

Truce as Trap

Israel's Beirut strike exposes the ceasefire as a cover for carnage, with Tabtabai's killing raising fears of wider war

■ Who was Martyr Haitham Al-Tabtabai?

■ Is Iran truly the only file on Lebanese foreign minister's desk?

Neighbors continue high-level exchanges as Larijani heads to 'brotherly' Pakistan

TEHRAN – Iran's top security official, Ali Larijani, has departed for Pakistan in a visit aimed at deepening political and security co-operation between the two neighbors.

Larijani, Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC), announced his trip in a post on X, describing Pakistan as a "friendly and brotherly country" and recalling Islamabad's support for Tehran during the 12-day war waged by Israel and the United States against Iran in June. ▶ Page 3

Petrochemical industry meets first-year targets under Seventh Plan

TEHRAN – Iran's National Petrochemical Company (NPC) has met all first-year goals under the Seventh National Development Plan, its managing director said, stressing the need for tougher safety inspections and stronger multilayer protection across the sector.

Hassan Abbasszadeh told the third Process Safety Management Conference that the industry had just come through a "serious crisis" during the recent twelve-day conflict, underscoring the importance of analyzing the incident and reinforcing safety systems at every level. ▶ Page 4

'Narrators of Ancient Iran' extended after popular demand

TEHRAN – Due to "its great success", the exhibition "Narrators of Ancient Iran: A Selection of Objects from the National Museum" has been extended for one month and will now remain open to the public until December 21.

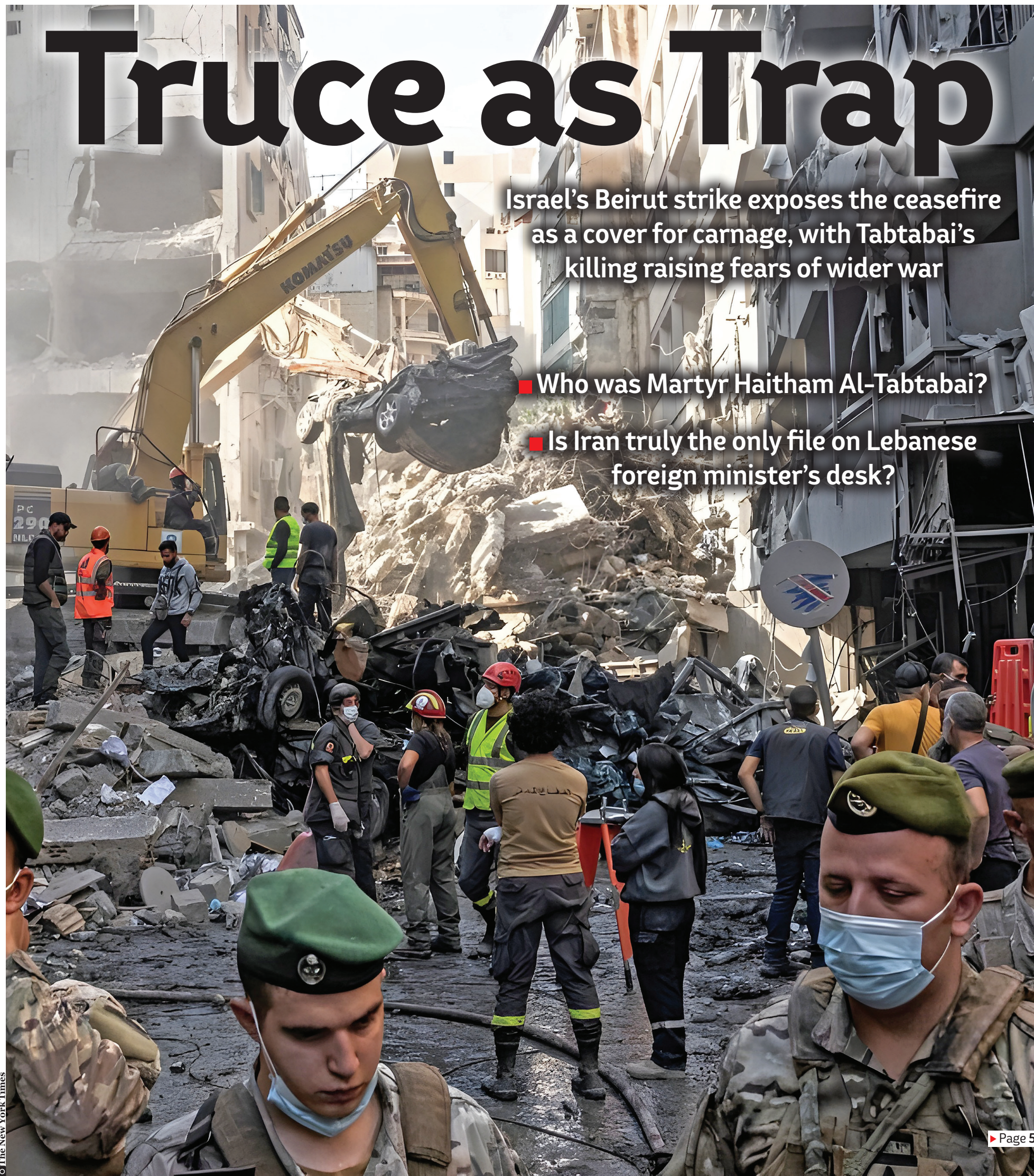
As mentioned by organizers, the "comprehensive" exhibition offers a sweeping overview of Iranian history, featuring more than 330 objects excavated from nearly 80 different sites. It presents a unique collection that includes less-seen items from the National Museum's repository, combined with objects from the Museum of Ancient Iran and the Museum of Islamic Archaeology and Art, as well as artifacts that were previously featured in the "Glory of Ancient Persia" exhibitions held in China. ▶ Page 6

Iran discusses expanding ties with Tajikistan, Pakistan in ICT sector

TEHRAN – To boost cooperation with neighboring countries and strengthen regional interactions in the information, communication, and technology (ICT) sector, ICT Minister Sattar Hashemi has held meetings with his counterparts from Tajikistan and Pakistan.

The meetings were conducted on the sidelines of the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 (WTDC-25), being held from November 17 to 28 in Baku, Azerbaijan, ISNA reported.

Tajikistan's Head of the Communications Service, Isfandiyyor Sa'dullo, in a meeting with Hashemi, said the expansion of technological and telecommunications cooperation with Iran is one of the top priorities of Dushanbe. He announced Tajikistan's interest in benefiting from Iran's expertise in infrastructure development, fiber optic expansion, and 5G network deployment, the ICT ministry's website reported. ▶ Page 7



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Civil defense members work as Lebanese army soldiers stand guard at the site of an Israeli strike in the Basta neighborhood of Beirut, Lebanon, on November 23, 2024.

Iranians pay homage to 300 unknown soldiers nationwide

TEHRAN – Funeral processions have been held across Iran for some 300 unknown soldiers killed in action during the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran in the 1980s.

In the capital Tehran, large crowds of mourners paid their final respects to some 100 martyrs.

Similar processions were also held in other cities and provinces for nearly 200 other unknown soldiers, including in the cities of Zanjan, Bushehr, Karaj, Ilam, Gorgan, Isfahan, Qom and Shiraz. The mourners bid farewell to the martyrs and paid tribute to their sacrifices during the war.

Large numbers of Iranian servicemen lost their lives in the line of duty while confronting the military aggression against Iran by the former Iraqi regime ruled by Saddam Hussein. ▶ Page 2



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (L) met with his Omani counterpart, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, during a visit to Muscat on November 23, 2025.

Araghchi meets dignitaries in Oman ahead of Muscat Forum

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi began a two-day visit to Oman on Sunday, where he was scheduled to attend the annual Muscat Forum and hold separate discussions with top diplomats and international officials.

The Muscat Forum focuses on strengthening mediation and diplomacy. This year, it was held in cooperation with the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue –based in Geneva– and the foreign ministries of Oman and Norway.

