



Iranian students gather in central Tehran during the 13 Aban rallies on November 4, 2025 to mark National Day of “Fight against Global Arrogance”

Iranian president lauds domestic technological breakthroughs

TEHRAN – The Iranian president has commended the country's achievements in advanced and cutting-edge technologies, calling for the enhancement of quality and export of innovative products by knowledge-based companies.

Masoud Pezeshkian made the statement in a visit to the 16th International Nano-technology Exhibition and the First Up-to-Date Technologies Exhibition at the Tehran International Permanent Fairground on Tuesday.

The president underscored the importance of the profitability of innovative products and their exports, adding that such technologies should be utilized to serve Iranian citizens in underprivileged areas across the country. ▶ Page 2

Iranian short film “Unit 13” wins in Spanish festival

TEHRAN – The Iranian short film “Unit 13” written and directed by Deniz Ghorbani has won an award at the SamhainBaucogna International Film Festival (SBIFest) in Spain.

It was the winner of the Best Short Film award at the October edition of the SBIFest 2025 monthly competitions, Honaronline reported.

Winning the monthly competition, the Iranian flick is now one of the 35 finalist films of SBIFest grand finale, to be screened at the Biblioteca Municipal Vicente Campinas in Vila Real de Santo António in Portugal on November 28, 29, and 30.

The festival will conclude with an awards ceremony on November 30, where the winning films will be announced based on the decisions of the International Jury.

“Unit 13” tells the story of a husband and wife who, by approaching lonely young women and forming seemingly secret relationships, engage in fraud. Along the way, the story takes an unexpected twist when one of the victims discovers she is pregnant, giving the narrative a new tone and direction. ▶ Page 8

Iran, 46 years later

By Xavier Villar

MADRID – Every November 4, Iran commemorates an episode that, transcending the boundaries of historical anecdote to become a founding myth, encapsulates the ontological essence of its revolution: the takeover of the United States Embassy in Tehran by a group of students.

Far from being an isolated act of radicalism, that event in 1979 was the logical—almost teleological—culmination of a revolutionary process that sought to completely redefine Iran's position within the global order, eradicate decades of foreign influence, and reaffirm a long-compromised national sovereignty. ▶ Page 3

Wikipedia’s editorial block on Gaza genocide: Neutrality or evasion?

By staff writer

TEHRAN – Wikipedia's decision to lock its “Gaza genocide” article—after co-founder Jimmy Wales personally intervened—raises serious questions about the platform's commitment to truth.

Wales claimed the article violated neutrality by stating that Israel is committing genocide in Gaza. But when legal bodies, human rights groups, and medical studies already support that conclusion, Wikipedia's freeze looks less like balance and more like avoidance.

Since October 7, 2023, Israel's military campaign has killed over 68,500 Palestinians in Gaza, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. A Lancet study calculated over 3 million life-years lost, with children under 15 accounting for nearly one-third. These figures reflect systematic destruction—not incidental harm.

Washington’s pressure and Lebanon’s slide toward forced normalization

By Sondoss Al Asaad

BEIRUT — The recent talk of a “negotiation option” announced by President Joseph Aoun has reignited one of Lebanon's most dangerous debates, that of normalization disguised as pragmatism.

His remarks came precisely as the Israeli enemy escalated its rhetoric to the highest level since 2006, while U.S. envoy Tom Barrack openly warned that any refusal to negotiate could “lead to civil conflict or a devastating Israeli offensive.”

In this tense context, Aoun's call to “end the farce by picking up the phone and negotiating with the Israeli enemy” sounded less like statesmanship and more like submission under duress.

What the president and his entourage present as “realism” is, in fact, the abandonment of the deterrence equation that has protected Lebanon for nearly two decades.

Gazans still face death, misery and starvation

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN – Developments in Gaza show that the occupying Israeli regime continues its attacks across the besieged Gaza enclave, despite a fragile truce agreement. The al-Ahli Hospital reported that a Palestinian was killed by the Israeli fire in the Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza.

Another Palestinian was killed in a drone strike on Gaza City's al-Tuffah neighborhood, while a third was wounded when the Israeli regime quadcopter opened fire in the eastern neighborhood. Medical teams said that they could not retrieve the victim's body due to the ongoing Israeli regime's gunfire in the area.

The attacks form part of a broader campaign of renewed bombings by occupation forces across Gaza, which experts argue would not go ahead without a greenlight from America, which brokered the fragile truce.

Intense air and artillery strikes were reported near al-Bureij camp in central Gaza, with explosions shaking residential buildings and damaging public infrastructure.

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Imported victory: Milei’s win and the price Argentina paid

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN – Argentina's October midterm elections handed President Javier Milei's La Libertad Avanza party a sweeping victory. But this was not a triumph of domestic approval — it was a triumph of foreign leverage.

While Milei expanded his legislative footprint, the win came amid rising poverty, mass layoffs, and deepening social unrest. The election was less a referendum on Milei's governance than a demonstration of how far the United States and Israel were willing to go to secure their strategic interests.

Austerity by chainsaw

Since taking office in December 2023, Milei has wielded his signature “chainsaw” approach to public spending with brutal efficiency. ▶ Page 5



Turkish youth movement challenges ties with Israel

By Sahar Dadjoo

TEHRN - Members of “A Thousand Youth for Palestine”, a non-hierarchical, anti-imperialist, and anti-capitalist youth movement based in Turkey share their journey, principles, and goals.

Founded in December 2023 after the October 7 events, the movement unites students, activists, and workers from diverse backgrounds under a shared commitment to end all normalization with Israel.

Emerging from street protests and boycott campaigns, the youth movement, which is also a member of the International Coalition to Stop Genocide in Palestine, challenges both state and corporate complicity in the occupation of Palestine. Rejecting symbolic gestures, it focuses on research-driven, grassroots action, exposing trade networks, organizing direct actions, and mobilizing public pressure that has already led to corporate withdrawals and trade restrictions. ▶ Page 5

Exclusive Interview

Iran is not what Western media depicts, Indian ambassador says

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TEHRAN PAPERS

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

Why are multiple mediators active simultaneously?

Sobh-e-No analyzed the simultaneous activation of regional mediators to broker dialogue between Iran and the U.S. again. According to the paper, Qatar, Oman, and Egypt have each engaged in mediation efforts for distinct reasons. Qatar, following the Gaza war and the blow dealt by Israel to its mediation role, is eager to reaffirm its relevance as a key regional actor. By linking the Gaza file to the Iran-U.S. dossier, Doha seeks to revive its diplomatic influence. Oman continues to serve as the traditional channel for discreet message exchanges, maintaining its longstanding role in sensitive communications. Egypt's involvement carries a distinct political message: Cairo is unwilling to let Qatar and Oman monopolize the diplomatic credit for mediating between Iran and the West. Each mediator plays a unique role: Qatar aims to preserve the political track, Oman facilitates the transmission of sensitive messages and helps reduce security misunderstandings, and Egypt focuses on managing the technical and legal dimensions of the negotiations. If these three channels remain active in parallel, the risk of strategic miscalculation in the region could diminish, potentially paving the way for Tehran and Washington to reach a limited but functional understanding. Until then, regional diplomacy remains in a state of “active suspension,” a phase in which all parties try to prevent a major conflict.

Vatan-e-Emrooz: Rising barriers to a renewed Israeli war on Iran

One factor distinguishing a potential new conflict from the June 12-day war is the evolving stance of key regional and global players—particularly West Asian countries, China, and Russia—toward any Israeli military action against Iran. Following the Israeli strikes on Syria and Doha (to assassinate Hamas leaders), the regime's broader plan for regional dominance, along with the U.S. strategy to reshape the order in West Asia, has been exposed. As a result, regional states increasingly view Israel as the primary

threat to regional stability. Experts believe that if Israel were to launch another attack on Iran, regional reactions would differ significantly from those during the 12-day conflict. While it remains uncertain whether war is imminent or on Israel's agenda, available evidence suggests that the conditions for a renewed military assault on Iran have become more challenging for Tel Aviv. In summary, although the possibility of another Israeli strike on Iran persists, it is clear that the obstacles facing such an operation have grown considerably. Should a new war erupt, the damage inflicted on Israel would likely far exceed the losses it suffered during the previous conflict.

Etemad: Chabahar is a strategic asset for Tehran and Delhi

In an interview with Etemad, senior South and Central Asia analyst Mostafa Zandieh explored the implications of Washington's recent decision to extend sanctions waivers for India. Zandieh emphasized that Chabahar is a strategic oceanic port for Iran, offering significant economic and geostrategic potential. For India, Chabahar serves as a vital gateway to Afghanistan and Central Asia, forming a key component of its regional connectivity strategy and complementing the North-South transit corridor. However, realizing the full potential of this route requires sustained investment and a reduction in political and sanctions-related risks. U.S. sanctions have influenced India's decision-making, yet New Delhi's approach to Chabahar has consistently followed a strategy of “balanced and phased engagement.” The recent six-month waiver, Zandieh argues, reflects Washington's calculations in countering China's growing influence. Looking ahead, India's involvement in Chabahar is expected to remain cautiously pragmatic—continuing operations under the waiver, staging investments incrementally, managing sanctions risk, and maintaining its role in regional transit networks.

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

IRGC Chief says force more prepared than during 12-day war



A scene of Iran's damage to the Weizmann Institute of Science, an institute with close links to the Israeli spy agency Mossad. Iran struck the center with missiles in Rehovot on June 19, 2025.

TEHRAN – The Commander-in-Chief of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) says the force's current level of preparedness is “far higher” than during the 12-day war, describing the IRGC as being at the peak of its strength and readiness.

Ebrahim Rezaei, a member of parliament and spokesperson for the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, announced that the committee held a joint session with Major General Mohammad Pakpour, the IRGC Commander-in-Chief, as well as several senior deputies and officials of the Corps.

Rezaei said Brigadier General Khademi, head of the IRGC's Intelligence Organization, also attended the meeting. The IRGC commanders presented a detailed report on their recent activities and operations over the past few months.

During the session, Major General Pakpour reviewed the IRGC's performance since taking office, with a particular focus on the 12-day war and the series of military operations carried out

to “punish the Zionist regime” and deliver “a firm response” to its actions—especially in the aerospace sector.

“The Commander-in-Chief analyzed the current regional and domestic situation and announced the IRGC's full readiness to confront any threat or act of hostility,” Rezaei said. “He stressed that the Corps' level of preparedness today is much higher than during the 12-day war, and that it stands at the peak of its power and capability.”

Rezaei added that Brigadier General Khademi briefed lawmakers on the country's overall security situation and outlined measures taken to enhance national security.

Committee members, for their part, praised the IRGC's “efforts and sacrifices,” particularly during the 12-day war, and reaffirmed the full backing of the parliament—especially the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee—for the Corps. They also pledged to use all available parliamentary capacities to support and strengthen the IRGC.

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

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The president underscored the importance of the profitability of innovative products and their exports, adding that such technologies should be utilized to serve Iranian citizens in underprivileged areas across the country.

“We must take action to improve the quality and export of these technological products, and in addition, in the area of developing medical equity, these products should be used to provide services to citizens in deprived areas of the country,” Pezeshkian said.

His visit comes as Iran has made considerable breakthroughs in a whole range of scientific and technological areas.

'Iran's current defense might

Iran, Pakistan pledge closer military ties at maritime expo in Karachi

TEHRAN – Iran and Pakistan's defense and military capabilities complement one another, a senior Iranian military official said Tuesday, emphasizing that both neighbors are committed to expanding cooperation to confront shared threats from the West and Israel.

Captain Darioush Eskandari, head of Iran's delegation to the Pakistan International Maritime Expo & Conference (PIMEC 2025), made the remarks on the event's second day in Karachi. He called for stronger defense ties and broader collaboration to enhance deterrence and regional security.

“It is a valuable opportunity to take part in the International Maritime Expo & Conference hosted by our eastern neighbor, Pakistan,” Eskandari said, describing Iran's participation as a sign of growing engagement between the two countries. “The quality and variety of products presented by Iran's Ministry of Defense have been highly impressive.”

According to Eskandari, the Iranian pavilion drew visits from several foreign dignitaries and senior Pakistani officials, including the commander of the Pakistan Navy.

