaghi, kung fu practitioner, and Amirhossein Barati and Vahid Jamshidian, self-defense practitioners have been martyred during the Israeli attack.

Spokesman of Khatam al-Anbia Headquarters: Powerful operations with grave consequences awaits America

TEHRAN- Ebrahim Zolfaqari, spokesperson of Iran's Khatam al-Anbia Central Military Headquarters, said the United States continued its all-out support for the Zionist regime's aggression, it directly entered into war with Iran and violated the sacred soil of Iran, in clear violation of the sovereignty of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

This aggressive measure which was conducted with the aim of reviving the dying Zionist regime, was fruitless, he said. But it will also expand the scope of legitimate and diverse goals of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and provide the grounds for the expansion of war in the region, he added, Khabar Fori reported.

"We assure you that with this aggression, the clock will not turn in your favor. The warriors of Islam, in response to this crime, will

inflict heavy, regrettable, and unpredictable consequences on you with powerful and targeted operations."

"Mr. Trump! You may start this war — but we will be the ones to finish it."

The U.S. strikes, launched in the early hours of Sunday using reportedly B-2 stealth bombers, 30,000-pound "bunker-buster" bombs, and Tomahawk missiles launched from submarines, targeted Iran's peaceful nuclear facilities at Fordow, Isfahan, and Natanz.

The U.S. intervention follows the Israeli regime's June 13 initiation of act of aggression against Iran, which has martyred military officials, nuclear scientists, and over 430 Iranians, with 3,500 more injured—predominantly women and children—according to figures from the Health Ministry.

Son of toppled Shah align with Iran's enemies, seeks power through foreign intervention

TEHRAN – The exiled son of the Iranian Shah toppled in the 1979 Islamic Revolution has once again seized the moment to push its long-failed ends.

Reza Pahlavi, who has spent over 40 years attempting to install himself in Iranian political life with no popular mandate or legal legitimacy, has repeatedly turned to Iran's arch enemies for support -- a pattern that reveals the desperation and political opportunism underlying his ambitions.

This time, as tensions escalate in the region following a wave of Israeli and American military aggression against the Islamic Republic, he appears to be capitalizing on foreign attacks to help revive his decades-old dream of returning to power in the country.

From face-to-face meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to aligning himself with Tel Aviv during the recent Israeli aggression against Iranian sovereignty, Pahlavi has demonstrated a consistent willingness to prioritize his personal power goals over national interest.

Also on Monday, Pahlavi, during a press conference in Paris, turned to foreign powers in hopes of gaining support to fulfill his ambitions.

In an interview with anti-Iranian outlet Iran International on



From left to right: Maryam Rajavi, Reza Pahlavi, and Masih Alinejad -- exiled Iranian opposition persons, each accused by critics of aligning with foreign powers in pursuit of disability, rebellion, and revolt in the country.

Sunday, Pahlavi naively claimed that the Iranian political and military structure was "collapsing" and called for immediate public uprising, urging Iranians to take to the streets. Simultaneously, he boasted of having a "transition plan" for Iran's future, a plan that is built on foreign intervention and echoes of colonial arrangement.

"Pahlavi's reliance on external support from regimes hostile to Iran shows the political bankruptcy of the so-called opposition," said a political analyst in Tehran. "They lack popular support, inter-

nal credibility, and a clear political vision rooted in Iranian sovereignty."

His positions, however, are increasingly seen by observers in Iran as part of a broader pattern among exiled opposition figures, including the MKO cult led by Maryam Rajavi and the New York-based Masih Alinejad, who, in times of national crisis, choose to side with foreign powers instead of the Iranian people.

Rajavi, the leader of the Mojahedin-e-Khalq Organization (MKO), notorious for its alliance with Saddam Hussein during the

Museum professionals condemn Israeli attacks, cite grave violations of cultural and human heritage

TEHRAN – A collective of Iranian museum professionals has issued a powerful and urgent statement denouncing what they describe as clear violations of international law and the systematic destruction of cultural and human heritage by the Zionist regime of Israel during its ongoing military assault on the Islamic Republic, which began on June 13.

The statement, released on Sunday, reflects the deep concern of cultural custodians across Iran over the human and cultural cost of the war, describing the situation as a moral and historical crisis that demands immediate global attention and condemnation.

"These bitter days compel us, as guardians of Iran's cultural and historical legacy, to raise our voice against widespread human rights abuses and direct harm to our national heritage," the group wrote. They underscored the destruction of civilian sites and the targeting of cultural institutions, including museums and historical artifacts, many of which have endured centuries of preservation.

The collective warned that several museums across Iran have either been forced to shut down or are now operating under the constant threat of bombardment. They reported that cultural artifacts--symbols of inter-civilizational dialogue and peace--have been damaged or destroyed, acts which, under international law, constitute war crimes.

Citing the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its protocols, the group

emphasized that attacks on cultural heritage are not only illegal but an assault on the shared memory of humanity. "The recent strikes by the Israeli regime are in direct violation of these conventions and must be recognized as such by the international community," the statement read.

The group also expressed frustration at the continued silence of global institutions and political bodies, condemning the inaction as complicity. "We call upon cultural, academic, and civil institutions worldwide to break their silence and take a firm stance against these atrocities," they declared.

The museum professionals appealed directly to key international heritage organizations, including UNESCO, the International Council of Museums (ICOM), ICOMOS, and ICCROM, urging them to condemn the attacks and hold perpetrators accountable for breaches of international cultural obligations.

In their appeal, they reminded the world that museums are not only places for preserving the past but are essential pillars for shaping the future. "To fail in protecting them today is to abandon the cultural inheritance of generations to come."

In parallel, the International Council of Museums (ICOM) also issued a statement of concern. While carefully balanced, the ICOM statement acknowledged the increasing risks to museums and museum professionals in both the Islamic Republic of Iran and the occupied territories of Israel amid the conflict. ICOM



A file photo depicts a woman visiting a Louvre show at the National Museum of Iran in downtown Tehran.

reiterated the importance of adhering to international conventions and urged all parties to prioritize the safety of museum staff and cultural assets.

However, the Iranian museum professionals warned that any neutral framing of the situation without recognition of the aggressor risks obscuring the severity of the violations. "We are not merely speaking as Iranians, but as stewards of a global cultural heritage. To remain silent in the face of such destruction is to betray the very foundations of cultural ethics."

They concluded the statement with a message of resilience and hope: "This is a historic commitment -- a call for truth, peace, and justice to overcome ignorance, violence, and indifference."

World says no to war: Global protests erupt after U.S., Israel strikes on Iran

From Page 1 ► Protestors criticized the continued militarization of international diplomacy and called for NATO's dissolution, warning of the catastrophic consequences of escalation in West Asia.

In Dublin, Ireland, dozens of demonstrators—comprising Iranian expatriates, Irish peace groups, and student activists—gathered in O'Connell Square. Chants of "Hands Off Iran" and "Free Palestine" echoed through the streets, highlighting widespread disapproval of Israeli aggression and perceived Western complicity.

In the United States, more than a dozen cities witnessed coordinated protests. In San Francisco, several hundred gathered at Embarcadero Plaza, denouncing what they called "illegal aggression" by the U.S. government and accusing Washington of committing war crimes.

Protesters held signs reading "No More Blood for Oil" and "Stop Bombing Iran," while speakers from anti-war organizations demanded an immediate cessation of U.S. military involvement in the region.

Similar scenes unfolded in Salt Lake City, where nearly 200 protesters rallied outside the Utah State Capitol. Organized by local leftist student groups, demonstrators warned against the path to a wider war, urging lawmakers to reject further military escalation.

New York City saw hundreds march through Manhattan, waving Palestinian flags and chanting anti-war slogans. "Stop the war on Iran," read placards carried by demonstrators, many of whom linked the attacks to the ongoing Israeli military campaign in Gaza. Outside the White House in Washington D.C., protesters assembled to condemn the Trump administration's role in what they described as a reckless and unlawful act of war.

