

Leader meets with elite medalists from sports, scientific fields

Trump's Rant Aimed to Boost Morale of Defeated Zionists

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Extremists in Israel are full of hatred against Palestinians

By Bahram Moradi

TEHRAN – Netanyahu and his co-ideologists, such as Itmar Ben Gvir, Bezalel Smotrich, Amichai Eliyahu, and many others, are full of hatred against Palestinians even when there is not a hot war. If it was not so, there was no justification for so much cruelty against Palestinians and no justification for not settling this decades-long conflict.

It is true that Hamas first attacked Israel on October 7, 2023, which its reasons are not difficult to understand, but the magnitude of brutality against ordinary Palestinians greatly astonished the world. It was completely out of proportion.

Far right extremists inside and outside Israel acknowledge no right for Palestinians. They see every Palestinian as an enemy. The ultra-Orthodox Zionists want no Palestinian on their native land.

The degree of hate against Palestinians has shown itself in words and deeds. When Israel cut off water, food, medicine, fuel and electricity to Gaza in the early days of the war, Yoav Gallant described Gazans as “human animals”.

Sit-in before Tehran embassy in Lebanon to seek Iran's help for reconstruction

By Sondoss AlAsaad

BEIRUT — At a time when some Lebanese politicians are racing to repeat Washington's narratives about the “Iranian occupation of Lebanon,” the people of the border villages in the South are presenting the exact opposite picture: The residents of the border villages staged a sit-in in front of the Iranian embassy in Beirut, not to protest against it, but to seek Iran's assistance to return to their villages from which they were displaced by repeated Israeli attacks.

They wanted to send a direct message to Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, because they know that Iran is only party that has not abandoned them for four decades.

The protesters made it clear: The Lebanese state is purposely absent, and the authorities are either impotent or complicit, while Iran has always stood by the oppressed and deprived in the South, the Bekaa, and every piece of Lebanese territory afflicted by the occupation regime of Israel.

Caribbean crisis: U.S. military actions fuel Latin American pushback

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN – The United States' deadly attacks on vessels in Caribbean waters off Venezuela and Colombia, coupled with President Donald Trump's escalating threats, have thrust the region into global attention. Since early September, nearly 30 people have been killed in strikes that the Trump administration claims are aimed at dismantling drug trafficking networks.

The latest attack, on Thursday, claimed two lives when a vessel in the region was struck. Trump said U.S. intelligence confirmed the ship was “loaded up with mostly Fentanyl and other illegal narcotics.” He added that two others who survived the attack would be returned to their countries of origin, Ecuador and Colombia. U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth further claimed the ship was linked to a Colombian leftist rebel group, calling such vessels “cartels” of “the Al Qaeda of the Western Hemisphere.”

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Exhibit on food culture underway at Niavaran palace complex

TEHRAN – A month-long exhibition titled “Taste of the Museum; From Table to Art” is currently underway at the Niavaran Cultural-Historical Complex in northern Tehran.

The event, running from October 16 to November 15, showcases historical and cultural artifacts related to food and dining customs in Iran during the Pahlavi era.

It showcases serving vessels, cooking tools, and items representing traditional Iranian and Western dining and hospitality practices. The display also features a Qajar-era oil painting titled “The Cooks.”

According to the Niavaran authorities, the event also marks World Food Day, which was established in 1945 by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). ► Page 6



Larijani touts growing Iran-Iraq ties, condemns US interference in Iraq

TEHRAN – In a wide-ranging press conference with his Iraqi counterpart, Iran's Supreme National Security Council Secretary Ali Larijani emphasized the “friendly and brotherly” ties between Tehran and Baghdad, while sharply criticizing the United States for its repeated violations of Iraqi sovereignty.

The joint briefing with Qasim al-Araji, Iraq's National Security Advisor, followed high-level talks which Larijani characterized as “very positive,” focusing primarily on expanding economic cooperation between the two neighbors. ► Page 2

What Iran's foreign ministry spokesman says at his weekly briefing

TEHRAN – The spokesperson for Iran's Foreign Ministry, Esmaeil Baqaei, addressed a wide range of domestic and international issues during his weekly press briefing on Monday.

His remarks covered topics including Iran's diplomatic engagements, regional developments, ongoing negotiations, and the country's position on key global affairs. Throughout the session, he reaffirmed Iran's principled stance on dialogue, resistance to external pressure, and commitment to regional stability and cooperation. ► Page 3

'Our response will be different': Top commander vows new kind of war with Israel

TEHRAN – A senior Iranian military commander has warned that the country's response to any mistake by the enemy will, this time, be extremely different to previous responses, urging the Armed Forces to maintain their preparedness at the highest level and upgrade it day by day.

“By attacking Iran, the Israeli regime aided by the U.S. wanted to extricate itself from the predicament of disgrace and public hatred as well as internal chaos, but suffered a crushing defeat and desperately demanded a ceasefire,” said Major General Abdurahim Mousavi, the president of the General Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces. ► Page 2

Pakistan issues new executive order to boost barter trade with Iran

TEHRAN – Pakistan's government has issued a new executive order aimed at promoting barter trade with Iran after months of consultation and review to address the concerns of both countries' business communities, Pakistan's ambassador to Tehran, Muhammad Mudassir Tipu, announced.

In a post on X on Sunday, Tipu said: “I am pleased to announce that Pakistan has issued a new executive order (SRO) to promote barter trade with the Islamic Republic of Iran.”

He explained that following an extensive and inclusive review process, many of the issues raised by Iranian and Pakistani traders have been addressed in the new regulation. The envoy expressed hope that the measure would significantly enhance the volume and diversity of trade between the two neighbors.

“I invite industrialists and the business communities of both countries to fully benefit from this order and contribute to the expansion of bilateral trade,” he added, urging chambers of commerce and trade bodies in both nations to circulate the regulation among their members to help maximize its benefits. ► Page 4

Esteemed international figures selected to judge at Tehran International Short Film Festival

TEHRAN – The 42nd Tehran International Short Film Festival (TISFF) has announced the jury members for the International Competition and AI sections.

According to the festival website, the jury panels include prominent national and international figures in the realm of short film.

Iranian filmmaker Saeid Ebrahimifar, Dutch director Thom Palmen, Romanian filmmaker Mirona Radu, Polish director Damien Kocur, and Chinese animation director Joe Chang constitute the jury panel of the International Competition of the 42nd TISFF. ► Page 8

TEHRAN PAPERS

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

Why is a US return to Bagram worrisome for Iran?

In an analysis, Shargh examined President Donald Trump's decision to regain control of Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan after the U.S. exit from Afghanistan in August 2021. The paper said: From Tehran's perspective, these moves signal the potential opening of a new strategic front on Iran's eastern border. For decades, Iran has concentrated its military and security resources along the Middle Eastern region, stretching from the Persian Gulf and Iraq to its confrontation with Israel. The redeployment of American forces to Bagram could significantly alter the security dynamics in eastern Iran, compelling Tehran to reassess its defense strategy and reallocate military assets. This shift would require Iran to divert attention from its western and southern fronts toward the east, potentially weakening its deterrence posture against both Israel and the United States over time. Importantly, this is not merely a tactical military maneuver; it represents a symbolic reentry of the United States into a region it was previously thought to have exited. If implemented, the move would pose not only a direct security challenge to Iran but also serve as a broader strategic warning.

Khorasan: New opportunities for Iran

Khorasan, in a note, explored the end of the expiration of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 that endorsed the JCPOA. It said: The end of this resolution is more than a legal turning point, and it marks the beginning of a new phase in Iran's foreign policy. With fewer restrictions, Iran can now engage more freely with Eastern partners in areas such as international trade, dual-use technologies, defense collaboration, and the exchange of technical expertise. In this context, trilateral cooperation between Iran, Russia, and China—particularly in energy, transportation, and peaceful nuclear development—could serve as a plan for broader engagement within BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. Moreover, the restoration of Iran's legal standing as a nation with peaceful nuclear capabilities opens new ways for scientific and industrial partnerships with independent countries. This moment entails active diplomacy and importance of shaping global narratives. The conclusion of Resolution 2231 is not the end of a constraint; it is the start of a new chapter in Iran's proactive role within a multipolar world.

Ettelaat: Lessons for post-JCPOA era

In a recent article, Ettelaat reflected on the end of the JCPOA after a decade, arguing that the agreement ultimately was a lesson rather than a benefit for Iran. While the JCPOA

was intended to lift sanctions and normalize Iran's nuclear case, the Western parties demonstrated from the outset a pattern of non-compliance, revealing that their true objectives lay elsewhere. According to the article, the most significant result from the JCPOA is the unreliability of Western powers. The agreement underscored that those sanctions remain a persistent tool in the hands of Iran's enemies, and they have no intention of ignoring them. Pursuing such a path, the article contends, is both illogical and futile. Negotiation has always been part of Iran's diplomatic policy. However, it emphasizes the importance of understanding the purpose and expectations behind engaging in dialogue. The alignment and objectives of Iran's enemies have become increasingly transparent, with their intentions now openly declared. In this context, the article calls for national unity and cohesion, urging political factions to coordinate in the face of external pressures. It also highlights the need for intelligent global engagement. Any action that undermines these imperatives, the article warns, effectively helps the enemy and harms Iran's own interests.

Arman-e-Melli: Solidarity is a strategic asset

In a commentary piece, Arman-e-Melli analyzed Iran's evolving strategy in response to the snapback mechanism and the support voiced by China and Russia in declaring it illegitimate. The article argues that Iran now intends to scale back its cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), distancing itself from the framework established under the JCPOA. This shift is aimed at helping Iran recover from the psychological impact of Western actions, particularly those of Europe and the United States. If Iran can demonstrate resilience and maintain its stance, it may compel Washington to reconsider its pressure tactics and return to the negotiating table. If Iran successfully absorbs the initial shock of renewed sanctions, it will be able to sustain its current course and prove that coercive diplomacy will not force it into negotiations. The experience of widespread public solidarity during the June 12-day war has increased awareness of American overreach and strengthened domestic support for resistance. This alignment between public sentiment and government policy, Arman-e-Melli concludes, represents a significant achievement which must be recognized and preserved as Iran navigates the challenges ahead.

Larijani touts growing Iran-Iraq ties, condemns US interference in Iraq

From Page 1 ▶ “The level of interactions between Iran and Iraq is developing,” Larijani stated. “For our economic relations to be sustainable, however, security issues must also be seriously addressed and resolved.”

The Iranian official expressed gratitude for the Iraqi government's positions during the 12-day U.S.-Israeli aggression against Iran. He noted that the United States and Israel “exploited Iraqi territory” to attack Iran, but noted that the Iraqi government had pledged to pursue the matter in international forums.

Larijani did not mince words when discussing Washington's role in the region. He stated that after years of struggle against a dictator, the Iraqi people had established an independent government based on national will. “Yet,” he continued, “the repeated violation of Iraq's airspace by the United States is a clear sign of Washington's exploitation of



Iran's Security chief Ali Larijani attended a press conference with his Iraqi counterpart in Tehran on Monday

regional countries.”

The press conference also touched upon international diplomacy and Iran's nuclear file. When questioned about the report by the International Atomic Energy Agency's Director General Rafael Grossi that paved the way

for Israel's aggression in June, Larijani dismissed it as “mistaken and biased.” He stated that Grossi had “done his job,” and that his reports would no longer impact Iran's interactions with the agency.