For his first diplomatic exchange of the trip, Araghchi met with his Omani counterpart, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, on Sunday. ▶ Page 3

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

Iran will not submit to Western bullying

Regarding the recent anti-Iran resolution at the IAEA Board of Governors by the European trio of Britain, France, Germany (known as E3) and the U.S., Siasat-e-Rooz wrote: Iran's foreign policy, centered on engagement with its neighbors, continues to advance even as the European troika, together with the United States and supported by IAEA Director General Grossi, passed an anti-Iranian resolution at the Board of Governors. In practice, this resolution cannot affect Iran's interests or global standing. What is noteworthy is that Western governments, alongside this hostile move, once again claimed to pursue negotiations with Iran, presenting the resolution as a step toward diplomacy. Their behavior reveals that the old illusion of combining pressure with negotiations to extort concessions still dominates their thinking, and they remain unwilling to learn from the past. Iran's paradigm, however, is consistent: it will never yield to bullying or extortion, knowing that every retreat in the face of Western irrationality only invites new demands. As senior Iranian officials such as Foreign Minister Araghchi have stated, with the activation of the "snapback" mechanism and especially with the recent resolution at the Board of Governors, the Cairo agreement between Iran and the IAEA has effectively ended. The West cannot undermine this paradigm of sovereignty and resilience.

Iran: Regional convergence is best option

The Iran newspaper, in an interview with Bahador Zarei, professor of geopolitics at the University of Tehran, examined the development of Iran's neighborhood policy. Zarei explained that at a time when Iran's foreign policy under the sitting government is focused on deepening relations with neighboring states, the geopolitical importance of the surrounding region is more evident than ever. Iran can define a large part of its national interests within this regional sphere—provided that the "neighborhood policy" becomes a binding national strategy. In his view, the main reason Iran has lagged behind competitors in regional markets, from Iraq to Central Asia, is the absence of a comprehensive and durable framework for managing neighborly relations. "Provincial diplomacy" is a sound and complementary measure to the neighborhood policy. Strengthening this policy must remain Iran's constant strategy, even if ways of engagement with Western powers open in the future. In this context, the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), as one of Iran's key regional assets, could serve as a driving engine for regional trade, reducing economic costs and creating a shared value chain across Iran's neighborhood.

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Large numbers of Iranian servicemembers lost their lives in the line of duty while confronting the military aggression against Iran by the former Iraqi regime ruled by Saddam Hussein.

Decades on since the war ended, search

Resalat: Europe's real "Black Friday"

Absolute alignment of Europe with the anti-Iran resolution, stemming from the bloc's lack of political independence, has coincided with its acceptance of humiliation in Trump's proposed peace plan for Ukraine. This contradictory behavior comes during the period in the West known as "Black Friday." In Western culture, Black Friday symbolizes massive sales and heavy discounts. For Europe, however, what has been put on sale at this moment is its "dignity and political independence." This situation displays the peak of Europe's political submission to American interests. On the Iran file, Europe has abandoned the tools of multilateral diplomacy and joined a unilateral pressure bloc. On the Ukraine file, even as Europe's strategic interests are at risk, the bloc has accepted imposed conditions to ensure that the American military and political support will remain in place. This performance has resulted in the complete loss of credibility and dignity for Europeans in the international arena. Europe is no longer recognized as an independent, value-driven actor, but rather as an instrument subordinate to U.S. strategies. This contradictory approach undermines the trust of international partners and sends the message that Europe's foreign policy lacks stability and fixed principles, functioning merely as a derivative of America's momentary decisions.

Arman-e-Emrooz: Decoding Trump's Iran policies

Arman-e-Emrooz, in a commentary on Trump's policies toward Iran, wrote: These days, Trump repeatedly says, "We destroyed Iran's nuclear program." In Trump's mind and that of his team, this statement is a political tool intended to simultaneously pursue three main objectives:

First: Preparing the American public to accept a new agreement. If the U.S. is to return to negotiations with Iran, the society must feel that such talks are not from a position of weakness.

Second: Creating psychological superiority in negotiations. When Trump publicly claims that he believed Tehran was eager for an agreement and "I am totally open to it, and we're talking to them, and we start a process," even if Iran has made no such request, the statement reverberates through global media and places Tehran on the defensive.

Third: By repeating this claim, Trump keeps open an exit strategy for himself in all scenarios. If negotiations succeed, he can say: "See! We destroyed them, and then magnanimously agreed." In simple terms, this statement is no longer just a military claim; it is a golden key that simultaneously unlocks doors to political, diplomatic, and even electoral victories—regardless of how much Iran's nuclear program has actually been damaged in reality.



teams still keep scouring former war zones in search of remains of martyrs.

Every now and then, remains of former war veterans turn up during excavations. The martyrs whose identities are not established are referred to as "unknown soldiers," who are laid to rest after glorious funeral processions are held for them in recognition of their sacrifices and services.

Iran says no option but to 'confront' Israel after attack on Beirut

TEHRAN – Iran has strongly reacted to the recent Israeli aggression in Lebanon that led to the assassination of senior Hezbollah commander Haytham Ali Tabatabai.

In a post on his X account, Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Ali Larijani expressed condolences on the martyrdom of and a number of his companions by the Israeli regime.

He said these martyrs achieved their objectives, but "[Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu presses ahead with his adventurism, so that everyone will understand there is no way but to confront this illegitimate entity."

Haytham Ali Tabatabai was assassinated by a devastating Israeli airstrike in the southern suburbs of Beirut on Sunday. While Israel has violated a November 2024 ceasefire agreement almost daily since it came into effect, this attack is significant as it marks the first time the regime's warplanes have struck the capital. Most prior violations have taken place in southern Lebanon.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran also condemned the assassination. In a statement late on Sunday, the ministry called the strike a "gross violation" of the ceasefire and a "brutal attack" on Lebanon's sovereignty.

The ministry emphasized the necessity of holding criminal Israeli leaders accountable for "terrorist acts and war crimes."

Arab media described the Israeli attack as "treacherous," noting it targeted residential buildings. Footage from the aftermath shows citizens in a state of shock and fear, with several individuals living nearby seen covered in blood. The assault killed at least five people and injured 28 others.



A building damaged by Israeli strikes in southern Beirut on November 23, 2025.

Lebanese Resistance movement Hezbollah officially confirmed the martyrdom of Haytham Ali Tabatabai hours after it took place.

"With pride and honor, Hezbollah announces to the people of the Resistance and to our Lebanese people the martyrdom of the great jihadi commander Haytham Ali Tabatabai (Sayyed Abu Ali), who rose to martyrdom in sacrifice for Lebanon and its people following a treacherous Israeli attack on Haret Hreik in Beirut's southern suburb," Hezbollah said in a statement.

The Resistance group praised his unwavering dedication to the Resistance movement, noting that he had been instrumental in building its strength since its inception.

Hezbollah stated that Tabatabai's martyrdom would inspire renewed hope and determination among Resistance fighters, vowing to continue the struggle against the "Zionist enemy and its patron, America."

Hezbollah has lost many of its top leaders to Israeli strikes over the past two years. During this period, Israel has also waged war on several other fronts, including Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Qatar, as

well as against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. An estimated 100,000 to 300,000 people have been killed in Israeli attacks since October 2023.

Israel's "decapitation" strategy,

Israeli attacks in West Asia have killed an estimated 100,000 to 300,000 people since October 2023

however, appears to have failed to prevent Hezbollah from regrouping and repairing itself. According to Hebrew media, the Resistance group has not only regained its military capability on multiple fronts but is also preparing for a larger wave of Israeli aggression, which is widely believed to be imminent.

A former chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said on Monday that the Israeli regime's targeted killings of Resistance commanders were accelerating its own demise.

The real Iran vs. the Iran of Western imagination

By Fatemeh Kavand

A recent Foreign Affairs article about Iran's future is a clear example of the deep gap between the real Iran and the imaginary Iran constructed in Western think-tanks.

For years, the dominant current in U.S. foreign policy has tried to present an analysis of Iran that relies less on data, history, society, and on-the-ground realities, and more on a preconceived mental framework: Iran must be portrayed as a crisis-ridden, collapsing, and permanently deadlocked country—because any analysis outside this framework would disrupt the mental order of U.S. foreign policy.

