

Palestine Recognition: A Charm Offensive or Genuine Shift?

Canada, Australia, and Britain recognize Palestinian statehood amid rising public pressure



The Palestinian flag was raised in solidarity during anti-Israel demonstrations outside the British Parliament in London, UK, on September 6, 2025.

All national capacities mobilized to safeguard security: Iran's top military command

TEHRAN – Iran's top military command has underlined that it will continue to mobilize all national capacities under the guidance of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei to safeguard the country's security, sovereignty, and progress.

Major General Ali Abdollahi, commander of the Central Headquarters of Khatam al-Anbiya, issued the message on the occasion of Sacred Defense Week (anniversary of the beginning of Iran-Iraq war), calling the event an "eternal school and inexhaustible asset" for the Iranian nation.

"The Sacred Defense reminds us of the days when the great Iranian nation, with faith in God Almighty, obedience to the leadership of Imam Khomeini, and a spirit of resistance, sacrifice, and selflessness, stood against the enemy's all-out invasion and recorded an enduring epic of dignity, independence, and honor in the history of this land," Abdollahi said. ▶ Page 2

Iran will halt IAEA cooperation with 'snapback' in progress, SNSC confirms

TEHRAN – Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) announced on Saturday that Tehran will halt its cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) after the UN Security Council voted against permanently lifting sanctions on the country.

In a statement, the SNSC condemned what it called the "ill-considered" actions of Britain, France, and Germany—collectively known as the E3—over Iran's peaceful nuclear program. The 15-member Security Council on Friday failed to adopt a resolution that would have blocked the reimposition of sanctions, after the E3 triggered the "snapback" mechanism, accusing Tehran of failing to comply with the 2015 nuclear deal, officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Tehran dismissed the European move as illegitimate, stressing that the United States had already abandoned the agreement in 2018 and accusing the European trio of siding with illegal sanctions rather than fulfilling their own commitments under the deal. ▶ Page 2

Iran sends 1st TIR Carnet shipment to Kuwait via Shalamcheh border

TEHRAN – Iran has exported its first TIR Carnet shipment to Kuwait through the Shalamcheh border crossing, marking a milestone in the country's regional trade expansion, the Khorramshahr Chamber of Commerce said.

Mostafa Mousavi, head of the Khorramshahr chamber, said the shipment, consisting of aquatic products, crossed into Iraq at Safwan before entering Kuwait. He called the move a significant achievement made possible by Iraq's customs joining the TIR system and coordinated efforts with relevant authorities.

With this development, Shalamcheh is now recognized as an official TIR border, positioning it as a key hub for exports and transit under the TIR procedure to Iraq, Persian Gulf states, Jordan and North Africa.

Mousavi added that the chamber's TIR unit at Shalamcheh is prepared to work with all domestic and foreign transport companies, offering services to facilitate trade and international transit. ▶ Page 4

As Gaza bleeds, protests reveal Israel's fractured leadership and moral decay

By Garsha Vazirian

TEHRAN – Once again, Israelis have taken to the streets in protest, driven by the military's strategic failures in Gaza and the collapse of government policies.

Saturday's mass demonstrations — anchored in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem (al-Quds) and spurred this week after authorities cleared an encampment near Netanyahu's Gaza Street residence — have been led by captive families who say the government values politics over rescue.

Relatives such as Einav Zangauker, Ofir Braslavski, and Anat Angrest have become visible symbols of public fury, demanding accountability and an end to what many see as catastrophic mismanagement.

Those protests were catalyzed by the latest, costly escalation: a renewed, large-scale ground offensive aimed at Gaza City, in which the military has committed additional divisions, including the 36th Armored Division, after pulling it from Khan Younis to prepare for urban combat.

Sept. 21 Revolution: A watershed moment in Yemen's ties with Iran, Palestine, and multipolar world

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT—The September 21st Revolution in 2014 marks a historic turning point in the Yemeni landscape. It was not merely a protest movement against corruption and marginalization, but rather a radical shift in the structure of power and national sovereignty, repositioning Yemen on the regional and international geopolitics.

This revolution represents a path to changing the internal balance of power. Traditional elites, who had been tied to external dependency for decades, were overthrown, and the concept of "national sovereignty" was restored in the discourse of the new authorities.

This transformation was obviously reflected in the social and political structure of northern Yemen, making Sana'a the epicenter of a raging regional conflict.

Mass kidnap campaign in West Bank

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN – Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) launch a mass kidnap campaign across the occupied West Bank, abducting many, including a mayor. The large-scale kidnap campaign started early Sunday with an unknown number of Palestinians kidnapped, including a former Arab Knesset member and former prisoners.

The raids, which targeted multiple towns and cities, involved violent home invasions, searches, and field interrogations.

In the city of Nazareth, the IOF kidnapped former Arab Knesset member Haneen Zoabi from her home. She was taken in for questioning over allegations of "incitement to terrorism." The charges stem from a speech she delivered at an anti-Israel conference held outside the occupied West Bank.

In Nablus, the IOF kidnapped several former prisoners, including Qutaiba Azem from Sebastia, Mahmoud Abdel Hadi from Azmut, and Musab Mleitat from Beit Furik, whose wife was previously kidnapped months ago.

▶ Page 5

Iranian researchers continue to trend upward in world's top 2% list

TEHRAN – The latest international data shows that the presence of Iranian researchers in the top two percent list of the world based on citation indicators continues to trend upward, indicating an improvement in the quality of the country's scientific production.

The reputable "updated science-wide author databases of standardized citation indicators", which provides updated versions of scientist rankings based on standardized indicators, reported on September 19 that Iran has experienced an unprecedented growth in both one-year performance and scientific career-long indicators, IRNA quoted Peyman Salehi, deputy science minister, as saying. ▶ Page 7



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Beyond the missiles: The women holding Iran together

By Mona Hojat Ansari

TEHRAN – If you were to ask Iranians who played the most important roles during Iran's fight against the aggression of Israel and its Western allies back in June, many would likely name the men who worked on missile launchers, operated air defense systems, or pursued Mossad agents.

A gallery I visited in Tehran, a city at the heart of the recent conflict, showcased artworks, handicrafts, and numerous letters created for or addressed to these individuals. People from diverse backgrounds and ages expressed their gratitude through Tehran's municipality. ▶ Page 3

TEHRAN PAPERS

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

Strategies needed to prevent snapback activation

Sazandegi suggested the strategy that Iran should take to confront the activation of snapback sanctions and wrote: Iran needs to make decisions to ward off the risk of snapback activation and the return of sanctions in the short term within the next week to 10 days. This moment is one of the most sensitive periods in the country's history, and any timely and bold decision can ward off the evil of snapback, reduce international pressure, and preserve Iran's national security and economic interests. The next point is extensive and active diplomatic movements. Today, Iran needs to strengthen its relations with influential countries at global and regional levels by using all its energies. The country's current situation requires a combination of active diplomacy, courageous decision-making, and internal cohesion in order to ward off the risk of snapback activation, sanctions, and international pressure with the least cost and the greatest effectiveness. Direct interaction with influential foreign officials is also a turning point in achieving these goals.

Ham Mihan: Improving Iran's status by joining global campaign to recognize Palestinian State

Ham Mihan wrote about the global campaign to recognize the Palestinian State and the annual UN General Assembly conference is underway. It said, Undoubtedly, the formation of a Palestinian State, although in an unfair manner, will improve the living conditions of the people under occupation. A Palestinian State will grant the Palestinian people the right to membership in international organizations and the right to legitimate self-defense against the aggressor; and in the long run, it can help the Palestinian people gain more rights. By joining the global wave of support for the recognition of the Palestinian State, Iran will first improve its status within the framework of international mechanisms for resolving the Palestinian issue, and, as an active player, it can enter into the international talks and negotiations that are taking place in regard to the fate of the Palestinians. Today, Iran's seat in the negotiations for the future of the Palestinians is empty. While Iran insists on the rights of the Palestinian people, it does not participate in any diplomatic process to help them. It is a wrong impression that Iran's presence in diplomatic processes that can help alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people will cause dissatisfaction and disappoint the Palestinian people or resistance groups.

Vatan-e-Emrooz: Strategic autonomy and future prospects

Vatan-e-Emrooz wrote: A review of contemporary cases shows that many countries, though politically independent, lack true strategic autonomy. They may maneuver tactically, but at critical strategic moments they are compelled to compromise their national interests or align with the agendas of major powers. By contrast, Iran presents a different example, demonstrating

that a degree of strategic autonomy can be attained—though it requires bearing certain costs. The world is transitioning from an era of unilateral American dominance to a multipolar order. In this new environment, only nations with genuine strategic autonomy will be able to shape the rules of the emerging system; the rest will be forced to operate on terms set by others, even when those terms run counter to their own national interests. We must therefore preserve our strategic autonomy by relying on domestic capabilities and national resolve. Otherwise, in the decades ahead, we risk becoming passive spectators, with Iran's national interests and security sacrificed to the whims of regional and global powers.

Arman-e Melli: Quitting NPT or ceasing cooperation with IAEA will benefit Israel and US

Arman-e Melli has sought the views of Mohammad Hossein Beheshtipour, a senior international relations expert, as some inside Iran are proposing pulling out of the NPT or ceasing cooperation with the IAEA in response to the West's activation of the snapback sanctions against Iran at the UN Security Council meeting on Friday. Beheshtipour said: At a time when U.S. and European pressure on Iran is increasing, withdrawing from the NPT is not only no solution, but a costly and dangerous path that would deprive Iran of its legitimate rights and create a new global consensus against the country. The best strategy for Iran is to remain within the framework of international law, make use of the IAEA's mechanisms to prove the peaceful nature of its activities, and rely on domestic capabilities to withstand the pressure. Wise policy lies not in emotional reactions, but in choosing a course that both preserves Iran's rights and reduces threats, while paving the way for effective diplomacy. One of the chronic weaknesses in Iran's foreign policy is becoming trapped in extremist viewpoints. Professional policy means accepting the positive actions of any country and openly criticizing its negative behavior, without being confined to partisan frameworks. In the international arena, national interests must be the standard — not temporary alignments or ideological perspectives. The slogan of withdrawing from the NPT may appeal to some and convey a sense of power and independence, but foreign policy is not a stage for emotional displays. Another point is that criticizing certain actions of the IAEA — especially those that raise suspicions of politicization or espionage by some inspectors — is Iran's undeniable right. However, the strategic mistake is to portray the Agency, rather than the United States and its maximum pressure policy, as the main culprit. The IAEA is, under international regulations, the sole authority for monitoring peaceful nuclear activities. If Iran's cooperation with this body were to cease, it would bring about exactly what Washington and Tel Aviv have sought for years: the formation of a global consensus against Tehran.

Pezeshkian to leave for New York Tuesday, promote global cooperation at UN

TEHRAN – President Masoud Pezeshkian of Iran is preparing to address world leaders at the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York. According to Mehdi Sanaei, a political advisor, President Pezeshkian will depart for New York on Tuesday after participating in the symbolic ringing of the school bell, marking the commencement of the new academic year throughout Iran.