On the triggering of the so-

called “snapback” mechanism by European powers to reimpose UN sanctions, Larijani reiterated Iran's official stance: The move invalidated previous agreements with the IAEA. He praised Russia for its “principled and legal” position opposing the European move, which he labeled “illegal and unjust.”

Looking to Iran's other international partnerships, Larijani described relations with China as being “at an excellent level” and said cooperation with Moscow was proceeding on a similar path. He confirmed that his recent trip to Russia was aimed at developing bilateral cooperation and reviewing regional and global issues.

Larijani concluded by highlighting the importance of the Iraqi delegation's visit to Tehran, expressing hope that it would lead to a further deepening of relations between the two countries.

‘Our response will be different’: Top commander vows new kind of war with Israel



General Abdurahim Mousavi (C), the president of the General Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, speaks at an event on October 20, 2025

From Page 1 ▶ On June 13, Israel launched a blatant and unprovoked act of aggression against Iran, triggering a 12-day war that killed at least 1,064 people in the country, including military commanders, nuclear scientists, and ordinary civilians. The United States also entered the war by bombing three Iranian nuclear sites in a grave violation of international law.

In response, the Iranian Armed Forces targeted strategic sites across the occupied territories as well as the al-Udeid air base in Qatar, the largest American military base in West Asia.

In separate remarks regarding

the war, a senior general at Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) reiterated that Iran's missile capability has not been harmed at all. “Our missiles have not suffered even a scratch,” said Brigadier General Mohammadreza Naqdi.

The commander's remarks come as the Tel Aviv regime claims part of Iran's missile capabilities were destroyed during the Israeli aggression. Naqdi added that Iran responded to the Israeli military aggression accordingly.

Another Iranian commander also said that the country had prepared itself for a two-month

war following the Israeli military aggression. “Our war strategy was to deal more effective and more crushing blows gradually through proper Management,” said Major General Mohsen Rezaei.

The United States blew through about a quarter of its supply of high-end THAAD missile interceptors during Israel's 12-day war with Iran in June, according to two sources familiar with the operation.

U.S. forces countered Tehran's barrage of ballistic missiles by firing more than 100 THAADs (short for Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) – and possibly as many as 150 – a significant portion of America's stockpile of the advanced air defense system, the sources said. The US has seven THAAD systems, and used two of them in Israel in the conflict.

Using so many THAAD interceptors in such a short period exposed a gap in the US missile defense network and depleted a costly asset at a moment when American public support for Israeli defense has reached historic lows.

Meanwhile, in response to the Zionist regime's unprovoked aggression and the U.S.-backed strike on Iran's diplomatic and scientific institutions, the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) launched a meticulously calculated series of missile and drone

strikes over twelve days.

These targeted assaults, now known to have reached 22 distinct operational waves, dismantled key Israeli military, intelligence, and technological infrastructure—leading to a pressured halt in hostilities.

Faced with unprecedented destruction, Israel has imposed tight censorship. Foreign journalists have been banned, satellite images are restricted, and social media platforms are under pressure to suppress content showing Israeli losses.

Iranian attacks struck several key targets in the occupied territories, including the Kirya often referred to as Israel's “Pentagon,” Camp Moshe Dayan, a training and operations center for military intelligence officers, Tel Nof is one of the most fortified airbases in the occupied territories, Nevatim is Israel's primary base for operating U.S.-made F-35 stealth fighters, Hatzerim, another vital air base as well as the Ovda airbase, which is a key Israeli military installation said to house command-and-control systems and electronic warfare capabilities.

Iran has announced, time and again, that it will give a crushing response to any military aggression or any move jeopardizing its national security.

IRGC says ready for closer cooperation with Yemen Armed Forces

TEHRAN – The commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) says it is ready to forge closer cooperation with Yemen's Armed Forces.

“The IRGC announces its full preparedness to reinforce spiritual and strategic bonds with Yemen's Armed Forces to confront global hegemony and international Zionism,” said Major General Mohammad Pakpour in a message to Chief of the General Staff of the Yemeni Armed Forces Major General Yousef Hassan Al-Madani.

The top Iranian general also extended condolences on the martyrdom of general Muhammad Abd al-Karim al-Ghamari, general Al-Madani's predecessor.

He said the late general's lasting struggles in defending the dignity and territorial integrity of Yemen and successfully confronting Israel will go down in the history of Yemeni warriors.

Following a military aggression by the Saudi-led coalition against Yemen in 2015, the Ansarullah movement and popular committees first brought different areas of Yemen under their control to confront the al-Qaeda terrorist group and the coalition forces. Later on, in cooperation with the Yemeni military, Ansarullah and popular forces launched nu-

merous operations against Saudi Arabia. As strikes by the coalition forces intensified, Ansarullah used ballistic missiles against Saudi Arabia to stop attacks by the coalition troops.

Ansarullah has remained a popular entity in Yemen as it is also standing up to Israeli acts of aggression and has been able to develop missiles and munitions domestically despite the blockade on the country.

Shiite Ansarullah has close bonds with the Islamic Republic of Iran as they have common ground ideologically.

Iran says it supports Ansarullah as part of the Resistance front, but does not dictate anything to them, stressing that Ansarullah makes decisions and acts independently.

Recently, Yemen's Ansarullah leader praised Iran for its unwavering support and sacrifices in defense of the Palestinian cause, citing the martyrdom of commanders and a recent U.S.-Israeli military aggression against the country.

In a televised address, Abdul-Malik al-Houthi said that Iran sacrificed its commanders, including Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani, on the path of supporting the Palestinian cause.

General Soleimani, an international hero

and a key figure in the Axis of Resistance, was assassinated on January 3, 2020 in Baghdad in a drone strike authorized by U.S. President Donald Trump.

“The Islamic republic of Iran with remarkable steadfastness in the face of all challenges and pressure that even led to war acted in support and defense of this front,” Houthi said, referring to a U.S.-Israeli aggression against the country in June.

Israel, he stressed, “suffered a disgraceful defeat in the 12-day war against Iran and received great and painful blows.”

Between June 13 and June 24, Israel and the US waged a deadly act of aggression against Iran, which came to a halt due to the Islamic Republic's successful retaliatory operations. Houthi warned that the Israeli regime and the US, which is complicit in all crimes of the Zionist regime, “continue to be a danger” to the region.

Marking the first anniversary of the martyrdom of Yahya Sinwar, a prominent Palestinian leader, al-Houthi described him as “a symbol of Palestinian steadfastness and sacrifice in the path of God,” whose legacy of struggle and awareness “will remain an inspiration for generations.”



Alexander Lavrentiev, Russia's Special Presidential Envoy for Syria, met with Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (L) in Tehran on October 20, 2025.

Trump’s rant aimed to boost morale of defeated Zionists

TEHRAN – Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, met with Iranian sports champions and winners of international scientific Olympiads this morning, October 20, 2025, at the Imam Khomeini Hussainiyah.

Expressing his pleasure at being among energetic young people who, through determination, effort and winning medals in sporting and scientific fields, have brought joy to the nation and inspired other young people, he said: “Your medals carry extra value compared with medals won at other times, because you won them in a situation where the enemy, through a soft-war campaign, is trying to make the nation depressed and unaware of or hopeless about its own capabilities. By demonstrating the nation’s ability and strength in practice, you have delivered the firmest possible answer to them.”

Ayatollah Khamenei, in this meeting, referred to the recent bluster of the US President regarding the region and Iran, saying, “The US President tried to give hope and boost the morale of the disappointed Zionists in Occupied Palestine with a handful of empty words and his buffoonery. This is my analysis of the US President’s trip to Occupied Palestine.”

The Leader described the Islamic Republic of Iran’s incredible blow to the Zionist regime in the 12-Day War as the reason for their discouragement, adding, “The Zionists didn’t expect that a missile built by the hands of the Iranian youth could with its flames and its fire reduce the depths of some of their sensitive research centers to ashes. But that’s what happened.”

He stressed that Iran did not buy its missiles from anywhere, but manufactured them, that they are distinctive features of the Iranian youth, and said: “When an Iranian young person enters the field and, through effort and perseverance, builds the scientific infrastructure, he is capable of accomplishing such great deeds.”

Ayatollah Khamenei emphasized that these missiles were prepared and used by our Armed Forces and military industries, and they still have them; and if necessary, they will be used again at another time.

The Leader of the Islamic Rev-



Leader meets with Iranian athletes

olution, in continuation of his remarks, recalled: “In Gaza, the US is undoubtedly the main accomplice in the crimes of the Zionist regime, as even the US President himself admitted that we were working with this regime in Gaza. Of course, had he not said this, it would have been obvious, as the equipment and armaments that were unleashed on the defenseless people of Gaza during this war belonged to the US.”

He described another claim by the US President, alleging that the US was fighting terrorism, as another example of his lies, adding: “More than 20,000 children and infants were martyred in Gaza. Were they terrorists? The true terrorists are the US, which creates ISIS, sets the region ablaze, and even today retains some of its elements for its own use.”

Ayatollah Khamenei referred to the massacre of around 70,000 people in Gaza, as well as the martyrdom of more than 1,000 Iranians during the twelve-day Imposed War, as clear evidence of the terrorist nature of the US and the Zionist regime. He remarked: “In addition to the indiscriminate killing of civilians, they assassinated our scientists, such as Tehrani and Abbasi, and took pride in this crime. However, they should know that they cannot eliminate knowledge.”

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution also referenced US President’s boast about bombing Iran’s nuclear industry, claiming to have destroyed it. Ayatollah Khamenei responded: “No problem, go ahead and hold on to that illusion. But what gives you the right to dictate

whether a country should or should not have a nuclear industry? What business is it of the US whether Iran possesses or does not possess nuclear capabilities? These interventions are misguided, incorrect, and tyrannical.”

He then pointed to the mass demonstrations against the US President, with over 7 million participants in various states and cities across the US, and stated: “If you are so capable, instead of spreading lies, interfering in other countries’ affairs, and taking actions like building military bases in their territories, why don’t you calm these millions of people and bring them back to their homes?”

Ayatollah Khamenei, emphasizing that the real terrorists and the embodiment of terrorism are the US, rejected the US President’s claim of supporting the Iranian people, stating: “The US’s secondary sanctions, which many countries have cowardly adhered to out of fear, are aimed against the Iranian nation. Therefore, you are the enemy of the Iranian people, not their friend.”

Ayatollah Khamenei, referencing the US President’s statement about his readiness to engage in a deal, said: “He claims to be a man of deals, but if a deal is accompanied by coercion and its outcome is predetermined, it is not a deal but an imposition and bullying. The Iranian nation will not bow to such impositions.”

The Leader also addressed the US President’s remarks about the prevalence of death and war in the West Asia region, or as they refer to

it, the Middle East, stressing: “You are the ones who instigate wars. The US is a warmonger, and besides assassination, it incites wars. Otherwise, what purpose do all these US military bases in the region serve? What are you doing here? What connection does this region have with you? This region belongs to the people of this region, and the wars and deaths here are a direct result of the US presence.”

Ayatollah Khamenei concluded by describing the US President’s positions as wrong, often dishonest, and reflective of bullying. He emphasized: “Although bullying may have an effect on some countries, by God’s grace, it will never have any effect on the Iranian nation.”