Asia: Solidarity and outrage

In West Asia and other parts of the vast continent, demonstrators expressed solidarity with Iran and strong opposition to both the Israeli strikes and U.S. intervention. In Karachi, Pakistan, protesters carried portraits of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed

Ali Khamenei while standing on posters of U.S. President Donald Trump in a symbolic act of defiance. Similar rallies in Beirut and other Arab capitals featured flags of Iran, Palestine, and Hezbollah, along with calls for armed resistance and regional unity against what was widely described as Western imperialism.

Smaller demonstrations were also reported in Tokyo, Athens, Manila, and Jakarta, reflecting the global reach of anti-war sentiment.

NGO coordination: Advocacy beyond the streets

Alongside street protests, a wide network of anti-Israel and anti-war NGOs launched a series of advocacy campaigns to demand an end to hostilities. Organizations such as CODEPINK, Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC), and the Adalah Justice Project coordinated social media drives, petitions, and congressional outreach.

Moreover, CODEPINK activists in New York emphasized the use of U.S.-manufactured weapons in the bombings and linked them to domestic repression, call-



Anti-war protests were happening Sunday across the Bay Area and the nation in response to the U.S. strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities

ing on Americans to hold their government accountable.

In London, PSC rallied outside Parliament demanding the UK end arms sales to Israel. Meanwhile, the Adalah Justice Project urged constituents to pressure U.S. lawmakers to reject further military aid and weapons exports to both Israel and Saudi Arabia.

Escalation and regional fallout

The recent American airstrikes marked one of the most significant escalations in U.S.-Iranian tensions since the early 2020s. While U.S. officials claimed the attacks delivered "monumental damage" to Iran's nuclear infrastructure, independent analysts noted that the facilities'

underground construction likely mitigated the actual impact.

Iranian officials, however, condemned the strikes as flagrant violations of international law and vowed retaliation. For part of its response, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) launched a wave of missile attacks targeting key Israeli sites, including Ben Gurion Airport.

In addition, regional states including Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, and the UAE issued statements urging restraint, while Russia condemned the U.S. attacks and reaffirmed its support for Iran during an emergency diplomatic meeting in Moscow.

The global reaction to the strikes has underscored deep public unease with renewed militarism in West Asia. With voices from across continents demanding diplomacy over war, the message is clear: the world is calling for de-escalation. As governments weigh their next moves, the groundswell of protest serves as a powerful reminder of the costs of conflict and the urgency of peace.

Anti-Israel NGOs around the globe condemn aggression on Iran, U.S. intervention

TEHRAN – Since Israel’s air strikes on Iran, on June 13, a broad network of anti-Israel non-government organizations have mobilized to censure Israeli attacks on Iran via coordinated messaging with calls to halt arms transfers to Israel, end U.S. interventionism, and reject any military escalation with Iran.

Hereunder is a description of the NGOs and their protests and rallies as well as their post on social media, according to ngo-monitor.org.

June 14

CODEPINK (Funded by Tides Foundation) participated in a rally in New York “against US-Israeli attacks on Iran.” According to CODEPINK, “Israel is attacking Iran using US weapons, manufactured by the same companies providing weapons to repress anti-ICE protests, for genocide against Palestinians, and on show in DC.”

On the same day, Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC) participated in a protest in London “demanding our government stop arming Israel and pressure it to stop bombing Iran and end is genocide against the Palestinian people in Gaza.”

June 17

An Instagram post by Adalah Justice Project (Funded by Tides Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund), called on activists to “email your members of Congress” and “Let Congress Know Loud and Clear that We the People Say: No War with Iran, No More Weapons for Israel.”

Also, Al-Awda Toronto participated in an “emergency rally” headlined “Hands off the Middle East.”

June 18

CODEPINK held a “EMERGENCY NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION” calling for “No War on Iran.” According to CODEPINK, “The Trump administration has been backing Israel’s attacks on Iran and is on the verge of ordering direct U.S. strikes that would escalate the war catastrophically.”

Funded by Rockefeller Brothers



Fund), on June 18, Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) participated in an “emergency protest” in New York calling for “NO WAR ON IRAN.”

Masar Badil “called on supporters of Palestine and the resistance camp in the region and the world to mobilize urgent and broad popular actions and demonstrations, and escalate political and media confrontations, against the US-Zionist aggression against Iran.”

On the same day, Palestinian Youth Movement (PYM) participated in an “emergency protest” in New York calling for “NO WAR ON IRAN.”

June 19

PYM Toronto held a protest demanding “NO MORE ‘UNWAVERING SUPPORT’ FOR THE GENOCIDAL STATE OF ISRAEL!”

CODEPINK activists confronted Senator Roger Wicker “with a simple message: the American people don’t want another endless war. Iraq was a disaster. Afghanistan, a disaster. Libya, a disaster. There are 90 million people in Iran. Don’t escalate. Don’t justify more violence!”

June 20

Al-Awda participated in a demonstration in San Francisco calling for “No War on Iran. No War on Migrants. No War on Palestine.”

American Muslims for Palestine (AMP) participated in a demonstration in San Francisco calling for “No War on Iran. No War on Migrants. No War on Palestine.”

CODEPINK urged people to call the White House and Senate to “Demand they pass the War Powers Resolution. No war with Iran.”

IfNotNow (Funded by Tides Foundation, Ford Foundation, Foundation for Middle East Peace) held a “candlelight vigil” in “honor the civilians killed in Israel’s unprovoked, illegal war on Iran and demand immediate action from our elected officials.”

Moreover, JVP participated in a demonstration in San Francisco calling for “No War on Iran. No War on Migrants. No War on Palestine.”

PYM participated in a demonstration in San Francisco calling for “No War on Iran. No War on Migrants. No War on Palestine.”

Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) participated in a demonstration in San Francisco calling for “No War on Iran. No War on Migrants. No War on Palestine.”

June 21

IfNotNow participated in a rally in Philadelphia to “Stop the Madness. No War on Iran.”

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) (Funded by Tides Foundation, Ford Foundation, and Grassroots International) launched a petition to “Tell Congress: No war with Iran.” The petition urged Congress to “take steps to end Israeli acts of aggression and work toward lasting peace and security for all.”

AMP Chicago participated in a protest calling for “Hands off Iran. Arms embargo now. Stop the

genocide now.”

CODEPINK launched a “No War on Iran Rapid Response Toolkit.” The toolkit provided resources to “outline your demands, suggest first steps for a response plan locally, give you tools to organize an action of your own, and give you talking points and graphics.”

CODEPINK participated in a rally in Philadelphia to “Stop the Madness. No War on Iran.”

JVP launched a petition calling to “Write your member of Congress, tell them to support the War Powers Resolutions and to stop arming Israel.”

JVP participated in a rally in Philadelphia to “Stop the Madness. No War on Iran.”

SJPChicago participated in a protest calling for “Hands off Iran. Arms embargo now. Stop the genocide now.”

PYM Montreal participated in a protest calling for “No War with Iran.” It held a protest in Washington DC headlined, “Hands off Iran. Hands off Gaza.”

June 22

PYM Toronto held a “Hands off Iran” protest. It also held a protest in San Francisco calling to “Stop the War on Iran. Trump is a War Criminal.”

AlAwda Houston held a protest calling to “Stop the War on Iran. Trump is a War Criminal.”

SJP Norcal held a protest in San Francisco calling to “Stop the War on Iran. Trump is a War Criminal.”

June 23

SJP Chicago will hold an “emergency rally” calling for “Hands off Iran.”

PYM will hold an “emergency rally” in Chicago calling for “Hands off Iran.”

June 26

CODEPINK Chicago will hold a “National Day of Action,” calling for “No War on Iran.”

PYM will hold a “National Day of Action” in New York calling for “No War on Iran.”

SJP Chicago will hold a “National Day of Action,” calling for “No War on Iran.”

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Muslim Council of Britain condemns Israeli strikes on Iran in ‘strongest possible terms’

TEHRAN – The Muslim Council of Britain (MCB) has condemned Israel’s military strikes on Iran in the “strongest possible terms” and is urging the UK government to take immediate action.

On June 13, Israel launched a series of intense attacks on Iran’s nuclear and military sites, claiming the strikes were necessary to prevent Iran from advancing its atomic capabilities.

According to Iran’s UN envoy, at least 78 people were killed, including senior military officials and scientists.