“The expansion of defense and

Iran Parliament speaker to depart for Pakistan

TEHRAN – Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf is to leave for Pakistan on Wednesday, leading a high-ranking delegation, ‘as part of efforts to deepen political and economic ties between the two neighboring countries.

His trip comes at the invitation of Ayaz Sadiq, the Speaker of Pakistan's National Assembly.

During his visit to Islamabad, Qalibaf is scheduled to hold meetings with the speakers and members of both the National Assembly and the Senate of Pakistan.

He will also sit down with senior political officials, including Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, to discuss bilateral cooperation and regional developments.

Qalibaf is also slated to visit the major cultural and economic centers of Lahore and Karachi, where he plans to meet with cultural and religious figures as well as Pakistani businessmen and traders.

Members of Iran's Parliament, including representatives from the Iran-Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Group, will accompany the Speaker.



President Masoud Pezeshkian (L) visits the 16th International Nanotechnology Exhibition and the First Up-to-Date Technologies Exhibition in Tehran on November 04, 2025.

stronger than during 12-day war'

Meanwhile, the president said elsewhere in a meeting with officials that enemies will receive a crushing response if they make any move against the Islamic Republic.

“The Islamic Republic of Iran is, by no means, seeking war and confrontation, but our defense might today is not comparable to that prior to the [Israeli] 12-day imposed war, and if the enemy makes any mistake, it will receive a rapid, crushing and painful response,” said Pezeshkian.

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 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.

Pezeshkian further touched upon sanctions, calling for closer regional cooperation to counter them.

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“In addition to all domestic problems and imbalances, we are facing

If Lebanon was truly free, students would have shut down US spy den

By Layla Saad

BEIRUT — If Lebanon was not a “corrupt state,” its students would have long ago shut down the den of “diplomatic occupation” masquerading as the American Embassy in Awkar, just as Iranian students did in 1979 when they stormed the U.S. embassy in Tehran and declared a second revolution to defend their nation's dignity.

On November 4, 1979, a group of Iranian students confronted American arrogance head-on, detaining 52 spies posing as “diplomats” in an embassy that had functioned as a command center for counterrevolutionary operations.

Their action was not recklessness but a living embodiment of the slogan “Neither East nor West”—a rejection of domination and a declaration of sovereign will.

Lebanon today stands at the opposite pole of that moment. Its universities, once centers of liberation thought, have become training grounds for embassy-funded “civil society” projects.

The American “spy den” in Awkar operates unchallenged. It is now a central hub for political, media, and even judicial manipulation. From airport inspections to government formation, the embassy's shadow stretches across every aspect of Lebanese life.

This is no ordinary diplomatic compound. 90,000 square meters of fortified concrete conceal intelligence facilities, data centers, and coordination halls where Washington's “soft war” on Lebanon is designed and deployed. Awkar is the Beirut version of Baghdad's Green Zone, except it speaks the language of “freedom” and “aid.”

Ironically, the man calling Lebanon a “corrupt state” is none other than U.S. envoy Thomas Barrack, a product of the same imperial system that built Lebanon's financial and political rot.

Speaking at the Manama Dialogue in Bahrain on Thursday, Barrack derided Lebanon's leaders as “dinosaurs,” mocked its institutions, and declared that the country cannot meet Washington's demand to disarm Hezbollah.

Barrack lamented the “chaos” of 40 years, yet ignored Washington's own fingerprints on every phase of Lebanon's instability—from post-Taif debt traps to the Central Bank's collapse, and the ongoing financial war orchestrated by banker Antoun Sehnaoui, a figure closely linked to Israel's economic lobby in Washington.

If Lebanon were free, its response to Barrack's insult would not have been silence. It would have echoed the cry of Tehran's students to Jimmy Carter in 1979: defiance, not submission.

Yemen offers another lesson

When Yemenis rose in 2014, they discovered that the U.S. embassy in Sana'a was an operational command for the CIA and Marines, directing ministers, policies, and media alike.

Following the success of September 21st Revolution, the embassy's agents fled, leaving behind evidence of the deep American penetration of the Yemeni state. Since then, even under war and siege, Yemen has reclaimed the essence of freedom; that is to say sovereignty unshackled from embassy dictates.

How the free people of Lebanon envy the free people of Iran and Yemen!

They envy those who dared to topple the American idol, while Lebanon hides behind hollow slogans of “sovereignty.” They envy those who embraced hardship for dignity, while Lebanon clings to false prosperity built on humiliation.

Freedom, in today's Lebanon, is a word emptied of meaning. It is reshaped by Washington's lexicon. It attacks the resistance while tolerating foreign occupation. It allows American military attachés to inspect Beirut Airport but bans humanitarian flights from friendly nations. It accepts U.S. bulldozers digging near military zones, yet silences its own army.

This is not freedom—it is guardianship in disguise. Until the Lebanese rediscover their courage Lebanon will remain a laboratory for foreign control.

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

The spirit of 13 Aban still marches

Hundreds of thousands of students across Iran mark National Day of ‘Fight against Global Arrogance’

TEHRAN – Hundreds of thousands of Iranians poured into the streets of Tehran and more than 900 cities nationwide on Tuesday to mark the anniversary of the 1979 U.S. Embassy takeover, an event officially known as the National Day of Fight against Global Arrogance.

Students, youth, clerics, and families participated in the rallies, which featured chants against the United States and Israel, including slogans such as “Death to America” and “Death to Israel.” Demonstrators carried Iranian flags and portraits of martyrs killed in U.S. and Israeli acts of aggression, including the “12-day war” against Iran last June.

In Tehran, the central march began at Palestine Square and advanced toward the site of the former U.S. embassy—now referred to as the “Den of Espionage”—where speeches, religious recitations, and the reading of an official resolution took place. A symbolic trial of the U.S. President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was staged during the event.

Along the procession route, cultural and political exhibitions were held, depicting decades of Western and Israeli “crimes” against Iran and other nations. Symbolic displays of Iranian missiles and centrifuges lined the streets, while U.S. and Israeli flags were set on fire as part of ritualized acts of defiance.

The official resolution, read at the Tehran gathering, characterized the 13th of Aban as a defining moment in the Islamic Republic’s struggle against global hegemony. It emphasized the day as both a remembrance of student and youth sacrifices during the Islamic Revolution and a reaffirmation of Iran’s ongoing resistance to



Iranians gather in central Tehran during the 13 Aban rallies on November 4, 2025.

U.S. and Israeli domination.

The statement reiterated Iran’s commitment to defending Palestinian rights, supporting global movements opposing foreign intervention, and maintaining military, scientific, and economic self-reliance. Participants pledged loyalty to the leadership of Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and vowed to uphold the values of the Islamic Revolution as essential to safeguarding Iran’s sovereignty and dignity.

Armed forces remind enemies of ‘painful blows’ during 12-day war

In a statement marking the anniversary, the General Staff of the Armed Forces declared that Iran’s enemies “know well” they have lost the ability to commit further aggression following the “painful blows” they received during the 12-day conflict.

“Due to the unity and solidarity of the Iranian nation, the readiness of the Armed Forces, and above all the divine resolve of the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution, the enemy now seeks to suspend the steadfast Iranian

people in a state of ‘neither war nor peace,’” the statement read.

The communiqué described the 13th of Aban as a day marking milestones that paved the way for the Islamic Revolution—the 1964 exile of Imam Khomeini, the killing of protesting students in 1978, and the 1979 embassy takeover. It accused the United States and Israel of “spreading fear through media warfare” to achieve objectives unattainable on the battlefield.

The General Staff reaffirmed that the Iranian Armed Forces stand “united in defense of the sacred homeland,” prepared to “strike a decisive blow” against any aggressor.

IRGC says U.S. policy built on infiltration

The Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC), also in its own statement, called the takeover of the U.S. embassy “a strategic choice between resistance and surrender.” It claimed documents seized from the embassy revealed the U.S. diplomatic mission was “a CIA station for intelligence and operational activities” rather than

a site of legitimate diplomacy.

“In the eyes of the United States, diplomacy is not a tool for engagement but a cover for infiltration, deception, and subversion,” the IRGC said, accusing Washington of pursuing a consistent strategy of pressure and interference since the 1953 coup against Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh.

The statement also referenced the 12-day war, saying recent U.S. behavior demonstrated a continuation of “a stable pattern of hostility” toward Iran. It called on Iranian youth to “renew their unity and resolve against global arrogance, as during the Sacred Defense” in the 1980s.

Faith over fear

Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari, the Deputy Commander of the Iranian Army for Coordination Affairs, echoed calls for national unity, identifying “faith, cohesion, and loyalty to leadership” as the keys to Iran’s success. Addressing demonstrators in Zanjan, he said: “Arrogance is our enemy and brings us no benefit. What will solve our country’s challenges is revolutionary thinking—trust in God, reliance on domestic capabilities, courage, and innovation.”

Observed annually as both Student Day and the National Day of Anti-Arrogance, the 13th of Aban marks three pivotal events in Iran’s modern history: Imam Khomeini’s 1964 exile to Turkey, the 1978 killing of student protesters, and the 1979 seizure of the U.S. embassy.

For many Iranians, the day stands as a symbol of national independence, resistance, and defiance against foreign domination—principles that continue to shape the Islamic Republic’s political identity and foreign policy decades after the Revolution.



SPORTS

Jahanbakhsh signs for FCV Dender EH

TEHRAN – Iranian international winger Alireza Jahanbakhsh has joined Jupiler Pro League side FCV Dender EH.

The 32-year-old winger has signed a one-year contract with the Belgian team, with an option for an additional year. FCV Dender EH sit the bottom-placed team in the Jupiler Pro League.

Jahanbakhsh started his career in his native Iran Damash Gilan before joining Dutch club NEC Nijmegen in 2013. He then joined AZ Alkmaar, and the Dutch team sold him to English club Brighton for €22.5 million in 2018. Three years later, the Iranian returned to the Netherlands to play for Feyenoord. Last season, he played for Heerenveen, scoring three goals in twenty appearances.

Jahanbakhsh had been a free agent since the summer.

He has 95 caps and 17 goals for Team Meli. He represented Iran in the 2014, 2018 and 2022 World Cups.

Tractor must build on defensive masterclass: Beiranvand

TEHRAN – Goalkeeper Alireza Beiranvand emphasized the importance of Tractor continuing to be miserly in defense if they are to shine in the AFC Champions League Elite 2025-26 after picking up their second win of the campaign.

Monday’s 1-0 win over Iraq’s Al Shorta was the Iran side’s third clean sheet in four matches as Beiranvand and company produced another show of defensive resilience, especially in the second half when the away side pushed hard for the equalizer.

“I congratulate the Tractor team, the technical staff, the players and the fans,” said Beiranvand. “If it weren’t for their support and efforts today, we would have had a hard time.”

“Before the game, Mr. Skocic (head coach) spoke to us and emphasized that Al Shorta plays high level and its current position in the table is not the team’s true right. If it had been a little luckier, it could have had nine points. We knew we were facing a quality team.

“In these three clean sheets, all members of the team, from the striker to the goalkeeper, played a role. The result is the result of the effort of the entire team.

“Not conceding a goal gives the team character. I only think about Tractor’s success and I believe that if we all set the team’s success as our goal and move forward step by step, good things will happen.”

Tractor’s win came courtesy of Mahdi Torabi’s 26th minute strike following a flowing move involving Tibor Halilovic and Tomislav Strkalj but head coach Dragan Skocic felt his side could have done more, the-afc.com reported.

Skocic: Victory over Al Shorta was crucial

TEHRAN – Tractor coach Dragan Skocic says that win over Al Shorta in the AFC Champions League Elite 2025-26 was an important win for them.

Tractor’s win came courtesy of Mahdi Torabi’s 26th minute strike following a flowing move involving Tibor Halilovic and Tomislav Strkalj but head coach Dragan Skocic felt his side could have done more, the-afc.com reported.

“When we cannot create many opportunities, we will not get a satisfactory win,” said Skocic. “The first half was like that, we did not have many opportunities.

“Sometimes you have to win with a lot of effort. We do not have (Mohammed) Naderi and Igor (Postonjski). The guys who came back from injuries and those who joined us

are gradually getting used to it.

“Anyway, it was an important win. Congratulations to everyone who loves Tractor. I know it wasn’t a pretty win, but sometimes you have to win tooth and nail,” Skocic concluded.