In another part of his speech, the Leader highlighted the significant advances in various sectors since the Islamic Revolution, noting: “One example of this is the impressive achievements of our athletes and Olympians this year, which may be unprecedented in the history of our country’s sports.”

Ayatollah Khamenei referred to the “respect for the flag, the prostration, and the prayers of victorious athletes” as symbols of the Iranian nation, adding: “Our beloved Olympic athletes are now shining stars, but in ten years, with continued effort, they will become brilliant suns. The responsibility of the officials in this regard is crucial.”

Ayatollah Khamenei described the active role of the youth after the victory of the Islamic Revolution as an ongoing process, stating: “During the eight-year Imposed War, it was the young generation that, despite numerous shortages and being unarmed, displayed such military ingenuity that Iran triumphed over a highly-equipped enemy supported from all directions.”

He reminded the audience of the enemy’s efforts to hinder Iran’s scientific advancements, saying: “The enemies of the Iranian nation also try to darken the country’s image by either denying or ignoring some of our achievements, mixing truth with lies, magnifying minor faults, and engaging in biased propaganda. However, by standing atop the peaks of sports and science, you have shown the world the bright future of our country.”



He added that this support from NAM and other member states “demonstrates growing global resistance to the abuse of the Security Council by a handful of countries.”

Araghchi arrived in Kampala early Wednesday to attend the 19th Midterm Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement, held under the theme “Deepening Cooperation for Greater Global Prosperity.”

‘Resolution 2231 officially terminated’

On the status of UN Security Council Resolution 2231, Baqaei declared that it must now be considered expired as of October 17.

“Iran, Russia, and China reaffirmed in a joint letter that Resolution 2231 has come to an end,” he said. “The UN Secretariat should act accordingly. The opposition from China and Russia shows that the Security Council failed to reach

Persepolis in crisis: Darvish out, now what for Hashemian?

TEHRAN – Persepolis football team’s recent 2-1 defeat against Kheybar Khorramabad marked more than just a disappointing result on the field. It highlighted deeper cracks within the club’s management and coaching structure.

After a turbulent season marked by inconsistent performances and growing fan discontent, the club now face an uncertain future, particularly regarding the position of head coach Vahid Hashemian.

Despite Hashemian’s appointment bringing hopes of a fresh, modern approach grounded in his coaching credentials, the team’s performance has failed to meet expectations. In seven league matches, Persepolis have managed only eight points, with a solitary win, five draws, one loss and a growing chorus of criticism from frustrated supporters. Hashemian’s tactical philosophy has been questioned repeatedly, with frequent lineup changes and unclear strategies fueling doubts about his ability to lead the team forward.

Adding to the instability, the resignation of club CEO Reza Darvish after over 1,300 days at the helm marks a significant shift in the club’s executive management. Darvish’s tenure was plagued by mounting dissatisfaction over transfer policies, coaching decisions, and a lack of a coherent long-term vision. Fans, who had long called for his departure with chants of “leave now,” finally saw their demands met after the Kheybar loss, which seemed to be the breaking point.

The departure of Darvish raises serious questions about the club’s future direction. While his exit was welcomed by many, it also exposes the fragile state of Persepolis’s leadership. The responsibility now falls on the new interim management to stabilize the club, but crucially, it also puts Hashemian’s position under the microscope. Reports suggest that the coaching staff’s fate will soon be decided, with growing speculation that Hashemian’s tenure may be cut short if results do not improve swiftly.

Critics argue that the club’s problems stem not only from on-pitch shortcomings but also from ineffective leadership decisions made under Darvish’s watch. The lack of strategic planning, coupled with an unclear approach to managerial appointments, has left Persepolis vulnerable and struggling to maintain their status as a top contender in Iran’s Persian Gulf Pro League.

For Persepolis to reclaim their former glory, decisive action is needed, not only in reshaping the squad but also in appointing a coach who can implement a clear, cohesive vision. Whether that will be Hashemian or a new face remains to be seen. However, one thing is clear: the era of managerial and executive uncertainty must end if Persepolis hope to compete at the highest level again.

Wolves, Sevilla eye Iranian winger Hosseinnejad

TEHRAN – Dinamo Makhachkala winger Mohammad Javad Hosseinnejad has caught the eyes of Wolverhampton Wanderers and Sevilla.

The Iranian international is regarded as one of the most exciting young talents in the Russian Premier League.

Hosseinnejad joined Makhachkala last summer and recorded four goals and six assists in 36 appearances in his first season with the club.

La Liga side Sevilla and Premier League outfit Wolverhampton had previously shown interest in signing Hosseinnejad during the summer transfer window.

Esteghlal, Al Wehdat looking for points

TEHRAN – Esteghlal football team will host Al Wehdat and neither team can afford to drop points after having suffered defeats in their opening two matches in Group A of the 2025-26 AFC Champions League (ACL).

The match will be held in Tehran’s Shahr-E Qods Stadium.

Also, Al Muharraq of Bahrain will host Al Wasl

in a meeting between two teams with perfect records.

Al Muharraq defeated Esteghlal 1-0 three weeks ago while UAE’s Al Wasl beat Al Wehdat of Jordan 2-1.

With the sides set for a double header, victory for either team on Wednesday will take them within touching distance of a knockout stage spot.

ACL Two: Sepahan and Ahal desperate for victory

TEHRAN – Sepahan of Iran and Turkmenistan’s Ahal football team will be equally desperate for victory when they square off in Group C of the 2025-26 AFC Champions League Two.

Jordan’s Al Hussein have already defeated both sides and look set to claim one of the two knockout stage spots.

Ahal were beaten 4-1 by Al Hussein while the Jordanian side edged Sepahan 1-0, leaving victory as the only option for both sides on Tuesday.

The match will be held in Isfahan’s Naghsh-e Jahan Stadium.

Mortazi wins bronze at Pencak Silat: 2025 AYG

TEHRAN – Iranian Pencak Silat athlete Alireza Mortazi claimed a bronze medal at the 2025 Asian Youth Games (AYG).

Temir Bikboev of Kyrgyzstan defeated Mortazi 23-4 in the Boys’ 59Kg-63Kg semifinals.

He had defeated Bahrain’s Jassim Al-Sabaie 46-3 in quarterfinals.

Uzbekistan’s Nurislom Ruziboev will face Bikboev in the final.

The 3rd Asian Youth Games is taking place in Bahrain from October 22 to 31.

The Games serve as qualifiers for the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar.

Iran has sent 236 athletes to the Games.

Iran to face Thailand at 2025 Asia Pacific Goalball Championship SFs

TEHRAN – Iran defeated Uzbekistan 11-1 at the 2025 Asia Pacific Goalball Championship on Monday and advanced to the semifinals.

Team Melli are scheduled to face Thailand later in the day in the semifinals.

Iran had defeated Saudi Arabia 6-4, Australia 5-1, Thailand 5-1 and Iraq 8-3 in their previous matches.

Australia and China will lock horn in another semifinals.

The championship, organized by the Pakistan Blind Sports Federation, features 17 teams from 11 countries, including Kazakhstan, Iran, Japan, Thailand, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Iraq, and Uzbekistan.

The 10-day competition runs from Oct. 16 at the Sports Complex Liaquat Gymnasium in Islamabad, Pakistan.

Iranian girls beat China in handball at 2025 AYG

TEHRAN – Iran’s girls’ handball team defeated China 30-25 in their opening match at the 2025 Asian Youth Games (AYG) on Monday.

The win marks Iran’s first win against China in the history.

Iran will play Uzbekistan on Tuesday in their second match.

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What Iran’s foreign ministry spokesman says at his weekly briefing

From Page 1 ► **‘No negotiations underway with the US.’**

Baqaei said that while indirect contacts between Iran and other parties continue, there is currently no sign of a new negotiation process with the United States or the European trio.

“Indirect communications have existed as before,” he told reporters. “But it would be inaccurate to claim that we are on the verge of a negotiation process. Talks can only begin when all sides recognize each other’s rights — and we are not at that stage.”

‘Palestine remains central issue of region’

Baqaei began his remarks by reiterating that Palestine remains the central issue of the region. He condemned the ongoing Israeli assault on Gaza, describing it as “continued genocide,” and criticized the international community for failing to uphold its commitments.

“Nearly one hundred people in Gaza have lost their lives in recent days,” he said. “The Rafah crossing remains closed, and despite promises of at least 600 aid trucks entering Gaza daily, that has not happened. As predicted, the Zionist regime once again failed to deliver on its commitments, while the guarantors of the ceasefire, espe-

cially the United States, have stood by idly and enabled the continuation of these crimes.”

He also noted that Iran’s stance since the beginning of the conflict has been “consistent and based on experience,” adding that “the regime has never abided by its obligations and is not serious in its claims.”

According to Gaza’s Government Media Office, occupation forces have violated the truce agreement at least 47 times since it went into force on October 11.

‘The world is rejecting western unilateralism’

Referring to the recent Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) ministerial meeting in Uganda, Baqaei highlighted the strong backing for Iran’s position against Western unilateralism.

“The summit adopted an important resolution supporting Iran’s view that the actions of the three European countries and the United States to revive revoked UN Security Council resolutions are illegal,” he said. “This was not merely a written statement — it reflected the deep concern of the international community over the way certain powers exploit international institutions to advance their political objectives.”

Pakistan issues new executive order to boost barter trade with Iran

TEHRAN – Pakistan's government has issued a new executive order aimed at promoting barter trade with Iran after months of consultation and review to address the concerns of both countries' business communities, Pakistan's ambassador to Tehran, Muhammad Mudassir Tipu, announced.

In a post on X on Sunday, Tipu said: "I am pleased to announce that Pakistan has issued a new executive order (SRO) to promote barter trade with the Islamic Republic of Iran."

He explained that following an extensive and inclusive review process, many of the issues raised by Iranian and Pakistani traders have been addressed in the new regulation. The envoy expressed hope that the measure would significantly enhance the volume and diversity of trade between the two neighbors.

"I invite industrialists and the business communities of both countries to fully benefit from this order and contribute to the expansion of bilateral trade," he added, urging chambers of commerce and trade bodies in both nations to circulate the regulation among their members to help maximize its benefits.

Earlier this month, Pakistan's Ministry of Finance approved a proposal by the Ministry of Commerce to revise the bilateral barter trade agreement with Iran. The decision was later endorsed by the federal cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

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 re-



gional 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 energy 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.

Gas transmission network fully prepared for winter, says NIGC chief

TEHRAN – The National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) is fully prepared for the winter season and will ensure stable gas transmission nationwide through effective management and operational transformation, the company's managing director, Saeed Tavakkoli, said.

Speaking at a coordination meeting with regional transmission managers, Tavakkoli praised the dedication of personnel working across Iran's ten regional gas transmission zones, calling them "the guardians of the country's energy reliability."

"Every incident in the main pipelines is a test of professionalism and responsibility, and you have always emerged with pride," he said, adding that their commitment had prevented major national crises during floods and other emergencies in past years.

Tavakkoli highlighted the technical maturity and organizational development achieved by the Gas Transmission Company of Iran, noting that its workforce has evolved from project-level operators into highly skilled professionals capable of running complex systems with precision.

He emphasized that the company now

Mechanized fleet joins Iran's winter road maintenance operations

TEHRAN – Iran's Road Maintenance and Transportation Organization has introduced new mechanized equipment to its winter road operations fleet to enhance snow and ice clearance efficiency across the country.