In retaliation, Iran fired waves of ballistic missiles at Israel, with explosions lighting up the skies over Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

The MCB described the strikes as a dangerous escalation in what it calls a months-long campaign of “unchecked aggression” led by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who is currently the subject of an International Criminal Court arrest warrant issued in November 2024.

“Instead of facing justice, Netanyahu has been emboldened expanding the conflict from Gaza and the West Bank to Damascus, Beirut, Sanaa, and now Tehran,” the MCB said in a statement.

“His actions have not only breached the sovereignty of multiple nations but have also brought the region to the brink of a much wider war.”

Dr Wajid Akhter, secretary general of the Muslim Council of Britain, said: “This is the act of a genocidal regime dragging the world toward catastrophic war.”

Netanyahu, indicted for war crimes, unleashes terror with impunity while civilians burn – and Israel is handed a blank cheque.

The UK government’s silence is complicity. Enough with the double standards. If any other state had committed a fraction of these crimes, sanctions would be immediate.

Yet Israel is shielded, indulged, and excused. The international community has failed again and again, and history will remember this cowardice.

Every delay, every deflection, every refusal to name the aggressor makes us all complicit. Justice demands more than words.”

The MCB criticised the UK government’s response as “weak and equivocal,” and called foreign secretary David Lammy’s appeal for “all parties to show restraint” both “cowardly and morally bankrupt.”

“There is no equivalence here. There is an aggressor, and there are victims,” the statement added.

The Council is urging the UK government to adopt immediate diplomatic and economic measures to hold Israel accountable under international law, and to take urgent steps to de-escalate the crisis.

On June 14, protestors gathered in London for an emergency demonstration to protest Israel’s attacks on Iran and to demand an end to UK arms sales to Israel, which they claim fuel its ongoing campaign against Palestinians.

The protest was organised by the Palestine Solidarity Campaign, Friends of Al-Aqsa, Stop the War Coalition, Muslim Association of Britain, Palestinian Forum in Britain, and the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Waving Palestinian, Iranian, and Lebanese flags, demonstrators chanted slogans such as “Stop bombing Iran, stop bombing Gaza,” “Stop arming Israel,” and “Free Palestine.”

Over 1,600 IRCS teams providing relief services to people affected by Israeli assaults

TEHRAN – A total of 1,610 Iranian Red Crescent Society’s (IRCS) teams comprised of 6,800 rescuers are offering medical services to those wounded in Israeli attacks against the country.

On Friday, June 13, Israel launched a large-scale military offensive against the Islamic Republic of Iran, marking a significant escalation in regional tensions and raising serious concerns over violations of international law.

Since the outbreak of the war, relief teams have transferred 221 injured individuals to the medical centers, and 98 have been treated at the scene, IRNA reported.

The IRCS has provided emergency accommodations for 800 people affected by war. It has also provided consulting services to more than 3,100 individuals.

The Israeli attacks targets Iran’s civilian nuclear facilities and residential buildings, resulting in the deaths of dozens of civilians, senior nuclear scientists, and high-ranking military officials.

This hostile act constitutes a blatant violation of the fundamental principles of international humanitarian law, particularly the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols – most notably Article 51 of Protocol I, which pertains to the protection of civilians during international armed conflicts. The attack further violates the principles of distinction and proportionality, clearly amounting to a war crime.

So far, sadly, the Israeli airstrikes have led to the martyrdom of three IRCS members, while performing their duties; an IRCS ambulance and a helicopter were also damaged during the attacks.

The head of the IRCS, Pihosseine Kolivand, has urged the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Mirjana Spoljaric Egger, to condemn the Zionist regime’s act of aggression against Iran and utilize all available international mechanisms to prevent further aggression and ensure the safety of civilians and humanitarian workers.

Kolivand told Spoljaric Egger that just saying ‘my heart is broken’ in reaction to the photos of innocent Iranian children killed in Israeli strikes is not enough.

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](#))

University chancellor urges academics worldwide to condemn Israeli strikes

TEHRAN – Yousef Hojjat, the chancellor of Tarbiat Modares University, in an open letter to the presidents of all the universities across the world, has asked them to adopt a clear position and denounce Israel’s aggression against Iran.

“Over the past few days, we have witnessed the Israeli regime’s military aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran killing civilians, prominent scientists and athletes in the country, which is a gross violation of international law and human rights,” the letter reads.

The assassination of distinguished scientists and professors who were the pioneers of science and knowledge and have always acted on the path of awareness, wisdom, and peace is a terrorist and inhumane act that must be

condemned by all academic and scientific institutions in the world.

On the other hand, it is essential that the United Nations Security Council uphold and implement its Resolution 487 for the invasion and military aggression on Iran’s nuclear facilities, including research centers and peaceful nuclear power plants, and the obvious violation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The global community, particularly scholars and scientific leaders, should warn about the potential nuclear contamination and express their strong support for the prevention of the dangers that may result from the damage caused by terrorist and military attacks in strategic region of West Asia.

These criminal acts are a violation of international rules and regulations and, under

Article 39 of the United Nations Charter, are clear evidence of a regime’s actions against international peace and security.

We hope that all centers of science and knowledge and followers of peace, justice, wisdom, and awareness will stand against ‘crimes against humanity’ by adopting clear positions and taking practical measures.”

War on scientific progress

The war imposed by the Zionist regime is not merely a military attack, it is a war against Iran’s scientific progress, as well as academic and intellectual community, according to the head of the Institute for Cultural, Social, and Civilization Studies affiliated with the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology.

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](#))

DOE slams Israeli attacks as ‘deliberate creation of environmental crises’

The Department of Environment (DOE) has strongly condemned the recent attacks by the Zionist regime on fossil fuel storage facilities as deliberate creation of environmental crises and a clear violation of international principles and commitments to environmental protection.

The attacks on fossil fuel storage facilities and other destructive explosive actions have caused widespread pollution and environmental degradation, the DOE said in a statement.

These irresponsible actions, in addition to directly threatening public health and regional eco-

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](#))

War impacts on environment: blasts pose risks to wildlife

TEHRAN – Just as war affects people’s physical, and mental well-being, and results in many challenges, its impacts on environment is known even to be worse, posing significant risks to wildlife survival.

Any insecurity threat can lead animals to abandon their habitats; just imaging how the loud sound of blasts would trigger them to flee, ILNA quoted, Mohammad-Ali Yektanik, an environmentalist, as saying.

Most of the habitats in Iran are island-like, they are surrounded by human structures like cities, villages, and mines, he added.

Different animal species including rams, ewes, goats, buffalo, leopards, Pallas’s cats, wolves

and hyenas, even in protected areas, are now exposed to terrifying sound of explosions which easily disrupt their behaviors and provoke flight response.

Some would return to their habitats, and places considering their own, but find them occupied by other animals, and get engage in territorial conflicts, Yektanik said.

Sometimes, they happen to enter unsafe places. Being new to an area, they may easily be targeted by hunters.

Explosions can also greatly impact the environmental areas posing significant risks to animals by disrupting the natural hydrological system of the earth, leading to material leaks, or even widespread fires, he further noted.

Guaranteed wheat purchase exceeds 3.8m tons amid Israeli assault

TEHRAN – Iran has purchased more than 3.8 million tons of domestically grown wheat worth 782 trillion rials (about \$1.56 billion) through its guaranteed procurement program during the spring season, a senior agriculture official said, stressing that food supply chains remain intact despite recent Israeli aggression.

Saeed Rad, Deputy Agriculture Minister and head of the Government Trading Corporation of Iran (GTC), said on Monday that the country's strategic grain purchasing program is proceeding without disruption, even in light of current "special conditions."

"Despite the specific challenges the country is facing, including the recent aggression by the Zionist regime, we have experienced no interruptions in the procurement or distribution of essential goods," Rad said. "From the start of the year, we activated wheat collection centers in southern provinces, and this operation continues nationwide without pause."

Since direct hostilities began from Israel 10 days ago, Iran has procured 649,000 tons of wheat across various provinces, he said. Between June 14 and the end of the month, following the launch of Israeli attacks, the GTC purchased more than 65,000 tons of wheat per day on average from local farmers and stored it at designated facilities. Rad emphasized that the guaranteed procurement program, which is vital to Iran's food security, is proceeding "with full force and according to schedule." He also pointed to a significant improvement in payment timelines for farmers.