This recent article titled "the autumn of the Ayatollahs" follows the same mindset. It feels as though the narrative was written first, and only afterward were scattered events, claims, and selective comparisons forced into it. Its future forecasting is more of a geopolitical wish than a scientific analysis.

But Iran cannot be explained through a few simplistic analogies and clichés. It is a living, dynamic, complex, and historical society that external narrative-making cannot be reduced to pre-made templates.

In such an environment, it is essential to compare the real Iran with the imagined Iran to understand why analyses of this kind distort reality—and why their conclusions reflect political desires rather than an accurate understanding of the country.

From exaggeration to oversimplification

A large part of the picture presented in the Foreign Affairs article is based on magnifying Iran's crises and minimizing its strengths. Social complexity, the depth of national experience, historical resilience, and structural capacities are ignored. Instead, a few selective examples are amplified and turned into general claims.

In this narrative, Iran is portrayed as a country with a deeply distrustful society, a government on the verge of disintegration, a ruined economy with no path to recovery, a political structure approaching its end, and a looming collapse or forced transformation

But none of these claims—even if they hold partial truth in some areas—reflects a

comprehensive picture of Iran today. Iran is neither in an ideal state nor in the alleged condition of being "on the brink of collapse."

The core issue is that the author intentionally closes off all analytical paths that might lead to a different, more balanced understanding.

The real Iran is in fact, a multilayered, diverse, resilient, and adaptable society. It is a state-nation with a continuous thousand-year history. It owns complex governance structures which are not simplistic or single-centered. And it also holds a geopolitical position rooted in history and reality, not slogans.

The American analyst chooses not to see these realities, because acknowledging them would dismantle the entire mental architecture constructed for "America's preferred future in Iran."

One of the most puzzling parts of the Foreign Affairs article is its attempt to force Iran's future into completely contradictory models—from Russia to China, North Korea, Pakistan, and even Turkey. These comparisons unintentionally reveal the main weakness in the author's perspective: Iran is not viewed as a historical and political reality, but as a mental project that must fit into some template.

Iran is not Russia. Russia is a country of oligarchs; Iran has no such economic class.

Russia is built on the remnants of the Soviet Union; Iran on millennia of statehood.

In Russia, a single party dominates; in Iran, elections and elite turnover are significant.

Iran is not China. China benefited from decades of U.S. support to counter the USSR; Iran has faced sanctions, pressure, and economic warfare for forty years. China's economy is export-driven; Iran is financially and commercially restricted. China has a single-center communist structure; Iran is multi-layered and multi-centered.

Iran is not North Korea. Comparing Iran to an isolated, family-ruled, closed-off country shows unfamiliarity with reality more than analysis. Iran has a vast university network, an active civil society, complex urban life, media, digital culture, and global connectivity.

North Korea suffers from famine and isolation; Iran is the second-largest economy in the region.

Iran is not Pakistan. Pakistan faces numerous ethnic-sectarian divisions; Iran has a cohesive identity structure. Pakistan has a long history of coups; Iran does not.

Iran is not Turkey Turkey's political dynamics are shaped by an imposed secular Atatürkian legacy; Iran never had such an experience. Geopolitical and social histories of the two societies are also entirely different.

In short, all these comparisons show that the author tries to fit Iran into every available template—without realizing that Iran matches none of them.

Reality must be seen as it is, not as some wish it to be

The real Iran is a country of vast capacities, a dynamic society, a complex structure, serious challenges, and undeniable strengths. The imaginary Iran is the version needed by parts of U.S. foreign policy to justify pressure, sanctions, and confrontational strategies—a crisis-ridden, unstable, collapsing country.

These two images are worlds apart.

The real Iran is a country that: has not bent under external pressure but has adapted, has developed local pathways in a sanctions-hit economy, possesses a young, urban society that drives social, cultural, and technological activity, has a political structure far too complex to be explained through simplistic comparisons, and, most importantly, shapes its future based on internal dynamics—not think-tank articles.

A proper analysis of Iran requires historical, social, cultural, and political understanding—not the arrangement of scattered claims to confirm pre-existing assumptions.

Narratives like the Foreign Affairs article distance us from reality rather than bringing us closer to it.

The future of Iran will be built upon the real Iran—not on scenarios written from outside.

To understand Iran is to understand its history, its people, its social diversity, its political and cultural energy, and its geopolitical position—not the images drawn from behind the window of U.S. foreign policy.

Mohsen Rezaei stated that the regime "imagines it can advance [its agenda] through assassinations," believing that striking Lebanese and Iranian commanders would force the nations into submission.

Israel assassinated Iran's top military commanders in the first hours of its 12-day war in June, assuming the move would significantly delay retaliation. Instead, Iran retaliated the same day, ended up forcing the regime to seek a ceasefire, and continued to target the occupied territories until the final moments before the truce took effect.

Rezaei, currently a member of the Islamic Republic's Expediency Council, added that such commanders do not represent governments or states. "These commanders belong to nations, to the oppressed. Their martyrdom [therefore] cannot be meaningless for the peoples."

Meanwhile, the Lebanese government has managed to do little to prevent Israeli violations of the ceasefire over the past year. Authorities in Beirut have primarily focused on fulfilling demands from Washington—Iran's main patron and funder of its wars—the most important of which is the disarmament of Hezbollah. Founded in the early 1980s during Israel's occupation of Lebanon, Hezbollah has become the most formidable defensive force against the regime in the past decades.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his cabinet are avid supporters of the "Greater Israel" vision, which seeks to incorporate the entirety of Lebanon, along with territories from other regional countries, into a Jewish state.

As US looks to limit Iran’s missile program, commander assures industry ‘unshakable’

TEHRAN – Iran’s Defense Ministry says the country’s missile program has continued to advance despite decades of foreign pressure, with officials crediting its resilience to domestic innovation and the legacy of top commanders who shaped the industry.

Brigadier General Reza Talei-Nik, spokesperson for the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics, said Iran’s missile capability has survived 45 years of sanctions because it is entirely homegrown and rooted in the expertise of Iranian scientists.

Speaking to Iranian media, he stressed that “if Iran’s missile capability were not indigenous, knowledge-based, and built on domestic capacities, it would never have been able to grow under such extensive defense sanctions.”

Talei-Nik said the program was developed through the efforts of leading figures including Martyr Hassan Tehrani-Moghaddam — widely regarded as the father of Iran’s modern missile program — as well as Martyr Hajizadeh and other military engineers and specialists who helped expand the country’s missile arsenal. Tehrani-Moghaddam, he noted, played a foundational role in establishing, indigenizing, and advancing Iran’s missile power.

According to the spokesperson, the reliance on domestic exper-



Iranian missiles put on display at the IRGC Aerospace Force Exhibition

tise means sanctions will have “no meaningful impact” on the sector, as the missile industry’s dependence on foreign sources has already been reduced to a minimum.

Iran’s comments come months after the country used domestically produced missiles in its response to the Israeli attack of June 13, which was an unprovoked act of aggression. The assault triggered a 12-day conflict that left at least 1,064 people dead in Iran, including senior military commanders, nuclear experts, and civilians. The United States later joined the fighting, striking three Iranian nuclear facilities in a serious violation of international law.

In retaliation, Iranian forces fired a large volley of missiles at strategic sites across Israeli-occupied territories and targeted the U.S. Al-Udeid Air Base in Qatar, one of Washington’s most important military hubs in West Asia.

Despite extensive interception attempts by the U.S., Israel, and several European and regional partners, Iranian missiles still managed to hit a number of military and strategic targets. Iranian officials and analysts say the scale of the damage, unprecedented in previous confrontations, played a major role in prompting Israel and the United States to seek a ceasefire.

Reports in U.S. media later re-

vealed that American forces expended roughly one quarter of their advanced THAAD interceptor stockpile during the conflict, firing more than 100—and possibly up to 150—missiles in an attempt to intercept Iran’s ballistic strikes. Two of the United States’ seven THAAD systems had been deployed to defend Israel.