Sanaei announced on X that Pezeshkian is scheduled to deliver his address to the UNGA on Wednesday morning, Tehran time. In addition to his address, President

Pezeshkian is expected to engage in separate discussions with the UN secretary general and officials representing various nations. He also plans to hold meetings with think tanks and members of the Iranian diaspora residing in the United States.

The 80th session of the UNGA officially began on September 9th, with the general debate commencing on September 23rd. This year's theme is “Better together: 80 years and more for peace, development and human rights,” a focus that will guide the discussions as global leaders outline their priorities on the world stage.

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At a Saturday meeting chaired by President Masoud Pezeshkian, the SNSC also reviewed regional developments, including what it described as the Israeli regime's destabilizing activities. “Despite the Foreign Ministry's cooperation with the Agency and proposals to resolve outstanding issues, the actions of European countries have effectively blocked the path of cooperation



Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (R) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'s Director-General Rafael Grossi sign an agreement aimed at paving the way for resumption of cooperation between the two sides, in Cairo on September 9, 2025, with Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty in attendance.

with the IAEA,” the SNSC said.

The Council tasked the Foreign Ministry with continuing consultations within the framework of national security decisions to safeguard Iran's interests. It stressed that, under current conditions, Iran's foreign policy will prioritize cooperation aimed at establishing regional peace and stability.

Earlier in the day, President Pezeshkian reiterated that Iran will not bow to pressure. “We should believe that we can overcome obstacles and that the ill-wishers of this nation cannot block our way,” he said, emphasizing that Tehran can

withstand any reimposed sanctions.

The SNSC was formally assigned oversight of IAEA cooperation in July following a wave of Israeli and US attacks on Iranian nuclear facilities. Parliament passed legislation on July 2 requiring that all IAEA inspection requests be vetted by the Council before approval.

On September 9, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi reached an agreement in Cairo on practical modalities to resume technical cooperation. That arrangement followed a suspension of cooperation

after Israeli-American strikes in June that targeted three Iranian nuclear sites in what Tehran described as a flagrant violation of international law and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The June suspension had been mandated by Parliament in protest against an anti-Iran resolution passed by the IAEA's Board of Governors, which Iran said the Israeli regime used as a pretext for its US-backed aggression. Tehran had repeatedly warned that any new cooperation with the Agency would depend on halting the “snapback” process.

Tehran says Ecuador serving US, Israel with ‘illegal’ blacklisting of IRGC



Ecuadorian President Daniel Noboa (L) signed an executive decree on September 16, 2025, designating Hamas, Hezbollah, and the IRGC as “terrorist” organizations

TEHRAN – The General Staff of Iran's Armed Forces has denounced Ecuador's decision to blacklist the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), asserting that it serves the agenda of the global hegemonic system led by the United States and backed by Israel.

In a statement issued on Saturday, the Armed

Forces described Ecuador's step as “irrational, desperate, and illegal.”

The statement warned that such measures pave the way for Washington to expand “acts of insecurity and evil worldwide,” while encouraging the child-killing Zionist regime to continue committing genocide in Gaza and beyond.

It stressed that far from being a “terrorist” entity, the IRGC has played a central role in combating terrorist groups across the region which are supported and armed by the US and Israel. The Armed Forces underlined that the IRGC's mission is to safeguard the Iranian nation, its sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

The statement further pointed to Palestinian and Lebanese resistance movements, Hamas and Hezbollah, which are engaged in defending their nations against Israeli occupation. It posed a rhetorical question to Quito: “Who are the real terrorists—the IRGC, Hamas, and Hezbollah, who defend their people, or the US and the Israeli regime, who invade sovereign states, disregard international law, and commit aggression without restraint?”

All national capacities mobilized to safeguard security: Iran's top military command

From page 1 ► He stressed that the discourse of resistance—rooted in religious, national, and revolutionary values—was founded on standing against arrogance, reliance on domestic strength, distrust of hegemonic powers, and reliance on divine authority. He pointed out that even the recent 12-day war with Israel, launched with the goal of weakening Iran's resolve, ultimately strengthened national cohesion and reinforced the people's central role in defending the country.

Any new aggression will be met with crushing response: IRGC

In a statement released Sunday, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) warned, “In the event of any new miscalculation or aggression by the enemy, the Islamic Republic of Iran will take the initiative on the battlefield with a commanding position and deliver another deadly response.”

The IRGC noted that this year's

commemoration of the eight-year Iraq-imposed war on Iran comes only weeks after the illegal Israeli-US aggression against the country, a 12-day war that killed more than 1,000 Iranians, including senior commanders, nuclear scientists, and civilians. The attack also saw the United States bomb three Iranian nuclear sites in a violation of international law.

Iranian forces retaliated by striking strategic sites across the occupied Palestinian territories and the al-Udeid air base in Qatar, the largest American military base in West Asia. The IRGC said that Iran's retaliatory operations, conducted on June 24, effectively brought the wave of aggression to an end, exposing the failure of Tel Aviv and Washington to achieve their objectives.

“The enemies’ defeat in the two imposed wars, and their failure in security, political, economic, psychological, and media battles



aimed at destabilizing Iran, proved that the nation, through vigilance, insight, and unity, stood like a steel fortress against hybrid warfare and foiled their plots,” the statement said.

The IRGC emphasized that the experience of both the 1980s Sacred Defense and the recent 12-day war demonstrated that

“effective deterrence” is the product of constant readiness, innovation in strategy and tactics, and the steady advancement of defense technologies and systems. It pledged that the elite force, alongside other branches of the Armed Forces, is strengthening its offensive and defensive capabilities as part of a broader strategy of deterrence.



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Beyond the missiles: The women holding Iran together

Tehran gallery reveals gratitude for Armed Forces after war with Israel, and the women behind the scenes

By Mona Hojat Ansari

TEHRAN – If you were to ask Iranians who played the most important roles during Iran's fight against the aggression of Israel and its Western allies back in June, many would likely name the men who worked on missile launchers, operated air defense systems, or pursued Mossad agents.

A gallery I visited in Tehran, a city at the heart of the recent conflict, showcased artworks, handicrafts, and numerous letters created for or addressed to these individuals. People from diverse backgrounds and

their authenticity. "My mom told me our military is strong. She said Iran will emerge victorious. I pray that you do," wrote a ten-year-old boy. On a separate piece of paper, he had drawn a soldier standing tall above a sleeping boy with his arms outstretched. Missile-like objects struck the soldier's back and extended arms as the boy slept peacefully next to him.

The visitors I saw were mostly ordinary citizens. I asked if anyone from the Armed Forces had visited the gallery and shared their thoughts. "One day, a man came in wearing civilian clothes.

their families and society together.

The realization was initially shocking. In movies depicting war and conflict, women are usually portrayed as waiting wives or, at best, nurses tending to the injured. It hadn't occurred to me that during the difficult 12 days in June, while women may not have been the ones firing missiles or searching for spies at checkpoints, they were the office workers who kept the city running when many, especially in Tehran, were considering moving to safer locations.

I remembered an old friend who is now a banker. I reached out to her after visiting the gallery and asked how she had managed work during those 12 days. "I remember some explosions happening near where I worked. It was pretty terrifying and nerve-wracking," she told me over the phone. "But I didn't want to leave the bank. On the second day of the war, I stood outside and looked at the building as I was about to clock in. I realized I never wanted to see the bank empty. In that moment, not keeping that building open and running sounded more terrifying than the explosions."

A large number of office workers in Tehran are female. The capital, which is the economic and political heart of the country, relies heavily on women to operate governmental bodies and the private sector. According to figures announced by the minister of labor last year, offices have become increasingly populated by women over time, as men, who are still largely expected to be the breadwinners in Iranian

"My husband left for work minutes after the war started," said Banafsheh Eghbal, whose husband is a member of Iran's Armed Forces. I connected with her through the Hanil group. "The war began around 3 or 4 am on a Friday. We were supposed to take our daughter to a park that day. My husband had promised he would stay with her the entire day, as he had been away at work the previous weeks."

Banafsheh saw her husband briefly only twice during the 12 days of war. "He was home twice, from midnight to dawn. He came home, took a shower, and slept a few hours. I had never seen him so tired."

Banafsheh spent her days filled with worry and anxiety. However, she couldn't let her emotions show in front of her daughter, who was already upset about her father's prolonged absence. "Because of my husband's job, I had some understanding of Iran's military prowess. So, I knew it wouldn't be long until the war ended. But I was still very worried about my husband, and also about how the war would affect my daughter psychologically."

Banafsheh had family in regions far from the conflict zone. They insisted that she leave Tehran with her daughter and join them. But she said it was impossible for her. "I knew my husband could briefly visit at any moment of the day. I wanted to be there to greet him and wanted him to know his home was still there.



Saeedeh Habibifard, the gallery's organizer

ages expressed their gratitude through Tehran's municipality.

"This gallery contains items we collected after announcing a call for people to submit anything they wanted the Armed Forces to see or read," explained Saeedeh Habibifard, one of the gallery's main organizers. As the director of Hanil, an NGO focused on addressing challenges and issues faced by women in society and the family, Habibifard leveraged her close connections with female networks across Tehran to help organize the event. "A significant portion of our pieces were created by children. The more sophisticated artworks were mostly made by women, and our letters also predominantly came from women and children, who were not on the front lines during the recent conflict," she explained.

The gallery clearly reflected its purpose – a spontaneous and authentic attempt to express gratitude to those believed to have ensured the Iranian people's safety by sacrificing their comfort, health, and even their lives.

Different sections of the room were dedicated to various exhibits. On one large table, numerous letters addressed to Iranian soldiers were on display. I spent some time examining and reading them, and I noticed that most were written by children. The messy handwriting, occasional spelling errors, and informal tone of the letters only added to

We assumed he was just another visitor, but he spent considerably more time here than the others," the organizer explained. "As he was leaving, he approached me and told me he was a member of Iran's Air Force. He said he hadn't realized the public held the Armed Forces in such high regard."

The letters, artworks, and handicraft are set to be turned in to a military representative later this week.

The active, but unseen women

As I prepared to visit the gallery, I started outlining my report. I anticipated a straightforward experience, expecting raw emotions and tearful messages, and believed I understood the event's core theme.

However, upon visiting the gallery and examining the exhibits, I began to consider the people I had never associated with Iran's success during the conflict. Iran managed to remain intact, thwart the enemy's plans for its collapse, and ultimately deliver blows that forced Israel and the U.S. to request a ceasefire. I had always believed that Iranian soldiers and military leaders mostly deserved the credit for this resilience. But as I looked around the brightly lit room, read the letters, and admired the paintings and calligraphies, I noticed many creators thanking not just those on the front lines, but also the women who had dedicated themselves entirely to holding



Drawing by a 10-year-old Iranian boy

society, are gravitating towards local businesses or technical work that pays more than office jobs.

Another group of women who made significant contributions, yet received little recognition, were the wives, mothers, and sisters of those serving in the Armed Forces – an entity almost entirely comprised of men in Iran.

What is a home without its family members?"