"As of the end of spring, 55 percent of farmers' dues—totaling over 430 trillion rials (around \$860 million)—have been paid. This compares with just 41 percent in the same period last year," he said.

Rad added that the continued operation of the procurement and supply systems under pressure demonstrates the resilience of Iran's agricultural and economic infrastructure.

"Thanks to prior planning and strategic measures, there are no shortages or disruptions in

the supply and distribution of essential goods for our people," he said.

Meanwhile, the head of Tehran's Chamber of Guilds has said Iran's supply of essential goods exceeds domestic demand and stressed there is no concern over shortages, even in the capital where conditions are more sensitive.

Hamidreza Rastegar, chairman of the Tehran Chamber of Guilds, told Tasnim News Agency that the country has sufficient reserves of basic commodities and that guilds, alongside regulatory bodies, are actively monitoring the market to ensure stability.

"In light of recent Israeli aggression, guild chambers across Tehran and the country have held coordination meetings with oversight institutions such as the Judiciary's consumer protection body, provincial authorities, and other relevant agencies to supervise and stabilize the market," he said. He noted that due to Tehran's central role in influencing other regions, oversight in the capital is being carried out with added diligence. "Currently, despite a portion of the city's population traveling to other provinces, there are no supply issues in Tehran."

Rastegar acknowledged that panic buying had put pressure on the market at certain points, but said the situation has now normalized due to government measures.

Describing national reserves of essential goods as "sufficient," he said details cannot be disclosed for security reasons, but added that stocks exceed demand and imports are being carried out when necessary.

He also emphasized the continued operation of guilds in the production, distribution, and services sectors, noting their key role in ensuring steady market access. "Guilds are working normally and are trying to minimize any disruptions to public services."

Rastegar thanked the public and business operators for their cooperation in helping maintain market calm and added, "With the people's support, this crisis is being managed successfully."

Switzerland exports non-oil products worth \$190m to Iran in 2 months

TEHRAN- Switzerland exported non-oil products worth \$190 million to Iran during the first two months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-May 21), the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) announced.

Foroud Asgari said that Switzerland was Iran's seventh source of non-oil imports during the two-month period.

According to the official, the country's non-oil imports reached 5.9 million tons worth \$8.47 billion in the two-month period.

While the import volume rose by 1.16 percent, the value dropped by 7.8 percent year-on-year.

The average value of imported goods stood at \$1,431 per ton, down nine percent from the previous year.

Top imports included unrefined gold (\$860 million), corn feed (\$657 million), rice (\$289 million), sunflower seed oil (\$215 million), and soybeans (\$211 million).

Iran's main import partners were the UAE (\$2.6 billion), China (\$2.2 billion), Turkey (\$1.37 billion), Germany (\$308 million), India (\$291 million), the Netherlands (\$215 million), and Switzerland (\$190 million).

Asgari, who also serves as deputy economy minister, further announced that Iran exported 24.6 million tons of non-oil goods worth \$8.24 billion in the first two months of the current Iranian calendar year.

He said the volume of non-oil exports rose by 4.4 percent year-on-year, although the total value saw a marginal decline of 0.11 percent.

The average customs value of each exported ton fell by 4.3 percent to \$335.

China remained Iran's top export destination, receiving \$2.43 billion worth of goods, followed by Iraq (\$1.5 billion), the United Arab Emirates (\$1.09 billion), Turkey (\$673 million), Afghanistan (\$374 million), Pakistan (\$322 million), and Oman (\$305 million).

Asgari said that among the major non-oil exports in the mentioned two-month period were liquefied propane (\$643 million), natural gas (\$455 million), liquefied butane (\$452 million), petroleum bitumen (\$419 million), and methanol (\$388 million). Petrochemical products

accounted for 5.7 million tons valued at \$2.22 billion, reflecting a four percent increase in volume and a three percent rise in value compared to the same period last year, he added.

During a meeting between the head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) and the German ambassador to Iran, in early June, the two sides explored the ways for the expansion of trade relations between the two countries.

As reported by the Public Relations Department of the ICCIMA, in the meeting at the place of the chamber, ICCIMA Head Samad Hassanzadeh referred to Germany's prominent position in the field of industry, and emphasized the readiness of conditions for the presence of foreign investors in Iran.

While expressing his satisfaction with the German ambassador's positive views on strengthening relations between the two countries, the ICCIMA head said: "Iran's economic capacities are a good basis for developing Iran-Germany relations."

Also, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance has defined the necessary framework for attracting foreign investment and considering various necessary guarantees; therefore, we are well prepared to attract foreign capital."

The German ambassador for his part said: "We are happy that economic relations between Iran and Germany, despite all the ups and downs, are still in place, and Germany is still Iran's largest economic partner among European countries."

Stating that sanctions are undoubtedly an obstacle to trade, he said: "We are optimistic that the talks between Iran and the United States will reach a good result as soon as possible and that the result of these talks will be the lifting of sanctions."

The German ambassador to Tehran further acknowledged: "There are significant economic capacities in Iran in the fields of mining, industry, and agriculture, and Iran is known among the 10 largest countries in the world in terms of the existence of various capacities and resources. In addition to natural resources, the level of knowledge and intelligence of the Iranian people is also very high."

U.S. strike on Iran spotlights Iranian critical role in global energy markets

TEHRAN – The recent U.S. strike on Iran's nuclear facilities, which Donald Trump hailed as a "glorious military success," has once again highlighted the country's vital role in the global oil and gas markets. Given Iran's vast energy reserves and strategic location, any disruption or escalation could sharply drive up energy prices and destabilize international markets.

According to the Oil Ministry, the U.S. attack significantly shook global energy markets, reviving fears of a sharp oil price spike. But beyond short-term volatility, the incident reaffirmed Iran's position as a key player in the global energy supply chain.

As a founding member of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and a major force in the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF), Iran plays an essential role in meeting global energy demand. The world's continued reliance on fossil fuels only deepens the importance of Iran's presence in these markets.

Strategic positioning and geopolitical leverage

Iran holds the world's second-largest oil and gas reserves and occupies a geopolitically critical location, particularly due to its control over the Strait of Hormuz. This key waterway facilitates the transit of roughly 20 percent of the world's oil exports,



and any disruption could cause severe price surges and global market instability.

Following the U.S. strike, analysts warned of potential scenarios involving further market turmoil. Oxford Economics said that if Iranian oil exports were halted or the Strait of Hormuz closed, Brent crude prices could soar to \$130 per barrel—posing a significant inflationary risk and threatening global economic growth.

Iran: A trusted energy partner

Despite broad sanctions and sustained economic pressure, Iran has consistently advocated for market stability and played a constructive role in OPEC negotiations aimed at ensuring fair

pricing and steady supply. Its long-held stance is that balanced markets benefit all stakeholders.

In addition to its oil resources, Iran is among the top holders of natural gas reserves globally. With the removal of sanctions and renewed foreign investment, Iranian gas could play a key role in diversifying global supply and enhancing regional and global energy security.

Global engagement with Iran is inevitable

The notion that sanctions or military action can eliminate Iran's role in energy markets is unrealistic. In fact, geopolitical tensions only underscore the country's significance. Long-term

Iran says economy stable despite Israeli attacks

TEHRAN – Iran's economy remains stable despite Israeli attacks, and the government continues its economic operations without disruption, the country's new finance minister said, adding that a large portion of seized goods has been redirected into productive use.

According to the Economy Ministry, Minister Ali Madani-Zadeh stated that the Organization for Collection and Sale of State-Owned Properties (OCCSOP) has successfully processed assets worth 5.1 quadrillion rials (approximately \$10.2 billion) over the past year, with 96 percent of the goods reintegrated into the domestic production sector.

"Despite the brutal attack by the Zionist regime, Iran's economic conditions remain stable. All affiliated organizations under the ministry are operating normally, and there has been no interruption in public services," Madani-Zadeh said.

He highlighted the OCCSOP's pivotal role in managing assets, calling it one of the country's leading agencies in public service delivery. All provincial branches of the organization continue to operate nationwide.