Heydar Norouzi, director general of the organization's Office of Road Operations, Machinery, and Crisis Management, said the new machines are designed to simultaneously

clear snow and spread anti-icing materials, replacing the traditional method of manually dispersing salt and sand.

He noted that the addition of these modern vehicles has improved both the speed and precision of winter road maintenance operations, while also enhancing working conditions for road maintenance crews.

Tehran, Moscow conduct 80% of trade in rubles, rials amid deeper economic ties

TEHRAN – Over 80 percent of trade between Iran and Russia is now conducted in their national currencies, the rial and ruble, marking a major step toward financial independence and reduced reliance on third-party currencies, the head of the Russia-Iran Business Council said.

Speaking at the 22nd meeting of the International Council for Cooperation among Caspian Chamber of Commerce members, Leonid Lozhechko said Iran and Russia are taking new steps to deepen bilateral economic ties by easing trade regulations, developing infrastructure, and expanding collaboration in technology, agriculture, and the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC).

Expanding bilateral trade and cooperation

Lozhechko noted that the council is pursuing a strategic plan to enhance cooperation in advanced technologies, telecommunications, medicine, and particularly cybersecurity. He said about 60 percent of bilateral trade is related to agricultural products, with Russia exporting grains, wood, oilseeds, chemicals, aluminum, coal, and steel



to Iran, while Iran supplies spare parts, energy products, ceramics, cement, and agricultural goods to Russia.

He stressed that one of the council's priorities is simplifying regulations under the Eurasian Economic Union framework to unlock the full potential of trade between the two countries.

Lozhechko added that representatives from Russia's ministries of industry, economy, and agriculture, as well as banks from both nations, participated in the event.

Contracts inked with domestic companies on renovation of drilling fleet: NIDC managing director

TEHRAN- The managing director of the National Iranian Drilling Company (NIDC) stated that contracts have been signed with domestic companies for renovation of drilling fleet.

Mehran Makvandi reminded: "In recent months, numerous contracts have been signed with major domestic companies for the manufacturing and purchase of a number of essential equipment, including the manufacturing of main engines and drilling rig generators, as well as the renovation and modernization of the existing fleet."

Presenting a report on the company's performance in the current Iranian calendar year (started on March 21), and the measures taken regarding the plan for modernization and renovation of the drilling fleet and technical and engineering services, the official noted: "Our colleagues are continuously following up to ensure these contracts are finalized within the set timeframe and that conditions for the qualitative and quantitative enhancement of services are provided".

Meanwhile, the managing director of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) has emphasized the need to update the rigs and operational equipment of the NIDC and stated that \$800 million has been allocated for the renovation and modernization of this company's drilling fleet and equipment.

Hamid Bovard, speaking at a meeting with the managers and officials of the National Iranian Drilling Company, and while appreciating the efforts of the company's staff in realizing the plans and objectives of the country's oil industry, stated: "It is expected that this company, as one of the upstream companies and the largest drilling company in Iran, through systematic planning, a shift in managerial perspective, and by providing suitable solutions, will be able to even better respond to the needs of the oil industry."

He referred to the presented statistics on the performance of the National Iranian Drilling Company in the first half of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-September 22), and the significant growth in the drilling, ancillary services, and other service and support sectors of the company, adding: "Considering the oil industry's plans for increasing production and developing oil and gas fields, the expectations from the National Iranian Drilling Company go beyond this. Of course, measures must also be taken to strengthen this company's infrastructure and address its challenges."

The managing director of the National Iranian Oil Company further stated: "The National Iranian Drilling Company holds a special position in the oil industry in terms of specialized human resources and potential and actual capacities. Through proper planning, initiative, and the formation of strong executive and supervisory teams, the grounds for even greater dynamism of this company should be provided."

Referring to the allocation of \$800 million for the renovation and modernization of the

drilling fleet and integrated technical and engineering service equipment of the National Iranian Drilling Company (NIDC), Bovard noted: "In this regard, good contracts have been signed with domestic manufacturing and knowledge-based companies. Through interaction, synergy, and continuous follow-up, we will witness the modernization and a new chapter in the more prominent and active presence of NIDC in the drilling industry market."

The deputy managing director of the NIDC for technical affairs has announced a growth of over 12 percent in the integrated technical and specialized services of the drilling industry provided to applicant companies in the country's oil-rich regions during the first half of the current Iranian year.

Jahangir Shojaei stated that these services directly impact drilling operations, as well as the repair and completion of oil and gas wells, including those currently in production.

He mentioned: "The total number of technical and specialized ancillary drilling services, which are part of the production chain and play a key role in maintaining, preserving, and increasing production, amounted to 3,486 operations during this period."

He added: "The National Iranian Drilling Company oversees two departments—Technical Services and Specialized Services—handling integrated ancillary services, which encompass dozens of specific specialized services. The company's capability, in terms of having experienced specialists and operational equipment to deliver these services, distinguishes NIDC from other companies active in this field in the region. This is because, in the drilling industry, each service is typically provided by a separate company, while NIDC is the only company in the country that offers these services in an integrated manner."

As previously announced by Hamidreza Shafiei Makvandi, the deputy managing director of NIDC for operation, the company dug and completed the digging operations of 67 oil and gas wells in the country's onshore and offshore oil-rich regions during the first half of the current Iranian calendar year.

He stated: "Of these wells, 16 were development/appraisal wells and 51 were work-over/completion wells."

He noted that the number of wells drilled in the first half of this year is 21 wells more than the same period last year, adding: "The total drilling footage during this period was recorded at 63,037 meters, which represents an increase of over 8,000 meters compared to the same period last year."

Pointing out that 18 drilling rigs are currently being relocated to operational sites, the official said: "Currently, 64 out of the company's total fleet of 74 drilling rigs are stationed and operational in the oil-rich provinces of the country."

On September 21, the head of the Engineering and Construction Technology Department

ic position could transform it into a major global development hub.

He emphasized the INSTC's potential to turn the Caspian region into a multimodal transit corridor linking global transport routes and boosting exchanges among Iran, Russia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan.

Kurochkin also pointed to growing Russian business interest in Iran's market, citing Tehran's upcoming free trade agreement with the Eurasian Economic Union and its membership in BRICS as opportunities to expand private sector cooperation.

He announced plans for joint investment projects through 2030 under the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) development framework, prioritizing agriculture, advanced technologies, textiles, and tourism.

Kurochkin said economic interactions among Caspian states have grown by 80 percent in the past two years and called for greater coordination in customs, logistics, and infrastructure to make the Caspian a central driver of sustainable growth and technological cooperation across Eurasia.

of the NIDC, referring to the manufacturing of 70 high-consumption parts in the drilling industry during the first half of this Iranian calendar year, stated: "The manufacturing of these parts, in cooperation with knowledge-based companies and domestic manufacturers, has resulted in savings of 133 billion rials (about \$133,000) in company costs based on calculations made."

Masoud Seyed Mahmoudi stated: "The National Iranian Drilling Company is one of the pioneering companies in the oil industry regarding its focus on domestic manufacturing and has over two decades of history of interaction and cooperation with domestic manufacturers and industrialists in the field of technical and engineering knowledge."

He pointed to the manufacturing of 5,019 parts and 633 pieces of equipment, with a total and breakdown of 23,576 parts, and added: "The number of parts and equipment manufactured in recent years shows an eight-percent growth compared to the past."

The official further explained that, besides savings and after-sales service, an important advantage of focusing on domestic manufacturing is the cessation of purchasing these parts and equipment from abroad, stating: "Domestically produced parts are being localized with priority given to high-consumption and essential parts."

Regarding the most important achievements of the Research, Technology, and Construction Engineering Management of the National Iranian Drilling Company in the field of manufacturing parts and equipment, he stated: "In the drilling operations sector, we can mention the manufacturing of air, oil, and fuel filters for Caterpillar engines; the main shaft of various top drives; fluid screens; various Checkmate and Demco valves; RING JOINT GASKET; various PLUG VALVES; liner and module for various mud pumps; engine radiators; 5/8, 13, and 20-inch packing elements; drilling rig pins; lifting sleeves; brake rim draw works; mud pump connecting rod; and some top drive parts."

Seyed Mahmoudi said: "In the technical and specialized drilling services sector, various parts and equipment, including logging sensors, butterfly valves, high-pressure cementing pipes, the underbalanced drilling rotary BOP stack, OVER SHOT tools, DESANDER UNIT, MOT, SURGE DRUM, MOT, and DISILTER UNIT, MOT have been localized."

The Head of the Engineering and Construction Technology Department of the National Iranian Drilling Company added: "The Research, Technology, and Construction Engineering Management of the company has also placed on its agenda the first-time production of strategic and key drilling industry equipment, with the aim of supporting domestic production and maximizing the use of capacities under Article 10 of the Law on Knowledge-Based Production Leap, and by utilizing the potential of knowledge-based companies active in the country's oil industry."

Sit-in before Iranian embassy in Lebanon to seek Iran’s help for reconstruction

From page 1 ▶ Since 1982, when Israel invaded Lebanon and official Arab and international silence prevailed, Iran was the first to extend a helping hand to the resistance fighters and villagers.

From that tumultuous period of events and pressures, the resistance was born, which liberated the South in 2000 and established the deterrence equation in 2006.

This resistance, without Iran’s sincere support, would not have been able to withstand the most powerful military in the region.

Nevertheless, the mercenaries of the American spy den (the embassy) in Beirut insist on promoting a distorted narrative, portraying Iranian support as an occupation and the resistance as a burden.

They turn a blind eye to the actual occupier that makes nearly daily assaults on Lebanon by drones. Western embassies are also complicit in this occupation as they impose financial, economic, and security policies on Lebanon.

The truth is that they are not defending “Lebanon’s sovereignty,” as they claim, but rather their privileges linked to Washington’s approval!

The U.S. embassy in Beirut has for years become a management center for Lebanese affairs, controlling aid, banking decisions, and military appointments. It also



imposes political conditions that undermine the country’s core independence.

But Iran has not imposed a single condition on Lebanon in exchange for its support for the resistance or those affected by the wars.

On the contrary, Iran’s assistance has been without political compensation, driven by a principled stance of supporting the oppressed and rejecting occupation.

The sit-in by residents of border villages was not a passing phenomenon; rather, it was a profoundly significant political event.

It reflects the collapse of popular confidence in the Lebanese authorities, who abandoned the people of the South and left them in the open after destroying their homes.

These people found no refuge in

their own country, nor did they find anyone in the international community who would listen to their voices. So, they turned to a party they know will not let down an ally or compromise on just causes.

There is a common sentiment among the Lebanese that “Iran has never abandoned us, and it will never abandon us.” The Lebanese have realized that Iranian support has never been a tool of domination, but rather a guarantee of survival.

In contrast, the Lebanese authorities insist on their own policies, which amount to collective punishment against their own citizens. They refuse to receive Iranian planes carrying aid, prevent the entry of relief supplies, and obstruct reconstruction projects that

Tehran has offered to fund unconditionally.

All of this is to please Washington, which uses sanctions and intimidation to keep Lebanon in a state of constant state of deprivation.

Nevertheless, the Lebanese have come to realize that their salvation does not come from the International Monetary Fund or the promises of embassies, but from building genuine partnerships with those who have proven their sincerity and ability on the ground.

Iran was and remains the only party that has provided Lebanon with what no one else has: military support that has enabled the resistance to protect the borders, humanitarian support during crises, and a constant readiness for reconstruction.