She spent her days distracting her 6-year-old the best she could, and doing some of the routine things she always did. Banafsheh was not directly involved in the military, but she was an integral part of the support system that kept it functioning

Esmaeili claims gold at 2025 World Wrestling

TEHRAN – Saeid Esmaeili of Iran won a gold medal at the 2025 World Wrestling Championships on Sunday.

The Iranian Greco-Roman wrestler defeated Azerbaijan's Hasrat Jafarov 2-1 in 67kg final bout.

On his way to the final, Esmaeili defeated Sebastian Na? of Serbia 9-0 in Round of 32. He also beat Uzbekistan's Shermukhammad Sharibjanov 8-0 in Round of 16, Norway's Håvard Jørgensen 8-0 in quarterfinals and Daniil Agaev (UWW) 10-0 in semifinals.

The bronze medals went to Daniil Agaev (UWW) and Slavik Galstyan (ARM).

The 2025 World Wrestling Championships are being held in Zagreb, Croatia from Sept. 13 to 21.

Azmoun scores as Shabab Al Ahli edge Al Nasr

TEHRAN – Shabab Al Ahli secured a thrilling 1-0 win against Al Nasr in a high-profile clash during the fourth round of the ADNOC Professional League, thanks to a Sardsar Azmoun's injury time goal.

The match was held on Saturday evening at Al Maktoum Stadium.

Iranian striker Azmoun delivered the decisive moment, scoring in the 90+5th minute of stoppage time to seal the victory for the visitors.

Shabab Al Ahli moved up to second place in the league standings with 10 points, level with leaders Al Ain but trailing on goal difference, courtesy of the win.

Al Nasr, meanwhile, remains on 7 points and drop to sixth place.

Esteghlal Gonbad Kavus complete signing of Kirill Kranin

TEHRAN – Esteghlal Gonbad Kavus volleyball team has completed the signing of Russian-Belarusian middle blocker Kirill Kranin.

Kranin will play for the Iranian team at the 2025-26 Iran Super League.

The Super League season will start on October 8.

The current title holder is Foolad Sirjan Iranian.

Keshtkar wins bronze at 2025 World Wrestling Championships

TEHRAN – Mohammadmehdi Keshtkar of Iran claimed a bronze medal at the 2025 World Wrestling Championships on Sunday.

The Iranian Greco-Roman wrestler defeated Sergey Emelin (UWW) 6-4 in the 63kg bronze medal match.

The 2025 World Wrestling Championships are being held in Zagreb, Croatia from Sept. 13 to 21.

Esteghlal held by 10-man Paykan

TEHRAN – Esteghlal football team were held to a 2-2 draw by 10-man Paykan on Matchweek 4 of the 2025/26 Iran's Persian Gulf Professional League (PGPL) on Sunday.

In the match held at the Shahr-e Qods Stadium,

um, Kasra Taheri gave the visiting team a lead in the 23rd minute but his teammate Milad Bagheri was shown a red card two minutes later.

Esteghlal Albanian winger Jasir Asani equalized the match in the stoppage time of the first half.

Taheri scored Paykan's second goal just three minutes into the second half but with 10 minutes remaining a penalty was awarded to Esteghlal due to Paykan's handball and Asani completed his brace.

Iran to face UAE at AFC Futsal Asian Cup 2026 qualifiers

TEHRAN – The cast for the AFC Futsal Asian Cup Indonesia 2026 could begin to take shape on Monday when the hopefuls swing into action for Matchday Two of the Qualifiers.

Iran will be hard to stop in Group G with the defending champions turning on the power in their 12-0 win against Bangladesh.

Team Melli face the United Arab Emirates on Monday, with the West Asian side reeling from their 1-0 defeat to hosts Malaysia.

Malaysia will take on Bangladesh expecting another three points, ahead of their clash against Iran on the final matchday.

Saravi ends four-year wait for gold: UWW

TEHRAN – Mohammadhadi Saravi ended a four-year wait to regain the title of world champion. He had his share of triumphs in the meantime -- a gold at the Paris Olympics, to say the least -- just not on this stage.

Saravi ended the drought by scoring an early takedown and going on to defeat Artur Sargsyan (UWW) 3-1 in the 97kg final at the World Championships in Zagreb Saturday night, when three Greco titles were decided.

"In my opinion, this tournament wasn't easy at all; it was one of the most exciting and diverse competitions I've ever been part of," Saravi said. "There were new opponents, and some wrestlers reached the finals and repechage rounds that I honestly hadn't expected. The level was much higher than I thought it would be."

After winning the world gold in Oslo in 2021, Saravi had to settle for bronze medals at the 2022 and 2023 worlds in Belgrade, falling in the semifinals both times.

But he righted the ship for the Paris Olympics, where he defeated long-time rival Artur Aleksanyan (ARM) in the final to add the gold to the Olympic bronze he won at Tokyo in 2021. And from 2023 to this year, he three-peated as Asian champion, UWW.com reported.

In Zagreb, while Aleksanyan and Gabriel Rosillo (CUB), who defeated Saravi in the 2023 world semifinals, fell by the wayside, Saravi marched into the final without pomp or drama, winning his matches by such scores as 4-0, 1-1 and 3-1.

"In this weight class, the champions are among the greats of wrestling: Artur Aleksanyan, the Cuban Rosillo, and of course, my final opponent, Artur Sargsian, who is a very well-known and skillful wrestler," Saravi said. "But with my preparation, I was able to execute my plans and win."

His meeting with Sargsian in the final was a rematch of their first-round match at the 2021 World Championships, which Saravi won 6-4 en route to his first world gold. Sargsian took a bronze.

"As we had planned with my coaches, even though some of my expected rivals didn't make it to the later rounds, with the analysis we had done we were able to plan well and make it to the final," Saravi said.

"I had wrestled [Sargsian] twice before, and with the strategies we had, I managed to beat him. Thankfully, this time, too, I was able to execute my plans perfectly on the mat and win the match."

Iran, Pakistan expand flights with new air services agreement

TEHRAN – Iran and Pakistan have expanded direct air connections following the signing of a new air transport cooperation agreement during President Masoud Pezeshkian's recent visit to Islamabad.

Under the deal, weekly flight capacity between the two countries has been raised to 24, paving the way for new services such as Iran Air's Mashhad–Karachi route. The agreement also covers the removal of restrictions on flight paths, joint navigation projects, and expanded aviation training programs.

Hamidreza Sanei, deputy head of Iran's Civil Aviation Organization, said Pakistan had long sought to operate flights carrying its pilgrims via Mashhad to Najaf, particularly during the Arbæen pilgrimage season.

He noted that with the new arrangements, flights between key cities including Lahore, Karachi, and Islamabad are being expanded, with several Iranian carriers recently securing approvals.

Talks are also under way to establish direct flights on the Quetta–Zahedan route, which currently requires circuitous journeys via Doha and Tehran.

"We have held constructive meetings with Pakistan's Civil Aviation Authority, and the outcome has been submitted to the countries' joint economic committee," Sanei said.

Direct Tehran–Islamabad flights were officially inaugurated on September 18 with the landing of an Iran Airtour Airbus A300 in the Pakistani capital.

With the launch, weekly direct services rose to five, including Iran Air's Mashhad–Karachi, Taban Airlines' Mashhad–Lahore and Mashhad–Karachi, and Mahan Air's Tehran–Lahore flights.

The 22nd Iran-Pakistan Joint Economic Committee met September 24–25 after a three-year hiatus, co-chaired by Iran's Transport Minister Farzaneh Sadegh and Pakistan's Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan. The session concluded with 13 new agreements across various economic sectors.

Following the 22nd Iran-Pakistan Joint Economic Committee meeting in Tehran (September 15–16), co-chaired by Iran's Minister of Transport and Urban Development, Farzaneh Sadegh, and Pakistan's Federal Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan, Minister Sadegh published an article on the ministry's news portal. Below is a translation of her piece.

On the eve of new developments in the regional economic order, the Iran-Pakistan Joint Economic Committee has once again provided a platform for developing sustainable cooperation between these two important and influential neighbors in South Asia.

Iran-Pakistan relations over the past decades have always been influenced by regional developments, global politics, and security imperatives. Although political relations between the two countries have always been maintained at an acceptable level, their economic and trade capacities have not been actualized as they should have been. Now, on the eve of new developments in the regional economic order, the Iran-Pakistan Joint Economic Commission has once again provided a platform for developing sustainable cooperation between these two important and influential neighbors in South Asia.

The 22nd meeting of the Joint Economic Committee was not only an opportunity to review the past and chart the future of the two countries' economic relations, but also, by holding an unprecedented joint business conference on its sidelines, sent a clear message to regional economic actors, governments, and observers: Iran and Pakistan are ready to turn their potential capacities into the driving engine of economic and trade cooperation.

Along with their long shared border, Iran and Pakistan also enjoy deep cultural and historical commonalities. The adjacency of the two countries in a region that houses the main arteries of energy, transportation, and trade has created a unique position for economic cooperation.

On one hand, Iran, with its vast oil and gas resources, can play a role as a reliable ener-



gy supplier for Pakistan. On the other hand, Pakistan, with its young and growing population and extensive needs in the fields of energy, infrastructure, and trade, can be one of Iran's most important export markets.

This natural convergence, although overshadowed by political considerations and sanctions in the past, can become the driving engine of the two countries' economic interactions in the new regional atmosphere.

The Iran-Pakistan Joint Economic Committee has, over the past two decades, always been a platform for negotiation and agreement in various fields. But what distinguished the 22nd meeting of this committee was the serious entry of the private sector into the process of dialogue and cooperation.

Holding a joint business conference with the participation of 50 Iranian companies and over 100 Pakistani companies, totaling 500 participants, indicated the serious determination of economic actors in both countries to move beyond the traditional boundaries of interactions. Such an event is rarely seen on the sidelines of Joint Committee meetings, which doubles its special importance.

At this conference, economic actors had the opportunity to closely familiarize themselves with the capacities, needs, and areas of cooperation of the other side and propose solutions for removing obstacles to direct trade, joint investment, and the development of border infrastructure.

One of the key points of this meeting and the business conference was the emphasis on the centrality of the private sector in Iran-Pakistan economic relations. The experience of successful countries in developing bilateral trade has shown that without the presence and initiative of economic actors, government agreements cannot achieve the desired result.

The Iranian companies present at this conference were mainly active in the fields of energy, petrochemicals, food industries, pharmaceuticals, construction, and technical-engineering services. In contrast, Pakistani companies had also entered the arena in the sectors of agriculture, textiles, transportation, and information technology. This diversity of fields indicates the wide range of cooperation capacities between the two countries, which can bear fruit in the form of joint investments or technology exchange.

One of the important topics discussed in the Joint Committee was the role of Iran and Pakistan in regional transportation corridors. Iran, as a connecting bridge between Central Asia, the Caucasus, the Persian Gulf, and Europe, and Pakistan, as a gateway to South Asia and the Indian Ocean, both have a unique position in connecting trade chains.