Building on their 5-0 success against United Arab Emirates’ Sharjah FC on Matchday Three, Iran’s Tractor moved onto eight points with Al Shorta of Iraq only having a draw to show from their four matches.

Tractor will next face Uzbekistan’s PFC Nasaf on Nov. 24 while Al Shorta travel to play Al Hilal SFC of Saudi Arabia a day later.

Azerbaijan sweep Iran’s women’s volleyball: Riyadh 2025

TEHRAN – Azerbaijan’s women’s volleyball team eased past Iran 3-0 (25-11, 25-16, 26-24) at the 2025 Islamic Solidarity Games (ISG) on Tuesday.

The round robin competition takes place at the Prince Faisal bin Fahd Olympic Complex in Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia.

Iran will play Turkey on Thursday. Afghanistan, Turkey and Tajikistan also compete in the Games.

The 2025 Islamic Solidarity Games, also known as Riyadh 2025, are an inter-continental multi-sport event organized by the Islamic Solidarity Sports Association (ISSA), which are being held from Nov. 7 to 21 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Iran, Morocco futsal team settle for draw: Riyadh 2025

TEHRAN – Iran and Morocco futsal teams shared the spoils in a 2-2 draw in Group B of the 2025 Islamic Solidarity Games (ISG) on Tuesday.

Mehdi Karimi scored two goals for Iran and Bilal Bakkali and Soufiane Charraoui netted for Morocco.

Earlier in the day, Afghanistan defeated Tajikistan 9-5 in the group.

Group A includes Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan, Libya, and Azerbaijan.

The futsal tournament of the 6th Islamic Solidarity Games runs from Nov. 4 to 21 at the Green Halls at the Prince Faisal bin Fahad Olympic Complex.

The 2025 Islamic Solidarity Games, also known as Riyadh 2025, are an inter-continental multi-sport event organized by the Islamic Solidarity Sports Association (ISSA), which are being held from Nov. 7 to 21 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The event has brought together more than 3,000 athletes from 57 nations, competing across 25 sports in pursuit of glory at one of the Islamic world’s premier multi-sport events.

Hossein Vafaei out of 2025 International Championship

TEHRAN – Hossein Vafaei of Iran was knocked out of 2025 International Championship on high note on Tuesday.

Vafaei, who had defeated Ryan Day from Wales 6-4 in the round of 64, lost to John Higgins from Scotland 6-3 in round of 32.

The 2025 International Championship is a professional snooker tournament that is taking place from November 2 to 9 at the South New City National Fitness Center (SNCNFC) in Nanjing, China.

The qualifiers took place from September 30 to October 2 at the Ponds Forge International Sports Centre in Sheffield, England.

Iran, 46 years later

The seizure of the U.S. embassy and the forging of a sovereign republic

From Page 1 ► MADRID – Every November 4, Iran commemorates an episode that, transcending the boundaries of historical anecdote to become a founding myth, encapsulates the ontological essence of its revolution: the takeover of the United States Embassy in Tehran by a group of students.

Far from being an isolated act of radicalism, that event in 1979 was the logical—almost teleological—culmination of a revolutionary process that sought to completely redefine Iran’s position within the global order, eradicate decades of foreign influence, and reaffirm a long-compromised national sovereignty.

It was the moment when anti-imperialist rhetoric took tangible form, and a newly born nation declared to the world that its political will was not for sale. This analysis seeks to unravel the layers of meaning surrounding that event, tracing its roots in the Pahlavi era, examining its execution as an act of geopolitical disobedience, and exploring its enduring legacy in shaping Iran’s national identity and its place on the international stage.

To grasp the depth of the context, one must return to the decades of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi’s rule—a period that, in the revolutionary Iranian imagination, is remembered not as an era of modernization but as a long interlude of neocolonial domination. During his reign, the United States exercised an almost absolute hegemony, a relationship that went beyond diplomacy to become organic. Washington’s political backing was the pillar sustaining the monarchy, most starkly visible in the decisive and never-forgotten role of the CIA in overthrowing nationalist Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh in 1953. That event, which truncated Iran’s nascent autonomy and restored the Shah to his throne, implanted in the collective psyche an indelible conviction: real power, effective sovereignty, did not reside in Iran but in Washington’s

offices. This perception was not merely abstract; it was reflected in the daily realities of bilateral relations, where U.S. interests—from oil to anti-communist containment—seemed invariably to outweigh the aspirations of the Iranian people.

This political patronage translated into unparalleled economic and military support, whose consequences profoundly—and for many, traumatically—shaped Iranian society. Economically, the Shah’s “accelerated modernization” model, praised in the West, was experienced by broad sectors of traditional society and the popular classes as alienating and deeply unequal. The so-called “White Revolution,” with its often-disruptive land reform and forced secularization, was perceived as a systematic assault on the country’s traditions, Islamic identity, and centuries-old social structures.

The wealth generated by oil was concentrated in a small, Westernized elite, creating a vast social chasm and fostering a consumerist culture that many viewed as foreign and corrupting. Culturally, Westernization was felt as an imposition. The massive presence of American advisers and citizens—often acting with impunity and superiority—exacerbated the sense of national humiliation and loss of cultural autonomy.

Militarily, Iran became the regional gendarme designated by the Nixon Doctrine—a privileged client inundated with American weaponry, whose presence served as a constant and humiliating reminder of subjugation. The U.S. military mission in Iran enjoyed a quasi-extraterritorial status, its members forming a visible elite operating with impunity. This symbiotic relationship turned the U.S. Embassy, located in the heart of Tehran, into something more than a diplomatic mission: it was the physical and operational symbol of a foreign power dictating the nation’s destiny from within.

In revolutionary rhetoric, it was the “nest



of spies,” a command center where, it was firmly believed, the continuity of dependency was orchestrated and conspiracies against any genuine independence were plotted. This perception was not without factual basis, given the history of interference; thus, the embassy stood as the epitome of violated sovereignty.

After the triumph of the Islamic Revolution in February 1979, the new order in Tehran faced a titanic task: to consolidate itself amid internal power struggles and external pressures. The revolution did not offer a single path or a unified structure; it was a plural project, contested among nationalists, leftists, and the Islamist faction, which found in Imam Khomeini a figure capable of giving meaning and direction to a process in flux. It was in this atmosphere of fragility and fervor that the spontaneous action of the students—initially not ordered by the revolutionary leadership—acquired decisive strategic weight.

By seizing the embassy on November 4, 1979, and denouncing it as that “nest of spies,” the young activists—many themselves children of the Shah’s disenchanting modernity—were merely giving physical expression to the anti-imperialist rhetoric that had fueled the revolution. Their profound conviction that they were acting in accordance with the spirit of the Imam drove them to challenge, in the most direct way possible, the superpower that had pulled the country’s strings for so long.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

China sees Iran as an attractive investment destination

TEHRAN – Chinese companies view Iran as an appealing destination for industrial investment, said Tan Kai, President of the Iran Federation of Overseas Chinese Association, during a forum on economic cooperation opportunities between the two countries.

Tan noted that bilateral trade between Iran and China reached \$13.4 billion last year, adding that the figure could rise substantially through expanded cooperation.

He emphasized Iran's role as a key member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and said Chinese firms are particularly interested in developing partnerships in industrial sectors.

He added that China is home to over 58 million private factories, offering diverse and flexible models of foreign investment that could help support Iran's economic growth.

Former Economy Minister Ehsan Khandouzi, also speaking at the meeting, underlined the importance of strengthening Iran's economic ties with eastern partners. He said that amid sanctions, strategic collaboration with China could play a vital role in mitigating economic pressures.

Meanwhile, Hamed Vafaei, professor of Chinese studies at the University of Tehran, said relations between the two countries need deeper transformation and mutual understanding. He noted that Iran remains an indispensable partner in China's global development trajectory, underscoring the necessity of broadening bilateral cooperation.

Meanwhile, Iran and China have agreed to form a joint cooperative committee to enhance collaboration in key economic sectors, including agriculture, mining, petrochemicals, and joint investment, officials from both sides said during a meeting in Tehran.

17th bitumen, asphalt, machinery exhibition opens in Tehran

TEHRAN – Iran's 17th Bitumen, Asphalt and Machinery Exhibition opened on Tuesday, bringing together 54 domestic companies for a three-day event hosted by the Road, Housing and Urban Development Research Center.

At the opening ceremony, Majid Kianpour, managing director of the Technical and Soil Mechanics Laboratory Company, said Iran's asphalt and bitumen sector faces ten major challenges, including low product quality, insufficient use of standard materials, short pavement lifespan, lack of skilled personnel, and weak coordination between academia and industry.

Kianpour noted that under the national budget law, 30 percent of the country's bitumen output is allocated to executive bodies, with 49 percent going to the Transport and Urban Development Ministry, 17 percent to the Municipalities Organization, and the rest to the Housing Foundation for rural projects. He said projects receive bitumen at half the market price as part



The meeting was held between Bahman Abdollahi, head of the Iran Chamber of Cooperatives, and Cong Peiwu, China's ambassador to Iran.

Both sides underscored the long-standing strategic partnership between Tehran and Beijing and explored new avenues for cooperation between cooperative enterprises in the two countries.

Abdollahi noted that Iran's cooperative sector, with more than 104,000 active cooperatives, has remained unaffected by foreign sanctions and can serve as a reliable channel for economic engagement with friendly nations such as China. He proposed forming a joint committee to coordinate joint projects, trade missions, and specialized exhibitions in Tehran and Beijing.

He also highlighted the potential for collaboration in modern irrigation, seed and vaccine production, and animal feed technologies, as well as mineral processing and petrochemical industries.

Abdollahi added that the current trade volume between Iran and China stands at about \$14 billion, but with the existing capacities, that figure could rise substantially through strengthened cooperative and industrial partnerships.

of a government subsidy program to reduce road maintenance costs.

Masoud Nosrati, deputy interior minister and head of the Organization of Municipalities and Village Administrations, highlighted the growing strain on Iran's urban road networks, noting that 76 percent of the population lives in 1,451 cities and that daily commuter trips between Tehran and its suburbs exceed 3.5 million.

Nosrati said the cost of bitumen and asphalt has increased 36-fold and 30-fold, respectively, over the past nine years, adding that the rise of ride-hailing services has eased transport pressures but also contributed to faster road wear. He called for new financing mechanisms to support infrastructure renewal, warning that traditional funding models are no longer effective.

According to organizers, 72 research papers were submitted to the event, with 17 presented orally and 40 in poster form during the exhibition.

Tehran to equip 1,200 schools with rooftop solar power systems

TEHRAN – Around 1,200 schools across Tehran province are set to be equipped with rooftop solar panel systems by the end of this Iranian calendar year (March 20, 2026), according to Majid Parsa, head of the Tehran Education Department.

Parsa said the initiative follows an agreement with the Tehran Governor's Office to install 5-kilowatt solar power systems on each participating school.

He noted that the project will initially be implemented on a trial basis to assess the panels' performance, maintenance, and integration into the power grid.

"The Education Department has already equipped five schools with pilot solar systems, which have shown promising results," Parsa said, adding that the project will expand once evaluations confirm its effectiveness.

He emphasized that solar-powered schools could play a vital role in energy conservation, providing clean electricity for their own use and potentially supplying surplus power to the grid.

Parsa added that newly built schools in

Tehran are now being constructed with built-in solar infrastructure, aligning with the governor's sustainable development plan.

In a related initiative, Akbar Hasan Beklou, managing director of Tehran Province Electricity Distribution Company, said earlier that the project aims to generate about six megawatts of solar power through these school installations, with the first phase expected to connect to the grid within three months.

Meanwhile, in order to develop renewable energy, enhance energy productivity, and support sustainable employment in rural areas, a joint cooperation memorandum was signed between the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA) and the Headquarters for the Development and Progress of 4040 Rural Clusters.

This memorandum was signed in line with the implementation of the general policies of the system and the provisions of the Seventh Development Plan law, aiming to maintain and attract the rural population, create local employment, strengthen the rural economy, and expand the use of clean and renewable energy nationwide.

Iran, Oman move to accelerate PTA implementation, sign industrial committee MOU

TEHRAN – Iran and Oman have agreed to accelerate the implementation of their preferential trade agreement and expand industrial cooperation through a newly formed bilateral industrial committee, according to Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO).