The minister emphasized that the agency, by accelerating asset liquidation and returning large volumes of goods into the economy in recent months, has significantly supported the production sector. "Following the Israeli regime's recent aggression, the organization has continued its work without interruption to ensure essential goods are redirected into production," he said.

The official also noted that auctions of seized assets are proceeding as scheduled across the provinces. "There has been no disruption. Citizens can continue to participate in the auctions and purchase goods as before," he said, adding that a recent auction for movable assets was successfully held and the winners announced. Additional auctions for both movable and immovable properties are currently underway.

Meanwhile, Iran's Minister of Industry, Mining and Trade has said that the country's industrial and commercial sectors are fully prepared to support both the public and mili-

tary during the current conflict, and stressed the importance of maintaining normal production flows across the country.

"Given the breadth of responsibilities and the large portion of the population we must serve, the ministry bears a heavy burden during wartime," Minister Seyed Mohammad Atabak said.

"We are fully committed, along with industry and trade sectors, to sustaining production and providing essential supplies for both citizens and the armed forces."

Atabak expressed confidence that the Iranian people, guided by faith, unity, and resilience, will impose a historic defeat on the Israeli regime. "The Zionist occupiers have shown the world that they are not just enemies of the Iranian people, but enemies of humanity," he said.

He praised the Iranian public for their response to the conflict, stating that "through solidarity and unified leadership, our people have strengthened their support for the armed forces. We are confident that the Islamic Republic will emerge victorious and attain a more prominent global standing."

Acknowledging the damage and disruption caused by the conflict, Atabak said the country draws on valuable experience from the eight-year Iran-Iraq War. "To confront these wicked and malicious acts by the enemy, we must fulfill our duties with self-sacrifice, ensuring that the supply, production, and service chains remain active so that daily life continues as normally as possible," he said.

He added that members of the ministry's deputy council, who serve as provincial coordinators, are required to monitor local conditions daily and address any arising issues.

During the meeting, deputy ministers and heads of specialized agencies presented updates and operational plans. Decisions were made to improve coordination and resolve challenges across the ministry's sectors.

Also, the country's Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi has said that Iran's water and electricity services continue without disruption

SEO suspends equity, commodity-backed securities trading for 3 days

TEHRAN – All stock and commodity-backed securities trading on Iran's financial markets will be suspended from Tuesday through Thursday (June 24–26), following a proposal by the Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO) and approval by the High Council of the Stock Exchange.

According to the SEO, trading on the Tehran Stock Exchange, Iran Fara Bourse, Iran Mercantile Exchange, and Iran Energy Exchange will be halted for three working days starting Tuesday, June 24, through the end of Thursday, June 26, 2025.

Physical commodity trading

on the Iran Mercantile Exchange and the Iran Energy Exchange will continue during this period, contingent on the full execution of settlement procedures and subject to conditions approved by their respective boards of directors.

Additionally, from 9 a.m. to 11

energy stability and the mitigation of economic risks from price shocks require Iran's active participation in international negotiations and policymaking.

Past crises in the West Asia have shown that markets eventually stabilize with the return of major producers like Iran to the supply chain. Maximum pressure strategies and exclusionary policies have consistently proven counterproductive, often exacerbating global economic vulnerabilities.

The path forward: cooperation and stability

With global energy demand—particularly in Asia—rising steadily, the international community must acknowledge that market security and energy stability are unattainable without Iranian cooperation. Ensuring safe energy corridors, lifting sanctions, enabling investment in Iran's energy infrastructure, and strengthening multilateral diplomacy through OPEC and GECF are critical to safeguarding global supply.

In a world still reliant on fossil fuels, Iran is not a threat, but an indispensable and irreplaceable partner in energy security. Simply put, it is in the world's interest that Iran remains stable.



despite ongoing attacks, and praised utility workers for maintaining operations even during times of bombardment.

Speaking at a meeting with senior officials from the Energy Ministry, Aliabadi condemned what he described as the "aggression of the usurping and bloodthirsty Zionist regime," which he said had resulted in the deaths of several Iranian commanders, scientists, and civilians.

Quoting Iran's Leader, he added, "The Iranian nation will stand firm in the face of this imposed war and will not yield to the enemy."

Aliabadi stressed that Iran has not initiated any wars over the past two centuries and reiterated that the country's use of nuclear technology has been for peaceful purposes only. "We have never sought nuclear weapons, nor do we intend to," he said.

The minister emphasized that utility services are essential and cannot be suspended under any circumstances. "Throughout the recent attacks, employees and experts in the water and power sectors have remained at their posts to ensure that these critical services are delivered without disruption."

Aliabadi said the administration is working around the clock to manage the country and maintain normalcy. "Public services continue to operate on a 24/7 basis without interruption," he noted.

He called on all water and electricity companies and units across the country to carry out their duties as usual and ensure that people's needs are fully met.

a.m. during the suspension period, trading in government securities, debt instruments, and fixed-income investment fund units—including issuance, redemption, and exchange-traded funds (ETFs)—will be permitted, provided settlement processes can be fully completed.

Washington wary of retaliatory operations against itself in Arab world and beyond

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT—West Asia, specifically Lebanon, is in a highly sensitive situation due to the escalating military situation in the region. Many are behaving as if a major war has become a fait accompli, with no end in sight.

The U.S. attack on the Iranian nuclear facilities on Sunday has weighed heavily on Lebanon's domestic political landscape, with concerns about the repercussions of this adventurous aggression, especially as the U.S. surveillance den (embassy) in Beirut announced that the State Department had ordered the departure of family members and non-essential government employees from Lebanon.

“The U.S. Department of State has ordered the departure of family members and non-essential U.S. government employees from Lebanon due to the volatile and unpredictable security situation in the region,” the embassy said in its announcement.

With this dubious announcement, the surveillance den (or the U.S. offensive base in Awkar, as the Lebanese like to call it) has clearly raised American concerns about legitimate reactions against its presence, whether in Lebanon or at its bases spread along the Persian Gulf coast, the United States in particular, and the West in general.

The embassy's equivocal statement appeared to be part of precautionary measures, especially since similar measures has also been taken at its embassies in Qatar and the UAE.

It is worth noting that even before the September 2024 aggression



The U.S. embassy in Beirut

against Lebanon (which is still continuing sporadically), Western embassies allied with the United States have kept only essential staff at their headquarters.

Besides, they have restricted diplomats from bringing their families, and warned them against visiting certain Lebanese regions (especially pro-Resistance strongholds). These embassies are continuously monitoring developments and acting accordingly.

Diplomatic sources have confirmed that the situation in Lebanon—so far—is not a source of concern, as coordination between Lebanese parties and the international community is “reassuring” following a confirmation that Lebanon is “not interested in escalation.”

Amidst anticipation of the potential repercussions of the U.S. aggression against Iran's peaceful nuclear facilities, President Joseph Aoun and Prime Minister Nawaf Salam are in continuous consultations to “spare” Lebanon from the repercussions of the Iranian-American escalation.

In a statement, President Aoun said, “The recent escalation of Is-

raeli-Iranian confrontations and the rapid developments accompanying them, particularly the bombing of Iranian nuclear facilities, are likely to raise fears of an escalation of tensions that could threaten security and stability in more than one region and country.”

He noted that this “calls for restraint and the launch of constructive and serious negotiations to restore stability to the countries of the region and avoid further killing and destruction.”

In the midst of this escalation, which could last for a long time, Aoun claimed that “Lebanon—its leadership, parties, and people—realizes today, more than ever, that it has paid a heavy price for the wars that erupted on its soil and in the region.”

Aoun alleged that “Lebanon is unwilling to pay more, and there is no national interest in doing so, especially since the cost of these wars was and will be greater than its ability to afford.”

Prime Minister Salam announced that he and Aoun agreed “to work together to spare Lebanon from the

repercussions of these conditions, prioritize the supreme national interests, and preserve unity and national solidarity.”

For its part, Hezbollah condemned “the barbaric, treacherous American aggression against the peaceful nuclear facilities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which reveals the true face of the United States of America as the greatest threat to regional and international security and stability.”

Hezbollah affirmed that “the American administration sought, through this criminal aggression, to achieve what the Zionist entity failed to accomplish.”