Undoubtedly, their message to Ayatollah Khamenei will reach us, just as the messages of the resistance fighters did. The Lebanese find in Iran a warm breath that does not change with the shift in interests.

Iran, which stood with the South at the height of the war, will now stand with the displaced villagers. While the mercenaries of the U.S. embassy hurl accusations, Iran continues to work silently and faithfully, proving once again that it is the true savior, not the occupier.

Caribbean crisis: U.S. military actions fuel Latin American pushback



From page 1 ▶ Tensions between Bogotá and Washington have intensified. On Sunday, Colombia’s President Gustavo Petro accused the U.S. of committing “murder” after a military strike on a boat in Colombian territorial waters on September 16. In response, Trump labeled Petro an “illegal drug dealer” and threatened to cut U.S. funding to Colombia. Late on Monday Colombia said it had recalled its ambassador to the United States following Trump’s comments.

Last month, the U.S. revoked Petro’s visa after he joined a pro-Palestinian demonstration in New York and urged U.S. soldiers to disobey Trump’s orders, telling them, “don’t point your rifles against humanity.”

Meanwhile, Trump has also targeted Venezuelan vessels, accusing the country of sending drugs to the U.S. and claiming authorization for CIA covert operations on Venezuelan soil. President Nicolas Maduro has warned

that Trump is attempting to turn Venezuela “into an American colony.” He has also bolstered Venezuela’s defenses and mobilized millions of citizens to assert the country’s sovereignty in response to US military activity. The U.S. is simultaneously expanding its military presence in the Caribbean, deploying guided missile destroyers and F-35 jets, while intensifying surveillance and operations along the region’s coastlines.

Trump defends the vessel attacks as part of a campaign to stem the flow of drugs into the U.S., but his administration has provided little evidence regarding the identities of the vessels or their passengers. UN-appointed human rights experts have described the strikes as “extrajudicial executions.”

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

Humanitarian act plus intelligence collusion: Yemen reveals other side of global bodies’ alleged ‘neutrality’

By Samira Al-Ahmar

BEIRUT—Yemen is currently witnessing an unprecedented confrontation with the UN and other international organizations, which are supposed to provide an umbrella for humanitarian and relief work, after some of them became intelligence tools operating against the country’s sovereignty and supreme interests.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Sana’a sparked widespread controversy after revealing a spy network comprising employees of UNICEF and the World Food Programme, who were involved in providing hostile parties with sensitive information used to target leaders in the Yemeni state.

This scandal raised major questions about the nature of the role played by organizations in a country subjected to an ongoing siege

and aggression for more than a decade.

In its latest statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Sana’a government emphasized that the UN’s hasty denial of the charges before reviewing the evidence reflects nothing but the double standards that have become a hallmark of UN institutions.

The ministry stated that the Secretary-General should request access to the evidence Sana’a possesses before issuing denial statements that exonerate those previously implicated.

This position, which was understood in Yemen as a cover for suspicious intelligence activities, revealed a degree of international complicity against a country suffering from a devastating war and a stifling blockade.

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

Extremists in Israel are full of hatred against Palestinians

From page 1 ▶ On January 21, 2025, when Israel again halted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza for approximately six to seven weeks but allowed limited flow of aid under international pressure in early March, its forces unbelievably targeted food seekers, which shows the intense dislike of the Palestinians.

Between May 27 and October 9, more than 2,600 Palestinians were killed while trying to reach food and aid at or near the chaotic GHF distribution points.

The starvation policy, which led to the people face famine-like conditions, is nothing except strong feeling of abhorrence against a nation.

There are countless examples of hostility toward Palestinians, revealed in many forms: starving civilians, attacking their shelters, bombing health centers, to arresting and torturing physicians.

There is no trace of human conscience in asking what sin the elderly, women, or children could possibly have committed to deserve such unbearable suffering and brutality.

In the first week of October, Claire Magone, executive director of the French branch of Doctors Without Borders (MSF), told Le Monde, “The (Israeli) army is conducting a

strategy of asphyxiation, attacking, for example, water tanker trucks, as it did in mid-September with one of ours, which was clearly identified, and blocking all vital services.”

Likewise, it is also unimaginable that 200,000 tons of bombs have been dropped on cities and refugee camps in the small territory of Gaza.

The extreme hatred against the native Palestinians is primarily intended to exterminate them. Israeli extremists seem to have forgotten that it was they, or their forefathers, who moved into Palestine and displaced Palestinians from their villages and cities, forcing them into camps in Gaza, the West Bank, or neighboring countries—where many still live in squalid conditions, dependent on international aid.

Even after the fragile truce went into effect on October 13 under Donald Trump’s 20-point plan, Israeli forces have killed at least 97 Palestinians, wounded 230, and violated the ceasefire agreement 80 times.

Horrific scenes have also emerged during the exchange deal under the truce agreement, involving both deceased and surviving Palestinians.

Some of the prisoners had blindfolds and handcuffs on their bodies, showing that they

were tortured before being killed, Al Jazeera reported on October 18.

Mahmoud Abu Foul, a 28-year-old from northern Gaza, tells Al Jazeera that one day prison guards struck him on the head with such force that he fell unconscious, and when he regained consciousness, he discovered he had lost his sight.

One particularly notable documented incident of abuse was the gang rape of a Palestinian prisoner by guards at the notorious Sde Teiman detention facility in Israel last year. Verified video shows Israeli prison guards using their shields to hide from the camera before proceeding to rape the victim, who was left unable to walk, Israeli media reported.

Unfortunately, many Israelis—particularly members of the military and prison guards—under the influence of extremist and ultra-Orthodox ideologies, not only harbor deep hostility toward Palestinians but also engage in harmful practices aimed at criminalizing, humiliating, and breaking their spirit. Yet despite these actions, Western countries continue to align themselves with Israel, portraying it as a partner in upholding human rights and respect for human dignity.

Israel wages new round of attacks on Gazans in violation of truce

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN – Israeli occupation forces have killed some 100 Palestinians across the Gaza Strip since the ceasefire agreement on October 10.

The regime’s military warships, warplanes, and tanks waged a new round of indiscriminate attacks against Palestinians on Monday across the enclave, spilling more civilian blood in breach of the ceasefire agreement with Hamas.

The occupation army’s gunfire killed at least two Palestinians east of Gaza City on Monday, raising the total death toll to more than 68,000 fatalities since the genocide began.

According to medics at the Baptist Hospital, two men were shot dead by live ammunition in the al-Tuffah neighborhood.

At the same time, Israeli naval forces bombed areas off the coast of the city, while ground forces stationed east of Gaza opened fire in several directions.

Occupation forces also fired artillery in areas east of Deir el-Balah in central Gaza

Gaza’s Health Ministry said on

Monday that the bodies of 57 people were brought to hospitals across the coastal enclave in the last 24 hours. Since October 2023, at least 68,216 people have been killed and 170,361 injured by the Gaza genocide.

Al-Awda Hospital reported it received 24 bodies and 74 wounded Palestinians over the past 24 hours, following Israeli airstrikes on refugee camps. Health officials had also confirmed on Sunday that dozens of Palestinians were killed and injured in various parts of the enclave in Israeli fire.

The Government Media Office in Gaza stated that the occupation regime has committed “a series of serious and repeated violations” since the announcement of the end of the war, documenting at least 80 breaches of the ceasefire as of Sunday.

The regime’s military has also wounded over 230 Palestinians since the start of the ceasefire in further breaches of the truce agreement, the Gaza Government Media Office added.

The office described these as



blatant violations of the ceasefire, which remains very fragile and close to collapse.

According to U.S. media citing White House officials, two Israeli soldiers were killed in the southern city of Rafah on Sunday by unexploded ordnance, which Israeli bulldozers ran over. The regime has been accused of using the incident as a pretext to pin the blame on Hamas and renew its genocidal war on the enclave. Hamas said it did not know about the incident.

Meanwhile, the Rafah border

crossing with Egypt, under the Israeli regime’s control, remains closed in another ongoing truce violation.

The director of Al-Shifa Hospital has warned that no medical supplies have entered the Gaza Strip so far.

“At this point, it is not possible to speak of any breakthrough within the health system. Tens of thousands of patients have been waiting for surgical operations for two years. Most of the Gaza Strip is suffering from famine, which further exacerbates the population’s fragile health,” Dr. Mohammed Abu Salmiya explained.



Thousands march through central Lisbon, Portugal, on October 19, 2025, calling for peace and an end to Israel’s occupation of Gaza.

Holeylan Valley, historical passage of tool-making humans from 100,000 years ago

TEHRAN—Archaeological studies show that tool-making humans lived in the Holeylan Valley in Ilam province for about 100,000 years and after going through the initial stages, have achieved irrigated agriculture and livestock domestication.

Habibollah Mahmoudian, a specialist in prehistoric archaeology, told ISNA that the western part of the Ilam Plateau is of particular importance from the perspective of historical and archaeological studies due to its location in the fertile Zagros region, its water resources, pasture and forest cover, and its location on the connecting route between the Central Asian Plateau and Mesopotamia and other regions of West Asia.

He noted that according to archaeological reports, the settlement of the population and human life in this geographical area has continued at least since the Paleolithic era until today. The passage of ancient roads such as Silk Road in the north of the province, which was considered the main trade route of the East, and the Royal Road that connected Susa to Asia Minor, along with the existence of the most densely populated ancient bridges on the Seymareh River and its branches in the provinces of Ilam, Lorestan, and Khuzestan, indicates the communication role of this region in different historical periods, he added. Mahmoudian continued that studying the cultural developments of this region of Iran is very valuable for understanding its historical identity.

Holeylan Valley, which is considered the northernmost part of the Sirvan and Char-davel counties, is located on the west bank of the Seymareh River and has an important place from an archaeological perspective.

Artifacts such as stone axes and other

stone tools that evolved with the advancement of production and distribution methods have been discovered in this region, he pointed out.

He explained that after going through the initial period of settlement and familiarity with agriculture, the inhabitants of Holeylan approached the stage of irrigated agriculture and domesticated cattle, sheep, goats, and horses. The discovery of countless examples of stone blades and cultural tools from the Stone Age is evidence of the increasing cultural growth and development of the monoculture settlement system in the villages and urbanization of this region, he added.

Mahmoudian recalled that Holeylan Valley was first explored by British Archaeologist Sir Aurel Stein in 1936. He identified ancient hills and excavated them. His goal in this excavation was to discover artifacts from the Bronze Age in Lorestan.

He emphasized that Danish archaeological expedition led by Peder Mortensen resumed its activities in Lorestan in 1973. Given the slight morphological changes in northern Lorestan during the Pleistocene period, there was a possibility of finding sites that could explain the patterns of early human settlement. Therefore, studies began to focus on the Holeylan Valley, which is one of the best water valleys in the general region of Lorestan.

The archaeologist added: Mortensen conducted two extensive study seasons in Spring of 1973 and Fall of 1974. During these two seasons, 161 sites were discovered and recorded in an area of 140 square kilometers, he said. Only 16 sites from this complex had been previously identified by Aurel Stein and other archaeologists, he added.

Exhibit on food culture underway at Niavaran palace complex

TEHRAN – A month-long exhibition titled “Taste of the Museum; From Table to Art” is currently underway at the Niavaran Cultural-Historical Complex in northern Tehran.