The development of joint rail and road routes, facilitating the transit of goods, and establishing modern border infrastructure could significantly reduce the cost of trade and increase the volume of exchanges. In this regard, joint investment in border terminals and utilizing the capacity of Iranian and Pakistani ports as key links in the transit chain were put on the agenda.

Of course, it should not be forgotten that the path to expanding Iran-Pakistan economic cooperation also faces challenges. Economic sanctions against Iran, security considerations at the borders, weaknesses in banking infrastructure for financial exchange, and logistical limitations are some of these challenges.

Iran sends 1st TIR Carnet shipment to Kuwait via Shalamcheh border

From Page 1 ► The Convention on International Transport of Goods Under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention) is a multilateral treaty that was concluded at Geneva on 14 November 1975 to simplify and harmonies the administrative formalities of international road transport. (TIR stands for "Transit International Routier" or "International Road Transport".)

The 1975 convention replaced the TIR Convention of 1959, which itself replaced the 1949 TIR Agreement between a number of European countries.

The conventions were adopted under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

As of March 2023, there are 78 parties to the convention, including 77 states and the European Union.



The TIR Convention establishes an international customs transit system with maximum facility to move goods:

- * in sealed vehicles or containers;
- * from a customs office of departure in one country to a customs of-

fice of destination in another country;

* without requiring extensive and time-consuming border checks at intermediate borders;

* while, at the same time, providing customs authorities with the re-

Renewable capacity nears 3 GW, target lifted to 30 GW in 7th Plan

TEHRAN – Iran's renewable power capacity is approaching 3.0 gigawatts (GW) and is forecast to reach 7.0 GW by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (late March 2026), according to a senior official from the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA).

Jafar Mohammadnejad Sigaroudi, SATBA's deputy for investment, said the government has raised its target for new renewable capacity under the Seventh National Development Plan from 12,000 MW to 30,000 MW, following President Masoud Pezeshkian's directive.

He acknowledged some experts doubt the feasibility of the goal, as the country's total renewable capacity before the plan was only about 1,200–3,000 MW.

He noted that renewables already supply nearly 30 percent of global power and are expected to reach 45 percent by 2028. Iran's renewable fleet has grown from 1.5 GW to nearly 3.0 GW, and weekly campaigns are adding around 100 MW, lifting capacity to 2,216 MW.

Sigaroudi said rapid deployment of solar and wind power is the most effective short-term way to reduce electricity deficits. He projected that by the end of the seventh plan, at least 12 GW of new renewable capacity will be operational.

He highlighted reforms to encourage investors, including the launch of the Green Energy Board on the Iran Energy Exchange, where electricity has sold for over 70,000 rials per kWh compared with the 27,000 rials fixed tariff under Article 61.

He added that investors can also benefit from Article 12 of the Law on Removing Barriers to Competitive Production, which allows repayment through saved fuel costs, with coordination from the Oil Ministry.

The National Development Fund has also entered the sector for the first time, financing up to 80 percent of projects totaling 7,000 MW, providing bankable guarantees similar to international models.

Sigaroudi underlined the need for efficient energy management, given Iran's 11 GW hydropower and more than 80 GW fossil-fuel plants. He also stressed that demand-side reforms in industry, agriculture, and commerce are essential, as renewables alone cannot eliminate imbalances.

He added that a new Organization for Energy Optimization and Management has been established under presidential order to consolidate efficiency mandates, with SATBA prepared to co-operate closely.

On September 1, Iran's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Organization of Municipalities and Rural Administrations to develop small-scale renewable power plants of up to three megawatts in rural areas.

The MOU was signed by Masoud Nosrati, deputy

interior minister and head of the municipalities organization, and Mohsen Tarzatab, deputy energy minister and head of SATBA. It aims to provide rural administrations, cooperatives, and unions with a framework to establish renewable power plants and sell electricity under long-term contracts.

Under the deal, SATBA will support projects through guaranteed power purchase agreements of up to 20 years, as well as alternative investment models including electricity sales on the Iran Energy Exchange and barter mechanisms.

SATBA will also introduce solar and wind potential maps to guide investors, coordinate with local power distribution companies to ensure grid connection, and provide a list of qualified contractors across provinces.

The municipalities organization will promote SATBA's priority projects among local stakeholders, identify suitable sites for development, and encourage rural cooperatives and communities to invest in renewable generation. It will also help facilitate access to low-interest financing from partner banks.

The memorandum also covers oversight of project implementation, technical training for operators, and long-term management of renewable power plants in villages.

Iran is turning to knowledge-based companies to help tackle its growing energy imbalance by promoting clean power generation, according to the head of the Industrial Development and Renovation Organization of Iran (IDRO).

Speaking at a contract signing ceremony between a high-tech Iranian firm and an industrial manufacturer, in early August, Farshad Moqimi, Chairman of IDRO's Executive Board, emphasized the strategic role of knowledge-based enterprises in developing innovative solutions such as expansion turbines for clean electricity generation.

"This is more than a contract—it symbolizes a smart shift in direction and a major step toward building a knowledge-based economy while addressing one of Iran's most urgent challenges: the energy deficit," Moqimi said.

The agreement involves the design, construction, installation, and commissioning of an expansion turbine system—technology capable of converting excess gas pressure into electricity, reducing both waste and emissions.

On September 10, the executor of the 3-megawatt solar power plant projects elaborated on the process of constructing these power plants in the country.

Mohammad Doust-Mohammadi, the executor of the 3-megawatt solar power plant projects, stated: "At the end of Bahman last year (February 2024), under the directive of the President regarding addressing the electricity supply-demand imbalance, a mission was assigned to construct 1,000 solar power plants with a capacity of 3

megawatts each. This initiative was placed on the agenda of the Ministry of Energy and the SATBA (Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization) group."

He added: "Overall, after six months, we are witnessing that these power plants, which were planned to facilitate grid connection, are gradually being connected to the national electricity grid."

"Today, we see that 54 megawatts from these power plants are being connected to the grid in the provinces of Qom, Tehran, Semnan, Alborz, Markazi, Qazvin, and Isfahan", he added.

The energy production of these power plants amounts to 268 kilowatt-hours, which is equivalent to saving 26 million cubic meters of liquid fuel used in thermal power plants, the official further announced.

In early July, the director of the engineering office of the Iranian Water and Power Resources Development Management Company referring to the government's policy of developing solar power plants in the country, said: "Based on this, the construction of solar power plants next to dams has been put on the agenda."

Hassan Ahmadi added in an interview with IR-NA's economic correspondent: "A memorandum of understanding was recently signed with the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA) to develop a solar power plant at the site of the dams that have been built, given the availability of ready land, the existence of the electricity grid, and other advantages."

Stating that within the framework of this memorandum, 500 megawatts of electricity can be produced in this way, he noted: "Given the country's capacity in terms of sunny hours, the development of solar power plants is a good source of electricity supply."

Meanwhile, Iranian energy minister has announced that three new packages, one conventional and two more technical models, will be unveiled for the construction of household solar power plants in the coming week.

Abbas Aliabadi said that according to plans, by the end of this year, about 3,800 megawatts will be added to the capacity of renewable power plants in the country, adding, "In the previous period, as a result of previous years, the capacity of our renewable power plants was about 1,200 megawatts, which has now exceeded 2,000 megawatts, which is a significant figure. God willing, by the end of this month, this number will reach about 3,000 megawatts, and by the end of the government, the goal is for this figure to reach 30,000 megawatts."

The minister has said that the government fully supports private sector investment in renewable energy, as the country continues expanding its solar power infrastructure to address long-standing imbalances in the electricity sector.

Industry Ministry unveils plan to boost SME exports through consortia, global market integration

TEHRAN – Iran's Ministry of Industry, Mining and Trade has outlined new measures to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in boosting their exports, according to the Small Industries and Industrial Parks Organization (SIPO).

Ahmad Javanmardi, director of market development and international affairs at the organization, said SMEs play a key role in production but often lack specialized export, trade and exhibition departments. To overcome this, the ministry is encouraging the formation of

export management companies and specialized intermediaries to connect domestic producers with international markets.

He noted that Iran exported \$57 billion worth of goods in 2024, with \$29 billion from petrochemicals, \$14 billion from mining and minerals, \$9.0 billion from industry and nearly \$6.0 billion from agriculture.

While the average export value stood at \$381 per ton, industrial exports reached over \$1,100 per ton, highlighting their higher added value

compared with raw materials.

Javanmardi said the ministry is forming export consortia to bring together small producers with complementary products, enabling them to enter foreign markets as unified companies.

"Exports must be sustained and long-term, not occasional," he said, adding that business clusters are also being steered toward global markets.

He pointed to ongoing programs such as the SPX (Subcontractor Ex-

change) system to integrate SMEs into engineering and technical projects abroad, and efforts to help firms meet international standards. Each year, around 5,000 companies benefit from financial and non-financial support for trade fair participation, with one in five focusing on foreign exhibitions.

Javanmardi also cited a recent case where an Iranian fisheries delegation traveled to Vietnam, securing solutions to common aquaculture diseases while opening new avenues for long-term export cooperation.

As Gaza bleeds, protests reveal Israel's fractured leadership and moral decay

From page 1 ► The push has intensified bombardment and forced mass movement of civilians, contributing to what international agencies describe as catastrophic displacement.

The human toll is devastating. Reports estimate that more than 65,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza since October 2023, with hundreds of thousands more wounded or displaced. In recent days alone, dozens have died in single strikes, while entire neighborhoods have been emptied under evacuation orders.

Heartbreaking individual accounts — such as the reported death of three-year-old Habeeba Abu Shaar from malnutrition in Khan Younis on Sunday — highlight the collapse of civilian infrastructure and the ever-shrinking space for survival.

At the same time, Palestinian resistance operations continue. Rockets and projectiles fired from Gaza toward southern Israeli towns on Sunday and roadside attacks inside Gaza — most recently a bomb in Rafah that killed four Israeli soldiers — show both the persistence of militant capabilities and the human cost borne on both sides.



Those soldier deaths have reinforced domestic anger and grief even as strategic objectives remain unclear.

Crucially, dissent is not only on the streets. Senior security figures reportedly warned that the Gaza City operation lacked a clear post-war plan and raised alternatives — including captive-deal options — that were rejected by political leaders.

Israeli military Chief of Staff Eyal Zamir has warned that the military lacks clarity on “day-after” governance in Gaza, telling lawmakers that the government has not defined whether Israel intends to impose a military administration or pursue another model. His remarks, leaked from closed briefings,

have underscored growing friction between the army and the political leadership and deepened public unease about the war's trajectory.

The political consequences are increasingly visible. Opposition leader Yair Lapid has accused the government of strategic bankruptcy and moral failure, while former prime ministers Ehud Olmert and Ehud Barak have condemned the campaign and urged a rethink.

Their interventions, combined with the recent recognition of Palestine by several Western nations — including the United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia— have amplified the perception that Prime Min-

ister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition is steering Israel toward isolation and long-term peril. His wartime defiance is seen as tied not only to policy but also to his own political survival, as ongoing corruption trials threaten prison for him and his wife.