During a recent visit to Muscat, Mohammad-Ali Dehqan Dehnavi, head of the TPO and deputy minister of industry, mining and trade, met with Qais bin Mohammed al-Yousef, Oman's minister of commerce, industry and investment promotion.

The two sides underlined the need to speed up the trade pact's execution, organize a joint economic commission, and hold a business forum in Tehran to introduce investment opportunities in Oman.

According to Abdolamir Rabiavi, TPO's director-general for West Asia, both countries also discussed drafting and finalizing the industrial committee memorandum of understanding (MOU), which was signed by deputy ministers from Iran and Oman.

Dehnavi also held talks with Saleh bin Saeed Masan, Oman's deputy minister of commerce and co-chair of the Iran-Oman Joint Economic Committee, as well as with the chairman of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The meetings focused on boosting bilateral trade, facilitating the upcoming joint committee meeting in Tehran later this year, and strengthening private-sector cooperation.

The visit also included tours of Oman's Sohar Free Zone, Khazaen Industrial City, Madayn industrial estates, and the Oman Investment Authority, aimed at exploring new areas of collaboration in industry, customs, and free trade zones.

The head of the Iran-Oman Joint Chamber of Commerce has explained the obstacles and positive factors affecting trade with Oman in recent years, as well as the events and factors that will influence future exchanges with this country.

Jamal Rezaqi Jahromi, pointed to the reasons for the increase in trade exchanges with Oman, focusing on exports, and said: "Strengthening logistics infrastructure such as the development of Chabahar, Sohar, and Duqm ports and the increase in joint shipping routes have reduced transportation costs and facilitated Iran's exports. Additionally, the diversification of Iran's exports to Oman and the increase in exports of petrochemical products, steel, cement, food products, and fruits and vegetables have been effective in this increase in exchanges."

He added: "On the other hand, the increasing role of Oman as a re-export hub – meaning that Oman re-exports a portion of the goods imported from Iran to Africa, India, and even the Persian Gulf – has itself been an effective action in developing the trade relations between the two countries. Furthermore, Oman's tendency to diversify its trade partners within the framework of its "Vision 2040" policies has created a suitable opportunity for Iran."

Rezaqi Jahromi has emphasized that despite some structural obstacles, the positive trend in trade between the two countries is expected to continue in the second half of the year, setting a new record for bilateral trade.

He has stated: "In the first five months of this year, Iran-Oman trade saw an 11-percent growth compared to the same period last year, with Iran's exports to Oman, which increased by 16 percent playing the main role in this growth."



The National Center for Statistics and Information of Oman has announced that the value of the country's trade with Iran in the first seven months of the current year was \$865 million dollars, of which over \$390 million consisted of Iranian exports to Oman.

Statistics from this center indicate that Iran holds a significant share of Oman's foreign trade and, by leveraging the advantages of its neighborly relations with this country, has managed to secure a good position among its foreign partners.

According to this report, Iran was recognized as the second destination for re-exports from Oman in the first seven months of 2025. The value of Oman's re-exports to Iran during this period reached \$465 million. Oman's re-exports to Iran from January to July of this year accounted for 18 percent of the country's total re-exports.

Iran also ranked 11th among the countries supplying goods needed by Oman, exporting \$394 million worth of goods to this country in the first seven months of 2025. 45 percent of the total trade between the two countries was related to Iran's exports to this southern coast Persian Gulf country.

Iran's exports to Oman were greater than those from countries like Turkey, Egypt, and the United States. The United States exported \$218 million worth of goods to Oman during this period. Apart from re-exports, the figure for Oman's direct exports to Iran in the first seven months of 2025 was reported to be negligible, at around \$6 million.

Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) has proposed the creation of a joint investment fund between Iran and Oman to support industrial projects, as part of broader efforts to deepen bilateral trade and private-sector collaboration.

During a meeting in Muscat, in late May, with Qais Mohammed Al Yousef, Oman's Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, ICCIMA Head Samad Hassanzadeh welcomed the growth in bilateral trade, which has surpassed \$2.0 billion. He emphasized that the trade volume could potentially reach between \$20 billion and \$30 billion, given the countries' untapped economic potential.

Hassanzadeh stressed the need for a clear financial framework to facilitate transactions between private enterprises in both countries. He proposed the establishment of licensed exchange houses under central bank supervision and the implementation of a barter mechanism to ease payment challenges.

The Iran Chamber head also advocated for re-exporting Iranian goods to African and East Asian markets through Oman; cooperation in supplying key industrial inputs to Iran; joint ventures in petrochemicals, hospitality, power generation, fisheries, and agriculture.

He further called for the formation of an industrial and investment committee involving the

industry ministries and chambers of commerce from both countries. The aim would be to evaluate and coordinate development projects, particularly those utilizing Iran's tech-savvy startups and industrial base.

Hassanzadeh also proposed joint investment in the International North-South Transit Corridor (INSTC) to enhance rail and road connectivity with Central Asia and Europe, as well as the Makran coast, specifically Jask and Chabahar ports, as strategic logistics hubs providing access to the Caucasus and Eurasian markets.

The visit was part of an Iranian business delegation mission to Oman, seeking to capitalize on growing economic ties and the imminent activation of the first inter-bank transfer mechanism between the two countries.

Also, during an Iran-Oman Business Forum in Muscat on Wednesday (May 28), Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said that the value of trade between Iran and Oman can reach \$20 billion-\$30 billion.

Emphasizing the position of Iran and Oman in connecting regional markets, the president said: "We can jointly establish strategic ties with important markets in the region and the world by using our geopolitical capacity."

Referring to his talks with Sultan Haitham bin Tariq the previous day and the agreements reached in these talks, the president stated: "What is most important today is to create infrastructure to strengthen the connection of land, sea and air routes between the two countries, because only in such a context can commercial, scientific, industrial and economic cooperation be deepened."

Iran and Oman discussed ways to boost banking ties during a meeting between the Governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) and Oman's Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion.

According to Oman's state news agency, Qais bin Mohammed al-Yousef held talks on May 27 with Mohammadreza Farzin in Muscat. The meeting took place as part of Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian's official visit to Oman aimed at strengthening bilateral economic and financial relations.

The two sides reviewed measures to enhance cooperation in trade and investment, ease financial transactions, and streamline trade procedures between the two countries. Discussions also focused on initiatives to support joint economic projects, stimulate bilateral trade, and facilitate private sector exchanges.

Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to continued coordination and cooperation in areas of mutual interest, with a shared goal of strengthening bilateral relations and promoting sustainable economic growth.

The official visit to Oman marks a significant step in the Iranian government's ongoing efforts to strengthen regional ties and deepen bilateral relations with Muscat.

Meanwhile, the ICCIMA head, who had traveled to Muscat at the

head of a trade delegation at that time, attended a conference to review trade opportunities between Iran and Oman and presented seven proposals to deepen Iran-Oman relations in the economic field. He believed that moving towards defining joint investment projects is a suitable solution in this direction.

Addressing the conference, Samad Hassanzadeh said that the presence of entrepreneurs from Iran and Oman in this valuable conference indicates the serious interest of the private sectors of the two countries in comprehensively deepening relations and promoting bilateral economic cooperation.

Hassanzadeh stated that expanding economic relations with neighboring countries is Iran's strategic priority, adding: "Iran's private sector is very keen to cooperate with Omani companies. Given the wide variety of cooperation capacities between the two countries, it is necessary to focus on the future of relations so that, by optimally utilizing new opportunities, a suitable roadmap for joint relations and cooperation that includes the interests of both parties can be defined and drawn."

He considered the cultural and historical commonalities, good neighborliness, and excellent political relations in the region as important capacities for deepening economic relations, adding: "In recent years, the value of trade between the two countries has exceeded \$2 billion, and there is a clear prospect of increasing this figure to a much higher level."

Iran and Oman signed 18 memoranda of understanding in various fields during the official two-day visit of Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian to Muscat.

The agreements, signed on the sidelines of the Iran-Oman Joint Economic Committee meeting on May 27, aim to deepen ties in multiple sectors, including legal, economic, political, cultural, educational, health, defense, media, technology, energy, and mining.

In a symbolic gesture highlighting cultural and historical bonds, officials from both nations also unveiled a commemorative joint postage stamp.

President Pezeshkian arrived in Muscat on May 27 at the official invitation of Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq.

Following a formal welcoming ceremony at Muscat International Airport, Pezeshkian held a meeting with Oman's Sultan. The visit continued with a joint session between high-ranking delegations from both countries.

During the meeting, Pezeshkian said that Iran is ready to boost cooperation with Oman in all fields, adding that the two countries possess capabilities that can be employed for the well-being and progress of the two nations as well as that of other regional nations.

"We are ready to do whatever is within our capability for the dignity and greatness of Muslims. Each of us has capacities that can be employed for the well-being and progress of one another and of other nations in the region," Pezeshkian said.

Sultan Haitham also welcomed closer ties, saying that he agrees that if the avenues for business activities are opened, the two countries "will witness a significant leap in the bilateral relations."

"The relations between Iranian and Omani ports must be developed, and the rail capacity from northern to southern Iran is of great commercial importance to us," he said, adding that more support is needed for cooperation in the energy sector.

Turkish youth movement challenges ties with Israel

Activists from “A Thousand Youth for Palestine” say grassroots pressure can shatter entrenched networks of state and corporate complicity

From page 1 ▶ Beyond Turkey, the movement works with youth organizations across the Middle East and Europe, leading coordinated global protests and strikes. For A Thousand Youth for Palestine, liberation “from the river to the sea” remains both a moral and political mission.

The following is the text of the youth movement’s interview with the Tehran Times:

How was “A Thousand Youth for Palestine” founded, and what motivated it to launch this movement in December 2023?

The story of the A Thousand Youth for Palestine movement began when the Al-Aqsa Flood resistance on October 7 called on people across the world to take to the streets and join the boycott. As young people, we saw the issue of Turkey–Israel relations and the expulsion of Zionist capital from our country as the most urgent parts of this agenda.

We knew that the strength of an anonymous youth movement to speak to and organize the masses could only be found in the streets. The vigils and protests that began in public squares and in front of companies collaborating with Zi-



onism exposed the empty rhetoric of the AKP government, which organized large pro-Palestine rallies full of emotional slogans, while revealing the need to uncover one by one its normalization with Israel and its bureaucratic, economic, academic, and military ties. We became convinced that cutting these ties required a genuine people’s movement.

In December 2023, together with the Labor and Justice Platform, Youth Committees, and independent friends unaffiliated with any institution, we founded A Thousand Youth for Palestine.

From the very first day, we be-

lieved that victories are won in the streets. Capital relations that seem powerful and unshakable can be broken through grassroots struggle. Today, two years later, the gains we have achieved prove this to be true.

Our campaign against Zionist corporations began with Zorlu Holding; recently, Zorlu Energy announced that it had withdrawn its investments from Israel. As a result of the protests, we have carried out every single week without interruption; the Turkish government announced on April 9, 2024, that it would first restrict and then suspend trade with Israel. But we did

not stop there. We have renewed our oath to continue the struggle until Palestine is free from the river to the sea.

Despite the government’s official statements, we continue to expose the covert trade routes that remain active behind the scenes. We are determined to keep organizing until all commercial and political ties between Israel and Turkey are completely severed.

What are the core principles that define your movement? How do you differ from other activist groups in Turkey?

A Thousand Youth for Palestine is built on the principles of anti-imperialism, anti-capitalism, and anti-Zionism. It is a movement where young people from diverse backgrounds unite around these shared ideals.

What distinguishes us most from other groups is that we turn this diversity into a sense of shared responsibility rather than conflict. Our movement is non-hierarchical and operates through a horizontal organizational model. We do not believe in a single “leader” figure, but in collective coordination through committees.

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

Imported victory: Milei’s win and the price Argentina paid

From page 1 ▶ His zero-deficit plan slashed subsidies, gutted pensions, and suspended disability benefits. Inflation dropped from 289% to 32%, but the cost was staggering: over 200,000 formal jobs lost, 18,000 businesses shuttered, and homelessness in Buenos Aires up 38% since late 2023. Garbage containers now bear warning signs because people sleep inside them. Soup kitchens overflow, and pensioners protest weekly against cuts that have left them unable to afford basic necessities.