The event, running from October 16 to November 15, showcases historical and cultural artifacts related to food and dining customs in Iran during the Pahlavi era.

It showcases serving vessels, cooking tools, and items representing traditional Iranian and Western dining and hospitality practices. The display also features a Qajar-era oil painting titled “The Cooks.”

According to the Niavaran authorities, the event also marks World Food Day, which was established in 1945 by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The exhibition aims to narrate the historical and social aspects of food in Iran, tracing its evolution from royal courts to everyday life. It also highlights the connection between tradition and modernity and explores the role of food in shaping national identity and culture.

The Niavaran Cultural-Historical Complex, covering approximately eleven hectares in northern Tehran, comprises several landmark buildings and museums dating back to the 19th and 20th centuries during the late Qajar and Pahlavi periods.

The history of the palace complex stretch-



es back to about 280 years ago when Fath-Ali Shah of the Qajar Dynasty ordered a summer residence to be built in the then countryside area of the capital. The two-story Ahmad-Shahi pavilion is one of the highlights of the complex. With an area of 9,000 square meters, the palace complex is entirely adorned with magnificent plasterwork, mirrorwork, and tilework. Its architecture boasts a blend of pre- and post-Islamic arts.

Glimpses of World Heritage sites: Timgad

Timgad, located to the north of the massif of the Aurès in a mountainous site of great beauty, 480 km south-east of Algiers and 110 km to the south of Constantine, is a consummate example of a Roman military colony created ex nihilo.

The Colonia Marciana Traiana Thamugadi was founded in 100 CE by Trajan, probably as an encampment for the 3rd Augustan Legion which, thereafter, was quartered at Lambaesis.

Its plan, laid out with great precision, illustrates Roman urban planning at its height. By the middle of the 2nd century, the rapid growth of the city had ruptured the narrow confines of its original foundation.

Timgad spread beyond the perimeters of its ramparts and several major public buildings are built in the new quarters: Capitolium, temples, markets and baths. Most of these buildings date from the Sever-

an period when the city enjoyed its Golden Age, also attested by immense private residences.

A strong and prosperous colony, Timgad must have served as a compelling image of the grandeur of Rome on Numidian soil.

Buildings, constructed entirely of stone, were frequently restored during the course of the Empire: the Trajan Arch in the middle of the 2nd century, the Eastern gate in 146, and the Western gate under Marcus-Aurelius.

The streets were paved with large rectangular limestone slabs and, as attested by the 14 baths which still may be seen today, particular attention was paid to the disposition of public conveniences. The houses, of varying sizes, dazzle by their sumptuous mosaics, which were intended to offset the absence of precious marbles.

(Source: UNESCO)

Deputy minister emphasizes use of creative techniques, AI in tourism advertising

TEHRAN – Deputy Tourism Minister Anoushirvan Mohseni-Bandpei described the use of new, creative techniques, artificial intelligence, and digital technologies in advertising and content production as a very important issue.

Speaking at the unveiling ceremony of the poster for the International Tourism Content Production Festival in Iran on Sunday, he considered it essential to understand the country's tourism potential, Mehr news agency reported.

He also said that content production is the most key tool for success in attracting foreign tourists.

Mohseni-Bandpei stated that the country's tourism capacities should be introduced in the international space in a timely manner and with the necessary quality.

Referring to the Ministry of Tourism's limited budget for advertising and introducing Iran, he stated that a scientific look at the capacities shows that more budget should be spent to attract foreign tourists, and spending on advertising is considered an investment. Producing high-quality content is the most key tool for success in attracting tourists, and whoever can present their product better and more favor-



ably will gain more customers, he added.

Referring to the President's tweet about the global registration of the three villages of Soheili in Qeshm, Shafiabad in Kerman, and Kandelous in Mazandaran in the World Tourism Organization's list of global villages, he stated: “This international success is a source of pride and honor for the country, and as the President also mentioned, Iran is a land of art and bravery, and this nation has embraced great honor.”

He praised those involved in organizing the 2014 Iran International Tourism Content Production Festival, calling it a blessed event, and continued: “Holding such events should increase so that we can introduce the mag-

nificent rainbow of Iran to the world with appropriate imagery.”

Also, Moslem Shojaei, the Tourism Ministry's director-general for marketing and foreign tourism development, expressed satisfaction at cooperation between state and private sectors in holding the content production festival.

He said that the use of people's capacities in producing tourism content has been neglected, and most of the content produced in the field of tourism is produced commercially, and tourism activists, including hoteliers and heads of travel agencies produce and offer their tourism content with this perspective.

Shojaei emphasized the use of

a scientific perspective to produce international content, adding that cooperation with Islamic Azad University of Yazd, due to scientific sensitivities, could be a suitable step to begin this process.

He considered the use of public capacities to be a very important issue and stated: “We must be able to publish content produced by the public on international social networks by cooperating with different sectors.”

Vice President of Islamic Azad University of Yazd for Research Affairs Mohammad-Mahdi Kariminejad, as another speaker at the ceremony, said that cooperation between the Azad University and Yazd Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Department, along with institutions such as Yazd Municipality, the Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Townships Company of Yazd Province, led to the launch of this festival.

He announced the launch of a tourism faculty in this province, adding: “Given the capacities of Yazd province in the field of tourism and the cooperation of related institutions and the private sector, this trend will continue and we will soon witness the development of this faculty in post-graduate education.”

Mehregan’s UNESCO registration plaque unveiled at Persepolis

TEHRAN – A number of officials and tourism guides in Fars province unveiled the plaque marking the global registration of the ancient Celebration of Mehregan at Persepolis on Sunday.

Farideh Asadi, head of the Professional Association of Tourism Guides in Fars, announced the event held at the Persepolis World Heritage Site, attended by about 200 tourism guides and government and private sector officials.

The Celebration of Mehregan was inscribed on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list in December 2024, jointly by Iran and Tajikistan during the 19th session of the Intergovernmental Committee held in Paraguay.

“This historic event offers a unique opportunity for tourism guides to showcase their important role in conveying culture and preserving the country's intangible heritage to the world,” Asadi said.

Also, Asadi described tourism guides as

custodians of Iran's identity and rich culture and highlighted their commitment to passing these traditions to future generations. She said Mehregan symbolizes the unity of Iranian ethnic groups and the preservation of ancient customs.

The festival, also known as the Festival of Mehr, celebrates the autumn equinox and harvest thanksgiving. It has roots in Zoroastrian tradition and honors Mehr, the deity of friendship, peace, and solidarity.

200,000 people tour West Azarbaijan museums in six months

TEHRAN—Head of West Azarbaijan Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Department Morteza Safari said that 225,402 tourists visited the province's museums during the first half of current Iranian year (March-September 2025).

He told IRNA that Takht-e Soleyman in Takab, Chaldoran church, and the Baqcheh Jooq Palace Museum have attracted the most visitors during the current period. He noted that all museums in the province are open and ready to welcome tourists.

Safari also referred to the development process of the Urmia Museum of Archaeology and said that according to the estimate of the construction consultant, 250 billion rials (\$250,000) are needed to complete the development of the museum.

He said that two seasons of this project have been completed so far, adding that also, the third season of the development of the museum has begun, and this season, metal structures will be constructed.

‘Lori Lullaby’ registered on national list of intangible heritage

TEHRAN—Head of Lorestan Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Department Ata Hassanpour announced the registration of ‘Lori Lullaby’ on the National Intangible Cultural Heritage list.

He said that ‘Lori Lullaby’ has been registered as one of the valuable manifestations of the oral and musical culture of the Lor people, Mehr news agency reported.

Hassanpour added that the registration was carried out in implementation of Articles 11 and 12 of the Law of Accession of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, approved in 2005 by the Islamic Consultative Assembly, as well as Articles 2 and 3 of its executive regulations, approved in 2008 by the Cabinet.

He continued that the aim of the initiative is to preserve and introduce the intangible cultural heritage of the cities and villages of Lorestan province and preserve the valuable elements of indigenous culture so that authentic cultural manifestations can be passed on to future generations.

Hassanpour concluded by saying that the national registration of these musical and oral forms, in addition to their cultural importance, plays an effective role in promoting national and international recognition of Lorestan's cultural heritage and can pave the way for educational and research activities in the field of indigenous culture.

A lullaby, also known as a cradle song, is a calming melody or piece of music that is typically played or sung to soothe children to sleep.

The functions of lullabies vary across cultures. In some societies, they serve as a means of transmitting cultural knowledge and traditions. Lullabies also aid in the development of communication skills, convey emotional intent, maintain infants' attention, regulate behavior, and moderate arousal levels.

One of the most crucial uses of lullabies is as a sleep aid for infants. As a result, the music is often simple and repetitive. Lullabies have existed since ancient times and can be found in various countries.

International Tender

No.: 04.T/859

Security Printing and Minting Organization (SPMO) of Central Bank of Islamic Republic of IRAN intends to procure the following equipment through a public tender from eligible and qualified companies:

One unit of each CNC Engraving and Milling Machine, Grinding Machine for Engraving/Milling Cutters and respective spare parts adequate for five years of operation and consumables for three years, as well as on-site installation and training, according to the specifications and conditions outlined in the tender documents.

Required documents:

- 1- A Bid Bond Guarantee in the amount of EUR 35,000 or its equivalent in IR Rials (for Iranian individuals only), calculated based on the 'Euro cash offer rates published on the Central Bank of Iran's ETS website (www.sanarate.ir), shall be issued by participants in favor of SPMO and clearly marked as "Tender Guarantee", in accordance with the requirements stipulated in the tender documents.
- 2- The bidders are requested to submit their company profile, articles of association, turn over including list of supplied goods, client list, etc. for the last 3 years.
- 3- It should be noted that the priority for bidders is given to the domestic participants in equal conditions.

The tender documents consisting of technical specifications, requirements, price and packing conditions, required guarantees, terms of payment, shipment, delivery, installation and training are available on demand. For receiving them, please contact us via the following address, fax or E-mail until 2025/11/01:

Commercial Director
Security Printing and Minting Organization
No. 191, Pasdaran Ave., Tehran, I.R. of IRAN
P.O. Box: 1664647111
Fax: +98 21 22842033 – +98 21 22840053
E-mail: spmo@cbi.ir

Voluntary return of illegal Afghans up by 30% in October

TEHRAN – The voluntary return of undocumented Afghan refugees to their homeland via the Dogharon border terminal in the city of Taibad, northeastern Khorasan Razavi province, has increased by 30 percent since the beginning of autumn compared with summer.

Since the start of the current Iranian year (March 21), more than 1.2 million undocumented Afghans have returned to their home country through this border, yjc.ir quoted Hossein Jamshidi, the governor of Taibad, as saying.

Moreover, the number of identified and deported undocumented Afghan nationals across the country has increased by 10 percent during the same period, the official noted.

The official went on to say that the Dogharon border terminal will soon be equipped with a biometric identification system, the first of its kind in Iran's border checkpoints.

The system will be used for detecting and preventing illegal entry into the country.

IOM lauds Iran's services to Afghan refugees

The Senior Advisor to the Director-General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Kim Eling, has appreciated the efforts of the country in hosting and providing services to



Afghan refugees.

The IOM official met the Iranian Deputy Interior Minister, Mohammad Bathaei, on Monday on the sidelines of the 76th annual session of the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, held from October 6 to 10 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Commending the country's efforts in hosting Afghan nationals, Eling said that the reduction in the amount of aid from donor countries is the main challenge for the United Nations in advancing projects.