Finally, infighting over elections and procedure has become a second front. Former PM Naftali Bennett insists elections must go ahead and urged officials to resist political interference; ministers have replied with bitter, sometimes personal attacks on social media. Far right National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir mocked him directly: “Naftali, we are not stealing the elections — that's your expertise.”

That scramble — threats to delay elections, public barbs from cabinet members and rival campaigns — corrodes legitimacy at the very moment Israel most needs coherent policy and national unity.

This is not merely an operational failure: it is a political one. A strategy that produces mass civilian suffering, entrenched resistance, and deep institutional division cannot claim long-term security.

Palestine recognition: A charm offensive or genuine shift?

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN – The recognition of Palestine as an independent state by several other Western countries marks a significant milestone, underscoring the enduring resilience and steadfast resistance of the Palestinian people amid ongoing Israeli brutality. However, this diplomatic shift appears driven less by genuine humanitarian concern and more by mounting domestic and international pressure.

On Sunday, Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign and independent state.

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese stated on X, “Effective today, Sunday the 21st of September 2025, the Commonwealth of Australia formally recognizes the independent and sovereign State of Palestine.”

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney similarly announced that Canada now rec-

ognizes the state of Palestine in line with the so-called two-state solution.

These moves were coordinated with the UK, where Prime Minister Keir Starmer declared that his country would formally recognize Palestine shortly afterward. He expressed that such recognition would “revive hope for peace for the Palestinians and Israelis, and a two-state solution.”

Political and public pressure

Despite these announcements, the recognition by these Western powers appears as much a response to escalating public anger and protests over their perceived complicity in Israel's war crimes in Gaza. President Donald Trump openly disagreed with the recognition during his recent state visit to Britain, underscoring the contentious and divided nature of international responses.

The UK's shift toward recognizing Pales-

tine came after it signaled in July a tentative willingness to abandon its longstanding wait-and-see approach—contingent on Israel ending its war in Gaza, committing to peace, and allowing increased humanitarian aid. Yet, conditions in Gaza have only deteriorated since, with Israel intensifying its military campaign and deepening the humanitarian crisis. The West Bank has also seen a spike in deadly violence, exacerbating the conflict.

Historical context and complicity

The UK's formal recognition of Palestine comes more than a century after the Balfour Declaration of 1917—which promised a “national home for the Jewish people” in Palestine. That declaration is widely regarded as a key factor in the ethnic cleansing and displacement of Palestinians in 1948, known as the Nakba, and adds a heavy historical irony to this development.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Mass kidnap campaign in West Bank

From page 1 ► Additional kidnappings in the area included Nadim Wajih from Qusra and Miqdad Sabah from Urif, following home raids in which regime troops ransacked personal belongings.

In the northern West Bank governorate of Tulkarm, the IOF kidnapped Mohammad Sultan Mallah and Dr. Mujahid Burhan Shaded after storming the towns of Allar and Seida. Several residents were subjected to on-the-spot interrogations.

In the southern city of al-Khalil (Hebron), raids extended to multiple towns and villages. Those kidnapped include Adam Tamer Abu Irqoub from Dura, Mustafa al-Taweel, brother of Palestinian prisoner Anas Al-Taweel, from Qeizoun, and Mohammad Hussein Al-Alami from Beit Ummar.

In Salfit (central West Bank), the IOF kidnapped Ibrahim Asi, the mayor of Qarawat Bani Hassan, and confiscated a municipal bulldozer and crane.

The kidnapping came after a Palestinian vehicle removed a concrete barrier near an IOF checkpoint at the town's western entrance, following a traffic accident.

Meanwhile, in the town of Jab'a, south of Jenin, IOF troops continued their military invasion for a third day, carrying out kidnappings and field interrogations of Palestinian youth.

This latest campaign marks one of the most extensive raids

in recent months, amid ongoing tensions and increased illegal IOF military activity across the occupied territories.

Thousands of Palestinian hostages are languishing inside the Israeli prison system in very gruesome conditions, including women and children. None of them has had access to a fair trial and face years behind bars without having committed any offense under the occupying regime's so-called administrative detention.

Sept. 21 Revolution: A watershed moment in Yemen's ties with Iran, Palestine, and multipolar world

From page 1 ► Since day one, the leadership in Sana'a raised the slogan of “self-reliance” as one of the pillars of the revolution, and this was achieved through encouraging local production in agriculture and light industry; attempting to break the foreign monopoly on economic inputs; and building a national discourse that rejected dependency.

However, despite the symbolic and political successes, this strategy collided with the reality of the blockade and war, which limited the achievement of real economic independence. However, this approach contributed to consolidating a culture of economic resilience and the search for local alternatives.

The revolution has further changed the regional security

equations, particularly with the control of the capital and state institutions, making Sana'a an undeniable player in the Red Sea and Bab al-Mandab Strait.

Besides, one of the revolution's most notable achievements was the adoption of an explicit discourse in defense of Palestine, as Sana'a became a central arena for demonstrations in support of the Palestinian people, viewing the Palestinian cause as an integral part of the revolution's identity.

Hence, Yemen effectively entered the Axis of Resistance through military operations directed against the Israeli entity or its associated shipping, particularly in the Red Sea.

This strengthened Sana'a's position in a regional network

that includes Iran, Hezbollah, and Palestinian resistance movements. It thus provided a symbolic, political, and military dimension that did not exist in Yemen before 2014, contributing to the expansion of the geography of resistance in the face of the Israeli occupation.

As to Iran, the Iranian-Yemeni relationship was limited to political and ideological dimensions, including moral and media support for the Ansarallah movement, and fell short of a strategic partnership.

After 2014, the relationship witnessed a qualitative shift, with communication channels expanding, military and technical cooperation strengthening, and direct intersections emerging in political and media discourse.

Undoubtedly, the September 21 Revolution in Yemen cannot be understood without considering the ideological and political dimensions that link it to the Islamic Revolution in Iran, as both revolutions share common references.

Ideologically, the Islamic Revolution relied on the principle of “authentic Muhammadan Islam” in opposition to “American Islam”. It raised the slogan “Death to America, Death to Israel” as a cry expressing awareness of the threat of global arrogance. This slogan was not merely a tool of protest; it became a political doctrine symbolizing the rejection of subservience and integration into the Western system.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Israeli drone strike kills three children and their father in Bint Jbeil, southern Lebanon



On Sunday, Israel killed three children and their father in Bint Jbeil, southern Lebanon, when a drone strike hit a motorcycle just as a family car passed by.

According to Lebanese media, local witnesses said the missile tore through the vehicle, killing the father and three of his children instantly, while the mother and another child survived.

Speaking from New York, President Joseph Aoun condemned the attack as a violation of international resolutions and urged the UN and world powers to force an Israeli withdrawal, declaring, “There is no peace above the blood of our children.”

The strike comes amid an uneasy post-war landscape where ceasefire violations and Israeli raids continue to endanger civilians across southern Lebanon.

Many have criticized Beirut's recent policy choices — arguing the government has sought to curb the Resistance and pursue disarmament — and say that this approach has eroded, rather than bolstered, Lebanon's deterrence against cross-border attacks.

For grieving families in Bint Jbeil, the episode is both personal tragedy and proof, critics say, that Lebanon remains vulnerable unless the state can protect civilians and secure a meaningful international response.

Trump threatens Kabul over Bagram demand as Taliban rejects US return

U.S. President Donald Trump warned Sunday that “BAD THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN!!!” unless Afghanistan “gives back” Bagram Air Base, also telling reporters the U.S. wants it “right away” and linking its value to proximity to western China.

Washington's pressure tactic met a firm wall of resistance from Kabul. Taliban officials dismissed any prospect of a U.S. military return. “It is not possible to negotiate over even one inch of Afghanistan's soil,” said Chief of Staff Qari Fasihuddin Fitrat Sunday.

On the same day, Defense Minister Mohammad Yaqoub Mujahid invoked the Doha Agreement: “America pledged ... not to force or threats against Afghanistan's sovereignty.” He recalled that when Washington sought to keep bases in 2021, “We told

them that if you stay, we're ready to fight for another 20 years. So, they left.”

According to CNN, the U.S. president has been pressing his national security advisers to explore ways of regaining control of Bagram Air Base since March.

Although Trump implied in his post that the United States had built the facility, Bagram was originally constructed by the Soviet Union in the 1950s. Decades later, after the U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan in 2001, the base was transformed into Washington's largest military hub in the country.

The air base soon became notorious for mass detentions, torture, and the machinery of occupation, before its fall to the Taliban during the 2021 withdrawal.

Ansarullah leader warns attempts to ‘neutralize’ Yemen will fail

Sayyed Abdul-Malik Badr al-Din al-Houthi marked Yemen's September 21 revolution by praising “our people's patience and sacrifice,” linking it to steadfast support for Palestine.

In his Sunday speech, the leader of Yemen's Ansarullah detailed how, before the revolution, Washington interfered in Yemen's affairs to serve its own interests.

Al-Houthi charged the U.S., UK, and allied Persian Gulf monarchies with “arming and

bankrolling Israel,” pushing Yemenis “toward Zionism,” and aiding the Zionist entity militarily and economically.

He stressed that since late 2023, Yemen has acted—particularly at sea—to pressure Israel until its aggression ends. Condemning Israeli strikes that killed many Yemeni civilians, journalists, and authorities, he honored Yemen's martyrs and vowed that schemes for a “Greater Israel” will not succeed.



Thousands rallied in Vienna as the Palestinian community and Austrian groups staged the largest solidarity demonstration of its kind on September 20, 2025.

A day in Bali: Thrill, tranquility and timeless beauty



Ayung River Rafting in Bali, Indonesia

By Sedigheh Hosseini

BALI (Indonesia) - Bali, an island whose name is inseparably linked with both serenity and adventure, revealed the many faces of its nature and culture on the second day of our media tour.

This enigmatic land offered us four completely different experiences in a single day: the thrill of rafting down roaring rivers, the spiritual calm of a thousand-year-old temple, the freedom of flying over green rice terraces, and the comfort of resting in one of the island's most luxurious hotels.

Each attraction opened a new window into Bali's spirit—a place that can raise your adrenaline, soothe your soul, connect you to the earth, and leave you with a lasting taste of beauty and refinement. This report is a narrative of moments that can only be lived in Bali—moments between water and sky, between history and nature, between life and dream.

The Ayung River in Bali is a destination that sets every adventurer's heart racing at the mere mention of its name. Winding and rushing through tropical forests and towering cliffs, this river offers more than a water sport—it is a blend of excitement, natural aesthetics, and a glimpse into local life. Rafting on the Ayung is not just recreation; it is an experience that lets you feel both the rush of adrenaline and the deep calm of Bali's wilderness.

Our inflatable boat was lowered into the water and we climbed aboard one by one. Within minutes of setting off, the first collision with the waves came. Yet the Ayung is not only rapids and thrill. At times the current slows, and the boat glides over a mirrorlike surface. In those pauses, we could truly take in our surroundings: towering stone walls draped with ferns, coconut palms reaching skyward, and birds darting among the branches. The quiet, broken only by trickling water through rocks, brought an indescribable calm.