U.S. leverage

The role of the administration of President Donald Trump in shaping the election outcome was explicit. A \$40 billion bailout — half from the U.S. Treasury and half from private banks — was conditioned on Milei’s success. “If he wins we’re staying with him, and if he doesn’t win, we’re gone,” Trump declared during Milei’s visit to the White House in mid-October. This statement turned Argentina’s democratic process into a geopolitical transaction. Milei’s campaign

was buoyed not by domestic achievements but by the promise of foreign cash.

In a post-election statement, Trump hailed Milei’s victory as a vindication of U.S. support, calling it “proof that the Argentine people made the right choice.”

Israeli endorsement

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu added his voice to the chorus, congratulating Milei on his “extraordinary victory” and praising his courage. The two leaders met in New York during the UN General Assembly, where Netanyahu called Milei “a true friend of the State of Israel and the Jewish people.” Milei has returned the favor by backing Israel’s military campaign in Gaza, which many international observers have described as genocidal.

Beyond symbolic gestures, Milei’s alignment with Israel has served strategic purposes. His government has promoted the “Isaac Accords,” a regional initiative aimed at deepening Latin



American ties with Tel Aviv. Israeli firms have expanded their footprint in Argentina’s defense and surveillance sectors, while Milei has echoed Netanyahu’s rhetoric in international forums, defending Israel against charges of war crimes. This ideological and diplomatic alignment has helped Milei court conservative blocs and foreign investors, reinforcing his image as a reliable partner for Western allies.

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

Washington’s pressure and Lebanon’s slide toward forced normalization

From page 1 ▶ By placing the resistance and the Israeli enemy on equal footing — both supposedly “exhausted” and “ready for compromise” — Aoun dangerously undermines the very balance that has prevented open war.

His rhetoric echoes Western narratives portraying resistance as a burden rather than a shield.

Reports confirm that Washington was quick to reprimand Aoun after his call for the army to “confront Israeli aggression.”

The Americans made their position explicit: the Lebanese army must not engage the Israeli enemy. Its mission, in their eyes, is to contain Hezbollah.

This exposes the real hierarchy

of U.S. priorities — disarm the resistance, pacify the border, and secure Israel’s northern front, all under the illusion of “international obligations.”

Simultaneously, diplomatic efforts led by American and Egyptian envoys, including Barrack and General Hassan Rashad, are intensifying in Beirut.

Their proposal for “direct negotiations under international auspices” excludes one essential condition — a ceasefire. Negotiations under fire are not diplomacy; they are coercion. The aim is to push Lebanon into a dialogue of surrender, not of sovereignty.

Meanwhile, the Israeli press has been instrumental in shaping the

pretext for escalation. Outlets like Maariv and Kan emphasize Hezbollah’s “recovery” and the “rebuilding of the Radwan Force,” suggesting that Israel is being provoked into preventive action.

This rhetoric, calibrated with Washington’s political messaging, serves as psychological warfare to justify limited strikes, sustain public fear, and pressure Beirut into compliance.

Washington’s script and Lebanon’s crisis of leadership

Behind this orchestrated drama lies a broader U.S.-Israeli maneuver: to redraw the post-Gaza regional map by neutralizing Lebanon’s resistance.

Exhausted militarily, Israel seeks

a symbolic political victory in Lebanon — a victory that Washington intends to translate into regional “stability” by integrating Lebanon into a security framework that benefits Tel Aviv.

When Barrack insists that “disarming Hezbollah is a prerequisite for peace,” he merely repeats the Israeli regime’s narrative in American diction.

President Aoun, meanwhile, appears motivated by personal and political calculations. By floating the notion of negotiation, he seeks to secure a legacy of “statesmanship” at the end of his term, even if it means undermining Lebanon’s last tool of deterrence.

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

Gazans still face death, misery and starvation

Only about %24 of humanitarian aid agreed under the truce has been allowed into Gaza

In southern Gaza, the Israeli regime’s drones dropped bombs around the al-Awda School in the city of Abasan al-Kabira, while continuous shelling and bulldozing operations were reported east of Khan Yunis.

The combination of bombardment and ground activity has made it nearly impossible for emergency responders to reach many affected areas.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed deep concern over the “continued violations” of the October 10 peace deal. Speak-

ing in Doha, Guterres demanded an immediate end to the breaches, echoing findings from Gaza’s Government Media Office.

According to its director, Ismail al-Thawabteh, the Israeli regime has carried out at least 194 violations since the agreement took effect.

These include incursions beyond the so-called “yellow line,” artillery fire on residential neighborhoods, and the prevention of humanitarian aid from entering Gaza.

The same office reported that the occupying regime has restrict-

ed the delivery of tents, mobile homes, and medical supplies, while air strikes and demolitions have killed and injured civilians.

Only 3,203 aid trucks, about 24 percent of the promised amount under America’s truce, have been allowed into Gaza. The Rafah crossing remains sealed since Israeli occupation forces destroyed its Palestinian side in May.

The humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate. The Gaza fishermen’s union reported that five fishermen were detained by the occupation regime’s military

off the Gaza coast on Tuesday and taken to an undisclosed location.

Meanwhile, nearly 75,000 displaced Palestinians are now crowded into UNRWA facilities, many of which have been damaged or partially destroyed. The UN agency has warned that shelters are dangerously overcrowded, leaving women and girls particularly vulnerable. “For many displaced women and girls, daily life means coping without dignity, safety, or adequate hygiene,” the agency said.

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

Dick Cheney, shadowy architect of death and endless wars, dies at 84

The American veep who drove the Iraq invasion, torture policies, and corporate profiteering leaves behind a legacy of death, secrecy, and conflict

By Garsha Vazirian

TEHRAN – Former U.S. Vice President Richard Bruce “Dick” Cheney, the hawkish neoconservative who wove ruthless ambition and doctrine into the military-industrial complex—catalyzing endless wars that profited from carnage and fattened corporate coffers—died Monday at 84.

His family announced the passing Tuesday, citing complications from chronic heart problems and pneumonia.

Cheney’s death comes at a moment of renewed global conflict, with wars raging in Ukraine and the Middle East, and it has reignited debate over a career that left deep marks on U.S. foreign and domestic policy. To critics, he was a war criminal whose decisions scarred generations and enriched corporate allies.

Born in 1941 in Lincoln, Nebraska, Cheney embodied the consummate Washington insider. He rose through Republican ranks as White House chief of staff under Gerald Ford, defense secretary under George H.W. Bush, and CEO of Halliburton before becoming vice president in 2001. His reputation for secrecy and hardline maneuvering earned him the label “the worst Dick since Nixon” from detractors.

His influence reached its zenith on September 11, 2001. From the White House bunker, Cheney directed emergency responses, later claiming President George W. Bush had au-



thorized scrambling fighter jets.

The 9/11 Commission, however, found his shoot-down order for hijacked planes came too late—after the Pentagon was struck and the Twin Towers had collapsed. Cheney admitted authorizing it for United Flight 93, initially believing the military had downed the plane rather than passengers forcing it to crash in Pennsylvania.

The investigation itself drew criticism: Cheney and Bush testified jointly, off-record, and without oaths, fueling suspicions of evasion.

In the tense months that followed, the post-9/11 sweep brought pre-emptive interventions, expanded surveillance, and a readiness to authorize clandestine operations.

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

Wikipedia’s editorial block on Gaza genocide: Neutrality or evasion?

From page 1 ▶ Inside Israel, two human rights organizations—B’Tselem and Physicians for Human Rights—have called Israel’s actions genocidal. B’Tselem has documented deliberate targeting of civilians and infrastructure, while the other rights group has published testimonies from Israeli soldiers implicating military command in war crimes.

Globally, the International Association of Genocide Scholars has affirmed that Israel’s conduct meets the legal definition of genocide. The International Court of Justice has ruled that Palestinians face a plausible risk of genocide, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is wanted by the International Criminal Court for

crimes against humanity.

Wikipedia’s editorial freeze, justified as protecting neutrality, effectively blocks contributors from reflecting this growing legal and humanitarian consensus. Wales insists Wikipedia should not “adjudicate” the issue—but when adjudication is already underway in international courts, refusing to acknowledge it becomes a form of denial.

Neutrality should mean presenting all credible views—not suppressing well-documented ones. By shielding contested narratives from revision, Wikipedia risks becoming a platform that protects impunity rather than informs the public.

Legitimacy from the people: The will that defines victory

By Batool Subeiti

LONDON – Despite the destruction that war leaves behind, true victory belongs to those with unyielding willpower.

Does movement happen according to the will of the oppressive powers, or is it according to the will of the resistance?

Any step taken by the Axis of Resistance, whether it seems to be in the enemy’s interest or in the interest of the resistance, should be within the vision to achieve the objectives of the current phase. This does not count as a concession — and if it appears to be a concession, it is a calculated, necessary step within the direction dictated by circumstances — but it cannot be a step toward realizing the goals of the opposing project. Otherwise, it becomes a tool within their project.

If the will exists, there is no defeat. A party with will cannot be broken, except if it is subjected to total annihilation. That is not possi-

ble at the level of peoples. There are peoples and movements that possess the will with the means and tools to realize their goals, whether time is long or short. A party that yields in surrender has, by that act alone, accepted defeat. As for the equation that defines victory, either by military victory or by martyrdom, and regards martyrdom as victorious, then in all cases they are victorious, as the leader of the Resistance expressed.

The will cannot be destroyed if it exists. If one party abandons it, another one will raise the flag. Are those who seek to strip the resistance off its will the ones who created the resistance? Whoever did not grant legitimacy to the resistance from the onset cannot seize it. The people and the nation are the ones who gave legitimacy to the resistance, because it is their right to repel the aggressor. From here comes legitimacy, a usurper of legitimacy cannot grant legitimacy.

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

The extermination mindset in Israeli society

By Nawaf Al-Zaru

AMMAN – Israeli writer, historian, and Beit Berl lecturer Yehiam Sorek documents the character of Israeli society in a study titled The Roots of Thuggery and Force in Israeli Society.

“The tendency toward force in Israeli society is not a product of yesterday; it reaches back into the dark corners of the past, before the Zionist idea was fully embodied,” Sorek observes.

He affirms that both textbooks and operational programs were mobilized to cultivate and enhance the “we” while destroying or demoniz-

ing the “they” — legitimizing the “we” and demonizing the “they” (the Palestinians and the Arabs).

Sorek closes his study by asking: “If this is so, why do we not recognize the seeds of thuggery that lie within and behind us?”

Add to this the intrusion of religious Zionism into politics, a force that sanctifies Zionist action. The consequence follows: land theft excused, workplace dispossession defended, and aggression toward Palestinians and Arabs rationalized. Is that not enough?

Qaleh Bala Village: a model of solidarity, creativity, and local development

By Hani Rastegaran

TEHRAN – Qaleh Bala, a village nestled on the southern slopes of Mount Shahvar where the dry expanse of the desert blends into the wind-shaped hills of the Kharturan buffer zone, has become one of the most remarkable examples of community-based rural development in Iran. Its people, who have long struggled with drought, isolation, and lack of infrastructure, have relied on social cohesion and a series of small yet persistent innovations to transform what was once a depopulating settlement into a destination for community-led ecotourism.

The turning point came when a group of local youth and families chose not to wait for external projects and instead began restoring adobe houses, organizing eco-lodges, and designing nature-walk paths with the participation of residents—ensuring that tourism revenues remained within the village itself. This grassroots decision revived the micro-economy and strengthened the motivation of young villagers to stay.

Qaleh Bala's transformation rests primarily on its social capital: mutual trust, consultative planning, and equitable distribution of benefits. The village council, local administrators, and environmental volunteers established clear yet simple rules through regular dialogue—from defining visitor-capacity limits during sensitive ecological seasons to preventing constructions that disrupt the rural landscape. Lodging spaces, instead of adding floors or modern façades, have been refurbished using the same mud-brick and timber patterns to preserve the village's visual integrity. At the same time, a visitor "code of conduct" prepared by residents is posted at guesthouse entrances: respect for privacy, no car access to narrow alleys, water-use reduction, and maintaining nighttime tranquility. These subtle but consistent measures have brought a sense of discipline that ensures peace for both villagers and visitors.