The rapid depletion of interceptors raised concerns in Washington about the strain on U.S. missile-defense readiness, particularly at a time when public support for military aid to Israel has been declining.

The outbreak of conflict also halted the latest round of nuclear negotiations between Tehran and Washington. U.S. officials are now pressing Iran to include restrictions on missile range in any future agreement — a demand Iranian officials have publicly rejected.

Iran’s top security official Ali Larijani said that Washington now wants Tehran to cap its missile range at 500 kilometers, a limit he described as unacceptable because it would prevent Iran from retaliating against future Israeli attacks.

Following the war, the United States imposed additional sanctions targeting Iran’s missile industry — measures that Tehran says are ineffective given the program’s domestic foundations.

Neighbors continue high-level exchanges as Larijani heads to ‘brotherly’ Pakistan

From Page 1 ▶ “Iranians have not forgotten that the people of Pakistan stood alongside the people of Iran,” he wrote, stressing that both countries play “important and influential” roles in ensuring lasting regional security and that Iran attaches high value to “brotherly relations” among regional states.

Ahead of Larijani’s arrival in Islamabad, Pakistan’s Ambassador to Tehran, Muhammad Mudassir Tipu, said the trip is expected to reinforce cooperation across political, economic, and security domains.

In remarks on Monday, Tipu noted that Larijani’s visit reflects the “broad and ongoing interactions” between senior officials of both countries. He added that the SNSC secretary’s

meetings in Islamabad would “undoubtedly play an important role in further consolidating the historic and deep-rooted relations between Iran and Pakistan.”

Pakistan, Iran’s most populous neighbor, has seen bilateral trade surpass \$3 billion in recent years. Both sides have repeatedly stated their ambition to raise that figure to \$10 billion, calling for targeted planning and the removal of obstacles to cross-border economic activity.

The expansion of economic ties has been a central theme in recent high-level engagements. In late October, Larijani said relations between Tehran and Islamabad are poised to move “beyond existing cooperation” and could be elevated to a “lasting strategic partnership.”

His comments came during a meeting in Tehran with Pakistan’s Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi, where he underscored the geopolitical weight both countries carry in regional affairs.

Momentum toward deeper cooperation also featured prominently during a visit to Pakistan in early November by Iran’s Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf, who led a high-level parliamentary delegation to Islamabad.

In meetings with top Pakistani officials, Qalibaf called for a “new phase” in bilateral relations focused on boosting economic, political, and security cooperation. He urged both sides to transform existing agreements into practical mechanisms that can facilitate real economic exchange.

Araghchi meets dignitaries in Oman ahead of Muscat Forum



FM Araghchi sat down the executive director of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (R), as well as the UN Special Envoy for Yemen (L) during a visit to Oman on Monday.

From Page 1 ▶ According to an official readout posted on the Iranian foreign minister’s Telegram channel, discussions focused on bilateral relations and the exploration of avenues for enhanced cooperation in light of ongoing regional developments.

“They discussed expanding relations and cooperation across all mutual interests, with a particular emphasis on the economic and commercial sectors,” the readout stated.

The two officials also exchanged views on regional issues, focusing on the continued genocide in Gaza by Israel and its persistent war-mongering and crimes against Lebanon and other nations in the region.

Araghchi concluded his remarks by expressing Iran’s appreciation for Oman’s efforts and initiatives regarding the Iranian nuclear file and outlined the latest developments on this matter.

In a post on his X account, the Omani foreign minister wrote that he discussed with his Iranian counterpart bilateral relations and emphasized closer cooperation in various fields based on mutual interests.

“Also, the sides exchanged views on regional and international developments, especially efforts to reduce tension in the region and support diplomatic channels to deal with crises. Both sides emphasized the importance of continuing coordination and consultation between the two countries to contribute to establishing security and stability and supporting peace and development initiatives in the region,” the post further read.

On Monday, Araghchi sat down with David Harland, the executive director of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, accompanied by three senior officials of the organization, on the sidelines of the Muscat Forum in Oman.

In the meeting, the top Iranian diplomat condemned the U.S.’ aggressive unilateralism and the ongoing acts of aggression and crimes committed by the Israeli regime in the West Asia region.

The two sides also discussed international trends and developments, particularly the existing challenges and dangers facing international peace and security in light of gross violations of international law and the principles of the UN Charter.

Araghchi stressed that confronting the U.S. and Israeli violations requires responsibility and effective action by all governments and the international civil society to safeguard the achievements of human civilization and protect peace and the rule of law.

Harland, for his part, outlined his views on the importance of strengthening diplomacy as the only effective tool for peace-building and

the resolution of disputes.

Another meeting involved Hans Grundberg, the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Yemen. Araghchi and Grundberg spoke about the recent developments in the Arab country, with the envoy urging continued Iranian support for UN-led peace efforts.

The UN envoy briefed the Iranian side on the latest political and humanitarian developments related to Yemen.

Grundberg called for the continuation of Iran’s support for UN initiatives aimed at improving conditions and advancing the peace process in the Arab country.

During the meeting, Araghchi once again condemned ongoing Israeli attacks across the region as well as the continued blockade and sanctions imposed on Yemen. He warned that Israel’s violations pose serious risks to regional security and stability.

Sepahan, Al Hussein to square off in 2025 ACL Two

TEHRAN – Iran’s Sepahan and Al Hussein of Jordan will square off in the 2025-26 AFC Champions League Two for the Group C top spot with both having already confirmed their Round of 16 tickets.

Jordan’s Al Hussein lead the standings with six points, two ahead of Sepahan with Turkmenistan’s Al Ahal FC the third team in the group.

Ahal’s hopes were dashed following their Matchday Four draw with Sepahan, which left them with just a single point with one match remaining.

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

Esteghlal, Al Wasl likely to be postponed

TEHRAN – The head of Iran’s League Organization Committee said that the decision to cancel or hold the Esteghlal and Al Wasl match will be made by the AFC (Asian Football Confederation).

Tehran’s air pollution led the provincial football federation to announce that all football matches in Tehran have been canceled through the end of the week.

This announcement comes as Esteghlal is scheduled to host Al Wasl of the UAE on Wednesday night at Shahr-e Qods Stadium in the AFC Champions League Two.

There have been rumors about the potential cancellation of the match due to air pollution, but given the current conditions this seems unlikely.

“The Asian Football Confederation is responsible for holding the matches and they will decide about this match,” Amir Hossein Roshanak said.

Iran start AFC U17 Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers in style

TEHRAN – Iran produced a sparkling performance to defeat Chinese Taipei 5-0 in their AFC U17 Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2026 Qualifiers Group D tie on Monday.

Iran, who were not in action on Matchday One, got into the thick of things almost immediately with Amir-mohammad Afrasyabi testing Chinese Taipei keeper Lin Cheng-En with a curling effort in the fourth minute, with Amirreza Valipour then striking the bar moments later with a headed attempt off Mahan Beheshti’s cross.

Beheshti went close in the 10th minute after finding space at the edge of the box, only for his shot to be saved by a sprawling Lin, who later denied the Iran captain’s curling free-kick with Amir-mahan Afrooziani hitting the woodwork on the follow-up, the-afc.com wrote.

The goal finally arrived for Iran in the 45th minute with Beheshti seeing his shot come off Gao Yu-Zhu and settling in the back of the net.

Iran stayed on top in the second half with Amirreza Valipour collecting a long ball and tapping past Lin in the 52nd minute with Jafar Asadi then weaving past the Chinese Taipei defense to slot home from close range two minutes later.

Chinese Taipei fell further behind in the 83rd minute with Mohammad Ghasemi lobbing the ball over a surging Lin before Beheshti closed their account in stoppage time from inside the area.

Iran come 3rd at Women’s Kabaddi World Cup 2025

TEHRAN – Iran finished in third place at the Women’s Kabaddi World Cup 2025.

Team Melli Banovan lost to defending champion India 33-21 in the semifinals in Dhaka, Bangladesh on Saturday.

In the other semifinal match, Chinese Taipei defeated Bangladesh 25-18 and secured its final spot.