At journey's end, the adventure was over, but its memory will last. The only real challenge for visitors is the many steps leading to and from the river—a climb that tests your stamina but does little to dim the magic of the ride.

When people think of Bali, many picture its iconic stepped rice terraces—fields that climb the hills like an endless staircase. Among the most famous and beautiful of them are the Tegallalang Rice Terraces, known not only for their natural beauty but also for the giant swings that have become symbols of freedom and exhilaration. This is a place where you can both feel the tranquility of nature and the thrill of soaring into the sky.

Restoration and strengthening operations of Zangoleh Dome start

TEHRAN—Head of Damghan Cultural Heritage and Tourism Department Mojtaba Akbarpour gave news of restoration and strengthening operations of Zangoleh Dome in Damghan, Semnan province.

Visiting the historical monuments of Damghan on Saturday, he said that the purpose of this action was to prevent erosion of the historical monument, Mehr news agency reported.

He pointed out that the restoration of Zangoleh Dome is underway, adding that given the erosion of the building, this measure is a step in line of preventing its destruction.

Looking closely at the terraces, you see how water flows in order across each level, bringing life to the rice seeds. This rhythm and harmony transform the fields into more than farmland—they become a living artwork, a cultural landscape.

Leaving Tegallalang, you take with you not just countless photos and videos, but also a deep sense of connection with the earth. That is why Bali stands out as a special destination worldwide: a place where you can both fly above the land and feel rooted in it.

The next stop on our tour was an ancient temple, spoken of with reverence: Gunung Kawi Sebatu. At the entrance, what struck us first was the lush greenery and the soundscape of birdsong and flowing springs. Stone steps led us inside, flanked by turquoise ponds where koi fish swam beneath dancing reflections of sunlight.

The temple's architecture is a union of Balinese tradition and the sanctity of nature. Moss-covered stone walls seemed to have grown out of the mountain and forest itself. The air was heavy with the scent of sandalwood and incense smoke.

Our guide explained that this temple is not only a tourist site but also a living place of worship. Many Balinese families come here once a year for ceremonies and rituals, keeping centuries-old traditions alive.

For those seeking the most luxurious, serene, and dreamlike stay in Bali, the name Viceroy tops every list. This five-star hotel, perched above the deep valleys of Ubud's tropical forests, combines the grandeur of Balinese architecture with modern comfort.

From the moment you arrive, the experience feels different. A majestic wooden entrance with high ceilings, a forest breeze drifting in, and the warm smiles of staff offering a traditional Balinese welcome all hint that you are about to enter a world of peace and elegance. Guests are not treated as mere visitors but as part of the extended Viceroy family.

One of the hotel's highlights is its renowned restaurant, located on a hill with sweeping jungle views. Here, Balinese specialties meet international cuisine in a refined setting.

For those eager for adventure or cultural immersion, Viceroy offers private tours to rice terraces and ancient temples, Balinese cooking classes, cycling through traditional villages, and even hot-air balloon rides above the forest canopy. It is a bridge between the most luxurious hospitality and the most authentic experiences of Bali.

UNESCO-listed Golestan Palace to reopen museums in phases from Sept. 23

TEHRAN – Golestan Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site in central Tehran, will begin reopening its museums and historic buildings in stages starting Sept. 23, the site's director said on Sunday.

Afarin Emami, director of the palace complex, said the first stage will include buildings without major museum objects or those where exhibits can be arranged quickly.

These include the Marble Throne and its related spaces, Emarat-e Badgir (“Windcatcher Edifice”), the first floor of Shams-ol Emareh, and Karim Khani nook. A carpet exhibition will also reopen in the Shams-ol Emareh building.

Emami said museums housing objects would reopen later, once conservation and restoration work is completed. The second stage will include the Anthropology Mu-



The Salam Hall (Reception Hall) at Golestan Palace exemplifies Qajar architecture with intricate tile work, multiple arches, and ornate windows.

seum, the Diamond Hall, the Howz Khaneh Museum, Salam Hall and the Brilliant Hall.

She added that the temporary closure allowed staff to carry out extensive conservation, safety and security projects. These included upgrading surveillance systems,

improving storage protection, repainting buildings and restoring architectural decorations. Some movable cultural objects were also sent for repair, delaying the reopening of certain areas.

“Each museum that is ready will reopen immediately with prior public announcement,” Emami said.

The reopening was approved by Ali Darabi, deputy minister of Iran's Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Organization.

Golestan Palace, inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage list in 2013, is known for its Persian architecture, gardens and collections of art and artifacts. It was among many museums and heritage sites across Iran that closed during the 12-day Israeli-imposed war on Iran earlier this year.

Met Museum’s tiny clay figurine reveals ancient origins of the mighty Hyrcanian tiger

TEHRAN - A seemingly unremarkable clay fragment, housed for decades in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's collections, has been identified as a landmark archaeological discovery. New research confirms the artifact is one of the oldest known depictions of a tiger, reshaping the history of the animal's role in Iranian art and culture.

Published by Henry P. Colburn in the journal *Anthropozoologica*, the study focuses on a Chalcolithic-era figurine (c. 3500-3100 BCE) excavated in 1960 at Yarim Tepe, Iran. Crafted from a distinctive “Caspian Black-on-Red Ware” ceramic, the object portrays a striped feline that Colburn identifies as a tiger—pushing back the evidence for tiger imagery in Iran by over four millennia.

“For the Romans, the ‘Hyrcanian tiger’ symbolized exotic Eastern ferocity, yet we lacked proof that communities within Hyrcania itself—modern Golestan province—represented them this early,” said Colburn. “This figurine reveals the deep, local origins of the tiger's symbolic power.”

The figurine, acquired by the Met in 1963, measures just over 8 cm and preserves the animal's chest, neck, and partial head. Carefully painted stripes curve along its body—a deliber-

ate feature central to its identification.

Previously, tigers were thought to have entered Iranian iconography through foreign influence. They appear much later, during the Sasanian Empire (c. 224–651 CE), embellishing royal silverware in hunting scenes that displayed the king's dominance over nature. Scholars long believed these images were imports from Central Asia, where tiger depictions have ancient roots.

“Lions dominated Iranian art because they inhabited the plateau; tigers did not,” explained Colburn. “Sasanian tigers were thus seen as artistic borrowings, not native motifs.”

The Yarim Tepe figurine overturns this view. The Caspian tiger (*Panthera tigris virgata*), now extinct, once roamed the Hyrcanian forests where Yarim Tepe is located. The people there lived alongside these apex predators.

Dating the object was achieved through ceramic analysis. The “Caspian Black-on-Red Ware” style is well-documented across northeastern Iranian sites like Tureng Tepe and Tepe Hissar, providing a firm date around the fourth millennium BCE.

Though its original use remains unknown, Colburn suggests it may have served as a marker of regional identity—distinguishing northern

communities who knew tigers from southern cultures who did not. Its handheld size might have allowed safe, intimate engagement with the predator's image, possibly for instruction or storytelling. Even its medium—common pottery clay—may have evoked wonder by transforming everyday material into a powerful symbol.

“This object stands at the head of a long artistic lineage,” Colburn concluded. “It shows that a cultural relationship with the tiger existed in Iran millennia earlier than previously believed.”

The discovery gains further support from archaeological finds in neighboring regions. Fereidoun Biglari, an archaeologist at the National Museum of Iran, called the figurine “important indirect proof of the tiger's presence during late prehistory.” He noted that recent excavations at Ilgynly-Depe in Southeastern Turkmenistan uncovered tiger bones from the same period, one bearing cut marks from skinning—the first concrete evidence of tiger hunting in the region during the Chalcolithic era.

“Together,” Biglari added, “the clay tiger from Iran and the physical remains from Turkmenistan show that humans and Caspian tigers have shared a complex history in this part of the world at least for over 5,000 years.”

Evidence of life and industry discovered at Tepe Sialk

TEHRAN— In the fourth season of the excavation of Tepe Sialk in Kashan, central Iran, some workshops have been selected as the focus of research; a continuation of last year's excavations with the aim of more accurately and deeply understanding the newest layers of the site. So far, valuable findings have been obtained from these sections.

According to Mehr News Agency, among the most important achievements is the discovery of a workshop space from the Third Sialk Period (about 5500-5300 years ago).

This space was identified as approximately 2.5 by 3 meters in size, and the presence of a horse-shoe-shaped oven with the heated parts indicates a workshop related to the metallurgical industry, especially copper.

Also discovered in this chapter is a large, layered mastaba from the Sixth Sialk Period (about 2800-2600 years ago).

Evidence suggests that this structure, in conjunction with the construction of the massive adobe building and the clay water trough identified in the second chapter, was part of a comprehensive and organized development program during the Median period.

Other findings in this chapter include the discovery of a possibly residential space with adobe walls beneath a stratified mastaba, two rooms of which have been identified so far and excavations are ongoing.

The third phase of the project to review Tepe Sialk began with

the aim of answering fundamental archaeological questions and providing conditions for displaying the artifacts for visitors, and is now in its fourth season.

This project was launched as a long-term research program in 2001. The first phase of this project was completed between 2001 and 2005, and its second phase continued between 2008 and 2009. The third phase began in 2022 and its fourth season is currently underway.

The main goal of this phase is to answer specialized and fundamental archaeological questions about the central region of Iran from the Neolithic period to the beginning of the Achaemenid period.

In addition, creating the necessary conditions and facilities to display the discovered artifacts to domestic and foreign tourists is also on the agenda.

By the end of the fourth chapter, it is expected that a more accurate and comprehensive understanding of the life of the inhabitants of Sialk in the final stages of settlement in this

valuable ancient site of Iran will be achieved; an understanding that is considered a fundamental step

towards reinterpreting the history of the ancient civilization of the Central Plateau.

Invitation to a Two-Phase Tender for Purchasing Liquid Whey Protein Processing Equipment by Isfahan Pegah Dairy Industries Co.

Isfahan Pegah Dairy Industries Co. intends to buy “**Liquid Whey Protein Recovery, Processing and Demineralization Equipment to Produce D90, WPC 80%, and WPI Whey Powder Used in Infant Formula**” via bidding process from qualified supplying companies. Applicants can send their resumes to the below-mentioned email address from the publishing date of this notice so that tender guarantees are sent with the finalized conditions of the tender after their resumes are reviewed and ultimately approved. Sending participation requests and resumes to the following Email Address shall be allowed after this notice is officially published. Bidding documents will be sent to primarily qualified companies. The closing date is 30 days after the published date of this notice.

Purchasing & Procurement Department, Commercial Deputy Manager, on the Corner of 18th St., 5 Kilometers down Isfahan – Tehran Road, Isfahan, IR
Iran Tel: +98313898 – Extension 247
Email address: Pegah.esfahan@yahoo.com.

Regards,
Commercial Deputy Manager; Isfahan Pegah Dairy Industries Co.

DOE restarts Asiatic cheetah preservation plan after 6 years halt

TEHRAN - The Department of Environment has resumed the implementation of the national project to protect Asiatic cheetahs after a six-year hiatus.

