

Leader welcomes Pezeshkian's visit to China: Potentials for Economic and Political Cooperation With China Must Be Pursued



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Europe's 'reckless course' will only sideline it from future diplomacy: Araghchi

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has warned that Britain, France and Germany are jeopardizing their credibility and international standing by aligning with U.S. President Donald Trump's strategy of maximum pressure on Tehran, urging the three to reconsider their approach before diplomacy is lost altogether.

In an article published Sunday in The Guardian, Araghchi said Europe is "wrong to follow Donald Trump's strategy," emphasizing that Iran remains ready for diplomacy and even a new deal over its nuclear program, but only if sanctions are lifted. ► Page 3

Iranian athletes urge UN to demand release of academic detained by France

TEHRAN – A coalition of 165 Iranian women athletes has implored UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to intervene in the case of Mahdiah Esfandiari, an Iranian academic held in France. Detained since February for expressing solidarity with the people of Gaza, Esfandiari faces charges linked to social media posts.

The athletes condemned the French authorities' "illegal and inhumane" treatment, citing solitary confinement and denial of care. Demanding Esfandiari's "unconditional release," they decried France's attempt to silence truth. Esfandiari herself stated, "Genocide is the disgrace of humanity." ► Page 3

How has the Lebanese Army saved Lebanon at a crucial moment?

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT — What happened in the Lebanese government session on Friday was a truce that could either be sustained or overturned. The Lebanese Army did not rebel against the political authority, but rather put an end to the abuse of political establishment in a bloody, destructive conflict.

Neither the pro-Resistance faction backed down from its refusal to disarm Hezbollah before discussing a defensive strategy, nor did the anti-Resistance faction abandon the original discussion of the issue, even though the Lebanese Forces party was the most disturbed by what happened.

An informed source told the Tehran Times that the government statement was drafted the night before during President Joseph Aoun and Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri. Prime Minister Nawaf Salam also approved it.

As this round of talks ends, matters remain subject to the positions of the guardianship team, particularly Washington, whose envoy, Morgan Ortagus, accompanied by the commander of US Central Command (CENTCOM), will visit Beirut at the end of the week.

European cities erupt in solidarity with Gaza

Hundreds of demonstrations swept Europe this weekend as pro-Palestine activists staged a Global Day of Action demanding an immediate ceasefire, unfettered humanitarian access, and an end to what many called collective punishment in Gaza.

The mobilization came as Israel intensified strikes on Gaza City and aid agencies warned of imminent famine, adding urgency to calls for international intervention.

Central London witnessed one of the most charged scenes: thousands rallied near Parliament Square and, according to police and multiple outlets, hundreds were detained after defying the ban on the group Palestine Action — figures ranged from about 425 to nearly 900. Campaigners condemned what they described as heavy-handed policing and the criminalization of solidarity.

Palestine Action, a direct-action network targeting arms manufacturers supplying Israel, was proscribed by the UK government in July 2024 under terrorism laws. The move, which made public support for the group a criminal offense, has been denounced by civil liberties groups as an unprecedented assault on protest rights. Critics say the ban shields weapons firms from scrutiny and exemplifies the shrinking space for dissent in Britain.

Israeli tanks explode in Gaza

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN – The Palestinian resistance in Gaza wages more deadly operations against the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) attempting to invade Gaza City.

Al-Qassam Brigades, the armed wing of Hamas, announced that its resistance fighters targeted three IOF Merkava tanks in the southern area of the Zeitoun neighborhood in Gaza City.

According to al-Qassam, the operation took place in the vicinity of Salah al-Din Mosque and Zeitoun Clinic, south of the Zeitoun neighborhood.

Dozens of resistance fighters confirmed the success of the mission after returning from the front lines.

Earlier, al-Qassam reported that it had struck another Merkava tank and a D9 military bulldozer with a "Yassin 105" rocket-propelled grenade and a "Shawaz" explosive device on Street 8, southwest of Zeitoun.

Al-Qassam also published a video showing part of a complex ambush it carried out earlier in Beit Hanoun's agricultural area in northern Gaza. The attack was part of the ongoing "David's Stones" operations, which targeted IOF soldiers.

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China's envoy to Iran addresses SCO summit, bilateral relations

By Mona Hojat Ansari

TEHRAN – Chinese Ambassador to Iran, Cong Peiwu, hosted a press conference at his country's embassy in northern Tehran on Sunday, inviting journalists from major Iranian and Chinese media outlets. For nearly two hours, he discussed the recent SCO summit, which he characterized as the bloc's largest gathering to date.

The press conference comprised two main segments: Cong's own assessment of the summit and a Q&A session with reporters. His remarks mainly centered on the five initiatives proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping, initiatives largely addressing unilateralism in the current Western-led world order. Cong stated these were designed to guide the organization toward a more "dynamic" and "future-oriented" role in global affairs. ► Page 2

Exclusive Interview

American activist sends message of support to Iranian people ahead of Gaza voyage

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Sanandaj hosts Unity Week celebration

TEHRAN – The city of Sanandaj, western Kordestan province, hosted a celebration on Saturday to mark the Unity Week – a significant observance, celebrated annually between two key dates: the twelfth of the lunar month of Rabi al-Awwal, recognized by Sunni Muslims as the birthday of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), and the seventeenth of Rabi al-Awwal, commemorated by Shia Muslims.

Guests from various countries, including Turkey, Palestine, and Lebanon, as well as the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, attended the ceremony, showing the solidarity of the Islamic nation.

This year, more than 120 cultural, social, artistic, service, and entertainment booths, and two stages were also set up for live performances by artists and theatrical programs.

Exclusive Interview

Zionism is the problem: Ariel Feldman breaks down Israel's Nakba and genocide

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TEHRAN PAPERS

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

Iran's defense line on the international stage

In an analysis, Sobh-e-No highlighted the pivotal role of Iran's diplomatic apparatus, writing: Foreign Minister Seyyed Abbas Araghchi has played a central role in Iran's resistance diplomacy in recent months. He has engaged in negotiations not only with member states of the Security Council but also with European institutions to clearly and decisively articulate Iran's position. Araghchi recently held strategic phone calls with three non-permanent members of the Security Council—Greece, Slovenia, and Sierra Leone. In these conversations, he described the actions of three European countries as “illegal, unjustified, and irresponsible,” emphasizing that while Iran remains committed to diplomacy, it will be uncompromising in defending its legitimate rights. These calls reflect Iran's effort to curtail international support for European measures and to garner backing from countries capable of adopting a balanced stance within the Security Council. More significantly, the foreign ministers of these three countries responded by stressing the importance of diplomatic solutions and the need to prevent further escalation. Their reaction signals a rift in European positions and a lack of unity within the European Union.

Arman-e-Melli: why won't China implement the 25-year agreement with Iran?

In an article, Arman-e-Melli explored the reasons behind the non-implementation of China's 25-year agreement with Iran. The paper stated: There are several contributing factors. First, China maintains close relations with Arab countries and Israel, and has made substantial investments in Israel. Additionally, China has yet to detach itself from the trillion-dollar U.S. market, and therefore will not compromise its national interests to support Iran. The agreement between Iran and China remains unimplemented and likely will not be realized in the future—especially now that the snapback mechanism has been raised, and the trajectory of the situation remains uncertain. We must wait and observe how the snapback mechanism unfolds. With the reimposition of sanctions, the dynamics will become increasingly complex, and we hope that in the remaining days before the mechanism is activated, Iran will make a flexible decision to mitigate further harm.

Jam-e-Jam: maximum pressure—from espionage to security council provocation

In a commentary, Jam-e-Jam addressed the Agency's admission of espionage, stating: The

recent actions of the Agency and the European troika are part of the West's maximum pressure campaign against Iran. The Agency's reports on Iran's enriched uranium reserves reaching 60%—which, according to the Associated Press, brings Iran close to “weapons level”—lack credible evidence and have been dismissed by Tehran as politically motivated. At this critical juncture, the Islamic Republic of Iran has once again demonstrated, through targeted negotiations and extensive consultations, that it will neither yield to unlawful Western pressure nor relinquish initiative. The revelation of the Agency's espionage, confirmed by its own admission, underscores the oppressive nature of the current global order and calls for heightened vigilance from Iranian officials. The Vienna and Doha talks, along with consultations with Security Council members, all attest to Tehran's resolute commitment to preserving its independence and scientific advancement in the face of Western conspiracies. It is now the West and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that must be held accountable for their breaches of commitment, espionage, and hostile actions.

Javan: America's strategy is to maintain its superpower status

Javan commented on Trump's renaming of the U.S. Department of Defense to the Department of War, writing: Trump changed the name of the Department of Defense to the “Department of War” with a single signature. After World War II, the United States—having remained distant and untouched by the war zone—emerged as a global superpower by aiding Russia against the German army via the “Bridge of Victory” in Iran, and helping China defeat Japan, culminating in Japan's surrender following the atomic bomb. Today, this name change under the Trump administration is not merely symbolic, but a strategic move aimed at instigating new conflicts around the world to weaken emerging powers and preserve U.S. dominance. The U.S. has attacked Iran, is preparing for conflict with Venezuela, is engaged in a proxy war with Russia over Ukraine, and is planning confrontation with China—at least through support for Taiwan. War and the weakening of rivals represent America's final strategy to maintain its superpower status. Defense analysts and think tanks overwhelmingly agree that a name change alone will not enhance America's operational capabilities or strategic balance.

Senior Iraqi cleric praises Iran's success in war with Israel, calls for unity



Senior Iraqi cleric praises Iran's success in war with Israel, calls for unity

TEHRAN – Seyed Ammar al-Hakim, leader of Iraq's National Wisdom Movement (NWM), met with senior adviser to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ali Akbar Velayati, in Tehran to discuss strengthening bilateral relations and regional cooperation.

During the meeting, Velayati highlighted the historical, cultural, and religious bonds between Iran and Iraq, describing the relationship as rooted in shared heritage and longstanding neighborliness. “Iran places great importance on its relations with Iraq. The independence, stability, and progress of Iraq are of paramount importance to our country,” he said.

Velayati expressed confidence that Iraq would achieve further successes in the future,

relying on its religious authorities (Marja) and the steadfast support of its national leaders.

For his part, Hakim praised Iran's performance during the 12-day conflict with Israel, saying the country demonstrated remarkable military and strategic capabilities under the leadership of Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, the armed forces, and strong public support. “Iran showcased an important and influential image of itself to the world during this conflict,” he noted. He added that Iran's actions marked the first time in 76 years that the country launched a significant strike against the Israeli regime, challenging its international stature.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

China's envoy to Iran addresses SCO summit, bilateral relations



Chinese Ambassador to Iran, Cong Peiwu, talked to reporters during and after a press conference in Tehran on September 7, 2025.

From page 1 ► The SCO summit, held in Tianjin, China, from August 31st to September 1st, drew considerable attention in Western media. Some analysts viewed the gathering's size and the cordial interactions between India's Narendra Modi, China's Xi, and Russia's Vladimir Putin as significant indicators that countries worldwide no longer consider the United States a reliable partner.

Such sentiments have largely arisen from U.S. President Donald Trump's aggressive tariff policies, which have targeted both allies and adversaries, as well as his breaches of diplomatic decorum in exchanges with world leaders.

There were, however, some commentators on mainstream American media who downplayed the summit's significance, suggesting that its participants could achieve little beyond photo opportunities and joint statements. A “foreign policy

expert” told Fox News that the SCO members were too politically diverse and often divided to unite and challenge the Western-led world order.

When asked about such remarks, Cong said equality and justice have been central to the SCO's principles for the past 24 years, and these objectives will be more closely pursued thanks to one of Xi Jinping's initiatives from the recent summit: the Global Governance initiative.

“Developments in the world are occurring at a rapid pace. President Xi's Global Governance initiative is very timely; it was welcomed during the summit, and will undoubtedly be welcomed widely on an international scale,” the envoy stated.

Following the session, the Chinese Ambassador took several minutes to speak with the Tehran Times about Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian's recent visit to China. While the visit was initially intended to include



the SCO gathering, it ultimately featured a meeting with President Xi and attendance at a military parade in Beijing commemorating the end of WWII.

Upon his return to Tehran after a four-day stay in China – the longest by an Iranian president to date – Pezeshkian informed reporters that his discussions with Xi had resulted in key decisions regarding bilateral cooperation, particularly in the economic and defense sectors. His Foreign Minister, Abbas Araghchi, described the president's China visit as “historic.”