Economic renewal in Qaleh Bala has sprung from tradition itself. Women draw upon local knowledge of herbs and foods to produce goods that are both cultural and profitable—from homemade stews and traditional breads to herbal distillates. These products are introduced to tourists at small village markets and guesthouses, forming a short and transparent value chain managed mostly by the families themselves. Simple handicrafts such as straw weavings and clay ornaments, made from locally available materials, have become souvenirs that directly contribute to household income without intermediaries or imports.

Instead of relying on a conventional school building, community learning takes place through nature guiding and field interpretation. The village youth, drawing on their firsthand knowledge of the desert edge and rolling terrain, lead visitors in small, timed groups to minimize pressure on fragile habitats. Nighttime stargazing sessions—featuring traditional methods of celestial orientation, explanations of constellations, and local tales—have become one of Qaleh Bala's sig-



nature attractions. Daytime walks along marked trails include introductions to drought-resistant plant species and descriptions of how wind erosion and seasonal rainfall shape the landforms. Such field-based education does not replace formal schooling but fulfills the same purpose of awareness-raising in harmony with the village's scale and resources.

Environmental sustainability here is no mere slogan. On the household and lodging scale, small solar panels and water heaters have been installed to reduce fossil fuel use. Waste separation at source—between dry and wet—is now routine, and for tourism-related waste, scheduled collection is organized by the local administration. Water management follows a dual strategy: economizing domestic consumption and encouraging off-season visitation so that water pressure in summer remains stable while tourism is distributed evenly throughout the year. These modest yet consistent actions have generated a cumulative and meaningful impact on the village's resilience.

Cultural identity stands as the other pillar of Qaleh Bala's success. Seasonal rituals, folk music linked to nomadic routes, and elders' storytelling are performed in the evenings at eco-lodges. Local youth have begun recording these narratives in audio and video formats to preserve the village's oral memory. This interconnection of culture and nature diverts visitors from a consumerist mindset and turns them into more sensitive participants in the environment.

The story of Qaleh Bala demonstrates that even within limitations, a new paradigm of development can emerge—one that safeguards the landscape, respects the carrying capacity of ecosystems, and redistributes benefits among residents. In the path followed by this village, neither massive structures nor large budgets played the leading role. What truly made the difference was everyday collaboration, adherence to simple self-devised rules, and the courage to modernize traditions without damaging their backbone. Today, when travelers take the dirt road toward Qaleh Bala and see the sunlit mud-brick walls and clay roofs glowing at dusk, they encounter not merely a tourist destination but a living habitat whose people have chosen to shape their future by their own hands and to care for the land as it deserves.

Zaveh, an emerging agritourism destination in northeast Iran

TEHRAN — Zaveh county in northeast Iran has the potential to become a leading agritourism destination thanks to its high-quality saffron and vast areas dedicated to the cultivation of this valuable crop, a local official has said.

Ali Mohammadi, head of the Torbat-e Heydarieh and Zaveh Cultural Heritage Department, told ISNA that one of the key capacities that can be developed with saffron at its core is agritourism.

"Fortunately, the relevant ministries have adopted a positive approach toward this type of tourism in recent years," he said.

According to Mohammadi, saffron tours have been launched to showcase Zaveh's potential and familiarize tourists with various stages of saffron production. In addition to visiting saffron farms, plans are underway to include saffron-based products in souvenir packages for travelers, tourists, and pilgrims.

He noted that, in recognition of October 27 as National Saffron Day, numerous specialized festivals and tours were held in the region this year. Since the beginning of the harvest season in early October, more than 35 tour leaders have expressed readiness to guide visitors through saffron farms, with these programs expected to continue until early December.

Emphasizing that saffron is not only an agricultural product but also a significant part of the local culture, rituals, and identity, Mohammadi said: "One of our main policies, alongside tourism development, is to preserve the traditional customs and practices associated with saffron."

He added that efforts are underway to register these rituals as elements of Iran's intangible cultural heritage. "The enthusiasm and joy of the people during the harvest—especially when they go to the fields before sunrise to pick saffron flowers—reflect Iran's authentic farming culture. Reviving these traditions is itself a valuable cultural and tourism attraction," he explained.

Mohammadi acknowledged that transforming saffron into a prominent tourism brand in Khorasan Razavi comes with challenges, the most significant being the lack of tourism infrastructure. To address this, consultations are being held with urban management and related organizations to develop and strengthen essential infrastructure, particularly in tourist villages that, in addition to saffron production, boast historical and natural attractions.

"The development of ecotourism resorts in these areas can play an important role in attracting more tourists and encouraging longer stays," he added.

Iran is not what Western media depicts, Indian ambassador says

By Afshin Majlesi

TEHRAN – In an exclusive interview with the Times of Tehran on Saturday, the Indian ambassador to Iran urged greater efforts to correct what he called a "distorted image" of Iran shaped by Western media.

Ambassador Rudra Gaurav Shresth emphasized that Iran is a safe, hospitable, and culturally rich nation with centuries-old ties to India.

Encouraging more travel, cultural exchange, and media engagement, the envoy underlined that closer people-to-people contact can help Indians rediscover Iran's warmth and its shared civilizational heritage with India.

Below are excerpts from the interview:

Tell us about the number of Indians and people of Indian origin currently living in Iran.

The number of long-term Indian residents in Iran is modest. Around 150 members of the Sikh community have lived here for several generations, mainly as traders and businessmen. Another group of about 120 Indian women married Iranian men who studied in India and settled here. Altogether, around 300 Indians live here permanently.

In addition, there are roughly 10,000 Indians residing temporarily. Of these, around 6,000 are Shia students studying theology in Qom and Mashhad at Al-Mustafa University. About 2,000–2,500 others are medical students enrolled in universities in Tehran, Shiraz, Isfahan, Arak, and even Urmia.

Another 1,500–2,000 Indians work in Iran—many along the Makran coast, in oil refineries, steel industries, and ship maintenance. Altogether, the Indian community numbers about 10,000–11,000, making it one of the largest foreign communities in Iran after Afghans and Iraqis.

How many Indian nationals visit Iran as travelers, and what's your opinion for expanding mutual tourism?"

Most Indian visitors come to Iran for religious purposes—pilgrimages to Qom and Mashhad during Muharram and Arbaeen. Around 20,000 Indian pilgrims visit Iran each year. Non-religious tourists, however, number only about a thousand. There is tremendous potential to increase that figure.

From the Iranian side, our embassy issues about 10,000 visas annually. However, many of these are for



Indian ambassador to Tehran Rudra Gaurav Shresth speaks with the Tehran Times during an exclusive interview at his residence in northern Tehran on November 1, 2025.

business travelers, as business visas cost more. Most Iranian visitors go to Delhi, Agra, Rajasthan, Goa, and Hyderabad, but we hope to expand interest beyond these destinations. Recently, we held a joint tourism promotion event with the Tehran Chamber of Commerce to connect Indian and Iranian travel agencies.

How do ordinary people of your country perceive Iran, considering the negative portrayal by Western media?

Unfortunately, the image of Iran in the minds of many Indians has been shaped by Western media, which often depict the country as unsafe or unstable. This is far from the truth. Indians who visit Iran always express how warmly they were welcomed and how safe they felt.

Iranian hospitality is legendary—it's among the best in the world. But not enough people in India know this. More positive publicity about Iran's safety, culture, and natural beauty would correct this misconception.

What steps can Iran take to change this negative perception and attract more Indian travelers?

Iran could adopt some of the strategies used by other countries that successfully attract Indian tourists. For example, last year 2.8 million Indians traveled to Thailand, and about 36,000 to Armenia—both countries that run active tourism campaigns in India, with advertisements on television and in cinemas.

Iran, on the other hand, does not yet have such promotional activities. I would recommend inviting Indian travel influencers, particularly women, to visit Iran. If they share their experiences—showing how safe, friendly, and fascinating Iran is—it would go a long way in correcting

misconceptions and attracting more visitors.

Looking ahead, what message would you like to send to potential Iranian visitors to your country—not just as tourists, but as people seeking shared cultural heritage and friendship?

I think what has happened in the last 75–80 years is quite interesting. Until 1947, India and Iran shared a common border—we were direct neighbors. People of both countries were very familiar with each other's cultures and histories. But after India's partition, that common border disappeared, and gradually, awareness of our deep, shared cultural history also faded.

This is far from the truth. Indians who visit Iran always express how warmly they were welcomed and how safe they felt.

Visitors from Iran who come to India today have so much to discover—not just about India, but about Iran itself. There are nearly half a million Persian manuscripts preserved in India, far more than in Iran.

The first Persian newspaper was published in Kolkata; the first Persian dictionary and even the first collection of Persian poetry were produced in India. Before the British period, Persian was the official language of India. At that time, the number of Persian speakers in India was about seven times greater than the total number in Iran today.

India's most famous monument, the Taj Mahal, is another beautiful

symbol of our shared history. Its architect was Iranian, and the queen in whose memory it was built was also an Iranian princess. Yet many visitors are unaware of this connection.

Normally, Iranian tourists visit Delhi, Agra, Rajasthan, Goa, and sometimes Hyderabad. But India is vast—there are many unexplored regions, from the snow-capped mountains of the north to the lush southern state of Kerala. In fact, during our Diwali celebrations this year, we are promoting Tamil Nadu, a culturally rich southern state that remains relatively unknown to Iranians.

I also encourage Iranian visitors to explore these lesser-known parts of India. And equally, I hope more Indians will discover Iran. Tourism exchanges will help our young people rediscover the centuries-old mutual respect and affection that bind our nations together.

How do you see the potential of celebrating major Iranian festivals like Nowruz or Yalda Night in the Indian Embassy to foster mutual understanding?

Nowruz is already celebrated widely in India—especially in Kashmir, where cultural ties with Iran are very strong. The Zoroastrian community in Mumbai and nearby regions also celebrates Nowruz, though on a different date because they follow the Jamshidi calendar.

Other festivals like Charshanbe Suri and Yalda Night are not yet well known in India. I personally feel it would be more effective if the Iranian Embassy in Delhi and its consulates in Mumbai and Hyderabad organize such celebrations. Just as we are introducing Indian festivals like Diwali and Holi to Iranians here, Iran could showcase its beautiful traditions in India. This would attract great interest and deepen cultural understanding.

In fact, Diwali—the Indian Festival of Lights—bears a symbolic resemblance to Charshanbe Suri and Yalda, both celebrating the triumph of light over darkness.

Ambassador's closing note:

There is a Persian saying: "Dosti deraz, rah kutah"—when friendship is deep, the road between us is short. That is true for India and Iran. Our histories, languages, and cultures are deeply intertwined. Through greater tourism, education, and cultural exchange, we can ensure that this ancient friendship continues to flourish in the modern era.

Minister highlights sustainable village employment through ecotourism resorts

TEHRAN — Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Seyyed Reza Salehi-Amiri has emphasized the importance of sustainable rural development, stressing that villages should remain vibrant through initiatives such as ecotourism resorts.

Speaking on the sidelines of 24th meeting of Strategic Council of Ministry of Cultural Heritage on Monday, he explained the Government's new approaches regarding the field management and balanced tourism development. "Over the past 1.5 years, the ministry's Strategic Council has been regularly formed with the presence of more than 30 elites and experts in the fields of cultural heritage, tourism, handicrafts, and social sciences. This council's mission is to identify major issues from a comprehensive perspective and provide solutions to overcome the fundamental challenges."

Pointing to the need for direct communication with the provinces and regions of the country, he added: "One of our strategic plans is the presence of governors in meetings of the Strategic Council so that decisions can be made on basis of true understanding of local capacities and needs. Today, we hosted the governor-general of Ardabil; a province that has a distinguished position as a hub of civilization, tourism, and handicrafts in the country."

Emphasizing the importance of balanced development in Ardabil, Salehi-Amiri said: "Issues such as the development of residential and tourism infrastructure in Sarein, protecting the natural environment of the region, organizing the Heyran axis, and strengthening the heritage infrastructure of Ardabil were discussed in today's meeting."

The report shows that more than five million domestic trips are made to Ardabil annually, but the share of foreign tourists is still low and this indicator should be improved with targeted planning, he added.