One of the measures taken has been to focus on the cheetah's surrounding habitats so that these habitats can be preserved with public participation, ISNA quoted Hamid Zohrabi, an official with the DOE, as saying.

In recent months, in addition to South Khorasan province, Asiatic cheetahs have been spotted in North Khorasan after several years, indicating the existence of a dynamic and active population, and the connection between ecosystems has been strengthened by a process in which conservation activities probably played a role, and the cheetah is finding new habitats and spreading into them, Zohrabi explained.

In addition, special focus has been placed on recruiting rangers for all provinces where the Asiatic cheetah is found, he added.

"We have made arrangements with regional countries and other countries interested in working in this area, such as India. We are carrying out joint work with South Africa to protect the Asiatic cheetah."

The 'National Cheetah Day' was celebrated on August 31 to raise awareness about the significance of safeguarding and increasing the existing population of Asiatic cheetahs in the



country.

Once roaming vast plains from West Asia into India, the Asiatic cheetah is now found only in Iran. Since 2001, around 85 cheetahs have died because of human-related factors, indicating we have posed a greater threat to their survival than nature.

Listed as one of the most critically endangered big cats in the world, saving the Asiatic cheetah from extinction has turned into a shared responsibility.

The latest report by the Department of Environment has shown that there are 26 Asiatic cheetahs in the country, with 20 individuals living in the wild and six in captivity.

According to the head of the DOE, Shina Ansari, the extinction of the world's rarest cat has become a symbol of our challenges and responsibilities towards Iran's nature.

Preserving cheetahs is not

merely an environmental concern. It is a symbol of the country's ecosystem's health, a life-balance preserver. Protecting the cheetah means ensuring the right to life for people and nature.

The DOE makes its best efforts to preserve endangered animals. However, the goal will be fulfilled only by the participation and involvement of people, media, responsible institutions, and nature lovers.

Relocating domestic animals from cheetah habitats, fencing the Tehran-Mashhad road, which is one of the most dangerous areas, and breeding in captivity are among the most recent measures the DOE has been taking to preserve cheetahs.

Also, the DOE is following up on the allocation of two trillion rials (around 2 million dollars) to decrease cheetah mortalities on the Tehran-Mashhad road

through enhancing road lighting, reducing vehicle speeds, and fencing. Drones and other wildlife monitoring tools can also be used to conserve cheetahs in the area.

According to the latest report by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), some 154 species of Iranian vertebrates are critically endangered of extinction.

In May, President Masoud Pezeshkian issued an order, obligating the DOE to develop a strategic plan to preserve endangered species in the country.

The DOE has already developed action plans for the conservation of 25 endangered species, and the plans are being implemented in the country. It is also planning to organize a committee for the preservation of critically endangered species, including cheetahs, black bears, and great bustards.

Currently, about 128 species of animals and vertebrates in the country are at risk of extinction, some of which are not in good condition, and amphibians are the most vulnerable in this area. Persian zebra, Asiatic cheetah, black bear, and yellow deer are in danger of extinction.

A comprehensive and operational plan in the field of the environment is needed to cover different environmental sectors. It must include goals, assumptions, operational measures, financial resources, and results.

Russian Red Cross thanks IRCS for sympathy with quake survivors

TEHRAN - In response to the message of sympathy sent by the head of the Iranian Red Crescent Society following the severe earthquake in eastern Russia, the head of the Russian Red Cross expressed his appreciation for the sympathy and moral support of the IRCS.

"This valuable message reflects the deep human and humanitarian ties between the two national societies, and we are grateful for this support," Savchuk Pavel Olegovich, the Russian official, wrote to Pirhossein Koolivand, the IRCS head, IRNA reported.

"We express our most sincere gratitude for your sympathy and friendly support. Such messages are undoubtedly a great encouragement to the rescue workers and the victims in difficult moments."

A strong earthquake struck Russia's far eastern Kamchatka region, the regional governor said on Friday, prompting a series of tsunami warnings in the region, but despite waves reaching the shore, there were no reports of damage.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake was measured at a magnitude of 7.8 and at

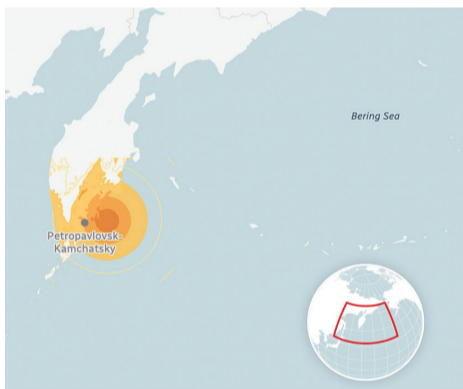
a depth of 10 km (6.2 miles). It said a series of aftershocks followed, measuring up to 5.8.

Afghanistan earthquake

On September 14, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan issued a statement appreciating the Iranian Red Crescent Society for the relief supplies delivered following the devastating earthquake that hit the country.

According to the statement, Iran was the first country to dispatch humanitarian consignments to quake-hit Afghans in Kunar, the IRCS reported.

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 the Kama district, some 30 km northeast of the city of Jalalabad. Several aftershocks have occurred since, with the initial quake felt in neighboring 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 destabilizing the villages.

The Taliban administration has confirmed the death toll at 2,205, with at least 3,640 injured, though the United Nations has warned that the numbers may rise as many people remain trapped under rubble.

More than 6,700 homes have been destroyed, leaving tens of thousands of people homeless and in urgent need of assistance.

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Iran working with Green Climate Fund

TEHRAN - The Department of Environment (DOE) is working with the United Nations Green Climate Fund (GCF), under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), to reduce the effects of climate change.

FAO and the Department of Environment as the National Designated Authority (NDA) of Green Climate Fund (GCF), partnered to bring together local, national, and international stakeholders in a three-day workshop, the last one in a series of iterative events held under the project "Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Program of Iran."

"Throughout the implementation of this Project, FAO as the delivery partner has always stayed committed to providing its technical expertise, data, and tools to support the country in its efforts to strengthen the national capacities to effectively access and efficiently manage, track and guide climate financing with particular attention to the requirements of the GCF," said Gerold Bödeker, FAO Representative to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

همکاری ایران با صندوق اقلیم سبز سازمان ملل

سازمان حفاظت محیط زیست به عنوان مرجع رسمی ایران در زمینه حفظ محیط زیست با صندوق اقلیم سبز سازمان ملل با محوریت سازمان خواربار و کشاورزی ملل متحد (فائو) در راستای کاهش تأثیرات تغییر اقلیم همکاری می‌کند.

فائو و سازمان حفاظت محیط زیست کشور به عنوان مرجع صلاحیت دار ملی ایران و صندوق اقلیم سبز با همکاری یکدیگر، این پروژه را پیش بردند و در قالب چند برگزاری چند کارگاه اقدامات را بررسی کردند، بر این اساس در آخرین کارگاه، ذینفعان محلی، ملی و بین المللی را به عنوان آخرین حلقه از زنجیره رویدادهای پروژه «برنامه آماده سازی جمهوری اسلامی ایران برای همکاری با صندوق اقلیم سبز» گرد هم آوردند.

گروld بودکر نماینده فائو در جمهوری اسلامی ایران گفت: در طول اجرای این پروژه، فائو، به عنوان شریک اجرایی، همیشه متعهد به ارائه تخصص فنی، داده‌ها و ابزارهای سیاستی خود برای حمایت از کشور در تلاش‌های خود برای تقویت ظرفیت‌های ملی برای دسترسی مؤثر و مدیریت کارآمد، ردیابی و هدایت تأمین مالی اقدامات اقلیمی با در نظر گرفتن الزامات صندوق اقلیم سبز بوده است.

Iranian researchers continue to trend upward in world's top 2% list

From page 1 ► Based on the report, the number of highly cited Iranian researchers in the one-year performance index has increased from 2,326 in the Iranian year 1403 (2024-2025) to 2,533 in 1404 (2025-2026).

This figure represents an increase of 207 persons compared to the previous year and clearly demonstrates the improvement in the quality and impact of the country's scientific production in 2024, he explained.

Also, the number of highly cited Iranian researchers in the career-long index has grown significantly from 1,018 in 1403 to 1,021 in 1404. A five-year trend analysis shows that Iran has achieved this remarkable achievement from 433 in 1399, and has experienced nearly three-fold growth in this time period, Salehi added.

"The career-long index refers to a researcher's scientific performance over their entire career and includes the total number of citations received by the researcher's articles through the end of 2024. This index evaluates metrics such as the number of citations, h-index, and the researcher's contribution to collaborative articles."

The single-year index focuses on the citations received by articles in a specific year. In the recent report, citations received in 2024 were the basis for the ranking, which indicates the current scientific impact and the ability of the researcher to produce new knowledge, he concluded.

The 2024 edition of the Nature Index Research Leaders report has placed Iran 32nd among Research Leaders globally. The report is based on Nature Index data from January 1 to December 31, 2023.

Institute for Fundamental Sciences (IPM), University of Tehran, and Sharif University of Technology are ranked first to third in the country.

The country is ranked second in Physical Sciences, third in Chemistry, as well as Health Sciences, fourth in Earth and Environmental Sciences, and fifth in Biological Sciences in the region.

Iran's best global ranking is in Physical Sciences with the rank of 27.

The Nature Index is an open database of author affiliations and institutional relationships. The Index tracks contributions to research articles published in high-quality natural science and health science journals, chosen based on reputation by an independent group of researchers.

The Nature Index provides absolute Count and fractional share counts of article publications at the institutional and national levels and, as such, is an indicator of global high-quality research output and collaboration.

Data in the Nature Index are updated regularly, with the most recent 12 months. The database is compiled by Nature Research Intelligence, part of Springer Nature.

IranPharma expo attracts 743 companies from 28 countries

TEHRAN - The 10th IranPharma Exhibition, the largest specialized pharmaceutical event in Iran, will take place in Tehran from September 24 to 26, bringing together 743 companies from 28 countries.

With the theme "Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation," the exhibition is hosted by the Iranian Syndicate of Pharmaceutical Industries at the Grand Musalla in Tehran.

The event attracts a wide range of domestic and international companies, associations, and related organizations.

It provides a platform for fostering technological collaboration, showcasing export capabilities, attracting investment in innovative areas, and professional networking.

Side events such as expert panels, business meetings, book exhibitions, and student tours attract significant attention each year.

The issue of medicine and medical equipment production and self-sufficiency in these areas is one of the government's priorities, Health Minister Mohammad-Reza Zafarqandi has said.

Medicine and medical equipment are two important areas related to people's health, he said, adding: "We are trying to reach self-sufficiency for the supply of medicine and medical equipment," IRNA reported.



Urmia hosting grape festival

The eighth grape festival of Iran kicked off on September 12 in the northwestern city of Urmia and will conclude on September 22.

With an annual production of more than 3.4 million tons, Iran is the world's seventh-largest producer of grapes.



SEPTEMBER 22, 2025

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Beware! Whoever is cruel and harsh to a non-Muslim minority, curtailing their rights, overburdening them, or stealing from them, I will complain [to God] about that person on the Day of Judgment.