Asked if Beijing shared Iran's assessment of the meetings, Cong affirmed that it did. “This trip marked President Pezeshkian's first state visit to China, which is significant in itself. Furthermore, President Pezeshkian's visit was successful. During meetings between President Pezeshkian and President Xi Jinping,

important discussions were held regarding future decisions in various fields.”

The envoy added that this meeting would likely energize both countries to further implement the 25-year cooperation agreement signed in 2021. “Over the past four years, the 25-year cooperation plan has been steadily implemented and led to an expansion of collaboration across various fields. But this recent meeting will energize both sides to further enhance the implementation of all aspects of the agreement,” he stated, before reiterating a point Xi made to Pezeshkian: that China views Iran as a strategic partner.

“Despite potential regional and global developments, China remains committed to maintaining stable ties with Iran. We envision a comprehensive strategic partnership, one that benefits the people of both countries.”

Espionage network linked to Mossad, MKO faces trial in Iran

TEHRAN – The Court of Alborz Province has begun hearings for four individuals accused of espionage and collaboration with the terrorist Mojahedin-e-Khalq Organization (MKO) and the Israeli regime.

The proceedings were held on Saturday in two sessions, morning and afternoon, at Branch 3 of the court.

According to Tasnim News Agency, the trial was presided over by the judge of Branch 3 and attended by court advisors, a representative of the prosecutor's office, the four defendants, and their lawyers.

Hossein Fazeli Herikandi, head of the Alborz Judiciary, said the case involves a four-member spy network made up of three men and one woman from the cities of Karaj and Isfahan. He explained that the defendants had been recruited through intermediaries in a neighboring country and via online channels, establishing links with MKO and Mossad operatives.

At earlier stages, the network sent coordinates of sensitive sites and carried out arson attacks in several cities. Fazeli Herikandi added that the defendants later received training in making explosive projectiles and launchers, as well as in filming and documenting terrorist operations. In late May, he said, the group was tasked with its “main mission” — an attack on a major military site inside Iran.

The judiciary chief noted that the suspects had received payments in cryptocurrency from their foreign handlers. About a month before Israel's recent attack on Iran, they reportedly constructed explosive projectiles and moved them to a launch site. However, thanks to intelligence monitoring and swift judicial action, security forces seized the projectiles and launchers before they could be fired. Two suspects were arrested at the scene, and two others were later tracked down and detained.

Following their arrest and further investigations, indictments were issued and the case referred to court.

The defendants are facing multiple charges, including moharebeh (armed rebellion) through deliberate arson and collaboration with Israel, complicity in moharebeh, cooperation with hostile groups, conspiracy against national security, and membership in anti-state organizations.

On June 13, Israel launched an unprovoked assault on Iran, targeting senior military commanders, nuclear scientists, and civilians. The United States joined the campaign on June 22, carrying out airstrikes against Iranian nuclear sites.

In response, Iran carried out a large-scale counteroffensive, launching waves of missile and drone strikes in an operation dubbed True Promise III. The retaliation forced Israel to declare a unilateral truce on June 24.

American activist sends message of support to Iranian people ahead of Gaza voyage

voyage to Gaza?

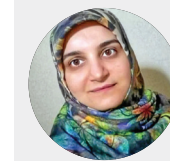
My name is Kathy Greaves, and I'm from the United States, specifically California and Virginia.

I'm embarking on my fifth voyage to attempt entry into Gaza. I successfully entered Gaza in 2008 and had a truly wonderful week there. I firmly believe that it can happen again, even given the recent events in Gaza. We need to get in. We need to get aid in. The blockade must be broken. My major concern is that Gazans have no right to freedom of movement – to come and go as they please.

They are in desperate need of aid, obviously. And ever since I understood the Zionist project, I've been deeply upset with my government's involvement – or rather, its subservience. We've essentially been taken over by this entity.

Our country is, in effect, following Zionism as a political agenda. That's why I'm going – to try to inform people in my country about what's happening.

Israeli forces have threatened to capture those that attempt to approach Gaza. how concerned are you for your safety?



Iranian athletes urge UN to demand release of academic detained by France

TEHRAN – A coalition of 165 Iranian women athletes has implored UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to intervene in the case of Mahdieh Esfandiari, an Iranian academic held in France. Detained since February for expressing solidarity with the people of Gaza, Esfandiari faces charges linked to social media posts.

The athletes condemned the French authorities' “illegal and inhumane” treatment, citing solitary confinement and denial of care. Demanding Esfandiari's “unconditional release,” they decried France's attempt to silence truth. Esfandiari herself stated, “Genocide is the disgrace of humanity.”

The letter warned that silence in the face of this injustice sides with oppression and that history will record such complicity. They called for a united global voice against repression, emphasizing that recognizing Palestine requires action against injustice, not suppression of free thought.

Despite Iran's Foreign Ministry protests and demands for legal justification, France has provided no solid evidence, while prosecutors claim Esfandiari is under investigation for “glorifying terrorism,” a charge dismissed as politically motivated.

My family is perhaps more worried than I am. I have been captured several times, and I've been imprisoned.

But I feel it's all worth it because the only way for people to truly understand that this is no longer the country it once was – and that we are as culpable as Israel, and equally capable of stopping them – is to stop my country. I want them to understand that. Death is probably the biggest risk I worry about.

However, it's also worth it to me because it's what will bring the world to awareness. I also want to offer an apology from my country to yours. So many people in the United States are deeply upset about the bombings that were inflicted upon you, and the war that was instigated against you for no justifiable reason.

And the lies... We are living in a time where politicians can constantly spout falsehoods. Now they're claiming, ‘Iran tried to kill our president.’ These fabrications are so blatant and ridiculous that we must turn things around.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Leader welcomes Pezeshkian's visit to China: Potentials for economic and political cooperation with China must be pursued

By Soheila Zarfam

TEHRAN – Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei told the Pezeshkian administration on Sunday that the government should not let the threat of a potential war with Israel or the United States derail its ongoing plans and their implementation.

Israel and the U.S. launched a bombardment campaign against Iran's civilian, nuclear, and military sites on June 13, killing over 1,000 Iranians in the ensuing 12 days. A ceasefire came after Iran dealt heavy blows to Israel and the U.S. with its missiles and drones. It is, however, believed that Israel and its American patron may decide to launch another war against Iran in the future.

"While everyone must do their duty, the state of 'neither war nor peace' that the enemy seeks to impose must be overcome with motivation, determination, hope, and a spirit of hard work, as this state is harmful and dangerous for the country," Ayatollah Khamenei said during a meeting with President Masoud Pezeshkian, his ministers, and a number of Iranian officials from other branches of the establishment. He deemed more serious action in the economic sphere and on livelihood issues essential, emphasizing that solutions to problems cannot wait for external developments.

The Leader praised the Pezeshkian's "motivation," "morale," and "hard work," adding that his successful trip to China opened potential economic and political opportunities that must be actively followed up on.

Tehran warns of UN Charter violations amid US buildup in Caribbean

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has expressed solidarity with Venezuela in the face of rising tensions with the United States, denouncing Washington's "unilateral and bullying" actions against independent nations.

In a phone conversation with his Venezuelan counterpart Yvan Gil Pinto, Araghchi warned that US President Donald Trump's decision to amass military assets in the Caribbean and threaten President Nicolas Maduro represents "a blatant violation of the United Nations Charter" and a "serious danger to international peace and security." He urged governments worldwide to recognize the gravity of the situation and work to prevent the spread of "lawlessness and insecurity."

For his part, Gil Pinto outlined the growing threats posed by Washington, while thanking Tehran for defending the UN Charter and standing by Venezuela's sovereignty and territorial integrity. He stressed that Venezuela's government and people



President Masoud Pezeshkian speaks to Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei on the sidelines of a meeting on September 7, 2025.

"Among all the recent events, the President's trip to China was quite successful. It lays a solid foundation—though it's not fully realized yet—for the significant economic and political developments our country needs. Thankfully, he has established this groundwork during his visit. There have been positive outcomes, and we should build on them, hopefully," Ayatollah Khamenei said.

He advised officials and commentators to "narrate the nation's power, strength, and abundant capabilities" and to "avoid narratives of weakness and incapability." He added that besides officials, the press and media also have a duty in this regard.

The Leader of the Revolution characterized remarks Pezeshkian made at the beginning of the meeting as an example of narrat-

ing "power, hope, and capability," stating that strong motivation, determination, and morale are the foundation for achieving goals.

Ayatollah Khamenei pointed out the need to value every fleeting moment of the opportunity to serve the people. He said that if this opportunity is valued, and if officials avoid idleness and redundant work by not busying themselves with trivial matters, then problems will certainly be solved in the medium term, not just the long term.

The Leader stated that strengthening components of national power and dignity is a core duty of any government. The most important of these components, he added, is the morale, motivation, unity, and hopefulness of the nation, which must be fostered and strengthened in both word and deed, and never weakened.

Another recommendation to the cabinet was the correct prioritization of tasks. He said determining priorities is a fundamental management principle, requiring attention to both the "urgency" of issues and their role as "infrastructure."

Elsewhere in his remarks, Ayatollah Khamenei spoke about Israel's ongoing aggression in Gaza. Referring to the astonishing crimes and atrocities committed by the regime, he stated that the way to confront this situation is for protesting countries, especially Islamic nations, to completely cut their commercial and political ties with Israelis. Iran has floated this recommendation multiple times since the war in Gaza started in October of 2023. At least 60,000 Palestinians have been killed since then, and huge parts of Gaza have been razed to the ground.

craft, and over 4,000 Marines and sailors off Venezuela's coast. It has also stationed 10 advanced F-35 fighter jets in Puerto Rico.

At the same time, the Trump administration has doubled its bounty on Maduro to \$50 million, accusing him of leading one of the world's largest narcotics trafficking networks. On Tuesday, a US strike sank a Venezuelan boat and killed 11 people, with Trump claiming it was involved in drug smuggling. Maduro has rejected the allegations, insisting that disputes between the two countries cannot justify military conflict.

Meanwhile, US Representative Ilhan Omar condemned Trump's actions as "lawless," stressing that Congress has not declared war on Venezuela or its groups. "The mere designation of a group as a terrorist organization does not give any President carte blanche to ignore Congress's Constitutional authority on war and peace," she said.

Europe's 'reckless course' will only sideline it from future diplomacy: Araghchi

From Page 1 ► Araghchi defended Iran's record under the 2015 nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and placed full responsibility for the crisis on Washington's withdrawal from the accord in 2018.

Despite these grievances, the foreign minister stressed that Iran remains open to diplomacy and even to negotiating a new arrangement — but only under the clear condition that all sanctions are terminated. "We are ready to forge a realistic and lasting bargain," Araghchi wrote, one that would involve "ironclad oversight and curbs on enrichment in exchange for the termination of sanctions."

Araghchi traced Europe's role in the nuclear dispute back more than two decades, describing it as reflective of the balance of international power. In the early 2000s, he noted, Europe often acted as a moder-

ating influence, attempting to temper American belligerence in the region. But today, he argued, Europe is enabling Washington's "excesses" and undermining its own interests.

Last week, Britain, France and Germany announced they had triggered the so-called "snapback" process to reimpose United Nations sanctions on Iran, claiming Tehran had failed to comply with its obligations. Araghchi dismissed the move as legally groundless and politically dangerous. He said the E3's step ignored the sequence of events: it was the United States that unilaterally abandoned the deal in 2018, reimposed sanctions, and set off a chain reaction. Iran's subsequent remedial measures, he insisted, were entirely lawful under the JCPOA framework.

"The three countries want the world to forget that it was the US, and not Iran, that unilater-

ally ended participation in the JCPOA," Araghchi said. "They are omitting how they failed to uphold their part of the bargain, not to mention their outrageous welcoming of the bombing of Iran in June."

The foreign minister argued that Europe's current course is based on a miscalculated desire to secure a place at the table in wider international issues. In reality, he said, Trump has repeatedly treated the E3 as minor players, sidelining them from discussions on matters critical to Europe's own future, such as the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

"The message from Washington is loud and clear," Araghchi wrote. "To gain relevance, the E3 must exhibit undying fealty." He added that the images of European leaders seated deferentially in the Oval Office before President Trump "vividly underscore this dynamic."

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Mozafar: Iran's path in 2025 Women's Futsal World Cup is challenging

TEHRAN – Iran's women's national futsal coach Shahrzad Mozafar says her team are highly motivated and focused to face strong opponents at the 2025 FIFA Futsal Women's World Cup.