The Iranian official, for his part, underlined that "despite unilat-

eral coercive sanctions, Iran has provided significant services to foreign nationals."

Iran hopes donor countries carry their share of responsibility by allocating appropriate aid to projects being implemented in the country, the official added.

Delivering a lecture, meeting the High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, as well as the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction, Kamal Kishore, are among other plans for the Iranian official.

The Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Pro-

gram (ExCom) meets in Geneva annually to review and approve the agency's programs and budget, advise on international protection, and discuss a range of other issues with UNHCR and intergovernmental and non-governmental partners.

In August, Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni announced that more than 1.2 million Afghan nationals—mostly undocumented migrants—have left Iran over the past year, with the highest number of departures recorded at the eastern borders of Khorasan Razavi province.

Momeni said the country is not planning to deport documented and authorized refugees.

"We are only deporting the two million Afghans who are illegally residing in Iran," he said.

"Iran is not an anti-immigrant country, as it is hosting six million foreign nationals. Since the beginning of the current Iranian year (March 21), some 800,000 out of the two million undocumented refugees left the country," ISNA quoted Momeni as saying on July 18.

"These are honorable people who have contributed to the country's production. Based on regulations, unauthorized refugees must leave the country. If they wish to live here, they have to follow legal procedures," the official further noted.

IRCS, Intl. Organization for Migration to boost co-op

TEHRAN – The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) have discussed ways to boost collaborations on refugees.

During a meeting held on Sunday, in Tehran, Iori Kato, the IOM Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, lauded the IRCS achievements and high capacities in addressing crises, saying that the two organizations have shared goals which can lay the basis for the expansion of joint efforts.

He also voiced the IOM's willingness to develop comprehensive cooperation with the IRCS across multiple sectors, particularly camp coordination and camp management, the IRCS website reported.

For his part, Pirhossein Kolivand, the head of the IRCS, said the IRCS is ready to collaborate with the IMO in the educational and health sectors.

Refugees in many other countries are subject to ill-treatment, while in Iran, they are treated with dignity. Accordingly, empowering refugees, including educating them, is placed on the

top agenda of the IRCS, Kolivand further noted.

The official went on to say that Helal Houses (community-owned Red Crescent Houses) are providing social and relief services all over the country to immigrants and vulnerable strata.

IRCS services to refugees

In 2024, the IRCS, in cooperation with the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) in Iran, conducted joint programs to address the challenges facing Afghan refugees and vulnerable Iranians residing in the Golshahr district in Mashhad, northeastern Khorasan Razavi province.

"The initiative to provide primary health and rehabilitation services to Afghan immigrants and residents of Golshahr district is part of the joint program," IRNA quoted Razieh Alishvandi, the IRCS director for international affairs, as saying.

Based on the memorandum of understanding (MOU) that was signed in the Iranian calendar year 1392 (2013–2014), IRCS and ICRC agreed to support the rehabilitated refugees.



"The program aims to provide basic health, mental health, educational, and social services. It also focuses on providing preventive and social assistance and reducing social harm to the target population," she added.

The project was implemented in four provinces on the eastern border of the country after the arrival of Afghan immigrants who left their countries because of the new governance in Afghanistan.

Mine awareness project, increasing foreign nationals'

awareness of landmine dangers while returning to their home country through shared borders; International humanitarian law project, that is holding educational workshops have been held to familiarize the IRCS staff with the structure of the international movement and humanitarian rights; and Health projects, providing health services to pregnant women, and people suffering from diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma, mental health disorders, and physical disorders are among the IRCS programs to empower refugees.

ENGLISH IN USE

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Precipitation forecast to reach above normal in next 3 months

The country is predicted to receive above normal rainfall over the next three months (February 20-May 21), head of the climatological research institute affiliated to Iran's Meteorological Organization (IMO) has said.

The whole country will meet normal and above normal rainfalls, the northern parts will receive above normal rainfall while southern provinces will receive normal to lower-than-normal rainfall, IRNA quoted Iman Babaeian as saying on Sunday.

This month, northern and eastern provinces will receive rain above normal averages, while in the first month of spring precipitation will be at normal amounts across the country, he noted, adding, during the second month of spring rainfall will reach its peak.

بارش‌های کشور در سه ماه پیش رو بیش از نرمال است

رئیس پژوهشکده اقلیم‌شناسی سازمان هواشناسی گفت: پیش‌بینی‌ها نشان می‌دهد میزان بارش در کشور در سه ماهه پیش رو (اسفند ۹۷، فروردین و اردیبهشت ۹۸) در حد نرمال و متمایل به بیش از نرمال خواهد بود.

ایمان باباییان روز یکشنبه در گفت‌وگو با خبرنگار ایرنا افزود: مجموع بارش‌ها در سطح کشور نرمال و متمایل به بیشتر از نرمال است اما در نیمه شمالی، بیشتر از نرمال و در نیمه جنوبی در محدوده نرمال تا کمتر از نرمال خواهد بود.

وی اظهار داشت: بارش‌ها در اسفندماه ۹۷ در نیمه شمالی و شرقی بیشتر از نرمال است، در فروردین ماه ۹۸ نیز بارش‌ها در محدوده نرمال و برای اردیبهشت بیشتر از نرمال پیش‌بینی شده است.

JWENT explores AI, nanotech solutions for water, environmental challenges

TEHRAN – The 2026 special issue of the International Journal of Water and Environmental Nanotechnology (JWENT) focuses on exploring innovative and sustainable solutions to address challenges through the convergence of artificial intelligence (AI) and nanotechnology.

This issue of the Journal will include international articles and case studies on the role of AI in expanding and expediting innovation and sustainability in water and environment nanotechnology, IRNA reported.

Using AI for designing and optimizing nanotechnology for water purification, wastewater treatment, and environmental restoration, as well as modeling, simulating, and predicting pollutant removal and treatment efficiency, are among other important topics to be included in the journal.

Other topics will cover developing nano-based smart sensors and Internet of Things (IoT) for real-time monitoring of water and environmental quality, AI-based risk assessment of nanomaterials, and AI, as well as nanotech and biotech systems for sustainable water and environmental applications.

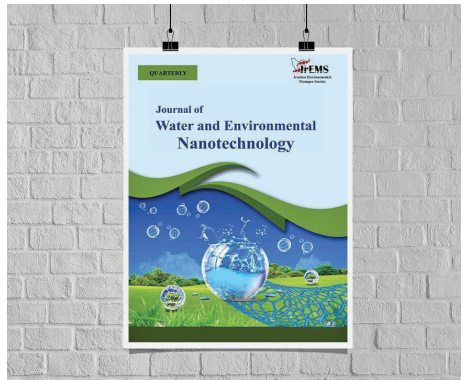
Nanotechnology leaps forward

Iran has made significant progress in nanotechnology over the past year (August 2024–August 2025), with more than a 100 percent increase in nanotech products exports, indexing 10,860 articles in the Web of Science (WoS), and being ranked sixth in publishing nanotech articles.

Iran's activities in nanotechnology began in 2001. Two years later, the headquarters for nanotechnology was established to promote knowledge in the field. The first national strategic plan, titled 'future strategic document', was developed in 2005, aimed to place Iran among the top 15 countries in the field, focusing on the ongoing improvement of the country's position to generate wealth and improve people's quality of life.

Later, the name of the organization changed to 'nano and micro technology headquarters' to follow up on its missions and tasks in both fields.

Over the past year, from August 22, 2024, to August 23, 2025, significant measures were taken to improve existing industries, expand and manage sustainable exports and na-



no-product markets at national, regional, and global levels, promote Iranian made products in regional markets, foster innovation from novel technologies with significant economic and social impacts, maintain the country's scientific status and improve its authority in nanoscience.

Iran's nanotechnology products in various industries are classified into 13 main categories including Civil engineering and construction; Optics, electronics, and photonics; Petroleum and petrochemicals; Pharmaceuticals, health, and well-being; home appliances; Power and energy; Raw materials; Chemicals; Textiles and clothing; Equipment; Automotive industry and transportation; Industrial machinery; Agriculture, animal husbandry, and Water, according to data published by the vice Presidency for Science and Technology.

Some 89.6 percent of Iranian nanotechnology products are exported to Asian countries, according to data released by the national headquarters for the development of nanotechnology.

Europe, Africa, America, and Australia are the next destinations with 6.8 percent, 2.5 percent, and 1 percent of imports, respectively.

The data, related to the Iranian calendar year 1402 (March 2023-March 2024), also show that neighboring countries are the primary export destinations for Iran's nanotechnology products.

Iraq, Turkey, and Afghanistan are the top three importers, holding 23.1 percent, 6.9 percent, and 6.5 percent shares of the imports.

Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, Russia, China, and India rank next.

Iran marking national bone health week

TEHRAN – The health ministry is observing the national bone health week from October 18 to 24 nationwide to raise public awareness on ways to prevent, diagnose, and treat osteoporosis, and related musculoskeletal diseases

The week is celebrated concurrently with World Osteoporosis Day, which is observed annually on October 20.

This year, 2025, the World Osteoporosis Day theme is 'It's Unacceptable!'. The theme underscores a global urgent need to address the treatment and prevention gaps in osteoporosis care, mobilizing action from individuals, health-care systems, and policymakers to prevent fractures and improve bone health.

The week-long programs are mainly focusing on training, improving health literacy, and promoting healthy lifestyles to have strong bones, IRNA reported.

Osteoporosis literally means 'porous Bone'. It is a condition where bones become thin and lose their strength as they become less dense and their quality is reduced. This can lead to broken bones, which cause pain and disability. Broken bones due to osteoporosis can be life-changing, with a serious impact on quality of life, mobility, and independence.

Osteoporosis is often called the 'silent disease' because most people don't know they have the disorder until they break a bone after a minor fall or bump (known as a fragility fracture). These fractures usually occur in bones that are under strain, like the spine, hip, or wrist.

Some of these fractures may occur with no blunt-force trauma, such as a gentle sneeze or cough. Many patients live with chronic pain or vague back pain for years, without knowing they have a vertebral fracture. In more advanced stages, it leads to short stature, stooped posture, and limited mobility, which severely reduces the quality of life.

Up to 37 million fragility fractures occur annually in individuals aged over 55, the equivalent of 70 fractures per minute.

Worldwide, 1 in 3 women over age 50 will experience osteoporosis fractures, as will 1 in 5 men aged over 50.

In women, osteoporotic fractures are significantly more common than breast cancer.

Hip fracture is one of the most serious consequences of osteoporosis; about 20 percent of patients die within the first year after the fracture. The rest will permanently lose their independence, suffer prolonged disability, and chronic pain. Families and societies will have to bear the costs.

To prevent fractures, maintain a safe environment for the elderly to prevent falls, and strengthen bones and muscles through exercise and healthy eating.

Osteoporosis affects over 500 million people worldwide. Worldwide, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 5 men aged over 50 will sustain an osteoporotic fracture in their remaining lifetimes. Yet the vast majority remain undiagnosed and untreated – in fact, up to 80 percent of patients who experience an osteoporotic fracture are neither identified nor treated for underlying osteoporosis.

According to the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF), bone health must be prioritized throughout the life course. Education about bone-healthy nutrition and sufficient physical exercise should all be integrated into school curricula.