Prophet Muhammad (S)

Prayer Times > Noon:11:57 Evening: 18:19 Dawn: 4:29 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 5:53 (tomorrow)

“In the Name of Iran” exhibition showcases generations of Iranian graphic designers’ posters

TEHRAN- The “In the Name of Iran” poster exhibition, featuring works by multiple generations of Iranian graphic designers, was inaugurated on Friday at the Gooya Art Gallery in Tehran.

The exhibition, which is underway until September 30, displays 35 posters created by 35 talented graphic artists, celebrating the rich heritage and identity of Iran, Mehr reported.

Prominent participants include Qobad Shiva, Ebrahim Haqiqi, Hossein Khosrojerdi, Mostafa Goudarzi, Majid Abasi, Farzad Adibi, Kourosh Parsanejad, Masoud Nejabati, Ali Boustan, Kianoush Gharibpour, Arman Davoodi, Maryam Kohvand, Onish Aminollahi, Seyyed Hassan Mousazadeh, and Mohsen Dainabi among others.

Works by Babak Arbabi, Mohammad Rouholamin, Mohammad Reza Doostmohammadi, Ehsan Mahdavi, Najmeh Famil dashti, Meysam Namdar, Shoaib Abolhassani, Maryam Parvaneh, Danial Farrokhi, Saber Sheikh-Rezai, Hamed Maghrouri, Alireza Hesarakhi, Mohammad Farahani, Hamid Qorbanpour, Mohammad Razeqi, Atefeh Shid Moadab, Mojdeh Alipour, Leila Niroumand, Mehran Pendar, and Amirhossein Mirabi are also on display at the event.

Their works have been specially created for this exhibition, embodying their artistic visions.

The exhibition is dedicated to three legendary late figures in Iranian graphic design: Morteza Momayez, Mostafa Asadollahi, and Masoud Sepehr, each of whom profoundly influenced the development and academic legacy of graphic arts in Iran, while expressing a deep love for their homeland.

Amir Abdolhassani, the curator of “In the Name of Iran,” explained: “Following days of unity, re-

sistance, and national pride –after the Zionist regime’s attack on Iranian soil– Iran’s grandeur became even more inspiring for artists. They celebrated the homeland through their unique artistic languages. With the support of the ‘Nam’ Cultural and Artistic Institute, I commissioned posters that reflect Iran’s unity, cohesion, and majesty, and I am proud to showcase the latest works of these talented designers in this event.”

“After consulting with renowned graphic artists, I compiled a list of multi-generational designers and invited them to create works based on specific themes. Since posters are a visual medium accessible and understandable to all, they effectively communicate messages to the public. Following the collection of artworks, a panel of experts selected 35 posters from 35 designers to be exhibited,” he added.

“The exhibition title, ‘In the Name of Iran,’ was chosen to evoke national pride. The calligraphy of the title was entrusted to the renowned contemporary artist Sedaqat Jabbari, whose brilliant design is prominently featured on the main poster of the event,” he explained.

“This exhibition is dedicated to the memory of three legendary Iranian graphic artists—Morteza Momayez, Mostafa Asadollahi, and Masoud Sepehr—who, beyond their influence in graphic design and academic mentoring, were passionate patriots who created enduring works of art in Iran,” he emphasized.

“The ‘In the Name of Iran’ exhibition underscores Iran’s unity, strength, and grandeur, highlighting the ongoing capacity of contemporary Iranian art to narrate stories of national cohesion and identity,” he concluded.

Iranian researcher Sahar Tarhandeh to serve in jury of 30th Biennial of Illustration Bratislava

TEHRAN – Iranian researcher of children’s literature and picture books Sahar Tarhandeh has been selected as one of the international jurors of the 30th Biennial of Illustration Bratislava (BIB 2025).

The nomination of an Iranian judge for BIB is made by the Children’s Book Council of Iran, as the official representative of IBBY in the country, in collaboration with the Iranian Illustrators Society and the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), IRNA reported.

These three institutions jointly serve as the specialized decision-making body responsible for selecting, introducing, and supporting Iran’s representatives at the festival.

The Biennial of Illustration Bratislava is one of the most prestigious children’s book illustration events in the world. It is held every two years in Slovakia’s capital with the support of UNESCO and the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY).

Sahar Tarhandeh, a board member of the Children’s Book Council of Iran, was previously recognized internationally as a judge for the Hans Christian Andersen Award, widely known as the “Nobel Prize for Children’s Literature.”

With more than two decades of activity in criticism, promotion, and analysis of children’s literature, she is regarded as one of the influential cultural figures in



this field.

The Biennial of Illustration Bratislava has been held since 1967 with the aim of showcasing outstanding artistic achievements in children’s illustration. It is currently organized by the cultural institution BIBIANA, with the official support of UNESCO, IBBY, and the Slovak Ministry of Culture.

This international event features a series of exhibitions, workshops, symposiums, and professional programs for illustrators and children’s literature researchers from around the world.

In addition to Sahar Tarhandeh’s role on the international jury, two other Iranians will also participate in BIB’s side programs this year: Melika Jamali, selected to attend the Albin Brunovsky Illustration Workshop and Parisa Beabadi, chosen to participate in the BIB Symposium on the theme “The Impact of the Biennial of Illustration Bratislava on Illustration Movements.”

They were selected from among applicants who responded to the open call and submitted their portfolios for the workshop and symposium.

Tarhandeh’s presence on the

jury continues the longstanding tradition of Iranian figures contributing to this international event. Notable past participants include: Farshid Mesghali (1975), Siros Tahbaz (1977), Nouredin Zarrinkelk (1999), Behzad Gharibpour (2003), Abolfazl Hemmati-Ahouei (2005), Mahmoud Moshiri (2007), and Ali Boozari (2017 and 2019), who have served as jurors or speakers in different editions of BIB.

The 30th Biennial of Illustration Bratislava will take place from October 2025 to January 2026 at Bratislava Castle.

“I Decided to Live as Me” at Iranian bookstores



TEHRAN- A Persian translation of Korean writer and illustrator Kim Suhyun’s 2024 book “I Decided to Live as Me” has recently been published by Milkan Publications in Tehran.

The book has been translated into Persian by Nahid Shirzad.

“I Decided to Live as Me” is a heartfelt reflection rooted in the author’s personal experiences and emotions. In this book, Kim emphasizes the importance of self-love and self-respect, regardless of one’s perceived value in the eyes of the world. She advocates that even if we feel insignificant or undervalued by society, we must still cherish ourselves and uphold our dignity.

The author challenges common misconceptions about anxiety, asserting that it is not directly linked to our physical conditions. Instead, she explains that anxiety and emotional distress are largely shaped by our relationships with those around us. Recognizing this, Kim encourages readers not to allow minor setbacks or trivial issues to lead to feelings of emptiness or despair. At the same time, she emphasizes that one should not become indifferent toward life or the world, but rather approach life with awareness and compassion.

Throughout the book, Kim Suhyun offers a message of hope and resilience, urging readers to

embrace their true selves amid life’s challenges. Her insights serve as a reminder that authentic self-acceptance and emotional awareness are key to living a meaningful life. “I Decided to Live as Me” inspires individuals to prioritize their inner well-being, fostering a sense of empowerment and self-compassion in the face of life’s uncertainties.

Kim Suhyun is a writer and illustrator based in Seoul, South Korea. Her works have garnered over two million copies sold nationwide, and her book “I Decided to Live as Me” is now being published internationally, translated into more than a dozen languages.

Series of \$3,000 limited-edition bronze sculptures for Gaza sell out in two days

As an increasing number of artists globally voice support for Gaza, some are becoming creative in their ways to raise funds for people on the ground.

The latest is Adeline de Monseignat, a Dutch-Monegasque artist who lives between Mexico City and London, who created a limited-edition series of 25 bronze sculptures inspired by the watermelon seed, The National reported.

The series went on sale for £2,000 (\$2,700) each and sold out within two days. All proceeds will go to Heal Palestine, a US-registered non-profit that provides medical care and rehabilitation to children who have severe injuries, as well as emotional support for those who have suffered loss.

The watermelon has become a symbol of solidarity in Palestine as its colors – green, red, white and black – match the Palestinian flag. “For me, the seed represents resilience, rootedness and the capacity to endure even in the harshest conditions,” de Monseignat said. “Transforming this symbol into bronze was my way of creating a lasting testament to endurance, and turning a small, humble object into something that can carry weight, presence and solidarity.”

The series is called “Rooted”. Each piece is crafted in black-patinated bronze, measuring 15cm x 10cm x 2cm, and is signed, dated and numbered by the artist. It comes in a linen box, also designed by de Monseignat, and includes a certificate of authenticity.

All proceeds will go directly to Heal Pal-

estine to cover one month of living expenses, education, mental health care and other essential resources for an injured child and their family while they undergo free treatment in the U.S. or partner country.

“As a mother, I can’t imagine the pain of seeing children suffer such devastating injuries, displacement, and loss,” said the artist. “My practice has always circled around themes of fertility, transformation and cycles of life so, to me, standing with children whose futures are being brutally disrupted is a natural extension of what I already explore in my work. Silence was not an option.”

The artist was spurred into action when Artists Support – a charitable organization that collaborates with artists to raise awareness – contacted her to work on a project and select a charity of her choice. “I knew exactly where I wanted my energy to be concentrated on,” she says. While Artists Support is usually funded by a 10 percent operational fee paid by the buyer, this fee was waived for “Rooted”.

“Collectors, friends and strangers alike have reached out not only to acquire the work, but also to share how strongly they connect to its symbolism. There’s a sense that this project has touched people beyond the art world, resonating as a gesture of empathy and peaceful protest. And on a personal level, it is prompting me to think of further new ways to help.”

While de Monseignat’s primary aim is to accrue donations, she’s also hoping to keep the conversation around Palestine alive, “to

remind people that art can hold space for grief, resilience, and hope, even in the darkest times”.

“I believe artists can act as vessels. We absorb the world around us and we translate it into forms that carry emotion, meaning and sometimes action. While every artist has their own way of engaging with social issues, I feel a responsibility to use my platform and my work to speak when words fail me. Sculpture allows me to create something tangible, a symbol of protest that also contributes materially to change.”

Broadly speaking, her practice draws on cycles of transformation in nature and life, using materials such as stone, bronze, textile and glass. “I’m particularly interested in how materials themselves can become protagonists, holding both symbolic weight and emotional resonance,” she says.

Next, de Monseignat has a solo exhibition called Playscape at Bo Lee and Workman in the UK, running from September 20 to December 15, an immersive installation inspired by the ways in which toddlers explore the world through play.

Artists should not underestimate the effect they can have on social issues in general, says de Monseignat. “Art may not stop bombs, but it can create ripples of awareness, empathy, and action. If you have a voice, a platform or a craft, use it. Gestures add up and, together, they can form a chorus strong enough to carry hope forward and make a difference, however small it might be.”

Cartoon of Day



Gaza Genocide

Cartoonist: Fabian Sotolongo from Cuba