Iran have been drawn in Pot 3 of the World Cup along with Colombia, Poland, and New Zealand, while Pot 1 comprises the Philippines, Brazil, Spain, and Portugal. Thailand, Japan, Argentina, and Italy are in Pot 2, and Morocco, Canada, Panama, and Tanzania are in Pot 4.

The World Cup draw will take place on Sept. 15.

"The seeding shows a very high level of competition and that Iran will be in a difficult group. As you know, there are no easy opponents in the World Cup, but the team aim to perform at their best even in challenging conditions," Mozafar said.

"Brazil, Spain, and Portugal are in Pot 1, while Japan, Argentina, and Italy are in Pot 2, all of whom are world futsal powerhouses. Iran have prepared with precise planning, aware of these conditions," she added.

"If Iran had reached the final of the 2025 AFC Futsal Asian Cup, the group wouldn't be as tough, and being in Pot 2 could have made things easier. Given the draw system, the probability of Iran facing two global powers from Pot 1 and Pot 2 is very high.

"Only two teams from each group will advance to the knockout stage, which makes Iran's path even tougher, but we will participate in the competition with the aim of advancing to the next round," Mozafar concluded.

Former Barca striker El Haddadi joins Esteghlal

TEHRAN – Esteghlal, one of the most prestigious clubs in Iranian football, has signed Spanish forward Munir El Haddadi.

Munir El Haddadi has penned a two-year deal for an undisclosed fee.

El Haddadi, who is a member of the Moroccan national team, has played for a number of leading teams in Europe. In particular, he began his professional career at the club Barcelona, and also represented the teams Sevilla, Valencia, Alaves, Getafe, and Las Palmas.

He played for Spanish Segunda Division B club Leganes last season. Now, the 30-year-old forward will continue his career in the Iran's Persian Gulf Professional League (PGPL).

El Haddadi has played in both Spain and Morocco national football teams.

Iran's Kiani makes history at 2025 World Wushu Championships

TEHRAN – Zahra Kiani made history by winning Iran's first gold medal in women's taolu at the 2025 World Wushu Championships.

Kiani captured the gold in Qiangshu with 9.763 points. Indonesia's Patricia Geraldine earned silver with 9.756, while Vietnam's Duong Thuy Vi took bronze with 9.746.

Earlier in the day, Mehdi Moradi won a gold medal in men's sanda 90kg. Shahin Banitalebi of Iran also earned a bronze in Nandao.

The 2025 World Wushu Championships are the 17th edition of the event, held in Brasilia, Brazil, from Aug. 31 to Sept. 7.

Uzbekistan aim to take revenge on Iran at 2025 CAFA Final

TEHRAN – Iran will face Uzbekistan on Monday in the final of the 2025 CAFA Nations Cup, a clash that promises high-stakes football and regional bragging rights.

Iran comes into the match buoyed by a confident campaign, winning the first edition. Its midfield engine has driven transitions quickly, unlocking attackers with clever passes and patient buildup.

Uzbekistan, meanwhile, have impressed with their blend of pace and technical flair, pressing high and executing timely pressing triggers to disrupt opponents.

Expect a tactical duel: Iran may opt for a compact defensive shape, inviting Uzbekistan to break them down and exploiting gaps on the break.

Uzbekistan could push higher, seeking to control the tempo and stretch Iran's back line with width. Key players to watch include Iran's clinical finishers and Uzbekistan's agile forwards who can change the rhythm of the game with a moment of individual brilliance.

Iran started the campaign with a 3-1 win over Afghanistan in Group B and then defeated India 3-0 but was held to a 2-2 draw by Tajikistan.

Uzbekistan started the campaign with a 1-1 draw against Oman but defeated Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan 2-1 and 4-0, respectively.

Team Melli defeated Uzbekistan 1-0 in 2023 edition and it will be an opportunity for Uzbekistan to take revenge on Iran.

Iran finish sixth in FIBA U16 Asia Cup 2025

TEHRAN – Iran finished in sixth place after a 76-73 defeat to South Korea in the FIBA U16 Asia Cup 2025.

Yasin Halabi was Iran's top scorer with 19 points, while Taejoon Park led South Korea with 22 points.

In the other games, Australia and China will contest the final on Sunday, and Japan face New Zealand for the bronze medal.

The tournament is being held at the M Bank Arena and the Buyant Ukhua Sport Palace in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from Aug. 31 to Sept. 7.

Iran runner-up at 2025 AKF Cadet, Junior & U21 Championships

TEHRAN – Iran finished in second place at the 2025 AKF Cadet, Junior & U21 Championships on Sunday.

The Iranian karate athletes won seven gold, nine silver and six bronze medals in the event held in Shaoguan, China from September 5 to 7.

Japan won the title.

In the final day of the event, Ghazal Fathi Cheshmeh came out on top in the -48kg division. She defeated Cheok In Ho of Macau, China, to earn the continental crown.

Amir Reza Mosalman lost to Takeru Hamazawa of Japan in the male kata final.

Kazakhstan's Turar Kalpakbay stood firm in the -61kg final, beating Mohammad Abdollahgorab of Iran.

In the Junior Kumite Male -68kg, China's Jiachen Liu defeated Arya Yousefi of Iran, giving China a continental champion.

Uzbekistan's Begzod Zoirov defeated Miad Shafeyi Zirdehi of Iran to secure the top spot in the Junior Kumite Male +76kg.

More than 500 young athletes from 30 countries gathered to compete in the three-day event.

TPO chief urges stronger trade, transport links within SCO



TEHRAN – Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) head called for stronger economic and logistics cooperation among Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) members, stressing the need to streamline customs procedures, standardize regulations, and improve transport infrastructure to ensure sustainable growth in the region.

Speaking via video message at the SCO ministers' meeting on economic and trade affairs in Vladivostok on Saturday, Mohammad Ali Dehghan Dehnavi said the complex shifts in the global economy highlighted the urgency of regional convergence.

He described the ministers' draft statement as a strategic roadmap, not merely a document, urging members to adopt a more pragmatic and action-oriented approach.

Dehghan Dehnavi underlined the importance of resilient supply chains, noting that the statement's reference to developing international transport routes as the backbone of intra-regional trade was a unique opportunity for deeper connectivity.

He said Iran's geostrategic location linking East and West positioned it to play a key role in expanding trade and diversifying exchanges.

He also proposed advancing the SCO's initiative for special settlement accounts as a tool to mitigate the negative effects of unilateral sanctions.

The mechanism, he said, would rest on three pillars: expanding the use of national currencies, building shared digital payment infrastructure including central bank digital currencies, and creating a multilateral currency-swap fund to support members under pressure or facing liquidity crises.

The TPO head highlighted Iran's readiness to strengthen cooperation in knowledge-based industries, including artificial intelligence, big data, and blockchain technologies.

He said fostering start-up ecosystems and embedding digital solutions in commerce would accelerate business optimization and open new avenues for shared growth.

Privatization, export-driven strategy set to reshape Iranian free trade zones

TEHRAN – Iran's government is moving to overhaul its free trade zones by focusing on privatization, exports, and greater private-sector participation, senior officials said at a national investment forum.

The National Conference on the Capabilities and Investment Opportunities of Free Trade and Economic Zones was held in Tehran, bringing together government ministers and private-sector representatives.

The secretary of Iran's High Council of Free Trade Zones said many restrictions on the zones had been lifted, making them valuable tools under sanctions if their legal advantages were restored.

He outlined six strategic priorities, including expanding regional cooperation, establishing a new model for border free zones, completing a financial system, rolling out a smart transformation plan and digital economy charter, strengthening exports, and reforming legal frameworks. Improving governance and easing business activity were also listed as key goals.

The official added that the government is working to launch an international stock exchange in the free zones by year-end and is seeking investors.

Other plans include creating a technology park in one of the zones and expanding international transport corridors in cooperation with relevant ministries.

Also speaking at the forum, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said Iran's Kish technology park was a promising start.

He compared Iran's vision for its free zones to China's Shenzhen, noting their potential

Dehghan Dehnavi stressed that the SCO's emphasis on an "open, transparent, fair, inclusive, and non-discriminatory" multilateral trading system reflected members' collective will to counter unilateral restrictions and to uphold a fair global order.

"Iran firmly believes in the SCO's capacity to deliver sustainable economic growth," he concluded, reaffirming Tehran's commitment to fully implement the statement's provisions and turn them into tangible results for the peoples of the region.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has achieved a series of historic milestones, with China-Iran relations emerging resiliently after navigating challenges over time. These achievements reflect a steadfast commitment to principled approaches and pragmatic policies, Chinese Ambassador to Iran Cong Peiwu said in a statement published by IRNA on September 3.

The 2025 SCO Summit, held in Tianjin, China, concluded successfully in recent days, producing substantial outcomes and earning international recognition, including from Iran, Cong Peiwu said.

According to the official, the Tianjin Summit was the most prominent in the organization's history and its most productive in terms of high-quality development planning, highlighting the "Shanghai Spirit" of mutual trust, shared interests, equality, consultation, respect for civilizational diversity, and commitment to joint development.

"In today's turbulent and rapidly changing world, the role of the SCO in maintaining peace, stability, and promoting development and prosperity has become increasingly prominent. Leaders at the summit unanimously agreed on the continued promotion of the Shanghai Spirit, emphasized strengthening strategic coordination, affirmed the need to safeguard the achievements of victory in World War II, and supported the goals and principles of the United Nations Charter.

They also opposed unilateral power grabs and protectionism, stressing the need to improve global governance structures while upholding fairness and justice in international affairs."

despite sanctions.

"Sanctions have created pressure, but we must not adopt an apocalyptic outlook or think surrender is the only option," he said. "Sanctions were meant to paralyze Iran, but the country stands firm."

Araghchi stressed that free zones play a vital role as "economic lungs" when sanctions restrict the country's trade.

He said Iran remains an attractive destination for investment, with the Foreign Ministry aligning diplomacy with development goals.

Talks with the International Atomic Energy Agency were progressing toward a new framework that would address Iran's concerns, and negotiations with three European states were also continuing.

He emphasized that while diplomacy is important, the government must strengthen domestic capabilities, including free zones, without waiting for foreign talks.

Economy Minister Ali Madanizadeh said financing export-oriented projects and supporting free zones are priorities for his ministry.

"The path to development passes through free trade zones," he said, criticizing Iran's history of government intervention.

He argued that privatization and export-focused strategies, with a strong role for the real private sector, would transform the zones into engines of growth.

One zone will be dedicated specifically to the digital economy, he said.

The event concluded with awards presented to top entrepreneurs, investors, and managers in the free zones.

Iran, Astrakhan officials push trade, transport ties under INSTC

TEHRAN – Iran's consul general in Astrakhan Ahmad Heydarian, met with the governor of the Russian province to discuss trade, transport, and cultural cooperation.

The governor welcomed the new Iranian envoy, calling Iran a "reliable and strategic partner." He said more than 70 Iran-backed companies are active in Astrakhan, including a branch of Mir Business Bank.

Trade between Iran and Astrakhan has been growing, with cooperation expanding under the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC).

He noted that cargo traffic through Astrakhan's ports rose 37 percent to 6.0 million tons



Iran's consul general in Astrakhan Ahmad Heydarian (L) shakes hand with the governor of the Russian province

last year, with a significant share linked to Iran. The province's ports have a total capacity of 16

million tons, including Salanika Port, in which Iran holds a major stake.

Exports outpace imports in Iran-Kazakhstan trade

TEHRAN- Iran's Commercial Attaché in Kazakhstan, referring to the volume of trade between the two countries, reported an increase in exports compared to imports from Iran to Kazakhstan in the first three months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-June 21), as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

Nasrin Pabarja, pointing to Kazakhstan's suitable ranking on the list of target countries for Iranian exports, stated: "In the first quarter of this year, over \$53 million worth of goods, weighing more than 96,000 tons, were exported from Iran to Kazakhstan, while during this period, \$9 million worth of goods, weighing 28,000 tons, were imported from Kazakhstan into Iran.

According to Iran's Commercial Attaché in Kazakhstan, the main goods included sunflower seeds, corn, barley, and livestock products.

She noted that the two countries have preserved their cultural and historical commonalities, adding: "Iran and Kazakhstan are neighbors via the Caspian Sea and, alongside maritime trade, enjoy a favorable situation in road and rail connections."