Despite the President and Prime Minister's condemnation of the aggression and their expression of Lebanon's full solidarity with Iran, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants (Lebanese Forces party minister) Youssef Rajai once again violated his diplomatic duties!

Rajai not only did not condemn the aggression, but also did not even attend the emergency meeting of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) held Friday in Istanbul, Turkey, to discuss the aggression against Iran.

Lebanon was represented by its ambassador to Ankara, Ghassan al-Moallem.

Ironically, the foreign minister of the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham regime, Asaad al-Sheibani, participated, despite his government's hostility toward Iran.

The OIC issued a statement describing the Israeli attacks as “a clear violation of international law and a threat to the security of the region.”



evacuations.

According to UNICEF, more than 110 children are being treated for malnutrition every day. Whittall said that humanitarian groups have the ability to reach everyone in Gaza, but they are being blocked by Israeli occupation forces at every turn.

“We have a plan,” he said, “but we are prevented from doing so at every turn.”

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](#))

UN: Gaza faces “death sentence”

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN – The United Nations has accused the Israeli regime of “weaponizing hunger” in Gaza as the death toll rises.

So far just over 460 people have been killed by Israeli occupation forces while trying to get food and water.

Jonathan Whittall, who leads the UN's Humanitarian Coordination Office (OCHA) in Gaza and the occupied West Bank, has issued a strong warning about the growing humanitarian disaster in Gaza.

Speaking in Deir al-Balah in the central Gaza Strip, Whittall warned that the situation is spiraling out of control in the besieged enclave and the attempt to survive is being “met with a death sentence.”

Whittall explained that since the Israeli occupation regime loosened its complete blockade last month, over 400 people have been killed while trying to reach food aid locations.

He said many of these areas are under military control and extremely dangerous.

“We see a chilling pattern of Israeli forces opening fire on crowds gathering to get food,” he warned. Others, he added, have been killed on the roads or while helping to escort aid convoys.

“It shouldn't be this way,” he emphasized. “There shouldn't be a death toll associated with accessing the essentials for life.”

Conditions across Gaza continue to worsen. Water wells have either dried up or are located in areas too dangerous to reach. The sanitation system has collapsed, and the spread of disease is increasing rapidly.

“Our warehouses stand empty,” Whittall said. “Displaced families flee with nothing – and we have nothing to give them.”

Hospitals that are still operating are overwhelmed by constant mass casualty events. Some have been damaged by strikes, while others are running out of fuel or facing forced

Trump falls into the Netanyahu trap

TEHRAN – The Guardian has analyzed how the American people were starting to laud Donald Trump for his resistance to the Israeli prime minister's pull, but now, just less than 200 days into his office, he was fooled into attacking three nuclear sites in Iran, a highly dangerous move that could drag the U.S. into another war in the Middle East.

A shortened version of the article reads as follows:

When he was elected, Trump suggested he could hammer out a new relationship with Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli prime minister who was used to getting his way with the White House. But after just over 150 days in office, it appears Trump has fallen into the same trap as his predecessors – and launched the most con-

sequential strike on Iran in generations.

From early suggestions that the Trump administration would rein in Netanyahu's military ambitions, it now appears that the Israeli PM has maneuvered the U.S. into striking Iranian uranium enrichment sites directly. And the U.S. is now bracing for a retaliation that could easily bring it into a full-scale war.

Days before Trump's inauguration, his envoy to the Middle East, Steve Witkoff, barreled into Israel with a demand to meet Netanyahu on Shabbat in order to strongarm him into negotiating a ceasefire deal with Hamas in Gaza.

Senior officials at the time chalked that up to the “Trump factor” – a reference to the unpredictability and dealmaking prowess of the U.S.

How Trump rejoined ‘team’ Netanyahu

TEHRAN – In a commentary on Sunday, the Al Jazeera staff analyzed the history of Trump's relationship with Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu in his first term as American president (Jan. 1997 to Jan. 2021) up to the current days that the two have joined hands against Iran.

The following is an excerpt of the article:

President Trump announced his military has attacked three Iranian nuclear sites in the early hours on Sunday.

Trump also said Netanyahu and he had worked like “perhaps no team has ever worked before”. Those laudatory comments represent a stark contrast from the far more crude language that Trump used for the Israeli leader just four years ago, and their public tension over Iran less than a month ago.

In his televised address on Sunday, during the early morning hours in the Middle East, Trump thanked and congratulated Netanyahu. “I want to thank and congratulate

Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu,” he said, referring to a name the Israeli PM is widely known by.

“We worked as a team like perhaps no team has ever worked before, and we've gone a long way to erasing this horrible threat to Israel,” Trump claimed, referring to Iran's nuclear facilities.

However, Israel remains the only country in the Middle East with a nuclear arsenal, though it has never officially acknowledged it.

The U.S. strikes follow ten days of Israeli missile attacks against Iran, including on its nuclear facilities. Israel did not have the bombs needed to damage or destroy Iran's most fortified nuclear site in Fordow, buried deep inside a mountain. The U.S., using its bunker-buster bombs, hit Fordow as well as the facilities in Natanz and Isfahan on Sunday.

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](#))

Iran setters Behnezhad and Karimi doubt for 2025 VNL Week 2

TEHRAN – Arshia Behnezhad and Javad Karimi will likely miss the 2025 Volleyball Nations League (VNL) Week 2.

Behnezhad suffered a foot injury in the match against Slovenia in Week 1 and Karimi sustained a finger injury during the trainings.

Iran's national volleyball team, known as “Team Melli”, will meet Serbia in their opening match in Week 2 on June 25.

Roberto Piazza's men are also scheduled to face Argentina on June 27 and Germany and the Netherlands in the following days.

Iran lost to Brazil, the U.S., and Slovenia and edged past Ukraine in Week 1.

Iran sit 14th in the 18-team table with four points.

The team's overall performance and ability to close out tight matches will be crucial for their success in the VNL.

Volleyball has a long history in Iran, with organized play starting in the early 20th century.

The Iranian men's national team have achieved notable success in international competitions, including the Asian Games and the World Championship.

The team's performance in the VNL will be closely watched as they aim to build on their progress and compete at a higher level.

The upcoming fixtures in the VNL, while not against the absolute top-tier teams, will provide valuable opportunities for the team to refine their skills and strategies.

The Iranian volleyball team focus on continuous improvement and development, with a bright future ahead.

In the 2025 Volleyball Nations League, each of the 18 participating teams will play a total of 12 matches during the pool stage. These matches will be distributed across three of the nine pools, and the competition will take place over three weeks. The pool stage format means each team will compete against a subset of the other teams in the tournament, with the results contributing to an overall preliminary table.

Iranian Karate athlete martyred in Israeli strikes

TEHRAN – Helena Gholami, a karate practitioner from Lorestan Province, was killed in the recent Israeli attacks on Iran.

The Iranian Karate Federation also expressed condolences following her martyrdom.

On 13 June 2025, the Israeli regime launched air and drone strikes against Iranian territory. The Israeli strikes began as Iran and the US were in the process of negotiating a new deal on Iran's nuclear program and enrichment activities.

On 16 June, the Iranian government spokesperson reported that Israeli attacks had killed at least 224 people, including 74 women and children. The health ministry also stated 1,800 people have been injured.

Iran handball headquarters attacked by Israel

TEHRAN – The Israeli military attacked Iran's handball federation's headquarters in Tehran on Monday.

In this incident, the windows and ceiling of the president's office were damaged, some championship cups were damaged.

Furthermore, one of the federation's workers was injured and taken to medical centers.

Fortunately, the president of the feder-

ation, Alireza Pakdel, and other employees are in perfect health.

Young wushu champion martyred in Israeli airstrikes

TEHRAN- Mehdi Ghaffari, a dedicated young wushu athlete from Khorramdarreh, Iran, was martyred in the latest wave of brutal and indiscriminate Israeli airstrikes. His death has sparked widespread grief across the Iranian sports community.

Mehdi Ghaffari, a promising Iranian wushu practitioner and respected figure in the city of Khorramdarreh, lost his life during the recent Israeli attacks targeting civilian areas. Known for his courage, discipline, and commitment to both sport and country, Ghaffari's martyrdom is being mourned by fellow athletes, local residents, and national sports authorities alike.