(See full text at www.tehrantimes.com)

First Announcement

2040803



National Iranian Oil Company

NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0240004

The National Iranian South Oil Company (NISOC) is seeking to procure the specified goods listed in the table below through a Qualitative Evaluation Call for conducting a public tender via the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD). All stages of the tender process including the receipt of tender documents, submission of bidders' proposals, and the opening of bid envelopes, shall be carried out exclusively through the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD) portal at www.setadiran.ir. Bidders who have not previously registered must complete the registration process on the aforementioned portal and obtain an Electronic Signature certificate to participate in the tender.

Item	Material Description	Quantity
1	CASING 5-1/2 IN., 20PPF, API GRADE L-80, SEAMLESS "VAM", "NEW VAM" THREAD, R-3 API 5CT/ISO	2,200LE

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.setadiran.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded.

The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 44,207/88 EURO or 35,702,060,000 RIAL, in favor of NISOC.

ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS CFR, BANDAR IMAM KHOMEINI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.A.D., SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex,
Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran
Tel. No.: 061 34 12 4644 Fax No.: 061 34 45 74 37

PUBLIC RELATIONS
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DOE attends Lebanon, Azerbaijan conferences on combating SDSs, climate change



TEHRAN – The Department of Environment (DOE) has participated in international conferences in Lebanon and Azerbaijan, expounding on activities to deal with sand and dust storms and climate change.

Attending the Forum on Fostering Interregional Collaboration on SDSs, which was held from October 7 to 8 in Beirut, Lebanon, Sediqeh Torabi, an official with the DOE, delivered a lecture titled ‘integrated policy and community-based approaches to combat SDSs in Iran’, enumerating on Iran’s efforts and expertise in comprehensive management of SDSs, vegetation restoration, and local community involvement, Mehr news agency reported.

On the sidelines of the event, the official held meetings with representatives from the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the UN-Habitat, and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to discuss ways to boost scientific and technical cooperation.

The United Nations Coalition on Combating SDSs was jointly organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the ESCWA as co-chairs for the Coalition for the period 2025-2026, and hosted by ESCWA.

The meeting reviewed the work plans of the Coalition’s five working groups on Adaptation and Mitigation (FAO); Forecasting and Early Warning (WMO); Health and Safety (WHO); Policy and Governance (UNCCD); and Regional Cooperation and Mediation (ESCAP and ESCWA), as well as activities and work being undertaken by Coalition partners.

It also discussed the planning and organization of the United Nations Decade on Combating Sand and Dust Storms (2025-2034) and forthcoming collaborative events.

D-8 High-level Climate and Urban Dialogue was held from October 13 to 17 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the D-8 Commissioners’ Retreat Meeting gathered D-8 Commissioners of Member States (Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Turkey, and Pakistan), and their accompanying officers, in an informal strategic setting.

Delivering a speech titled ‘towards resilient and low-carbon cities: integrating climate action and sustainable urban development’, Torabi shared Iran’s experiences in tackling air pollution, optimizing energy and water consumption, and promoting urban resilience against climate hazards.

The official referred to the national environmental policy document, which aims at standardizing environmental requirements and integrating them into urban planning.

Torabi also held meetings with representatives from D8 member states and UN-Habitat, exchanging views on smart energy management, monitoring emissions of greenhouse gases, and sharing green technologies.

The D-8 Week, which was the first since the establishment of the organization in 1997, featured two significant high-level events, the D-8 Commissioners’ Retreat Meeting and the High-Level Climate and Urban Dialogue on Aligning Climate and Urban Action with the D-8 Decennial Roadmap 2020-2030.

Both meetings were organized within the framework of the D-8 Week in Baku, marking an important milestone in advancing the Organization’s vision for deeper cooperation, sustainable development, and stronger institutional coordination among its Member States.

The primary aim of the meeting was to foster an open exchange of views and ideas on key organizational issues and to collectively explore new approaches for strengthening the cooperation framework of the D-8 Organization.

‘BRICS should capitalize on IRCS expertise’

TEHRAN – Marco Fernandes, the Brazilian representative at BRICS Civil Council, has highlighted the need to benefit from the experiences and knowledge of the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS).

“By sharing capacities and experiences in various fields, we are seeking to implement key measures in the BRICS Civil Council in co-operation with member states,” Mehr news agency quoted Fernandes as saying.

The official made the remarks in a meeting with the head of the IRCS, Pirhossein Kolivand, on Monday in Tehran.

Certainly, the IRCS, with its strong potential and extensive experience in implementing humanitarian actions at national and global levels, will play an effective role in the council, the official stressed.

For his part, Kolivand stated that over four million volunteers, including more than 100,000 elites and scientists, are currently serving the IRCS, and that the society plans to increase this number to 20 million volunteers.

Referring to the applied science and technology centers affiliated with the IRCS, the official said the IRCS is ready to attract foreign students from BRICS member states to share its knowledge and expertise. “We can also train social work teams in the BRICS region, and utilize the other countries’ experiences, as well,” he added.

Boosting synergy and sharing experiences in providing relief and rescue services can develop a joint concept in the relief and rescue field, which will increase the capacity of relief agencies in addressing potential international disasters, Kolivand noted.

IRCS expertise ‘an added value’ for BRICS

In September 2024, Sergei Alexeyevich Ryabkov, the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation, said the extensive and acknowledged activities of the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) at the national and international levels can be an added value for the BRICS member states.

The official also requested the IRCS to share its knowledge and experiences with member states, the IRCS website reported.

Ryabkov made the remarks in a meeting held on the sidelines of the fourth Eurasian Women’s Forum, with Razieh Alishvandi, the IRCS director for international affairs.

Alishvandi represented Iran in the fourth forum, which was held from September 18 to 20 in Saint Petersburg, Russia.



Presenting a speech on the empowerment of Iranian women in the forum, the official emphasized the importance of fostering women’s participation in social, economic, and political decision-making.

Referring to the successful activities and experiences of the IRCS in empowering vulnerable women and heads of households, Alishvandi said a large number of women in Iran have benefited from the IRCS training courses, including first aid, relief skills, entrepreneurship, resilience in crises, and basic psychological support in Helal (community-owned Red Crescent) Houses.

“They have also been equipped with the required job skills. Most of them become entrepreneurs while mastering job skills,” she further noted.

ENGLISH IN USE

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Hospital beds capacity rises to improve medical system

Health Minister Saeed Namaki inaugurated 23 health centers, including 201 hospital beds, in Lorestan, Kermanshah, and Khuzestan provinces on Tuesday.

Built on 26,935 square meters area, the centers were constructed with a budget of 2.9 trillion rials (nearly \$70 million at the official rate of 42,000 rials).

The Ministry of Health is scheduled to add 10,600 hospital beds to the capacity of the country’s medical system within the next 7 months.

Two years ago, there were a total of 140,859 beds in the country, which means 1.7 hospital beds per 1,000 population.

افزایش ظرفیت تخت های بیمارستانی

سعید نمکی وزیر بهداشت امروز به صورت مجازی ۲۳ مرکز بهداشتی و درمانی را شامل ۲۰۱ تخت بیمارستانی در استان های لرستان، کرمانشاه و خوزستان افتتاح کرد.

به گزارش ایرنا، این مراکز در زیربنای ۲۶ هزار و ۹۳۵ مترمربع و با اعتباری بالغ بر ۲۹۸۰ میلیارد ریال ساخته شده است. وزارت بهداشت قرار است تا ۱۲ فروردین سال ۱۴۰۰، ۱۰ هزار و ۶۰۰ تخت بیمارستانی به ظرفیت بیمارستان های کشور اضافه کند.

در انتهای سال ۱۳۹۷ مجموعاً ۱۴۰ هزار و ۸۵۹ تخت فعال در کشور فعال بود که اگر این میزان را به ازای جمعیت محاسبه کنیم، ضریب تعداد جمعیت به تخت مان، ۱.۷ تخت به ازای هر ۱۰۰۰ نفر است.

Iran hosts annual meeting on Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria

TEHRAN –The annual meeting on the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria was held from October 29 to 31 in Sari, Mazandaran Province, both in person and online.

The event brought together the members of the country coordinating mechanism (CCM), including the president, the vice-president, the deputy chairman, representatives from the ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs, Justice, Prisons organization, Welfare organization, the private sector, nongovernmental organisations, as well as youth and patients’ representatives, the health ministry website reported.

Moreover, international organizations like the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) attended the meeting.

Dr. Enkhjin Bavuu (Global Fund Portfolio Manager in Iran), Mr. Nayeem Chowdhury (Iran Assessment Team Leader), Ms. Anna Carrasco (CCM HUB Liaison), and Professor Mohamed Chackroun (Head of the Eastern Mediterranean region) participated in the meeting online.



communities, civil society, health workers, and the private sector to find solutions that have the most impact, and take them to scale worldwide. Since 2002, the partnership has saved 70 million lives.

It is the world’s largest multilateral funder of global health grants in low- and middle-income countries, disbursing over US\$69 billion to countries since 2002. It knows that with science, money, political will, and leadership, we can fight and overcome the deadliest disease threats.

The Global Fund is proof that by working hand-in-hand with civil society, governments, private sector partners, philanthropists, technical partners, and communities affected by the diseases, we can save lives and dramatically change the course of HIV, TB, and malaria.

Boosting HIV rapid response

In an effort to enhance the overall resilience of Iran’s national AIDS program and HIV testing capacity, Iran’s Health Ministry, the China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE), and the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) convened a meeting in April to share expertise.

This multi-stakeholder engagement brought together more than 30 experts from the two countries and UNAIDS to explore pathways to establishing a domestic manufacturing capacity for HIV rapid diagnostics, which represents a sustainable pathway to eliminate the HIV testing gap in Iran.

DCHQ, UNICEF co-op to prevent addiction among children

TEHRAN – Brigadier General Hossein Zolfagari, Secretary General of the Iranian Drug Control Headquarters (DCHQ), and Dorina Andreev-Jitaro, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Representative in Iran, have underscored the need for developing educational programs to prevent addiction among children and teenagers.

During a meeting held on Tuesday, Zolfagari lauded UNICEF’s efforts and measures, particularly parenting, holding training courses for counselors, academics, and health experts, in some target provinces. The official said “we are currently developing a set of guidelines, centered around eight main topics, for the treatment of drug addiction,” Mehr news agency reported.

Referring to previous collaborations between the two organizations, Zolfagari announced the headquarters’ readiness to promote cooperation with nongovernmental organizations, associations, and member organizations to contribute to the development of UNICEF educational programs in chosen provinces.

According to Zolfagari, to be able to conduct joint efforts more effectively, the required measures and the responsibilities of different institutions, ministries, organizations, universities, families, and trainers should be clarified. Moreover, specific feasible provincial measures have to be taken, IRNA reported.

Highlighting the existing motivations, capacities, and public participation in carrying out major actions, Zolfagari said the goal is to provide platforms to further benefit from existing capacities.

The official went on to laud UNICEF’s measures in Iran, saying that the measures, which have focused on training individuals, positive parenting, preventing addiction in educational centers of prisons organizations, improving mental health, empowering youths, particularly girls, and holding training courses for non-governmental organizations and their managers, have yielded positive results.

DCHQ and UNICEF will soon publish a book on guidelines and protocols for the treatment of addiction, and “We seek to further boost ties with UNICEF,” Zolfagari further noted.

Nielson, for her part, commended DCHQ’s efforts, saying that it would have been almost impossible to implement any of these actions without DCHQ’s support. Within recent years, UNICEF has adopted different measures to address youths’ health and well-being of its target population.

Referring to the MASERAT or APSWEC (Adolescent Psychosocial Wellbeing and Empowerment Centre) program, which helps at-risk adolescents to protect themselves, build resilience, and practice self-care against social harms such as drug abuse and HIV, the official said the program has been conducted jointly by UNICEF and DCHQ. The positive outcomes have encouraged the two organizations to expand the implementation of the program nationwide as a long-term goal. Developed by DCHQ, the program focuses on prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and combating the entry and supply of drugs.

Developing a partnership model

In May, Zolfagari and Monika Oledzka Nielson, the UNICEF ad interim Representative in Iran, underscored the need for the development of a cooperative model between the two organizations to be able to realize joint objectives and enhance the efficiency of collaborative measures.



NOVEMBER 5, 2025

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Value of each man depends upon the art and skill which he has attained.
Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon:11:48 Evening: 17:24 Dawn: 5:06 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:31 (tomorrow)

Woody Allen's "Annie Hall" to be shown in Tehran cultural center

TEHRAN- American filmmaker Woody Allen's movie "Annie Hall" will be reviewed during a session at the Arasbaran Cultural Center in Tehran on Wednesday.