Pabarja stated: "400 export goods and 19 import goods in the trade basket of Iran and Kazakhstan indicate the superiority in the diversity of export products over import items. For instance, \$23 million worth of agricultural products, \$22 million from the industrial sector, \$5 million from petrochemical products, and over \$3 million from the mining and mineral industries were exported to Kazakhstan."

In early August, Iran's Minister of Transport and Urban Development Farzaneh Sadegh and Kazakhstan's Minister of Transport Nurlan Sauranbayev have agreed to strengthen transportation cooperation and jointly draft a roadmap focused on boosting transit through the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC).

The meeting took place on the sidelines of the Third UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries in Awaza, Turkmenistan, where both ministers stressed the need for infrastructure coordination and swift implementation of earlier multilateral agreements signed between Iran, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Turkmenistan.

Sadegh called for accelerated execution of the eastern branch of the INSTC, emphasizing Kazakhstan's central role.

She also proposed a comprehensive five-year agreement covering all modes of transport, a suggestion welcomed by the Kazakh side.

The two sides reviewed opportunities to enhance multimodal connectivity, including rail, road, maritime, and air transport.

Sauranbayev emphasized that Kazakhstan imposes no restrictions on Iranian flights and expressed interest in collaborative infrastructure development, particularly a Caspian Sea initiative akin to the "Caspian Bridge" project being developed with Azerbaijan.

The ministers agreed to assess the full potential of Caspian Sea routes for a "leap" in lo-

gistics cooperation, aiming to diversify transit paths to and from Iranian ports.

As part of a broader goal to increase bilateral trade to \$3 billion, discussions included expanding port capacity, streamlining customs, and organizing multilateral logistics meetings with neighboring countries—especially targeting routes toward the Caucasus and Europe.

In a forward-looking move, both sides agreed to form a joint technical committee tasked with drafting cooperation documents and a detailed roadmap prior to the upcoming state visit by the Iranian president to Astana.

They also agreed to hold regular virtual meetings to ensure continued progress.

These developments align with Iran's strategy to position itself as a critical transit hub linking Central Asia to global markets via the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean.

The 20th session of the Iran-Kazakhstan Joint Economic Committee was held in Astana, in mid-June, with the participation of Gholamreza Nouri Ghezeljeh, Iran's Minister of Agriculture and head of the Iranian delegation.

Nouri thanked the Kazakh government, particularly Trade and Integration Minister Arman Shakkaliyev, for hosting the meeting, and expressed hope that the session would help advance the strategic partnership between the two countries.

Referring to the committee's previous 19 sessions, Nouri said the continued meetings reflect both sides' firm commitment to expanding bilateral ties.

Nouri announced that Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian is expected to visit Astana soon at the official invitation of his Kazakh counterpart.

Documents finalized during the committee's latest session will be prepared for signing during the visit.

During the meeting, the two countries agreed on several initiatives to boost economic cooperation and facilitate trade. These include the formation of a joint Iran-Kazakhstan investment working group to examine shared investment opportunities; enhanced trade and business engagement through the establishment of trade centers and co-hosted exhibitions; and the finalization of a mutual recognition agreement for Authorized Economic Operators to streamline customs procedures.

Both sides also agreed to hold a joint meeting on oil, gas, refining, and petrochemicals in the third quarter of 2025, and to explore the resumption of oil swap operations. Cooperation in agriculture will continue through joint committee meetings, with a focus on plant and animal health. The two sides also discussed expanding collaboration in the health sector, including knowledge transfer in pharmaceutical and medical equipment production, and the formation of a joint health task force.

Kazakhstan will be allocated 15 hectares of land in Iran's Shahid Rajaei Port to establish

He also highlighted the activities of Iran's Roza company in the Lotus special economic zone, and called for greater Iranian participation in developing container and cold-storage terminals.

Cooperation with Iran's Mostafafan Foundation was described as positive, with the governor urging further engagement.

The governor underlined Astrakhan's ties with Iran's Gilan and Mazandaran provinces, as well as with Rasht municipality.

He added that Iranian universities are members of the Caspian Universities Association, and Persian is taught at Astrakhan State University and its School of Linguistics.

A Kazakh transit terminal. The two countries also reviewed ways to expand multimodal transport under the International North-South Transit Corridor and strengthen logistics cooperation. Talks are also underway to launch direct flights between the two countries. Other areas under discussion included energy, banking, free trade zones, communications, technology, tourism, culture, production, industry, and mining.

At the end of the meeting, Nouri thanked the Kazakh government once again and expressed hope that the outcome would bring renewed momentum to the countries' strategic relationship.

In a separate meeting with Kazakhstan's Agriculture Minister Aidarbek Saparov, Nouri said Iran is pursuing a policy of deepening relations with the friendly nation of Kazakhstan.

He pointed to recent presidential visits and high-level meetings as signs of a strong political will to strengthen ties.

Nouri said Kazakhstan's use of Iranian infrastructure, including east-west and north-south transit corridors and ports, is of strategic importance, as is closer agricultural cooperation.

He noted that Iran could import agricultural and food products from Kazakhstan and supply the Kazakh market with dairy and other goods in return.

He also stressed the potential for broader agricultural collaboration through the exchange of expertise and research.

Saparov said agricultural cooperation with Iran is a priority for Kazakhstan and noted that bilateral agricultural trade grew by 33 percent in 2024, reaching \$20 million.

He added that agricultural financing in Kazakhstan has increased tenfold this year and expressed readiness to expand collaboration and achieve positive results with Iran.

Iran and Kazakhstan pledged deeper cooperation in agriculture to ensure sustainable development and food security, Iran's agriculture minister said during the opening ceremony of the Central Asia Products Expo (Expo Goods) in Astana, on June 10.

Speaking at the event, Nouri Ghezeljeh emphasized the growing importance of food security amid climate change and environmental crises.

"In today's world, the need for food security is more pressing than ever, particularly as we face escalating climate disruptions and ecological challenges," he said.

Nouri stressed that sustainable development must be viewed not only from an economic lens but also through its social and environmental dimensions. He called on regional countries to enhance multilateral cooperation and improve resource efficiency to meet these challenges.

Highlighting Iran's agricultural potential, Nouri said the country produces more than 130 million tons of agricultural products annually, thanks to its fertile lands and diverse climate.

Loading, unloading of goods in Imam Khomeini port up 8% in 5 months on year

TEHRAN – The loading and unloading of goods in Imam Khomeini port, in the southwestern Khuzestan province, increased by eight percent during the five months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-August 22), as com-

pared to the same period of time in the past year.

As reported by the Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO), over 8.28 million tons of commodities were loaded and unloaded in Imam Khomeini port during the

first five months of the present year.

According to the PMO's report, 7.112 million tons of basic commodities were unloaded in the port in the mentioned five months.

Also, 37,149 TEUs of container

goods were loaded and unloaded in Imam Khomeini port during the first five months of the current year, indication seven percent growth as compared to the first five months of the previous year, the report added.

European cities erupt in solidarity with Gaza

Hundreds of demonstrations swept Europe this weekend as pro-Palestine activists staged a Global Day of Action demanding an immediate ceasefire, unfettered humanitarian access, and an end to what many called collective punishment in Gaza.

The mobilization came as Israel intensified strikes on Gaza City and aid agencies warned of imminent famine, adding urgency to calls for international intervention.

Central London witnessed one of the most charged scenes: thousands rallied near Parliament Square and, according to police and multiple outlets, hundreds were detained after defying the ban on the group Palestine Action — figures ranged from about 425 to nearly 900. Campaigners condemned what they described as heavy-handed policing and the criminalization of solidarity.

Palestine Action, a direct-ac-



tion network targeting arms manufacturers supplying Israel, was proscribed by the UK government in July 2024 under terrorism laws. The move, which made public support for the group a criminal offense, has been denounced by civil liberties groups as an unprecedented assault on protest rights. Critics say the ban shields weapons firms from

scrutiny and exemplifies the shrinking space for dissent in Britain.

Brussels drew activists from across the EU on Sunday for a “red card/red line” rally demanding arms embargoes and sanctions. Organizers and trade unions said the coordinated show of solidarity was intended to push EU leaders toward concrete action.

In Lausanne, Switzerland, a car rammed into a minute-of-silence vigil; authorities confirmed one minor injury and made an arrest, while campaigners argued the attack highlighted the urgent need to safeguard peaceful protest.

From medics and students to families and trade unions, demonstrators framed the weekend as both moral witness and political leverage. Sustained public pressure, they noted, has already forced parliamentary debates and sharper scrutiny of arms sales.

Since October 2023, Israeli attacks on Gaza have killed over 64,000 Palestinians — the vast majority women and children — and injured tens of thousands more. Approximately 390 people, including around 140 children, have also died from starvation under the siege, as food, water, and medical aid remain blocked.

Zionism is the problem: Ariel Feldman breaks down Israel’s Nakba and genocide

By Silvina Pachelo

BUENOS AIRES — Ariel Feldman is an audiovisual filmmaker, lecturer in film and philosophy, and photographer who supports Palestine and denounces Israel’s colonial and genocidal policies. Drawing from his life experience in Israel and his Jewish identity, Feldman calls for ethical awareness in the face of the Israeli occupation and the suffering of the Palestinian people. He stresses that raising one’s voice against the genocide in Gaza is an ethical and political obligation and that resistance is a moral duty, defending what little remains of humanity in the world. Argentine journalist Silvina Pachelo interviewed Feldman for the Tehran Times.

Here is an excerpt from the interview:

How was your experience living in Israel, and what contradictions did you begin to notice there from your Jewish identity?

I’ve always been connected to Israeli life: I was born in Israel to Argentine parents, and we returned to Argentina when I was seven. I grew up immersed in my Israeli and Jewish identity in a household where my parents were active in leftist Zionist youth movements. In Israel, I was “the son of Argentines,” and in Argentina, I was “the Israeli”; that tension of identities shaped me from an early age. My childhood in a kibbutz was wonderful, but at 14 I began to develop politically, and the first contradictions arose regarding colonial violence, which at that time I associated only with the territories occupied in 1967. By 17, I realized the problem was not just the government, but a societal issue: the army is the backbone of the country and a rite of passage that integrates citizens. The definitive turning point came in 2009 with Operation “Cast Lead” in Gaza: I understood that the problem wasn’t circumstantial, but the very ideology of Zionism—an exclusivist and supremacist nationalism. Since then, I have reflected on

the contradictions between Judaism and Zionism. In short, my evolution had three stages: first, political awareness of the occupation; second, understanding it as a societal problem; and third, recognizing that the root lies in the founding ideology of the State, which clashes with the values of Judaism as I understand it.

Tell us about your experience in the kibbutzim.

I have two distinct experiences with the kibbutz: my childhood and my visits as an adult. I return to Israel periodically, and the experiences are very different. My childhood experience was wonderful. My mother was the kibbutz doctor; it was a beautiful place with socialist and humanist values within the community. At that time, Israeli politics still maintained some progressive elements. I grew up in a very nurturing environment, which left a deep mark on me. But over time, during my returns, I began asking historical and political questions. Then, my relationship with the people there became more difficult. I had been a beloved child—the kibbutz doctor’s son—but my questions and comments started creating tension and discomfort.

Were you part of any political group denouncing the colonial and genocidal nature of the State of Israel?

Yes. In 2009, in the context of Operation “Cast Lead,” we founded a group of critical Jews in Argentina called NOT IN OUR NAME. This operation began after the breakdown of a six-month truce between Israel and Hamas at the end of 2008. In that context, I wrote a first article that circulated widely. Through the discussions arising from it—though I was not yet consciously anti-Zionist—I solidified my anti-Zionist stance. In April 2009, in Buenos Aires, this small group became the first significant collective of militant anti-Zionist Jews in Argentina. There is an important non-Zionist Jewish

tradition in the country, but historically it did not intervene actively in general political debates. This tradition comes from the ICUF and the European Bundist movement, a labor and political movement of workers from Russia, Lithuania, and Poland, which historically held an anti-Zionist policy focused on the liberation of Jews within their countries of origin in Europe. Our activism was stronger during and shortly after Operation “Cast Lead,” but later waned due to other political responsibilities in a turbulent Argentina. In 2014, during another brutal Israeli operation in Gaza, I resumed activism from an intellectual and individual perspective, which gained some traction. In October 2023, I wrote an article a few days after October 7. That article received wide attention, and since then I have continued to campaign against the occupation and genocide in Gaza and the West Bank, as well as against the social inequalities faced by Palestinians living within the 1948 borders in Israel.

What does raising your voice against the genocide in Gaza mean today?