The Persians defeated Poland 55-11, Kenya 42-10, Zanzibar 51-15, Nepal 39-11 and lost to Chinese Taipei 31-21 and India 33-21 in the competition.

The Women’s Kabaddi World Cup is being held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from November 17 to 24.

Football matches in Tehran cancelled due to air pollution

TEHRAN – All football games that were to be played in the Iranian Professional League in Tehran were cancelled due to heavy air pollution.

Iran shut schools in the capital on Tuesday and Wednesday due to choking levels of air pollution.

The Iranian capital and several other cities have been hit by severe air pollution over the past week, forcing schools and universities to rely on remote learning.

Tehran has recorded only six clean-air days so far this Iranian year, according to the capital’s Air Quality Control Company, and more than half of days have been unhealthy for sensitive groups.

Tractor edge Nasaf in AFC Champions League Elite 2025/26

TEHRAN – Tractor football team continued their unbeaten start to the AFC Champions League Elite 2025/26 campaign on Monday as Dragan Skocic’s side handed hosts Nasaf a 1-0 defeat in Qarshi to edge closer to the next stage.

Regi Lushkja’s strike from distance in the 17th minute was enough to earn the side from Iran a third win in five matches in the West Zone League Stage and move onto 11 points.

Nasaf, in contrast, remain rooted to the bottom of the standings without a point as Ruzikul Berdiev’s side suffered a fifth consecutive loss.

Tractor were given an early jolt when a defensive error allowed Sherzod Nasrullayev to unleash a strike that clipped Alireza Beiranvand’s crossbar but before long the visitors had taken the lead.

Danial Esmaeilifar was released into space down the left and his low pass towards the edge of the penalty area was swept home by Lushkja with a decisive first-time left-foot strike that gave goalkeeper Abduvohid Nematov little chance as it flew into the top corner.

Esmaeilifar threatened to add a second when he shot wide in the 25th minute while Domagoj Drozdek’s header 10 minutes later forced Nematov to save at full stretch as Tractor took command. Nematov used his feet to keep out another Drozdek effort two minutes into the second half, the Croatian forward shooting towards goal from a tight angle on the right.

Dragan Ceran was inches away from pulling Nasaf level on the hour mark when the Serbian forward’s clipped attempt from an acute angle sailed over Beiranvand only to bounce across the face of goal. Moments later Sharof Mukhitdinov should have levelled, hitting a tame effort too close to Beiranvand when possession fell into his path after Stefan Colovic’s initial shot was deflected into his path.

Nasrullayev dragged his attempt wide of the Tractor goal with 12 minutes remaining while Drozdek flashed his shot across the face of the Nasaf goal before Mehdi Hashemnejad squandered an 85th minute effort to seal the points when he shot wide.

Nematov then kept out Drozdek’s attempt in injury time as Tractor secured a third win in a row.

Petrochemical industry meets first-year targets under Seventh Plan

From Page 1 ► He said emergency management and control teams were activated immediately after the conflict began.

Some incidents in the petrochemical sector can carry far-reaching risks, he added, making multi-layer safety architecture essential.

Abbasszadeh said lessons from the twelve-day conflict must now be integrated into industry practice, noting that Iran's Passive Defense Organization has also revised its strategies.

He called for full vigilance toward rare but high-impact events and for shorter timelines to restore safe operating conditions.

He said maintaining coherence in crisis response is crucial, adding that inspections must be more stringent and process-safety upgrades should be continuously monitored.

The deputy oil minister noted that the petrochemical sector operates advanced monitoring and control systems. The gathering, he said, was a technical meeting for shared learning rather than a general conference. Reviewing the sector's performance showed that petrochemical companies fulfilled one hundred percent of their first-year commitments under the Seventh Plan.

He cited unused capacity as a key challenge, saying about twenty-two percent of the sector's roughly one hundred million-ton installed capacity remains idle, though efforts are underway to stabilize feedstock supply and prevent further downtime.

Abbasszadeh said recovering associated gas remains a major feedstock strategy. The president has ordered accelerated measures to curb flaring, including priority hard-currency allocations for



required equipment and fast-tracked customs clearance.

NPC is the primary investor in flare-reduction projects in East and West Karoun, he said. The NGL 3200 project is expected to come online by the end of the year, while Bidboland Gas Refining Company has made substantial investments that have already shut down several flares, with more units to follow by year-end. Maroon Petrochemical is also investing in flare-recovery initiatives.

He said the sector is promoting efficient gas use with support from the National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC). Twelve optimization projects have been defined, and last year Pardis and Zagros petrochemical companies invested in one project to use gas saved through efficiency measures.

Abbasszadeh added that newly active contractor companies and public cooperation could help provide part of the sector's feedstock through energy-saving initiatives this year.

The third Process Safety Management Conference was held on Wednesday at the Koushk International Conference Center, hosted by Arya Sasol Polymer Company.

Alumina powder output exceeds 133,000 tons in 7 months

TEHRAN – Production of alumina powder in Iran reached 133,483 tons in the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (September 23-October 22), according to the data released by the Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO).

The organization has previously reported that the production of alumina powder in the country reached 114,153 tons in the first half of the present year (March 21-September 22).

As IMIDRO announced in late September, Iran will begin implementing its largest alumina production project by the end of this year in the Parsian Special Economic Zone.

The project, part of Iran's Seventh National Development Plan, aims to produce one million tons of alumina powder annually. Its execution will start after securing approvals from relevant authorities and the Supreme Economic Council.

Currently, Iran's only alumina producer is the Jajarm plant, with an annual capacity of about 240,000 tons. IMIDRO said Parsian, located in western Hormozgan province and equipped

with a dedicated port, will provide direct access for raw material imports and mineral exports.

Officials said the new plant would sharply reduce reliance on imports, expand domestic production capacity, and mark a major leap for Iran's aluminum industry, cementing its position as a leading producer in West Asia.

Aluminum oxide, which is commonly called alumina, is an inert, odorless, white amorphous material often used in industrial ceramics.

Alumina is an important ceramic material for industrial applications. The numerous fields of application range from construction materials, to filling materials, as well as abrasives and catalysts.

In plants and mechanical engineering, alumina ceramics are mainly used for wear and corrosion protection.

The particle size distribution largely determines the application range and the quality of an alumina powder. Reliably identifying the differences in particle size is therefore an essential requirement of the measuring instrument.

ply to families covered by the Imam Khomeini Relief Committee and the State Welfare Organization, with expansion to other income groups requiring cabinet approval. The defined basket must supply at least 2,386 kilocalories per person per day.

During the session, ICCIMA experts outlined cost structures across income deciles, and private-sector participants highlighted multiple contradictions in the draft. They said the plan risks deepening mandatory price controls and that the stated credit allocation does not match the scheme's calculated currency-rate gap. Members argued that preferential currency should be eliminated entirely, and that the precise amount of subsidized foreign exchange provided for eleven core commodities must be clearly defined.

Committee members said the scheme's enforcement guarantees and distribution framework remain unclear. They urged ICCIMA to take the initiative in drafting a revised, operational version of the electronic voucher plan to present to the government.

Iran, Pakistan move to fast-track free trade agreement

TEHRAN – Pakistan's ambassador to Iran said Tehran and Islamabad are accelerating implementation of their planned free trade agreement, adding that a barter mechanism between the two neighbors will become operational soon.

Mohammad Mudassir Tipu said late Sunday that recent bilateral discussions showed encouraging progress toward unlocking the commercial potential of both countries. He said the two sides are expediting work on the Pakistan-Iran free trade agreement and finalizing arrangements for a barter system aimed at easing payments and boosting cross-border commerce.

He said a twelve-member Iranian delegation will travel to Pakistan this week to attend the International Exhibition on Agricultural and Food Industries in Karachi, with Pakistan's commercial and investment counselor accompanying the group.

Tipu said Iranian and Pakistani technical teams are working closely to streamline transit trade procedures for exporters.

He added that Iran welcomes the participation of Pakistani chamber officials in the thirteenth Iran Mode exhibition, scheduled for 2-5 January 2026 in Tehran, and encouraged Pakistani companies to join the event.