Iranian film critics Kurosh Jahed and Amir Qaderi will attend a screening of the film followed by a review session.

"Annie Hall" is a satirical romantic comedy-drama film, which has become an iconic representation of the ups and downs of romance, as well as a scathing critique of the societal norms that shape our perceptions of love and relationships.

At its core, "Annie Hall" tells the story of Alvy Singer, a neurotic and self-deprecating comedian, played by Allen. As Alvy navigates the complexities of his relationship with the enigmatic Annie Hall, played by Diane Keaton, the audiences are invited to embark on a journey of self-discovery, one that is both deeply personal and universally relatable.

The film's narrative is a masterclass in subtlety, with Allen expertly weaving together a tapestry of memories, anecdotes, and observations that lovingly capture the essence of his doomed relationship with Annie. From the early days of their romance to the eventual breakdown of their relationship, Alvy's introspective monologues and voiceovers provide a richly textured portrait of a love that is both all-consuming and ultimately unsustainable.

"Annie Hall" is a cinematic time capsule that perfectly captures the spirit of 1970s New York. The film's visual aesthetic, courtesy of cinematographer Gordon Willis, is a character in its own right, with its warm, golden tones and meticulous attention to detail evoking a bygone era of urban sophistication and cultural ferment.

One of the key strengths of "Annie Hall" lies in its refusal to conform to traditional romantic comedy conventions. Rather than presenting a tidy, happily-ever-after conclusion, the film instead chooses to linger on the complexities and



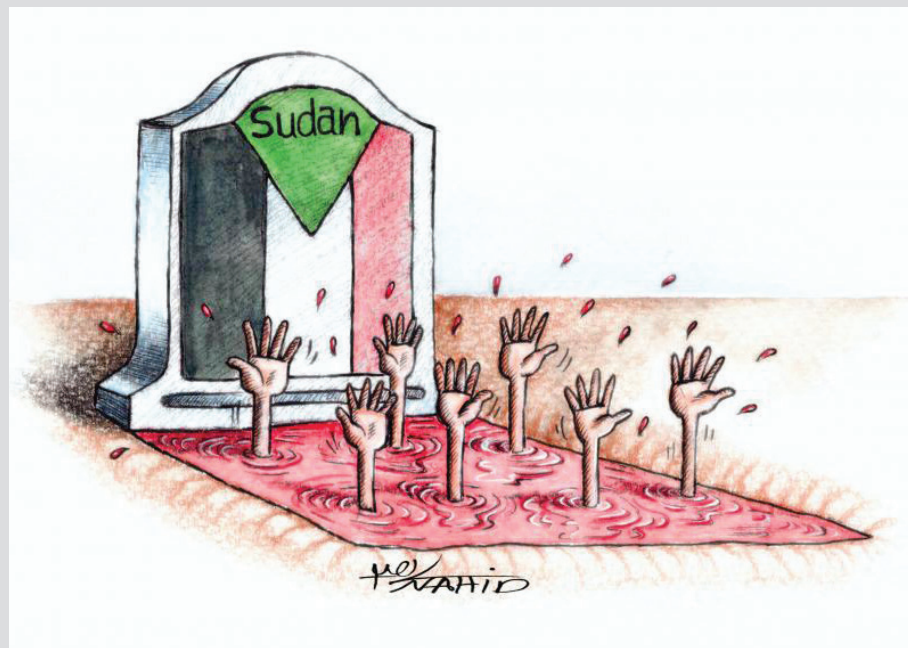
uncertainties of human relationships, often with devastatingly funny results.

The chemistry between Allen and Keaton is undeniable, with the two actors delivering performances that are both deeply nuanced and utterly captivating. Diane Keaton, in particular, brings a sense of vulnerability and determination to the role of Annie Hall, a character who is at once a creation of Alvy's imagination and a fully realized, multidimensional person.

In the years since its release, "Annie Hall" has become a cultural touchstone, a film that continues to inspire, influence, and delight audiences around the world. Its influence can be seen in everything from the romantic comedies of the 1980s and 1990s to the more recent, introspective works of filmmakers like Noah Baumbach and Greta Gerwig. As a work of art, "Annie Hall" is a testament to the power of cinema to capture the essence of human experience, with all its attendant joys, sorrows, and complexities.

Ultimately, "Annie Hall" is a film that defies easy categorization, a satirical romp through love and heartbreak that is both deeply personal and universally relatable. As such, it remains a timeless classic, a work of cinematic art that continues to captivate audiences with its wit, its charm, and its profound understanding of the human condition.

Cartoon of Day



Sudan

Cartoonist: Nahid Maghsoudi from Iran

Global animators invited to showcase work at Tehran Intl. Animation Festival

TEHRAN- The 14th Tehran International Animation Festival, organized by the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (IIDCYA), has officially announced its call for entries.

The festival, which will be held in the Iranian capital from May 24 to 28, 2026, aims to serve as a comprehensive platform for artists and filmmakers worldwide to showcase their creative talents, exchange ideas, and foster innovation in the field of animation.

The festival's registration period opened on Monday, and will remain open until January 10, 2026. Iranian and international filmmakers are invited to submit their works through the festival's official website. The selection process for the festival's diverse categories is scheduled for the mid-January.

The competition section of the festival features a variety of categories, with specific criteria for participation. Notably, filmmakers can submit up to three episodes from series or collections, as well as advertising works, including educational, industrial, and promotional films.

The selection of entries for the competition will be overseen by a dedicated jury panel, carefully chosen by the festival's organizing committee. Moreover, those involved in the production of submitted works are ineligible to serve as judges, ensuring impartiality. A festival representative will participate in jury deliberations without voting rights to maintain transparency.

This edition of the festival introduces several new thematic sections aimed at highlighting both contemporary and socially relevant issues. Among these is the "Cypress and Olive" (Gaza) segment, which explores the his-



tory of global imperialist crimes and promotes the culture of resistance and human dignity. This section seeks to raise awareness about the Palestinian land and the resilience of its people.

Additionally, the festival has expanded its scope to include "Motion Graphics" and "Artificial Intelligence" categories, reflecting the evolving landscape of digital animation and technological innovation.

The international competition will feature works produced after January 2022, and the jury will award prestigious trophies, including gold, silver, and bronze statues, to the top three films in each category.

The festival also recognizes excellence in various special awards, such as the best film and director in religious themes, works emphasizing the values of the Islamic Revolution, and pieces centered on the "Cypress and Olive" theme. Other categories include best child and adolescent animation, best screenplay, best student animation, as well

as awards for animation design, technical achievement, and artistic excellence. Special awards will also be presented by the festival secretary and jury members for outstanding contributions.

While the competition is the core of the festival, non-competitive sections are equally significant. The "Special Screenings" segment aims to foster dialogue and cultural exchange among artists from different countries. This section will showcase selected works from various global festivals, thematic retrospectives, and explorations of specific artistic schools or styles. The "Perspectives" segment, on the other hand, emphasizes educational and informational content, presenting works that highlight emerging talent, the role of animation in advertising, or offer insights into renowned filmmakers' careers.

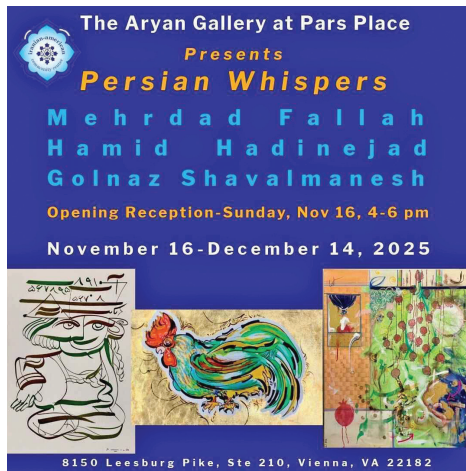
The festival's governing body emphasizes that all submissions must be registered via the festival's official website, with a tracking code clearly displayed

on each entry. Only works with this code will be accepted for consideration.

The 14th Tehran International Animation Festival aspires to create a dynamic, inclusive environment that encourages creativity, innovation, and cultural dialogue. Its overarching objectives are to provide a platform for the exchange of ideas, discover emerging talents, and promote new techniques and perspectives in animation. By fostering a space for artistic experimentation and excellence, the festival continues to strengthen Iran's position as a hub of creative animation in the region and beyond.

As the festival approaches, filmmakers and artists worldwide are encouraged to participate and contribute to this vibrant celebration of animated art and storytelling. The event promises an inspiring lineup of screenings, awards, and cultural exchanges, reaffirming Tehran's role as a pivotal center for international cinematic and artistic dialogue.

Virginia to host group exhibition of Iranian artists



TEHRAN – A group exhibition of three Iranian artists titled "Persian Whispers" will be held at the Aryan Gallery at Pars Place in Virginia, the U.S., from November 16 to December 14.

The visitors can experience the delicate dialogue between line, form, and color in the works presented by Mehrdad Fallah, Hamid

Hadinejad, and Golnaz Shavalmanesh, three artists creating from within Iran, Mehr reported.

From black-and-white intensity to vibrant calligraphic forms and large-scale miniature-inspired figures, their works resonate with contemporary Persian imagination. The exhibition will be curated in collaboration with Mehdi Rohani.

Speaking about the details of the exhibition, Mehrdad Fallah said: "In this exhibition, I will present ten works from my "Lions" and "Roosters" series and my Quranic calligraphic pieces. This is my second exhibition in the United States; my previous one was held at Seyhoun Gallery in Washington".

Born in Tehran, Mehrdad Fallah, 50, is a painter and calligrapher. He has a post diploma in visual arts, which he obtained in 1996.

He uses an amalgam of tradition and modernity in his works, so that he uses new painting techniques and calligraphy. He has exhibited his works at the domestic and international level.

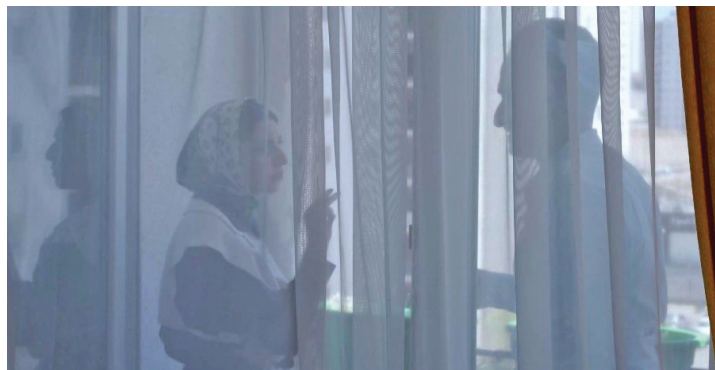
Iranian short film "Unit 13" wins in Spanish festival

TEHRAN – The Iranian short film "Unit 13" written and directed by Deniz Ghorbani has won an award at the SamhainBaucogna International Film Festival (SBI-Fest) in Spain.

It was the winner of the Best Short Film award at the October edition of the SBI-Fest 2025 monthly competitions, Honaron-line reported.

Winning the monthly competition, the Iranian flick is now one of the 35 finalist films of SBI-Fest grand finale, to be screened at the Biblioteca Municipal Vicente Campinas in Vila Real de Santo António in Portugal on November 28, 29, and 30.

The festival will conclude with an awards ceremony on November 30, where the winning films



will be announced based on the decisions of the International Jury.

"Unit 13" tells the story of a husband and wife who, by approaching lonely young women and forming seemingly secret relationships, engage in fraud. Along the way, the story takes

an unexpected twist when one of the victims discovers she is pregnant, giving the narrative a new tone and direction.

The 12-minute film highlights the dark corners of human nature and shows how many mistakes are paid for through a single event. Sepideh Saeedinian,

Mahsan Yahyapur, and Amirhossein Fahadan are in the cast.

The SamhainBaucogna International Film Festival provides a unique space for both new and experienced filmmakers to showcase their films to an international audience.

The goal is to support filmmakers worldwide by offering them a platform to compete in an International Festival, garnering visibility through social and other media, and seeking to build bridges with the distribution sector. Simultaneously, the festival aims to enhance regions with limited festival and cinema offerings by promoting accessibility for all through free entry to screenings, beyond economic means.