It is an ethical and political obligation. In the face of what is happening in Gaza, a lack of commitment is not an option. I find it especially serious that a large part of the Jewish community—children of Holocaust survivors—does not rise up against a genocide committed in their name. John Berger said that one can declare oneself innocent of a conspiracy both by ignoring it and by resisting it. Today, there are no excuses: no one can ignore what is happening. One is complicit if one does not intervene—by denouncing Israel through public statements, political activism, micropolitics, or any action that contributes to stopping this genocide. Therefore, I believe resistance is a moral duty. It is about defending what little remains of humanity in this world.

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

Reclaiming history: A 14-year war that can’t be erased

By Jianlu Bi

BEIJING — As China marked a significant anniversary of its victory, The Washington Post asserted that it’s “erasing” America’s role in the conflict. This claim, however, misunderstands a fundamental truth: the history of World War II has been overwhelmingly shaped by a Western perspective, relegating China’s epic struggle to a footnote. The current shift is not an act of historical revision; it is a rightful reclamation of a story that has been forgotten for too long.

The Post’s viewpoint, which implicitly frames the Pacific War as beginning with the attack on Pearl Harbor, clashes with China’s reality. For China, its War of Resistance was a brutal 14-year struggle that began on its own soil, not on a faraway ocean. The first shot was fired on the night of September 18, 1931, with the Mukden Incident or Manchurian Incident, a false flag operation used as a pretext for the invasion of Manchuria.

While the international community remained largely indifferent, the Chinese people were abandoned to the invaders. This wasn’t a prelude; it was the start of the war.

For the next six years, while the world remained largely indifferent, China lived in a state of creeping invasion and national humiliation. Japan pushed south, encroaching on Chinese territory, and the nation endured a constant state of low-intensity conflict. Despite the internal divisions between Nationalists and Communists, the will of the Chinese people was clear: they would not surrender. The national cry for a unified front against the invaders grew louder and more desperate, culminating in the Lugou or Marco Polo Bridge Incident on July 7, 1937. This event was not the start of the war, but its tragic and unavoidable escalation into a total, nationwide conflict. From that day forward, the fighting consumed the land from north to south, and the people were united in

a singular, desperate cause: to drive out the invaders and save their nation from annihilation.

The true cost of resistance

The Washington Post’s focus on America’s ultimate victory through naval power and the use of the atomic bomb, while historically significant, minimizes the contributions that made that victory possible. China bore the full brunt of Japan’s war machine for 14 years. It fought a technologically superior enemy with meager resources, outdated weapons, and sheer determination. The battles of Shanghai, Nanjing, and Wuhan were not just military engagements; they were epic struggles where the Chinese people, both soldiers and civilians, bled and died in the millions. The war brought unimaginable suffering, with casualty estimates over 35 million of the Chinese people, a toll that remains the highest of any nation in the Second World War.

China’s immense sacrifice was not a secondary factor; it

was the strategic foundation of the Allied victory. It pinned down the vast majority of Japan’s land forces on its soil, preventing them from being deployed to conquer the rest of Asia or to threaten the Soviet Union. To claim that China is “erasing” the role of others is to ignore that its own role was the central, bloody, and enduring force that weakened Japan for over a decade.

China does not deny the crucial role of its allies. The United States’ entry into the war and the immense power of its industrial output and naval forces were critical in achieving the final victory. The Lend-Lease program provided vital supplies, and the “Flying Tigers” fought bravely alongside Chinese pilots. The nation remembers and honors these contributions. Likewise, the Soviet Union’s invasion of Manchuria in the final days of the war played a role in accelerating Japan’s surrender.

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

Yemeni drone pierces Israeli defenses, strikes Ramon Airport

A Yemeni one-way attack drone struck Israel’s Ramon Airport, north of Eilat, on Sunday, according to initial reports. Yemen has not issued a statement regarding the operation or its details. According to Hebrew-language media, there have been reports of multiple injuries following the strike.

The Israeli military confirmed the impact and acknowledged that no sirens sounded before the strike, prompting the closure of southern airspace and diversion of flights to Ben Gurion Airport.

The military also claimed it intercepted three other drones launched from Yemen

shortly before the hit, underscoring a widening front that has increasingly stressed Israel’s air defenses.

Yemen’s Ansarullah movement has targeted Israel since autumn 2023 in solidarity with Gaza, stepping up long-range drone and missile operations despite repeated reprisals.

Israel has struck Yemen, bombing Hodeidah port and killing senior leaders and civilians, with Yemeni leaders vowing revenge and continued support for Gaza. In May, a Yemeni missile near Ben Gurion Airport disrupted Israeli air travel for months.

Sumud Flotilla docks in Tunis ahead of Gaza-bound journey

The Global Sumud Flotilla arrived in Tunis on Sunday night, its last scheduled stop before attempting to reach Gaza with humanitarian supplies to confront Israel’s naval blockade.

Tunisian police met the vessels as passing local boats cheered “Viva Palestina” and waved flags; organizers say the Barcelona-launched convoy has weathered delays and surveillance at sea.

The fleet will restock for two days, and organizers plan to sail for Gaza on September 10, joining dozens of Tunisian boats that sailed north in solidarity.

Figures such as Mandla Mandela and Adèle Haenel are among the volunteers, who insist “our mission is humanitarian,



lawful, and unstoppable.” Israel’s national security minister has vowed to seize boats and detain activists — a stark reminder of past interdictions, including the 2010 Mavi Marmara raid.

Israeli tanks explode in Gaza

From page 1 ► In a statement shared on social media, al-Qassam said at least five IOF soldiers were killed and several others injured during the ambush. Israeli media at the time described the incident as “highly dangerous” and “one of the most complex events” since October 7, 2023.

Israeli media also reported that one of the injured was a senior officer from the Nahal Brigade, which had recently taken over operations in northern Gaza.

Al-Quds Brigades, the armed wing of Palestinian Islamic Jihad, announced that it fired two rockets at the Israeli settlement of Netivot in retaliation for the regime’s military actions against Palestinians.

The IOF confirmed the attack, claiming that one rocket was intercepted while the other landed in an open area.

Hebrew media reported that sirens had sounded across areas near the Gaza border

and as far as western Negev due to rocket launches.

Despite the ongoing U.S.-backed genocidal war and blockade, Palestinian resistance factions continue to strike military targets and settlements, underscoring what they say is the occupying regime’s failure to achieve its war objectives, particularly the dismantling of the resistance.

Hebrew media outlet Yedioth Ahronoth reported that the regime’s political leaders will rename the Gaza City operation from “Gideon’s Chariots 2” in an effort to “market” it to Israeli settlers as a “new step,” rather than associating it with the previous operation that officially ended in failure.

Meanwhile, indiscriminate and extremely deadly airstrikes continue to land on civilian areas, sparking global outrage.

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

How has the Lebanese Army saved Lebanon at a crucial moment?

From page 1 ► These meetings will include brief security meetings with military and security leaders only, excluding political officials.

Riyadhi’s position also remains unchanged, as its envoy, Yazid bin Farhan, is arriving in Beirut this week.

Practically, the matter ended with a consensus before the cabinet session between President Aoun and Prime Minister Nawaf Salam, on the one hand, and the Amal-Hezbollah duo, on the other.

Speaker Berri commented on the government statement, saying: “Things are positive. I believe the toxic winds are beginning to dissipate.”

The threat by Hezbollah and the Amal Movement to resign from the government resulted in successful negotiations between the President of the Republic and Army Commander Rodolphe Heikal.

This forced the government not to set deadlines, commit to developing a national security strategy, and affirm Lebanon’s right to self-defense in accordance with the UN Charter.

Reportedly, five phases have been identified to restrict weapons to the state. These phases begin with the army completing its operations in the areas south of the Litani River, then moving to the area between the Litani and Awali Riv-

ers. These phases then move to Beirut, its suburbs, and surrounding areas, then to the Bekaa Valley. The fifth phase, restricting weapons to the state, will be throughout Lebanese territory.

The aforementioned source confirmed to the Tehran Times that the Shiite duo (Hezbollah and the Amal Movement) had warned Aoun and the army commander that the Americans would not fulfill their promises.

According to the source, the plan proposed by the army stipulated a cessation of Israeli attacks and a withdrawal to implement the deployment plan throughout Lebanese territory. The plan also stipulates controlling the Lebanese-Syrian border, closing illegal crossings, preventing arms and drug smuggling, and completing procedures to withdraw weapons from the Palestinian refugee camps.

At a crucial moment, Aoun seemingly realized that the Lebanese army lacked the logistical capacity to implement the plan to disarm the Hezbollah resistance movement. Furthermore, his mission as the new president is to maintain civil peace and not to provoke problems with any domestic party under any circumstances.

For its part, Hezbollah has repeatedly said it is not seeking to undermine civil peace or provoke a clash with the army.

Centuries-old coins bearing Prophet Muhammad's name unveiled in Tehran ceremony



TEHRAN — A collection of 63 historical coins inscribed with the name of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), ranging from the Abbasid era to the Qajar period, was unveiled for public view on Sunday.

The unveiling ceremony took place at the Dafinah Museums Institute in Tehran to mark Islamic Unity Week and the 1,500th anniversary of the Prophet's birth.

The event was attended by Hossein Dehghan, head of the Mostazafan Foundation, Hamidreza Soleimani, chief executive of the Dafinah Museums Institute, Ahmad Mohit Tabatabaei, president of ICOM Iran, and Hamid Shahriari, secretary-general of the World Forum for Proximity of Islamic Schools of Thought.

Katayoun Pelasaeidi, chair of the board of the Dafinah Museums Institute, outlined a brief history of coinage at the ceremony.

She said trade initially relied on barter before the use of seals to mark exchanges, followed by the introduction of metal coins in Iran during the Achaemenid Empire.

She added that Parthian coins carried portraits of kings for the first time, followed by Sassanian coins with religious motifs.

"The coins unveiled today are historic pieces, the oldest from the Abbasid period and the most recent from the Qajar dynasty," she added.

According to organizers, the collection will be on public display for two weeks at the As-tan Quds Razavi Museum in Mashhad.

Islamic Unity Week is observed annually between the dates regarded by Sunni and Shia Muslims as Prophet Muhammad's birth-day.

Tabriz nominated for D-8 Tourism Capital

TEHRAN - Tabriz, having received the highest score in the criteria considered, was introduced by Iran as a candidate for the title of the Tourism Capital of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD 8), said Moslem Shojaei, the Tourism Ministry's director-general for Marketing and Foreign Tourism Development Office.

He added that the Developing-8 sent a call for the selection of the Tourism Capital to member countries, including the Islamic Republic of Iran, in July of this year.

The issue of choosing the capital was announced by the Office of Marketing and Development of Foreign Tourism with a view to creating participation and fairness in informing the 31 Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Departments of the provinces.

He also said that the provinces of the country had until August 23 to announce one of the cities of the province by submitting a comprehensive and complete proposal along with a video introducing that city to the Marketing and Foreign Tourism Development Office.

Shojaei continued that these cities were

evaluated on the basis of indicators announced by the D8 Secretariat in the Review and Evaluation Committee in the Marketing and Foreign Tourism Development Office.

According to him, the indicators announced by the D8 Secretariat include sustainable infrastructure, preservation of cultural heritage, innovation and technology, safety and security of tourists, promotion and marketing of intercultural interaction, urban impacts, and socio-cultural impacts.

After evaluating the cities introduced by the provincial general offices, according to the aforementioned indicators, the city of Tabriz with the highest score was introduced to the organization's secretariat as a candidate for the title of D8 Tourism Capital in 2026.

Shojaei noted that the final result of the selection of the D8 Tourism Capital in competition with candidates from other member countries will be introduced by the D8 Secretariat.

The Developing-8 includes Iran, Turkey, Egypt, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Pakistan.

Iran's green hotels receive national awards

TEHRAN--The first round of awarding the Green Label for Iranian Hotels is being held with the aim of promoting a sustainable approach in tourism businesses, said Mohammad Jahanshahi, an official with the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts.

According to IRNA, he noted that the ceremony for awarding the Green Label to Iranian hotels will be held by the country's Tourism Ministry in cooperation with the Iranian Hoteliers' Professional Association in Tehran in the first week of Iranian month of Mehr, coinciding with World Tourism Day.

He added: "Our goal is to strengthen the flow of green tourism in the country and we are seeking to expand sustainable approaches in businesses as well as the country's tourism destinations."