He said both sides are also improving border facilities to support higher volumes of bilateral trade.

Pakistan's commerce minister earlier said the draft free trade agreement is undergoing internal review and will soon be submitted to the cabinet for approval, calling for increased exchanges of high-level delegations to advance mutual economic interests.

During a visit to Pakistan, earlier this month, Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf, the speaker of the Iranian parliament (Majlis), and Mohammad-Ali Dehghan Dehnavi, the Iranian deputy minister of industry, mining and trade and the head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO), met with some traders and businessmen and emphasized issues such as the development of commercial cooperation and accelerating the free trade process between the two countries.

Iran-Pakistan business forum was held in Karachi, with the presence of Qalibaf and Dehghan Dehnavi, along with the extensive participation of Pakistani traders and businessmen.

At this meeting, topics such as the development of commercial cooperation and accelerating free trade with Pakistan were emphasized.

Also, during this trip, Dehghan Dehnavi met and held talks with Faiz Ahmed, the Chairman of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP).

Topics discussed in this meeting included free trade, removing obstacles and problems in bilateral trade relations, reviewing borders and border markets, and facilitating the customs processes of the two countries.

On November 1, Iran's ambassador in Islamabad and Pakistan's Commerce Minister met and discussed ways to strengthen bilateral trade and economic cooperation.



Reza Amiri Moghaddam, the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Islamabad, met and held talks with Jam Kamal Khan, Pakistan's Commerce Minister.

As reported by Express Tribune, the meeting discussed and deliberated on current initiatives, trade agreements, and upcoming opportunities aimed at enhancing economic relations between the two neighboring countries.

Jam Kamal invited Iranian companies and government organizations to participate in the FoodAg exhibition scheduled to be held from November 25 to 27, 2025, at the Karachi Expo Centre.

The Pakistani Commerce Minister, in his remarks, also emphasized that such platforms provide valuable opportunities for Iranian and Pakistani businesses to explore trade, projects, and joint investments in the agriculture and food sectors.

He further suggested arranging high-level visits, including visits by the Chief Minister of Pakistan's Baluchistan province and the Governor of Zahedan, to facilitate cross-border trade and improve the livelihoods of people living in border areas. He also proposed that Pakistani ministers from the maritime, railways, and communications sectors be invited to Iran to explore areas of mutual cooperation.

The Iranian ambassador, during the meeting, recalled previous agreements between the two countries regarding the import of rice, meat, corn, and animal feed, highlighted the progress in bilateral trade, and noted that Iran has successfully completed rice imports and is ready to purchase animal feed and corn.

He also stated that flights between Quetta and Zahedan have resumed, enhancing connectivity for people and businesses between the two sides.

Jam Kamal emphasized that over the past year, positive interactions between Pakistan and Iran have been fruitful in building stronger economic and trade relations.

He informed the Iranian ambassador during the meeting that the text of the Pakistan-Iran Free Trade Agreement (FTA), signed in Islamabad, is undergoing internal review and there are plans for its formal presentation and approval in the near future.

Both sides emphasized the shared vision of their leadership to achieve annual bilateral trade worth \$10 billion by 2028 and expressed satisfaction with the successful holding of the 22nd session of the Pakistan-Iran Joint Economic Commission in Tehran on September 15-16, 2025.

South Korea looks to deepen commercial engagement with Iran

ISFAHAN – South Korea's ambassador to Iran said Seoul is seeking to expand commercial exchanges with Tehran, describing greater trade activity as a step toward rebuilding the long-standing economic relationship between the two countries.

Kim Junpyo told the governor-general of Isfahan on Sunday that his recent discussions with

local business leaders showed substantial potential for increased cooperation between South Korean firms and the province's private sector.

He said he aims to strengthen bilateral economic ties and hopes for support from provincial authorities to facilitate closer commercial engagement.

Kim said South Korea's participation in the Fif-

teenth Isfahan International Tourism Exhibition also provided an opportunity to meet industrial and business representatives and explore ways to boost trade.

He added that economic cooperation between South Korean cities and Isfahan remains active and expressed hope that these partnerships will continue to grow.

added, urging chambers of commerce and trade bodies in both nations to circulate the regulation among their members to help maximize its benefits.

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

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

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

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

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

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

On one hand, Iran, with its vast oil and gas resources, can play a role as a reliable energy supplier for Pakistan. On the other hand, Pakistan, with its young and growing population and extensive needs in the fields of energy, infrastructure, and trade, can be one of Iran's most important export markets.

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

"I invite industrialists and the business communities of both countries to fully benefit from this order and contribute to the expansion of bilateral trade," he

Truce as trap

Israel's Beirut strike exposes ceasefire as a cover for carnage, with Tabtabai's killing raising fears of wider war

By Shahrokh Saei

TEHRAN – Nearly a year after Israel and Lebanon agreed to a ceasefire, and just weeks after a truce with Hamas in Gaza, the situation on the ground shows that neither agreement has brought lasting calm.

Across Lebanon and Gaza, civilians continue to face the threat of airstrikes, assassinations, and displacement. Many observers believe Israel, backed decisively by the United States, has used these ceasefires as political tools to manage international scrutiny while continuing military operations largely unhindered.

On Sunday afternoon, an Israeli airstrike targeted a residential apartment in Beirut's southern suburb of Dahiyeh, killing several people, including senior Hezbollah military commander Haytham Ali Tabtabai.

Lebanese authorities condemned the attack as a serious breach of the November 2024 ceasefire. Israel has also continued targeted operations, airstrikes, and military patrols in Gaza despite the October 10, 2025, ceasefire. Analysts argue that these ceasefires serve primarily as diplomatic cover, allowing Israel to project an image of restraint while maintaining operational freedom.

Strategic perspectives

Mohammad Bayat, an expert in international relations, told the Tehran Times that preemptive military strikes could prevent Israel from attacking Lebanon. He argues that such action should be guided by the strategy of "unity of the battlefields."

Bayat believes that attacks on Israel's vital centers, together with disruptions to regional energy security resulting from the conflict, could push the White House to conclude that prolonging the crisis before the U.S. midterm elections would damage the Republican Party and the political future of Vice



A final salute in Beirut: Hezbollah mourns martyred commander Haytham Ali Tabtabai, November 24, 2025.

President J.D. Vance.

U.S. strategic backing

Despite President Donald Trump's pledges to end "endless wars," the United States has provided Israel with advanced weapons, intelligence-sharing, and political protection at the United Nations.

This backing has enabled Israel to operate simultaneously in Lebanon, Gaza, and Syria, insulating its military actions from meaningful accountability. Critics contend that this U.S.-Israeli alignment has institutionalized impunity and escalated the humanitarian crisis across the region.

The human cost in Lebanon

Lebanon has endured catastrophic consequences since the conflict reignited on October 8, 2023—one day after Israel launched its war on Gaza. Israeli attacks have killed approximately 4,000 people and displaced over 1.2 million.

Southern Lebanon has seen extensive destruction of homes, farmland, and critical infrastructure. Even after the November 27, 2024, ceasefire, attacks continued. A recent Israeli strike on a Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon

killed more than a dozen civilians. Lebanese authorities estimate that up to 300 people have died due to ceasefire violations by Israel, with around 400 breaches recorded.

Threats of Gaza-style destruction

Israeli officials have repeatedly warned of Gaza-style destruction in Lebanon. For Lebanese citizens, this is a chilling threat: Gaza has endured one of the deadliest and most destructive military campaigns in recent history, with entire neighborhoods leveled and tens of thousands killed.

Such rhetoric demonstrates Israel's willingness to use overwhelming force and underscores that ceasefires have not constrained its operational ambitions.

Targeted killings

The assassination of Tabtabai is a continuation of Israel's campaign to eliminate senior Hezbollah figures, including Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, his deputy, and commanders such as Foad Shukr.

While these assassinations may have disrupted Hezbollah's command structure, they have failed to eliminate the movement or undermine its popularity. Analysts note that such strikes reinforce percep-

tions that Israel's strategy aims to destabilize Lebanon rather than negotiate peace.