The Iranian Wushu Federation released an official statement expressing profound sorrow over his death, calling it a tragic loss to the nation's sporting community and a stark reminder of the indiscriminate nature of the attacks.

A large number of mourners participated in the funeral procession, held at the Martyrs' Cemetery in Khorramdarreh. The ceremony was also joined by the family and supporters of Hamid Mehri, another victim of the same strikes from the neighboring city of Abhar.

Both athletes are now remembered not only for their achievements in sports but for their ultimate sacrifice in the face of aggression.

Iranian authorities and local officials have strongly condemned the Israeli regime's continued targeting of civilians and prominent figures, calling on the international community to take immediate action to halt such violations of international law.

Iran into 2025 World Deaf Futsal Championships semis

TEHRAN – Iran defeated Kuwait 7-0 on Monday and qualified for the 2025 World Deaf Futsal Championships semifinals.

Iran had defeated Morocco 12-1, Italy 1-0, Uruguay 9-0, England 11-0, Poland 3-1.

Team Melli will face the winner of Croatia and Sweden on Monday.

The 2025 World Deaf Futsal Championships are held in Montesilvano, Italy. The event started on June 14 and will conclude on June 27.

It includes both men's and women's competitions, with teams from various countries participating.

Piazza Names Iran Squad for Serbia Match: 2025 VNL

TEHRAN – Roberto Piazza has named his 14-man team for the 2025 FIVB Men's Volleyball Nations League match against Serbia

Team Melli will face the European team on Wednesday in its opening match in Week 2.

Iran will also meet Argentina, Germany and the Netherlands.

Iran men's national team roster

Setters: Javad Karimi, Arshia Behnezhad

Opposites: Amin Esmailnezhad, Bardia Saadat

Outside hitters: Morteza Sharifi, Amirhossein Esfandiari, Ehsan Daneshdoust, Poriya Hossein Khanzadeh, Ali Haghparsat

Middle blockers: Mohammad Valizadeh, Yousef Kazemi, Eisa Naseri

Liberos: Mohammadreza Hazratpour, Arman Salehi

TEHRAN TIMES



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JUNE 24, 2025

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Guide to spiritual awakening

Wisdom is the noblest heritage; theoretical and practical knowledge are the best signs of distinction; deep thinking will present the clearest picture of every problem.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon:12:07 Evening: 19:45 Dawn: 3:03 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 4:50 (tomorrow)

Iran’s Farabi Cinema Foundation condemns Zionist atrocities, urges global cultural support

TEHRAN – The director of Iran’s Farabi Cinema, Hamed Jafari, has issued a statement condemning the brutal crimes committed by the Zionist regime and calling for international solidarity through cultural and artistic platforms.

The message, sent to leading international film festivals and cultural events, emphasizes the importance of art as a universal language of peace and justice. It reads: “It is our moral duty to condemn the aggressor and those who justify its actions — a duty aligned with the spirit and true essence of genuine art, which advocates peace and tranquility.”

Highlighting the severity of recent attacks, the statement describes how the Zionist regime has “not only murdered scientists and commanders but also bombed schools and hospitals, collapsing buildings onto women and children.” The Foundation’s chief stated, “The ruthless and occupying Zionist regime, infamous for genocide in Gaza, has now attacked one of the world’s oldest and most historic nations: Iran.”

The message further underscores the importance of cultural resistance, declaring: “The occupying and usurping regime tramples on the goals of art — mutual understanding and empathy. We stand firm against such a vile regime, and we call on lovers of authentic art to condemn its heinous acts.” It also notes that the campaign aims to “strengthen the unbreakable bond between free spirits worldwide and pure art practitioners, reminding us of the principles we uphold in the path of art: freedom, equality, and brotherhood.”

This message has been disseminated through the International Affairs Department of the Farabi Cinema Foundation to prominent festival organizers and cultural bodies in recent days, urging them to join a global movement supporting justice, freedom, and peace.

Early Friday morning, June 13, a series of devastating terrorist attacks carried out by

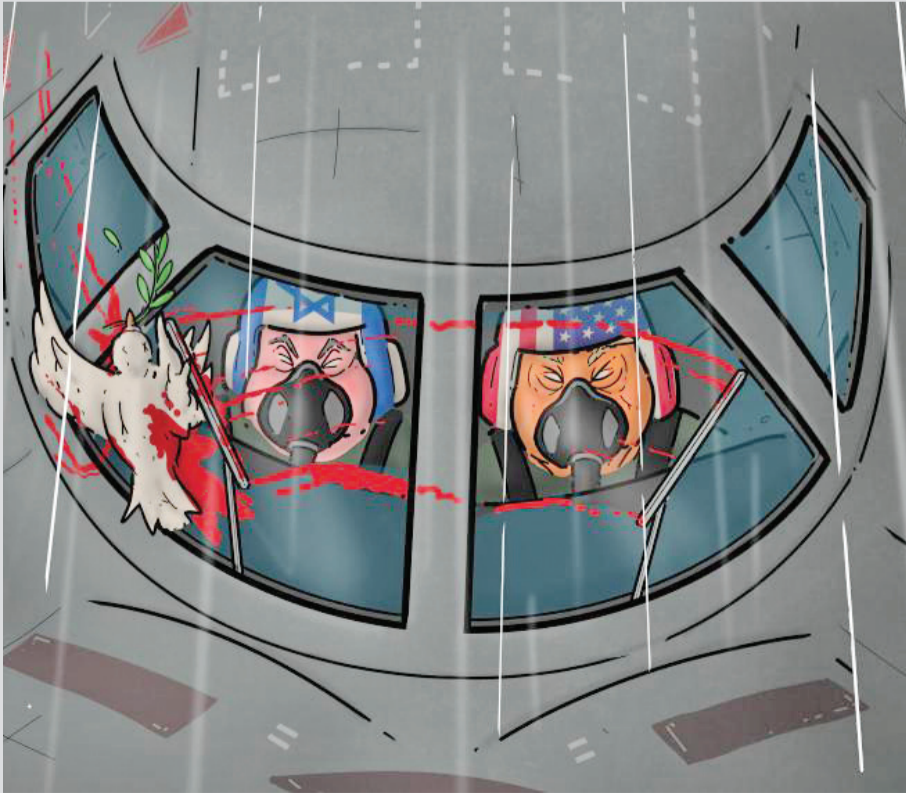


the Zionist regime targeted Tehran and several other Iranian cities. These heinous assaults resulted in the martyrdom of numerous military commanders, scientists, and innocent civilians, leaving the nation in shock and mourning. The attacks, which aimed to target strategic and civilian areas, have been widely condemned both domestically and internationally for their brutality and disregard for human life.

In the wake of this tragedy, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, issued a firm and resolute statement: “Our armed forces will utterly crush the despicable Zionist regime. God willing, we will make their lives a living hell, and there will be no leniency.” His words underscored Iran’s unwavering stance against terrorism and aggression.

In response to the savage Zionist attacks, the Islamic Republic of Iran launched Operation True Promise 3 on Friday night, unleashing a barrage of missiles targeting the occupied territories. The Israeli strikes, which hit areas within Iran unrelated to military installations, resulted in the tragic loss of innocent lives, including women and children. The incident has sparked widespread outrage both within Iran and among international observers, highlighting the escalating tensions and the ongoing cycle of violence in the region.

Cartoon of Day



Peacemakers of Our Time

Cartoonist: Tjeerd Royaards from the Netherlands

Iranian traditional, pop singers release new tracks, supporting homeland

TEHRAN – Several traditional and pop singers have released new tracks in response to the Zionist regime’s attack on Iran and in sympathy with our compatriots.

On Sunday evening (July 22), celebrated traditional music singer Homayoun Shajarian released the song “World of Oppression” on his personal page in cyberspace, with lyrics by the great Indo-Persian poet Bidel Dehlavi (1642-1720) and the Iranian poet Hushang Ebtehaj (1928-2022), and music by Gholamreza Sadeghi, IRNA reported.

About the piece, Shajarian wrote: “The ‘World of Oppression’ has a social and humanitarian theme. This piece was born from the dust of wounded and broken souls; from the voices of free men imprisoned in terror and the cries that rise in a world of oppression.”