Jahanshahi continued, "Our efforts are focused on optimizing resources, increasing productivity in the tourism supply chain, and

promoting and engaging with human and natural communities around the industry."

He said: "In this event, which is being held for the first time at this level and scale, we have targeted one of the main sources of resource consumption and carbon emissions in the global tourism industry and our country, namely hotels."

The official stated that this event is being held as part of the special programs to commemorate World Tourism Day and is a continuation of the efforts that have been made in recent years to improve the sustainability indicators in the country's tourism.

Jahanshahi called on the country's hotel industry activists to participate in this event so that, in addition to placing greater value on optimizing resource consumption and the efforts that have been made in this regard, they can also be a factor in strengthening the social responsibilities of the tourism industry in the country.

Iran pushes for UNESCO recognition of its ancient windmills

TEHRAN – Iran is seeking UNESCO World Heritage status for its centuries-old Asbads, traditional vertical-axis windmills primarily located in South Khorasan province, a senior official underlined on Saturday.

Ali Darabi, deputy minister and acting head of Iran's Cultural Heritage Organization, said the structures represented a unique part of the country's industrial history and required coordinated provincial support. He made the remarks during a meeting with South Khorasan governor Seyed Mohammad Reza Hashemi on Saturday.

"These windmills are a significant cultural asset, and South Khorasan holds the majority of them," Darabi said, urging provincial authorities to help advance the nomination dossier.

He also proposed establishing an "Agricultural Museum" and promoting desert tourism and



sand trekking as part of efforts to expand the province's tourism economy.

Hashemi said the province, with 2,600 registered historical sites, could use heritage and tourism as a platform for investment and job creation.

"South Khorasan has remarkable capacity in this sector," he told reporters. Seyed Ahmad Barabadi,

director-general of the provincial tourism department, announced that for the first time, an operational Asbad will begin grinding wheat in October as a demonstration project for visitors.

Iran's Asbads, believed to be among the world's earliest industrial machines, date back more than a millennium. South Khorasan, regarded as their main

hub, contains more than 310 surviving structures, about 79% of the country's total.

Designed to harness the region's powerful seasonal winds, the Asbads differ from the horizontal-axis windmills later developed in Europe. Historical accounts trace the invention to Iranian engineers in the early Islamic period.

As mentioned by UNESCO, vertical-axis windmills spread from Iran to other parts of the Islamic world, including Egypt, and were later introduced to China during the Mongol era.

By the 11th century, they had reached Spain, Portugal, and the Aegean islands. According to technology historian Robert Forbes, the windmill was originally an Iranian innovation that became a key energy source across Islamic territories in the 12th century for grinding grain, pumping water, and processing sugarcane.

Iran enters a new level of ties with Armenia, tourism minister says

TEHRAN- Iran has reached a new level of leapfrogging relations with Armenia, said Minister of Cultural Heritage Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri.

According to IRNA, in a meeting with Armenian Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport Zhanna Andreasyan on Sunday, he said: "Based on the [previous-ly inked] Memoranda of Understanding (MoU), we have begun operational measures with Armenia in the field of cooperation in the National Museum, holding handicraft exhibitions in Tehran and Yerevan, cooperation in the field of cultural heritage and joint tangible and intangible registration in UNESCO, and training in handicrafts sector."

Welcoming the Armenian minister and the accompanying delegation, he stated, "We had happy days in Armenia last year and this year.

Today, we spoke with Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi about the constructive dialogues in Armenia, and his opinion was positive, and this trip was a turning point for the Iranian government."

"Based on MoUs, we are implementing operational measures in the field of cooperation with the National Museum, holding handicraft exhibitions in Tehran and

Yerevan, in the field of cultural heritage, joint registration of tangible and intangible works in UNESCO in 2025, and training and restoration in the cultural heritage and handicrafts sectors."

Salehi-Amiri continued that out of 400 registered handicrafts fields in the world, 300 exist in Iran, and 573 people are officially engaged in producing handicrafts and one million housewives are engaged in handicraft production in their homes. "In 2024, we had \$500 million worth of handicraft exports."

"We have come to believe that our Armenian friends have been and are working constructively with us. We believe that convergence and peace between religions can start from holy places.

We have restored most of the churches and registered them with UNESCO. My cultural heritage colleagues are ready to restore the Blue Mosque of Armenia, which is a work of the Qajar era."

He said that the head of the Iranian Cultural Heritage Research Institute, who is a renowned professor, is ready to hold joint training workshops for artists in the fields of miniatures, Armenian pottery and restoration of works.

Salehi-Amiri noted: "In my

meeting with Prime Minister of Armenia, I proposed launching an Armenian tourist tour of Iran, especially visiting churches and Iranian tourism, and vice versa, an Iranian tourist tour to visit Armenia.

In 2024, 263,000 people from Armenia traveled to Iran, and 213,000 Iranians went to Armenia, which shows a 53-percent increase compared to 2023."

He emphasized: "Here is the home of the Armenian people, one of their interests is traveling to Armenia, and there is space for them."

Salehi-Amiri said: "Based on the MoU, our first joint collaboration was held in Persepolis, where more than 100 musicians from Armenia attended the event and created a dream night, and it received good feedback in Iran and Armenia."

He acknowledged: "We are ready to broadcast content produced for the attractions of Armenia, including films, podcasts and documentaries, in Iranian media, and in return, we expect the attractions of Iran to be portrayed in Armenian media."

Addressing Armenian Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport Zhanna Andreasyan, Salehi-Amiri said: "I request you to extend your trip by one day

and visit our church and ancient monuments."

He explained: "My fellow ministers have planned intensive programs and meetings for you. We expect you to strengthen bilateral relations in the fields of culture, tourism, education and cultural heritage."

Also, Deputy Tourism Minister Anoushirvan Mohseni Bandpei said: "Armenia is one of our tourism target countries. Our goal was to attract 400,000 to 500,000 tourists from this country last year, of which more than 50 percent was achieved. We are looking to hold a roadshow in Armenia."

Meanwhile, Head of the Department for Intangible Cultural Heritage at the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Alireza Izadi said: "We jointly registered the Saint Thaddeus Ritual with Armenia in 2020." He added that the joint file for the Tirgan or Vardavar festival has also been initially accepted for UNESCO registration, and its final work will be completed in December next year.

At the end of the meeting, Iranian tourism minister and Armenian culture minister presented each other with a gift of handicrafts.

Iran calls for closer cultural, economic cooperation with Bashkortostan through handicrafts

TEHRAN — Iran's deputy minister for handicrafts and traditional arts said on Saturday that handicrafts can serve as a tool for developing the creative economy and cultural diplomacy, proposing joint initiatives with Russia's Republic of Bashkortostan.

Maryam Jalali-Dekhordi, deputy minister of handicrafts at Iran's Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts, made the remarks during the Sibay Investment Conference and a UNESCO expert meeting in Bashkortostan, according to the state-run news agency Mirass Aria.

The conference, attended by the head of the Bashkortostan Republic, provided an opportunity to expand economic and cultural cooperation between Iran and the region, the report said.

Jalali-Dekhordi took part in the World Crafts Council (WCC) evaluators' session held in Bashkortostan, stressing what she called the key role of handicrafts in economic development and cultural diplomacy.

"Handicrafts are not only narrators of the past, but by combining tradition and innovation they help build a sustainable

future," she was quoted as saying by CHTN on Saturday. "They create income, decent jobs and attract tourists at local and international levels."

She further highlighted the historical ties between Iran and Bashkortostan along the Volga-Ural trade routes and the Silk Road, describing handicrafts as a bridge for stronger cultural and economic cooperation.

Elsewhere in her remarks, Jalali-Dekhordi proposed holding joint workshops, reciprocal exhibitions in historic cities, and documentation of handicraft knowledge to deepen collaboration between the two sides.

(See full text at www.tehrantimes.com)

TENDER SJSO. PF140402

Sirjan Jahan Steel Company is pleased to announce the sale and export of 25,000 MT Pellet Fines under FCA delivery terms at the Sirjan Jahan Steel Company warehouse (Cross of Gol Gohar Mining & Industrial Co. Shiraz Road 50Km, Sirjan, IRAN) according to INCOTERMS 2020. Interested applicants are hereby invited to obtain the tender documents by visiting the official website of Sirjan Jahan Steel Company at sjsco.ir, through the Auction and Tender Portal, under the Auction section.

All documentation will be provided electronically.

All bids on conformity to tender instruction should be submitted no later than **Monday, September 22, 2025**.

For further inquiries, please contact us at:

Tel: **+2186084642**



Public tender announcement

Shirin Daru Company (public joint stock) intends to purchase 500 (five hundred) tons of dried licorice root with foreign origin from a qualified supplier in order to meet the raw materials needed by its factory.

Therefore, applicants are invited to visit the buyer's website at www.shirindarou.com for 10 days from the date of publication of the advertisement and call **09012618830** for more information. In addition, the type of guarantee for participation in the tender is cash deposit, bank guarantee, promissory note or check and the amount is 15 billion Rials. (Advertising costs are the responsibility of the tender winner)

Iranian team wins regional West Asia championship at ICPC 2025

TEHRAN – The students of Sharif University of Technology are placed atop West Asian countries at the 49th International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) 2025.

Hosted by ADA University in Baku, Azerbaijan, the international competition was held from August 31 to September 5.

The event was attended by 140 teams, including 73,000 students from 103 countries, representing leading universities in each country.

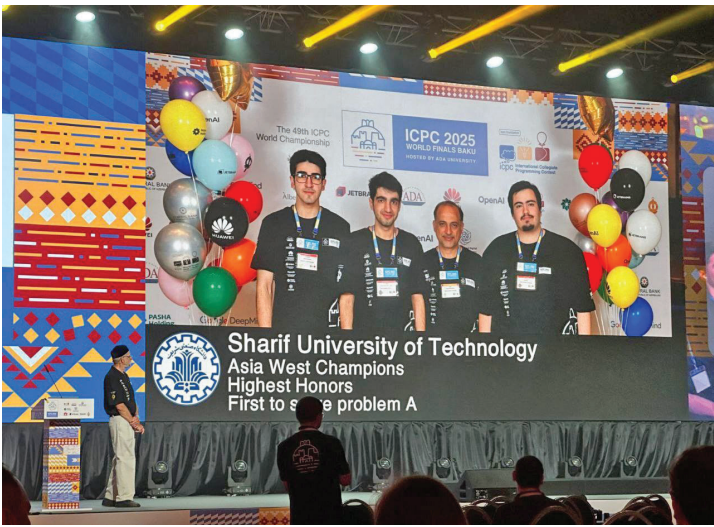
The three-member team is composed of Ali Safari, Alireza Keshavarz, and Amir-Mohammad Shahrezaei. Solving nine out of 12 questions, the team ranked 16 worldwide and is placed among the top five teams receiving the highest honor. They were the first to solve one of the most difficult problems, problem A: A-Skew-ed Reasoning, IRIB reported.

Sharif University of Technology is placed ahead of many other famous universities like the University of Cambridge (ranked 50), the University of California, Berkeley (ranked 33), the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (ranked 20), and the University of Chicago (ranked 47).

With a considerable gap, the Indian team of Chennai Mathematical Institute ranked second in West Asia, solving seven questions; the team ranked 60 globally.

The ICPC is a global algorithmic programming competition for university students. Teams of three collaborate to solve complex, real-world problems under time constraints, testing their creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. The contest fosters innovation and excellence in computer science through intense, high-level competition.

It began in 1970 as a local initiative in North America. In 1977, it held



its first championship round and has since evolved into a global, multi-tier competition. Today, ICPC spans local and regional contests worldwide, culminating in the annual ICPC World Finals under the auspices of the ICPC Foundation.

The contest promotes excellence in algorithmic thinking, programming, and teamwork by challenging students to solve real-world problems under pressure. It fosters collaboration between academia and industry while spotlighting the next generation of computing professionals through global competitions that drive innovation and growth.

Recent achievements

Iranian students managed to grab 13 medals – three gold medals, four silver medals, and six bronze medals – at the INNOVERSE International Invention & Innovation Expo, showcasing their exceptional talents in science and technology.

Hosted by the United States, the event was held online on August 24. INNOVERSE 2025 represented more than a competition; it was an arena for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and intellectual growth across disciplines and generations.

It provided a distinguished platform for inventors, researchers, students, and emerging talents from around the world to introduce their ideas, inventions, and scientific contributions.

The projects encompassed fields such as advanced technologies, artificial intelligence, social development, and environmental sustainability. Innoverse.world reported.