Expanding operations in Syria

Israel's tactics in Lebanon are mirrored by its widening military footprint in Syria. Since the collapse of Bashar al-Assad's government last December, Israeli airstrikes and ground incursions have sought to secure strategic corridors and weaken resistance forces.

The United States has largely remained silent despite close ties to new political figures in Syria, signaling tacit approval. This alignment strengthens the perception that American policy prioritizes Israeli strategic objectives over regional stability and civilian protection.

Risk of regional escalation

West Asia now stands on a precarious edge. Israeli operations across Lebanon, Gaza, and Syria—combined with U.S. backing and threats of Gaza-style destruction—risk igniting a broader confrontation. Analysts warn that ongoing escalation and repeated ceasefire violations could trigger a conflict with consequences extending well beyond the immediate theaters of war, destabilizing the entire region and affecting Israel and the United States themselves.

Israel's assassination of Tabtabai may have removed a key Hezbollah commander, but history and the group's organizational depth suggest the move could strengthen rather than weaken the movement. Such strikes often galvanize internal cohesion, reinforce political legitimacy, and accelerate adaptive strategies that make Hezbollah harder to confront.

Far from crippling the group, these operations tend to sharpen its resolve, showing that decapitation tactics can backfire when faced with deeply rooted networks and popular support.

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Xi warns Trump on Taiwan red line; U.S. president calls him 'great leader'



Chinese President Xi Jinping used a Monday evening phone call with Donald Trump to frame Taiwan's reunification as an untouchable pillar of the post-World War II settlement, pointedly reminding the U.S. president that the two countries once fought "shoulder-to-shoulder" against Japanese militarism and should now jointly defend the war's outcome.

The carefully worded history lesson, detailed in a Xinhua readout, served as Beijing's clearest signal yet that last month's seemingly cordial Busan summit has not softened China's core demands.

Xi urged both sides to "lengthen the cooperation list and shorten the problem list," while insisting on "equality, respect, and mutual benefit" — phrases that implicitly criticize ongoing U.S. technology sanctions, arms sales to Taipei, and the expanding lattice of Indo-Pacific alliances.

Trump, according to the Chinese account, called Xi a "great leader," described their Busan meeting

as "very pleasant," and said Washington "understands the importance of the Taiwan issue to China."

Conspicuously absent was any reaffirmation of the one-China policy or acknowledgment that U.S. actions regarding Taiwan — billions in new weapons packages and frequent congressional delegations — directly contradict that understanding.

The leaders briefly discussed Ukraine, with Xi repeating support for a "fair, lasting, and binding" peace deal, language U.S. officials privately dismiss as aligned with Moscow's maximalist aims.

The call crystallizes a recurring Trump-era pattern: effusive personal praise matched against a Washington establishment that remains deeply wary of Beijing.

While Xi works to lock in Busan's fragile gains and insists on "equality and mutual benefit," bipartisan U.S. policy continues to view China as the primary long-term challenge.

'Severe systemic failure:' Israel purges commanders over October 7 intelligence catastrophe

Israel's military chief, Lieutenant General Eyal Zamir, announced the dismissal of several high-ranking reserve officers and reprimands for others, pinning blame on the catastrophic lapses that enabled the Palestinian resistance's October 7, 2023, operation from Gaza.

The operation, which led to the death of around 1,139 Israelis, preceded a sweeping offensive in Gaza that has left more than 69,700 Palestinians dead—including over 20,000 children and nearly 9,000 women. Many international observers, including UN officials and human rights groups, have characterized the campaign as genocide.

That day, the Israeli military resorted to the controversial "Hannibal Directive," a protocol that turned its weapons inward.

The operation laid bare deep flaws in Israel's security system.

Zamir labeled the episode a "severe, resounding, systemic failure" that betrayed the trust of Israelis and emboldened Palestinian resistance.

An internal probe, released earlier this month, decried "long-standing systemic and organizational failures," including an "intelligence failure" despite "exceptional, high-quality information" at hand.

It lambasted deficient decision-making and

force deployments that night, underscoring breakdowns across the chain of command.

The new removals include former intelligence directorate head Major General Aharon Haliva, operations chief Major General Oded Basyuk, and southern command leader Major General Yaron Finkelman—all released from reserve service.

The purge builds on a wave of earlier measures, where several top commanders already have been fired or resigned, including former Military Intelligence Directorate head Major General Aharon Haliva in April 2024, Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Herzi Halevi in January 2025, and Southern Command head Major General Yaron Finkelman in January 2025.

Former Gaza Division commander Major General Avi Rosenfeld and Unit 8200 chief Brigadier General Yossi Sarel also face permanent dismissal, while Air Force commander Major General Tomer Bar and Navy chief Vice Admiral David Saar Salma received reprimands for failing to defend airspace and prevent sea infiltration at Zikim Beach.

This purge follows mass protests in Tel Aviv, where thousands demanded a state inquiry into the failures—a probe Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government has stonewalled, reinforcing what many see as a deliberate cover-up.

X tool reveals Israeli infiltration of U.S. digital infrastructure

A transparency feature launched on November 22 on X (formerly Twitter), designed to expose foreign influence operations, instead revealed an Israeli footprint inside the U.S. Department of Homeland Security before the company disabled the tool and exempted government accounts from scrutiny.

The "About This Account" feature showed @DHSgov—created in July 2008—registering via a Tel Aviv IP address tied to Partner Communications Ltd., an Israeli telecom provider.

Screenshots circulated widely before X removed location display for all official accounts within hours, with Head of Product Nikita Bier dismissing the incident as an IP-range glitch despite Grok initially confirming the data.

The short-lived feature simultaneously unmasked a broader manipulation ecosystem. High-profile MAGA accounts like IvankaNews (Nigeria, 1M followers) and MAGANationX (Eastern

Europe, 400K) were exposed as foreign-operated, validating warnings about overseas troll farms.

More provocatively, aggressively pro-Israel handles posing as American patriots—such as @MarianaTimes, pushing Gaza denialism from India—were revealed as nodes in state-aligned hasbara networks.

These accounts often surged activity during Israeli military operations, part of a reported multi-million-dollar geofencing campaign targeting U.S. evangelicals.

The Israeli connection runs deeper than a single IP address. X's verification system depends on AU10Tix, an Israeli firm accused of doxxing Palestinians for the occupation forces.

DHS maintains contracts with Israeli spyware vendors NSO Group and Cellebrite, tools deployed against both Palestinian activists and American dissidents.

Is Iran truly the only file on Lebanese foreign minister's desk?

By Sondoss Al Asaad

SOUTH LEBANON — One might assume, from the noise, theatrics, and selective outrage, that the Lebanese Foreign Minister's desk is buried under one file and that is Iran. Everything else, it seems, can wait.

Youssef Rajji stated earlier on Friday that he sees "no taboo" when it comes to the interests of the Lebanese people and called on his Iranian counterpart to hold negotiations in a third, neutral country to address issues between Iran and Lebanon.

Lebanon's collapsing economy, displaced citizens, daily Israeli air violations, and the regional fires encircling the country—all pale next to the fervor Rajji reserves for Tehran.

But then came Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi's latest remarks, delivered with diplomatic restraint so smooth it bordered on satire. Iran, he said, does not interfere in Lebanon's internal affairs. He added Iran welcomes dialogue and Iran needs no "third country." A gentle re-

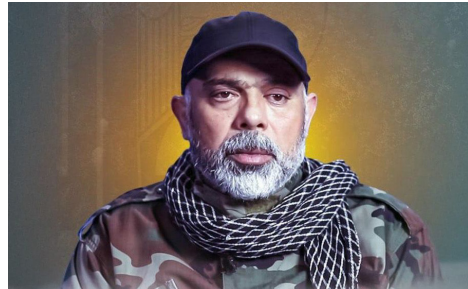
minder wrapped in protocol, yet pointed enough to slice through Rajji's theatrics like a razor.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson doubled down with equal courtesy, saying, "Iran respects Lebanon's sovereignty and is ready for cooperation whenever Beirut decides it actually wants some."