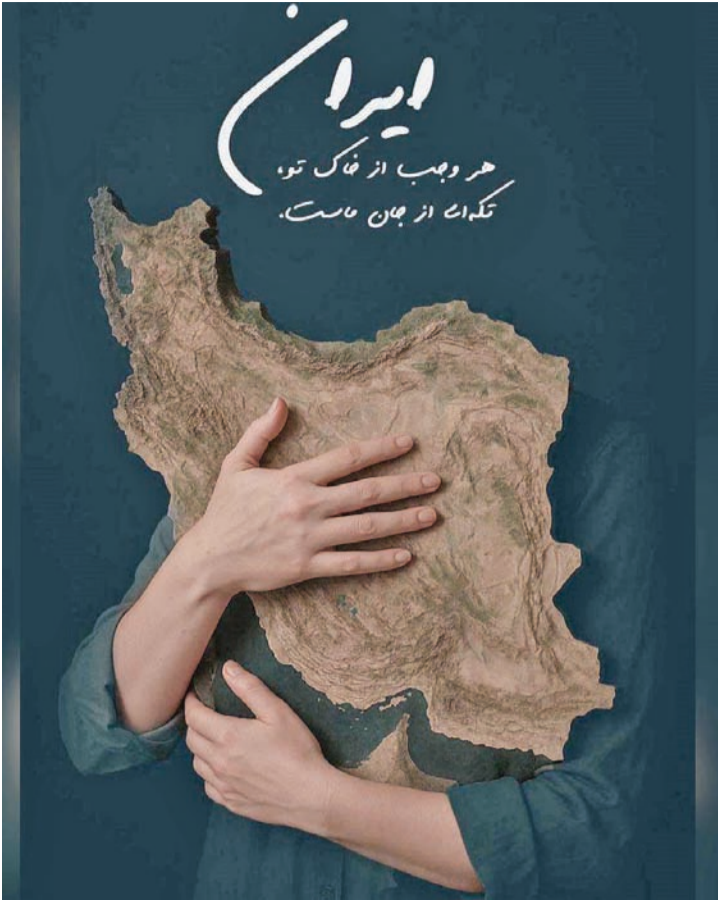
“This work is a narrative of the endless sorrow of humans who have been silenced in the twists and turns of dead-end nights, in the bloody nightmare of this world. It speaks of a world in which anger, ugliness, ignorance, and selfishness have replaced love, beauty, and awareness,” he added.

“The pages of human history are turned with black and white, filth and light, as if these two were ancient twins, one constantly dominating the other,” the singer noted.

In the end, Shajarian dedicated his piece to the noble and defenseless people of the world, saying “may no heart live except with love and beauty”.

Son of the late master Iranian traditional singer Mohammad-Reza Shajarian, Homayoun is a traditional and crossover vocalist, and a Tombak player.

Last week, he posted a moving letter alongside social media stories in response to the Israeli attacks: “The earth and sky of our homeland are wounded. Hearts are anxious. A mother’s heart trembles a thousand times before sunrise. The sound of explosions replaces the sound of song. We are the children of melody, wounded at heart,



with hidden hope in our throats”.

“Perhaps a song can soothe a grieving mother or be a silent sigh in a weary father’s soul. This voice longs to be a whisper of peace amid the clamor,” the letter continued. “Let us remember: No soil blossoms from blood, and no weapon sows love. May a day come when songs are heard louder than bullets, and peace and calm belong to all people of the world”.

A popular musician, singer, record producer, and songwriter, Mohsen Chavoshi unveiled his latest musical piece called “Healing” on Monday.

Continuing his social activism, Chavoshi’s song emphasizes people’s empathy and patriotism in these difficult wartime conditions. Composed and arranged by Chavoshi, “Healing” has lyrics by Kazem Bahmani.

In a stark, concise post on so-

cial media last week, he addressed the Zionist regime and wrote: “You crushed, you will be crushed”.

Chavoshi is also involved with philanthropic activities inside the country and always reacts to social and national issues. Two years ago, he reacted after a man burned a copy of the Holy Quran outside a mosque in Stockholm, Sweden.

In a post published on his Instagram, Chavoshi wrote, “They changed the Old Testament, they changed the Bible, when they couldn’t change the Quran, they burned it”.

Salar Aghili, a traditional music singer who has performed and released several musical works with themes of Iran in recent years, in response to the Zionist regime’s attack, released the piece and music video “I Will Die for You, O My Iran” on his personal page in cyberspace on Sunday and wrote: “My new piece is dedicated to the inno-

Foreign media conduct on-the-ground visits to Iranian hospitals damaged by Israeli strikes

TEHRAN – In a strategic move to shed light on the ongoing humanitarian crisis, international journalists and media outlets have undertaken on-the-ground visits to hospitals across Iran to document the aftermath of recent Israeli regime atrocities.

This initiative aims to provide an unfiltered glimpse into the human toll inflicted by the Israeli regime’s brutal actions, bypassing restrictions and censorship often imposed on coverage of such issues, Mehr reported on Sunday.

Foreign correspondents entered Iran without restrictions, enabling them to witness firsthand the extent of civilian suffering caused by Israeli strikes, the report added.

On Saturday, journalists from

prominent international outlets visited hospitals where the wounded, mostly non-combatant civilians, are receiving treatment. Their on-site reports aim to portray the severity of the humanitarian disaster and counteract misinformation.

The visiting media representatives included agencies such as the Associated Press (United States), AFP (France), CNN (United States), Al Jazeera (Qatar), RT (Russia), Anadolu Agency and NTV (Turkey), Ulusal Kanal (Turkey), EPA (Germany), ORF (Austria), Polaris Images (United States), and Al Manar (Iraq). These outlets are committed to documenting the realities faced by innocent victims and exposing the criminal acts committed by the Israeli regime.

This initiative marks a coura-



geous step toward truth-telling and transparency, seeking to inform the global public about the devastating impact of recent conflicts. By conducting these field visits, international media are playing a vital role in revealing the brutal realities faced

by civilians and challenging the false narratives propagated by occupying powers. Such efforts underscore the importance of independent journalism in exposing atrocities and fostering global awareness of human rights violations committed by the

BBC drops film about Gaza doctors after delaying its broadcast for months

The BBC has announced it has dropped a film about doctors working in Gaza after delaying its broadcast for months.

The documentary, “Gaza: Medics Under Fire,” was ready to broadcast in February but was pulled because of a scandal that erupted over another BBC documentary on children in Gaza, entitled “How to Survive a Warzone.”

Britain’s public broadcaster said it would broadcast “Gaza: Medics Under Fire” after the review into the earlier documentary was concluded. But on Friday, the BBC announced it would not air the film.

“We have come to the conclusion that broadcasting this material risked creating a perception of partiality that would not meet the high standards that the public rightly expect of the BBC,” the broadcaster said in a statement.

“Therefore, we are transferring ownership of

the film material to Basement Films... Any film broadcast will not be a BBC film.”

Basement Films, the company which produced the documentary, had previously questioned the BBC’s decision to delay the broadcast, saying, “there is no moral or professional reason why a mistake in one film should repeatedly prevent the release of another film.”

In a statement on Friday, Basement Films said: “we would like to thank the doctors and contributors and survivors, and to apologize for not believing them when they said the BBC would never run a film like this.

“It turned out they were right.”

The documentary tells the stories of Palestinian doctors working in Gaza under Israeli bombardment and was made by Oscar-nominated, Emmy and Peabody award-winning filmmakers, includ-

ing Ben de Pear, Karim Shah and Ramita Navai.

The BBC did not explain in its statement why the film would not have met “the high standards that the public rightly expect of the BBC”.

Basement Films said that the BBC “gave us no less than six different release dates” after having “told us several times verbally and by email” that the film “had been approved for broadcast”.

In May, over 600 prominent figures from the arts and media wrote to the BBC, accusing it of “political censorship” over its delay in screening the documentary.

“Although the BBC are now taking their names off this film,” Basement Films said, “it will remain theirs, and we hope it serves to open up the debate on how the nation’s broadcaster covers what is happening in Gaza.”