This year, a total of 177 teams from 47 countries, including Armenia, Bangladesh, Belgium, China, France, Chile, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Japan, Taiwan, the UK, the U.S., Vietnam, India, and Finland, participated in the competition.

Ilia Majidzadeh Heravi, Parsa Karimi Yazdi for inventing ‘CommunityMateSmartApp: Solutions for Deaf Communication Challenges’, Artin Radmatin, Ava Alebouyeh, Baran Bahman, Elyar Ferdosizadeh, MohammadHossein Ezzati, for ‘Evaluation of the effect of using magnetic gear in improving the performance of process systems based on mechanical gear’, and Niki Abtahi, Parsa Ahmadpour Rahiminejad, Baran Derakhshandeh Daryasari, Sarina Nosrati, Ramiya Rahjou, for their invention ‘Improving the design of

pneumatic muscles: Simulation and analysis of the dynamic behavior of the system’, bagged home gold medals.

Mehran Rajabi and Alireza Jafarnejad, for the invention of ‘EcoNet Bin: An AI-IoT Powered Smart Waste Segregation System for Efficient Recycling’, Yasin Abbasi, Ali Rahbari, Nikasadat Hosseini, Ki-arash Rshidzadeh Gargari, and Eizadyar Jalali Pour, for the invention of ‘Medismart Smart Pharmacy Solution’, Parmida Salahmand and Sorena Salahmand, for their invention titled ‘Development of Nano-Composites Containing Herbal Extracts with Resistance to Wear and Oral Bacterial Decay’, and Matin Hayati, for inventing ‘Automated Analysis and Visualization of EEG Signals for Seizure Prediction Using Frequency Band Decomposition’ successfully clinched silver medals.

Mohammad-Sam Nemati-moein, and Mahan Ghadimi, for ‘Evaluation of Gamma-Aminobutyric Acid efficiency on Caco2 Colorectal Cancer Cells’, Rojina Hoodehshenas and Baran Moradi, for ‘Preparation and characterization of an antimicrobial biodegradable biofilm packaging based on Silver-zinc oxide nanocomposite with sago starch and ziziphora essential oil for protein based Packaging application’, Sam Rashidi and Radin Abasi, for ‘Design and Implementation of Smart NannyBot: A Humanoid IoT-Based Robot for Remote Child Activity’, Arshia Chehrezad, Taha Tajik, for ‘Fabrication of a Hydrogel Containing Captopril and Investigation of Its Effects on Oral Ulcers in Type 2 Diabetic rats’, Raman Nafarieh, for ‘Evaluation of a novel herbal nanogel formulation on skin cancer cells utilizing the MTT assay’, as well as Moeid Rajabi and Helena Rajabi, for ‘Protecting Curious Little Minds: A Smart Child Safety Solution with IoT and Image Processing’ secured bronze medals.

Iran sends second, third aid shipments to Afghanistan



TEHRAN –The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) has dispatched the second and third humanitarian relief consignments to assist Afghan families affected by the recent devastating earthquakes.

The second shipment, sent on Saturday, was delivered to Kabul. It involved 37 tons of foodstuffs, eight tons of sanitary packages, and 10,000 blankets, ISNA reported.

The IRCS has previously sent 80, 50, and 67 tons of tents and blankets, sanitary goods, and foodstuffs, respectively.

The third consignment was transported on six trucks on Sunday. It

included essential items like tents, dishes, rice, canned food, and hygiene kits.

On August 31, at 23.47 local time, a 6+ magnitude earthquake struck Afghanistan's Nangarhar Province near the Pakistan border. The epicenter was located in Kama district, some 30 km northeast of the city of Jalalabad. Several aftershocks have occurred since, with the initial quake felt in neighbouring provinces including Kunar, Laghman, and Nuristan, as well as Kabul. The quake's hypocenter was estimated at only 8 to 10 km beneath the surface, exacerbating the quake's impact.

A second earthquake of 5.5 magnitude struck the region on Tuesday, further destabilising the villages.

Afghanistan's national disaster authority spokesman Mohammad Hammad told the AFP news agency that 10 people were injured across eight provinces, including Kunar, Nangarhar, and Laghman – the hardest hit over the weekend – that were jolted by the aftershocks.

Overall, the de facto authorities are now reporting 2,205 people killed and 3,640 people injured. Some 84,000 people have been affected, with 6,700 homes destroyed, UNOCHA reported.

“It is with profound sorrow that we learned about the devastating earthquake that hit Nangarhar, Kunar, Nuristan, and Laghman in eastern Afghanistan, causing many losses of life and injuries.

The Iranian Red Crescent Society offers sincere condolences to you and the family of the victims. We stand by the people of Afghanistan, and we are

ready to dispatch humanitarian aid as well as relief teams in case needed,” Pirhossein Kolivand, the head of the IRCS, wrote in a message to the president of the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS), Shahabuddin Delawa, on September 1st.

President Masoud Pezeshkian expressed deep sorrow over the tragedy in the “friendly and brotherly” nation of Afghanistan. He also wished a swift recovery for the injured.

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi separately conveyed sympathy to the Afghan people and the families of the victims, emphasizing that Iran was fully prepared to dispatch relief and medical teams to the quake-hit areas.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baqaei echoed the pledge, stressing that Iran stands ready to support the treatment of the injured and to work with Afghanistan through regional and joint cooperation to ease the suffering caused by the disaster.

Tehran hosts core group meeting of Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees

TEHRAN – A meeting of the local core group of Solution Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) was held in Tehran on Wednesday, September 3.

The head of the National Organization for Migration, Nader Yar-Ahmadi, in cooperation with the Director-General for International Environmental and Sustainable Development Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mohammad Hassani Nejad Pirkouhi, co-chaired the meeting, ISNA reported.

Dutch Chargé d'affaires to Iran, as the head of SSAR group; Stefan Priesner, UN Resident Coordinator in Iran; and representatives from different international institutions including the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commissioners for Refugees (UNHCR), International Organization for Migration, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO), as well as representatives from the embassies of Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Turkey, Switzerland, Denmark, and South Korea participated in the meeting as the members of SSAR.

Addressing the meeting, Yar-Ahmadi said Iran has hosted Afghan refugees for almost five decades, including the massive wave of Afghan migration into the country in recent years. However, the contribution of the international community, Western countries, and SSAR member states has been inadequate and ineffective.

For his turn, Hassani Nejad Pirkouhi highlighted the country's unparalleled humanitarian measures, particularly in hosting refugees, saying that the international community, including European countries, has failed to fulfil their international commitments and responsibilities under international refugee law.

They have negatively affected the conditions by adopting political and selective approaches, as well as imposing unilateral sanctions and coercive measures against the government and people of Iran.

The representative of international organizations, like the UN resident representative, elaborated on outstanding actions taken by the country in dealing with the large number of refugees who are residing in Iran.

During the meeting, the UNHCR representative proposed holding trilateral talks with Iran and Afghanistan. The Iranian officials voiced the country's readiness to hold quadrilateral talks with the presence of Pakistan, stressing that the trilateral talks would require greater coordination.

The Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) was drafted in 2012 by Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan, with the support of UNHCR. The



strategy advances a regional approach to solutions and promotes burden and responsibility-sharing for refugees at the regional and global levels.

The SSAR emphasizes enhancing the resilience of Afghan refugees and their co-existence with host communities and advocating for greater and more equitable responsibility-sharing by the international community – in line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR). As such, it remains to date as a regional blueprint for governments, international organizations, and other stakeholders to ensure that host communities get the support they need and that refugees can lead productive lives.

In Iran, in line with the deliberations of the Inaugural Meeting of the Core Group with the Governments of Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan, a Local Core Group for the SSAR Support Platform was established in April 2021.

Core Group Ambassadors and Resident Representatives in Iran met in 2021 to launch the initiative and discuss priority areas of support to Iran, as part of the key objective to assist refugee host countries under the SSAR Platform.

In 2022, UNHCR organized a virtual SSAR Support Platform meeting, chaired by the European Union, in the presence of Core Group members and other donors, UN Agencies, INGOs, and the Government of Iran, to better identify the needs of refugees, asylum-seekers, and host communities.

At the end of 2022, Iran hosted the 8th meeting of the SSAR Quadripartite Steering Committee to discuss progress, challenges, and the way forward in the implementation of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees, highlighting Iran's generous and inclusive hospitality towards Afghan nationals over the years.

In 2024, the Group focused its efforts on maintaining and expanding the protection and asylum space for all Afghans in Iran, as well as further strengthening the inclusive policies and promoting self-reliance and durable solutions.

Nanoscale, Advanced Materials E-Conference on Sustainable Energy to be held

TEHRAN – Tehran will hold the first Nanoscale, Advanced Materials (NASM) E-Conference on Sustainable Energy on September 18.

The event will bring together noted researchers from renowned universities worldwide. Unlike other conferences, submitting articles is not needed as the main focus will be on sharing knowledge and expertise.

The international scientific event will serve as a great opportunity for students, professors, and experts to benefit from the latest achievements and innovative ideas of the most distinguished researchers on clean energy.

The conference will be centered around key technological challenges such as hydrogen manufacturing as a future green fuel, new generation of energy storage devices, integrated photonic and catalytic energy storage, electrochemical conversion of carbon dioxide, conventional and inverted solar cells, as well as examining the application of multi-metal chalcogenides in the energy sector.

The conference will be co-hosted by Prof. Malek Naderi, the director of the Graphene and Advanced Materials Laboratory (GAMLab) at Amirkabir University of Technology, and Prof. Mojtaba Abdi Jalebi, the director of the Functional Materials and Energy Device (FMED) Laboratory at University College London (UCL).

Dr. Fatwa E. Abdi, City University of Hong Kong, Professor Qiuming Yu, Cornell University, Prof. Peng Gao (Chinese Academy of Sciences), Prof. Mir F.Mousavi (Tarbiat Modares University), and Prof. Soo Young Kim (Korea University) are among the speakers from prestigious insti-

tutions.

Clean energy ensures safer, better world for all

Alternative sources of energy that are clean, accessible, and reliable will contribute to addressing climate change, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, and empowering vulnerable communities worldwide.

Provided by the sun, wind, water, waste, and heat from the Earth, renewable energy sources are abundant and emit little to no greenhouse gases or pollutants into the air.

They also benefit communities lacking access to reliable power sources. For populations without clean energy access, the lack of reliable power hinders education, healthcare, and economic opportunities.

Many of the developing regions still rely heavily on polluting fossil fuels for their daily life. If current trends continue, by 2030, around 1.8 billion people will still use unsafe, unhealthy, and inefficient cooking systems, such as burning wood.

The world needs to reduce dependence on fossil fuels by investing in clean energy, which is affordable and sustainable.

Hence, in 2023, the International Day of Clean Energy on January 26 was declared by the General Assembly as a call to raise awareness and mobilize action for a just and inclusive transition to clean energy for the benefit of people and the planet.

The day highlights the key role of clean energy in promoting sustainable development and mitigating climate change effects.

ENGLISH IN USE

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Over 950 earthquakes rattle Iran in a month

TEHRAN– Seismological networks of the Institute of Geophysics of the University of Tehran, recorded more than 950 earthquakes across the country over the past calendar month Ordibehesht (April 21-May 21).

Two earthquakes of more than 4 on the Richter scale have been recorded in the country by the National Seismological Center, the largest of which occurred on May 17, with a magnitude of 5.5 near Sankhast in northeastern North Khorasan province, which left 25 injured.

Statistically, 883 earthquakes with magnitudes smaller than 3, and 64 earthquakes with magnitudes between 3 and 4, also, 8 quakes with magnitudes 4-5 have occurred.

Also, 3 earthquakes with magnitudes 5-6 shook the country.

ثبت بیش از ۹۵۰ زمین‌لرزه در اردیبهشت‌ماه

شبکه‌های لرزه‌نگاری مرکز لرزه‌نگاری کشوری وابسته به موسسه ژئوفیزیک دانشگاه تهران در اردیبهشت‌ماه ۱۴۰۰ تعداد ۹۵۸ زمین‌لرزه را ثبت کردند. این زمین‌لرزه‌ها در نواحی مختلف ایران و نواحی مرزی رخ داده و توسط شبکه‌های لرزه‌نگاری ثبت و تعیین محل شده‌اند. در اردیبهشت‌ماه ۱۴۰۰ تعداد ۱۱ زمین‌لرزه با بزرگی بیش از ۴.۰ در داخل کشور توسط مرکز لرزه‌نگاری کشوری به ثبت رسیده است که بزرگ‌ترین آن‌ها در تاریخ ۱۴۰۰/۰۲/۲۷ با بزرگی ۵/۵ حوالی سنخواست واقع در استان خراسان شمالی، رخ داده‌است. از لحاظ آماری ۸۸۳ زمین‌لرزه با بزرگی کوچکتر ۳، تعداد ۶۴ زمین‌لرزه با بزرگی بین ۳ و ۴، تعداد ۸ زمین‌لرزه با بزرگی بین ۴ و ۵ و تعداد ۳ زمین‌لرزه با بزرگی بین ۵ و ۶ بوده‌است.



SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Whoever delights his/her parents, has delighted Allah and the one who displeases them has displeased Allah.

Prophet Muhammad (S)

Prayer Times > Noon:12:02 Evening: 18:41 Dawn: 4:16 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 5:42 (tomorrow)

Iranian-Canadian artist says CNE halted her mural over Palestine-inspired imagery

Iranian-Canadian artist Pegah Peivandi says she was removed from the Canadian National Exhibition's rotating mural program after beginning a piece dedicated to Palestine.

Peivandi arrived at the CNE last week, ready to turn a canvas into something bold and meaningful.

The mural would only be up for 24 hours — the length of the CNE's rotating mural program — but her plan was clear: to dedicate a mural to Palestine and give all her earnings to a mutual aid, The Sameer Project.

But partway through, she says she was told her design was too political and was asked to stop.

After the experience, Peivandi took to Instagram to share what happened.

She explained that she was invited to participate in the rotating mural project and given a contract which outlined only three restrictions: keep the work family-friendly, avoid violence, and ensure it was suitable for a general audience.

"There was no requirement to submit my design for approval beforehand," she noted.

In an interview with Now Toronto on Friday, Peivandi reflected on why she chose to take that risk in such a public space.

"I grew up in the city. I'm from North York, I'm of Iranian descent, and I am an artist. I do installations, I do murals, I do digital, and I kind of dabble in a bunch of things. Surviving in the city as an artist is really, really difficult, so most of us have multiple jobs," she explained.

The opportunity to paint at the CNE felt like a chance to reach people outside of her usual circles.

"I thought a lot about what the CNE was and how many people kind of stepped foot in there, and I thought that it was a great opportunity to reach a lot of people at once," Peivandi said.

"Sometimes it's good to wear our hearts on our sleeves, and sometimes it's good to be

bold and to be really big."

She also knew the mural would only last a day before being painted over by the next artist in rotation. That gave her a sense of freedom.

"I felt a lot of solace and comfort knowing that it was only going to be up for 24 hours. If I could do a mural for one day, I'm going to do it. It's not going to be there forever. I'll make the impact that it's going to make for that one day," Peivandi said.

When arriving at CNE grounds the day she was assigned to create the mural, Peivandi began working quickly, filling in the base of her design: the red semi-circle of a watermelon, a widely-recognized Palestinian symbol of freedom. Soon, she noticed eyes on her.

She explained that she decided to take a break, as it had begun to rain and she needed her paint to settle.

It was then that she says the program coordinator approached her, showing her the watermelon symbol often used to symbolize Palestinian freedom, and asked her if that was what she was painting.

She was told the CNE was "apolitical" and that international business partners, including Israeli and American stakeholders, were among the reasons.

"Just the fact that I'm being approached by this and being told to stop and change my design, I needed to stand my ground.

And this is kind of like the moment. And I just said, 'No, absolutely not. I'm not going to change my design,'" Peivandi said. She packed up her materials and left.

"I also mentioned the contract, I was like, 'Well, maybe next year you guys should have, like, a stronger contract, because there is nowhere in that contract that said I should be apolitical. And frankly, I don't think I would take this job if in the contract, it said apolitical. Like, what kind of art is apolitical?' It's so vapid," she said.

Persepolis hosts Armenian National Philharmonic Orchestra in cultural concert

TEHRAN- On Saturday, Persepolis, a UNESCO World Heritage site in Fars province, hosted an international and intercultural event, welcoming audiences to a live performance by the Armenian National Philharmonic Orchestra.

The orchestra performed in honor of its centenary, delivering a memorable concert that included the iconic Iranian piece "O Iran" ("Ey Iran") by the esteemed Ruhollah Khaleghi along with several other compositions by prominent Armenian composers, Mehr reported.

The artistic initiative was organized through a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts, the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance's Artistic Affairs Department, Fars Province Governor's Office, the General Directorate of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Fars, and the Provincial Directorate of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts.

The concert aimed to strengthen cultural ties among nations, emphasizing music as a universal language capable of fostering dialogue among diverse peoples and creating a platform for artistic enhancement and mutual understanding.

Prominent figures attending included Minister of Science, Research, and Technology Hossein Simaei-Sarraf, Fars Governor Hossein Ali Amiri, the Deputy for Artistic Affairs at the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance Nadereh Rezai, as well as Armenian Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports Zhanna Andreasyan and Grigor Hakobyan, the Armenian ambassador to Iran, along with the distinguished international guests. The event commenced with the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra performing the national anthems of Iran and Armenia.

Fars Governor, in his opening remarks, welcomed the international guests and diplomatic delegations, stating that tonight, beneath the grandeur of Persepolis, they gathered to listen to the mellifluous sounds of music and to hear the shared language of cultures.



He emphasized that the Armenian Philharmonic's performance embodies a message of peace and solidarity, highlighting music's role in uniting hearts. Amiri underscored Iran and Armenia's longstanding companionship across centuries and praised the concert as a symbol of friendship and cultural cooperation.

He further expressed that the event stands as a testament to the path of friendship and cultural synergy, calling for global voices that promote peace and friendship. "Our diplomacy is rooted in human values that bind nations together, and Iranians have always believed that preserving cultural ties strengthens civilizations. This concert is a celebration of peace and friendship," he stated. He concluded by affirming that the presence of the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra at Persepolis is a proud example of international cultural collaboration.

For his part, Grigor Hakobyan also expressed his pleasure at holding the concert at the UNESCO World Heritage site. "It is a great honor to perform here, alongside this symbol of human civilization, and to celebrate the anniversary of the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra's founding," he said.

Hakobyan highlighted that the concert signifies the deepening

bond between Iran and Armenia and the enduring vitality of music as a universal language, promising continued cultural cooperation.

In another segment, Armenian Minister Andreasyan reflected on the cultural ties between Iran and Armenia, describing the event as a symbol of mutual respect and friendship.

She noted that the recent presidential visit to Armenia marked a milestone for bilateral cooperation and that this concert transcends politics, serving as a declaration of peace and cultural coexistence.

Andreasyan praised Persepolis as a luminous monument of ancient civilizations, emphasizing that the event reinforces the enduring cultural connections between the two nations. She expressed pride in hearing the immortal Armenian musical voice resonating within this majestic historical site and acknowledged the previous concert conducted under the baton of Iranian-Armenian musician and conductor Loris Tjeknavorian at Vahdat Hall, viewing today's performance as a continuation of that artistic journey. She expressed gratitude to regional authorities and hopes for ongoing cultural exchanges.

In his concluding remarks, Simaei-Sarraf emphasized Iran's long history of embracing diversity and

fostering unity through cultural richness.

He highlighted that Iran's civilization, celebrated worldwide for its art and culture, has been enriched further through the advent of Islam. Simaei-Sarraf noted that being Iranian entails love for knowledge, spirituality, and moderation—values that must persist.

He pointed to Persepolis as a symbol of this enduring spirit, asserting that history and culture, rather than military might, define a nation's legacy. He reaffirmed that the deep-rooted historical ties between Iran and Armenia reflect mutual respect, and that Persepolis exemplifies how civilizations are preserved through culture and history. He called for increased awareness of these principles in contemporary times.

Following his remarks, the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra performed compositions by prominent Armenian composers, with the concluding piece being the patriotic anthem "Ey Iran" by Ruhollah Khaleghi. The performance, especially its rendition of "Ey Iran" within the historic setting of Persepolis, created a striking and memorable atmosphere, symbolizing the enduring power of music and cultural dialogue.

Films about Iranian, Palestinian children recognized at Venice Film Festival

TEHRAN – The Iranian drama "Bashu, the Little Stranger" directed by Bahram Beyzaie and "The Voice of Hind Rajab," a Gaza-set drama by Tunisian filmmaker Kaouther Ben Hania won awards at the closing ceremony of the Venice Film Festival on September 6.

Beyzaie's 1989 film won the Venice Classics award for Best Restored Film and the docudrama about Israel's killing of a five-year-old Palestinian girl during its ongoing genocidal war on Gaza received the Silver Lion Grand Jury Prize, Honaronline reported.

"Bashu, the Little Stranger" was restored in 4K at Roashana Studios with the support of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (known as Kanoon). The film was presented by M2 Films.

The Venice Classics section of this year's edition of the festival included 18 classic films from across the globe, including "Matador" by Pedro Almodóvar (1986), "Blind Chance" by Krzysztof Kieślowski (1981), "Kwaidan" by Masaki Kobayashi (1965), and "House of Strangers" by Joseph L. Mankiewicz (1949).

As an anti-war masterpiece, "Bashu, the Little Stranger" has a simple story. It depicts the story of Bashu, a southern Iranian boy who, after losing his family during the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war, runs away in search of refuge and is taken in by Naii, a woman living with her two young children in a village in the northern part of the country.

Despite their linguistic, ethnic, and racial differences, neighbors' gossip, and the economic challenge

of feeding a new family member, Naii accepts Bashu and prepares to convince her disabled husband when he arrives home from a work-related trip.

The touching, acclaimed drama, however, carries subtle undertones about human emotions like love, acceptance, loneliness, and unfamiliarity.

In 1999, the film was voted the best Iranian movie of all time by a poll of 150 movie experts.

The docudrama "The Voice of Hind Rajab" had taken the festival by storm with its urgent depiction of a young girl's pleas for rescue.

"Cinema cannot bring Hind back, nor can it erase the atrocity committed against her. Nothing can ever restore what was taken, but cinema can preserve her voice, make it resonate across borders," said Ben Hania, accepting her award. "Her voice will continue to echo until accountability is real, until justice is served."

The film tells the true story of Hind Rajab, who was killed by Israeli occupation last year, as she and her family tried to evacuate Gaza City. It uses real audio from Rajab's hours-long call to the Palestine Red Crescent Society, in which rescuers tried to reassure her as she lay trapped in a bullet-ridden car with the bodies of her aunt, uncle, and three cousins, who had all been killed by Israeli fire. Hind Rajab was then also killed, as were the two ambulance workers who went to the scene to try and rescue her.

"It is tragically the story of an entire people enduring genocide, inflicted by a criminal Israeli regime



that acts with impunity," Ben Hania said. "Tonight, this story is not only about memory, it is about urgency. Hind's mother, Wissam, and her little brother, Iyad, are still in Gaza.

Their lives remain in danger, as do the lives of countless mothers, fathers and children who wake up every day under the same sky of fear, hunger, and bombardment," she added.

"I urge the leaders of the world to save them. Their survival is not a matter of charity. It is a matter of justice, of humanity, of the minimum that the world owes to them," the filmmaker stressed.

"I also call for an end to this unbearable situation. Enough is enough. Once upon a time, a wise man named Nelson Mandela said: 'We know too well that our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of the Palestinians.'

Today, his words ring truer than ever," Ben Hania concluded.

"The Voice of Hind Rajab" premiered at the Venice Film Festival to thunderous acclaim, receiving a record 23-minute standing ova-

tion.

At the screening, the audience erupted in tears and chants of "Free Palestine" while waving Palestinian flags.

"I dedicate this award to the Palestinian Red Crescent and to all those who have risked everything to save lives in Gaza.

They are real heroes," Ben Hania posted on Instagram, captioning a photo of herself holding the award.

In her Instagram post, Ben Hania shared a message from Hind's mother, Wissam.

"I want to say thanks to you, to the whole team, and to everyone who supported the film, supported me, and supported this story," she said. Hind's mother, Wissam Hamada, speaking from Gaza City, said she hopes the film will open the world's eyes: "The whole world has left us to die, to go hungry, to live in fear, and to be forcibly displaced without doing anything."

Tunisia has already submitted "The Voice of Hind Rajab" as its entry for this year's Best International Feature Oscar.

Cartoon of Day



U.S. Department of War
Cartoonist: Fahd Bahady from Syria