Public education campaigns to promote good bone health and facilitate early awareness of risk factors in younger adults should be encouraged and supported through public health policy.

The importance of calcium and vitamin D should be reinforced among the population.



OCTOBER 21, 2025

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

When a husband and wife look at each other with love, Allah looks at both of them with mercy.

Prophet Muhammad (S)

Prayer Times > Noon:11:49 Evening: 17:40 Dawn: 4:53 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:17 (tomorrow)

Audio edition of “Wilf the Mighty Worrier and the Alien Invasion” available for Persian audience



TEHRAN- The audio version of British screenwriter and author Georgia Pritchett’s “Wilf the Mighty Worrier and the Alien Invasion” has recently become available for Persian listeners.

Narrated by Bahman Vakhshour, the audiobook has been produced by Ketab Park, which is also the publisher of the Persian print edition of the book.

Translated by Lida Hadi, the audiobook features the voices of Samira Nazari, Houra Emadi, Ainaz Khosrozadeh and Arya and Ilia Vakhshour.

“Wilf the Mighty Worrier and the Alien Invasion” is the fourth volume of the “Wilf the Mighty Worrier” story series. The three earlier books in the series have previously been released in audio format.

Iran showcasing literary, scientific works at 13th Dushanbe International Book Exhibition

TEHRAN- The 13th edition of the Dushanbe International Book Exhibition, “Kitobi Dushanbe 2025” (The Book of Dushanbe), opened in the Tajikistan capital city on Monday, with Iran participating in the event.

The exhibition was inaugurated with a speech by the Minister of Culture of Tajikistan, Matlubakhon Sattoriyon, and was attended by a large number of cultural and artistic figures, including Iranian Ambassador Alireza Haqiqian.

The series features an engaging story about a boy named Wilf who, along with his sister, accomplishes many big and exciting things.

Although in this part he is supposed to go to space, the reality is that Wilf is afraid of everything. Nevertheless, despite all his fears and together with his sister, he does many cute and amusing things, and many funny events happen along the way. Of course, the main question is how Wilf, a cowardly boy, can accomplish great things. This question makes the story both exciting and thrilling.

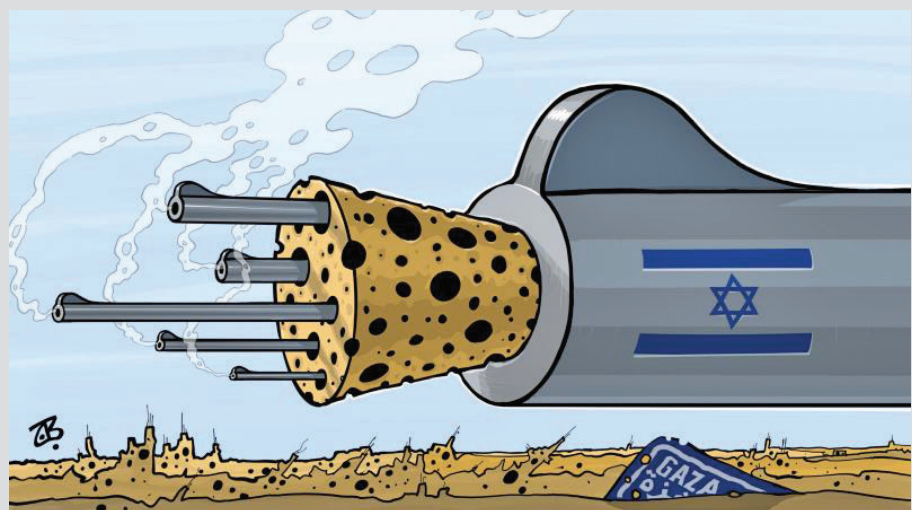
With a duration of approximately two hours and 47 minutes, the production of “Wilf the Mighty Worrier and the Alien Invasion” was overseen by Bahman Vakhshour, with editing by Hasti Sadeqi.

Iran’s pavilion, featuring a diverse collection of literary, scientific, and children’s books, drew considerable interest from visitors.

During her visit to the Iranian booth, Minister Sattoriyon praised Iran’s vibrant presence and active engagement in this prominent cultural event.

More than 5,000 newly published titles are being presented by 40 Tajik and international publishers from Iran, China, Russia, Turkey, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan.

Cartoon of Day



Ceasefire Violations in Gaza

Cartoonist: Emad Hajjaj from Jordan

Esteemed international figures selected to judge at Tehran International Short Film Festival

TEHRAN – The 42nd Tehran International Short Film Festival (TISFF) has announced the jury members for the International Competition and AI sections.

According to the festival website, the jury panels include prominent national and international figures in the realm of short film.

Iranian filmmaker Saeid Ebrahimifar, Dutch director Thom Palmen, Romanian filmmaker Mirona Radu, Polish director Damien Kocur, and Chinese animation director Joe Chang constitute the jury panel of the International Competition of the 42nd TISFF.

The esteemed international figures will judge the selected works in the fiction, animation, documentary, and experimental categories.

Saeid Ebrahimifar is a film director and screenwriter. In addition to directing and screenwriting, Ebrahimifar has established his personal style in Iranian cinema through a poetic and experimental approach to both narrative and imagery. His first feature film, “Nar-O-Ney”, is regarded as one of the outstanding and enduring works of Iranian cinema.

His other notable films include “The Eid of Those Years”, “The Confrontation”, “Lonesome Trees”, and “Maybe It Wasn’t Love”. His works have participated in numerous national and international festivals, having played a significant role in introducing thought-driven Iranian cinema.

Thom Palmen is a Dutch curator, producer, and artistic director with over 30 years of experience in international films and arts festivals.

He was the co-founder and artistic director of Umeå International Film Festival (1986–2007), establishing it as a leading platform for independent cinema. He has also served as a jury member at numerous prestigious film festivals including Berlinale, Sofia, Tampere, FESPACO, IndieLisboa, and Puchon, in addition to serving as a Mentor at Visegrad Animation Forum, Tampere BootCamp, and Minimalen Film-Expo.

Palmen is also the developer of the Film7Days project in Russia and a member of the European Film Academy.

Mirona Radu is a Romanian filmmaker, researcher, and cultural manager with nearly 20 years of experience in the film industry. Radu is the founder and festival director of Film O’Clock International Festival.

She has also been running the “Her Story, Her Future” mentor-



ship program supporting women in the film industry, in addition to acting as the artistic director of Pilgrim in the Romanian Lands, ABIFF – Animation Bucharest International Film Festival, The Palestinian Film Festival in Romania, and CineEuroConnect.

Radu has also served as a jury member at prestigious international film festivals including Venice and Sarajevo.

Damien Kocur is a Polish director, screenwriter, and producer. His debut feature, “Bread and Salt”, had its world premiere in the Orizzonti section of the 2022 Venice Film Festival, where it won the Special Jury Prize.

His latest short film, “As It was”, was nominated for the Palme d’Or at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival. His second feature “Under the Volcano” premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2024. He is also the recipient of the Polish Film Award for “Discovery of the Year”.

Joe Chang is a Chinese animation director and professor. In 1990, he moved to Canada and worked as an animation director for the National Film Board of Canada, creating the animated short film “The Chinese Violin”.

In 2002, Chang went to Hangzhou, China, where he founded the animation program at the China Academy of Art and served as vice president, professor, and doctoral supervisor at the School of Media and Animation.

His films have been selected at more than 200 international film festivals, including Cannes Film Festival, Annecy International Animation Film Festival, Ottawa International Animation Film Festival, and Zagreb International Animation Film Festival.

The esteemed jury panel of the

International AI Competition of the 42nd TISFF consists of the Iranian filmmakers Tiya Yabandeh and Amir Saharkhiz as well as Tunisian animation director Neda Dagdougl.

They will evaluate the selected films at the AI section of the International Competition of this year’s festival.

Tiya Yabandeh is an Iranian filmmaker, curator, and researcher in experimental cinema and new media, XR and AI. He is also a member of the Educational Council of Iranian Youth Cinema Society as ISFA representative.

He has served as a selection committee member and jury member at the Tehran International Short Film Festival, ISFA Awards, Nahal International Film Festival, Sayeh Film Festival, and Silent Film Festival.

In 2015, as a winner at the Palm Springs International Film Festival, he received a scholarship from the Lee Strasberg Theater and Film Institute. His films have been screened at prestigious festivals such as Palm Springs, Camerimage, Leeds, Ojai, and Philip K. Dick Film Festival.

Amir Saharkhiz is an Iranian writer, director, and producer. He has served as president of the Animation Guild Board of Directors for three terms, and been a member of the jury and selection committees for the Tehran International Short Film Festival.

He has created the animations “Enigma,” “Iranian Chat,” “À La Mode,” and “Breaking News,” in addition to designing visual effects for the TV series “Mokhtarnameh,” “The Delight of the Flight,” and the films “About Elly,” “Blood Game,” “A Cube of Sugar,” “The Song of Sparrows,” and the Academy Award winning

film “A Seperation”.

Saharkhiz is the recipient of Best Visual Effects Award at Fajr Film Festival, Best Artistic Achievement Award at the International Children’s Film Festival, Best Visual Effects and Animation Award at the Iranian Cinema Celebration, Special Jury Prize at the Tehran Animation Festival, and Best Short Animation Award at the Tehran Short Film Festival.

Nada Dagdougl is a Tunisian caricaturist, humorist, illustrator, educator, and animation Filmmaker. Since 2019, she has also been the organizer and instructor of “Grif Graf” workshops for children, combining her talents as an illustrator, educator, and animation filmmaker.

Her filmography and publications include, “Tfai/2005,” published in 2016; “Gleg/2013,” a satirical animated capsule, and “Lovely Rabbits/2023,” created in response to the genocide in Gaza. In 2025, she published the first part of an educational docu-fiction series “Yeza”.

The Tehran International Short Film Festival stands as one of Asia’s most prestigious and widely recognized platforms for short films, celebrated for its dedication to creative excellence, innovation and the promotion of diverse voices in cinema.

Organized by the Iranian Youth Cinema Society (IYCS), a leading organization in short film production and education, the TISFF is an OSCARS®-qualifying festival, renowned for embracing innovation while celebrating cinematic tradition.

The 42nd Tehran International Short Film Festival will run until October 24.

IAF screens Óliver Laxe’s “Sirāt”

borders, and introspection—omnipresent themes in the Franco-Spanish filmmaker’s work.

For his fourth feature film, which is both more political and radical than Laxe’s previous pictures and is shot on location in Spain and Morocco, the director follows the path of a lonely character in internal exile, crossing both a literal and metaphorical desert.

The Spanish-French film had its world premiere in the main competition of the 78th Cannes Film Festival in May where it won the Jury Prize.

It has been selected as the Spanish submission for the Best International Feature Film at the 98th Academy Awards.

Óliver Laxe Coro, 43, is a French-born Spanish film director, screenwriter, and actor of Galician ancestry.

His debut feature film, “You All Are Captains,” premiered in the



A scene from “Sirāt”

Directors’ Fortnight section at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival, where it won the FIPRESCI Prize.

His second feature, “Mimosas,” was filmed in the Atlas Mountains and screened in the Critics’ Week section at the 2016 Cannes

Film Festival, where it won the Nespresso Grand Prize.

Returning to his native Galicia, he directed “Fire Will Come,” which premiered at the 2019 Cannes Film Festival and won the Un Certain Regard Jury Prize.