In his words there were no accusations, no drama, just the kind of calm professionalism that puts chaos to shame.

And here lies the irony: negotiations in neutral capitals are typically reserved for rivals at war or states trapped in diplomatic deadlock. Lebanon and Iran are in neither category.

Tehran has neither animosity with Lebanon nor imposed sanctions on the country. Yet Rajji insists on "neutral ground," as though he's mediating between warring sides rather than speaking with a country that has, for decades, offered Lebanon reconstruction aid, military support during the Resistance, and lifelines during its economic collapse—all without a sin-



After a ceasefire was reached between the Zionist regime and Lebanon on November 27, 2024, he assumed responsibility for Hezbollah's military command.

Hezbollah announced the martyrdom of Al-Tabtabai in the Haret Hreik area, describing him as a man who gave his life for Lebanon and its people. The occupying Israeli regime's strike on an apartment in Haret Hreik in the southern suburb of Beirut on Sunday afternoon resulted in five deaths and 28 injuries, according to Lebanon's Ministry of Health.

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

gle political condition.

At this point, one must ask: whose anxieties is the minister really negotiating?

Rajji's conduct increasingly resembles the political reflexes of the Lebanese Forces (LF), not the sovereign posture of a foreign minister. And this is not incidental.

Rajji is openly affiliated with the LF, the same militia that abducted four Iranian diplomats in 1982, a crime still unresolved, still denied, and still haunting Lebanon's diplomatic credibility today.

With that history in mind, his obsession with Iran begins to look less like policy and more like inherited hostility dressed up as diplomacy.

Rajji's swift denunciations of Iran stand in sharp contrast to his deafening silence on over 6,000 Israeli ceasefire violations since November 2024.

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

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

Mashhad hosting 4,000 pilgrims arriving on foot for Hazrat Fatemeh mourning



TEHRAN - More than 2,500 pilgrims arriving on foot entered Mashhad on Sunday to mark the martyrdom anniversary of Hazrat Fatemeh Zahra (SA), the daughter of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Local officials expect the number of pilgrims entering the holy city on foot may reach 4,000.

Hossein Rezaei, the spokesman for the Society Serving Imam Reza (AS) Pilgrims Traveling on Foot, told Miras Aria (CHTN) that a total of 2,565 pilgrims on foot from the country and Iraq entered Mashhad in Sunday noon, of which about 800 were foreign pilgrims from the cities of Najaf and Karbala. These caravans entered Mashhad in different groups, and most of them were expected to stay in Rabat Khakestari caravanserai which is located 17 kilometers south of Mashhad, he added.

Fortunately, no incidents or special problems have occurred for the caravans along the way, and the movement of pilgrims continues in a safe and orderly manner, he said.

It was expected that on Sunday night, simultaneously with the martyrdom night of Hazrat Fatemeh Zahra (SA), the arrival of pilgrims on foot continues from the old Quchan and Fariman roads, and the number of pilgrims entering

Mashhad would reach 4,000.

Regarding the cities of origin of the pilgrims, Rezaei said that most of the caravans were from the cities of Khorasan Razavi province.

"Also, from the eastern cities of the country such as Birjand, Nehbandan and Qaen, as well as cities such as Neyshabur and the surrounding areas, caravans were on their way to Mashhad. For the coming days, caravans are joining from the old Quchan road."

Regarding the services provided to these caravans, he stated that 25 votive food, beverage and accommodation stations are active on the routes to Mashhad and Khorasan Razavi province, and with the announcement of the time of the arrival of the caravans, the services of these stations will be fully provided.

Pilgrims on foot benefit from various services such as accommodation and overnight rest, bathing, votive meals including breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks, he pointed out. The spokesman continued that medical services are also provided at the stations. Also, two ambulances are on standby on the route to transport pilgrims to medical centers in case of any possible problems.

Restoration of world's only historic mosque with four minarets begins in Darab

TEHRAN--Restoration operation of Jameh Mosque of Darab in Fars province, the only historical four-minaret mosque in the world, has begun, head of Darab Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Department has said.

Alireza Parvizi told IRNA that the restoration project is a fundamental step in preserving the identity of Islamic architecture and strengthening tourism in Darab and southern Fars.

He added that this project is being carried out with a credit of more than 200 billion rials (\$200,000) by Fars Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Department.

Parvizi stated that at this stage of the project, the work includes collecting incompatible floor coverings and plinths, carrying out excavation operations, paving the corridors and the main hall, and laying the floor covering with traditional bricks and original designs.

He added that lightening the roof, dismantling worn-out plaster and thatch, imple-

menting new insulation, and strengthening parts of the columns are also other restoration measures for this historical monument.

Parvizi continued that Darab Jameh Mosque is one of the most prominent attractions in this region due to its unique architecture and has always been at the top of the tourist destinations in this city.

He said that the spiritual atmosphere and the authenticity of Islamic architecture of this mosque have made it one of the most important tourist attractions, and undoubtedly, the restoration and revival of this magnificent monument will pave the way for an increase in the number of tourists and, as a result, the economic prosperity of the city.

Darab Jameh Mosque dates back to the Seljuk era, and it is said that this building is the only mosque in the world with four minarets.

This historical heritage of Fars province was registered under the number 1597 on the National Heritage List in 1978.

Authenticity is key for foreign buyers of Persian handicrafts, exporter says

TEHRAN-- Foreign buyers are looking for the authenticity of handicrafts, not mass production, so work that has a soul is more valuable to them, a handicraft exporter in Yazd has said.

Majid Yavari told Mehr news agency that Yazd is a living museum of handicrafts; from the weaving of cloth to the hammer blows on gold.

This city still has the potential to become one of the handicraft export hubs in the region, provided that systematic planning and more serious branding are carried out, he said.

He also said that the most important fields active in Yazd include Termeh weaving, Darayee weaving, Ehrami weaving, Meybod pottery, Zilo weaving, Khatamkari, calligraphy, and metal arts.

"Each of these fields is not just a traditional art today, but also forms

part of the province's creative economy and is used in various fields. Termeh, as a symbol of Yazd, is currently high demand in addition to being used in the traditional clothing, interior design, the production of official gifts, and decorative products."

He pointed out that Darayee weaving has also found a new place in the style design and interior decoration market due to its geometric designs and bright colors. He added that Meybod pottery, which was once used only for consumer dishes, has currently entered many homes of the younger generation in form of modern dining sets, minimal accessories, and decorative products.

"Zilu is still one of the cultural pillars of Yazd and is mostly used in mosques, religious spaces, cultural sites and even modern tourist complexes. On the other hand, Khatamkari, Qalamzani and wooden arts are

also more known as exquisite products and organizational gifts, and many foreign institutions use these products as special gifts during official trips to Yazd."

He emphasized that the global markets of Yazd handicrafts have witnessed a remarkable growth in recent years. "Termeh and Darayee have the highest number of customers in Europe, Canada, and the Persian Gulf region. Foreign buyers purchase these products mostly for home decor, hotel design, and even the fashion industry."

According to him, Meybod pottery is one of the most fortunate fields, and Germany, the Netherlands, France, and Australia are its largest buyers. The calm colors and original patterns have made these products compatible with the tastes of Western customers, he added.

'Narrators of Ancient Iran' extended after popular demand

From Page 1 ► The exhibit is organized into three main galleries tracing Iran's history. The first one is dedicated to Iran's prehistory, specifically the Paleolithic, Neolithic, and Chalcolithic periods. Important sites from which objects are displayed include Wezmeh Cave, Abdul Hosein, and Sang-e Chakhmaq. The Director General added: "Visitors can see the bone flute from Sang-e Chakhmaq, which is currently the oldest known musical instrument in Iran."

The second gallery is dedicated to the Bronze and Iron Ages, Elamite, Achaemenid, Seleucid, Parthian, and Sasanian periods." Notable works in this gallery include Bronze Age artifacts from Shahr-e Sukhteh, Shahdad, and Jiroft in southeastern Iran. From the Iron Age, prominent works from sites such as Marlik, Hasanlu, Qalaichi, and Lorestan are displayed, including the golden bowls of Hasanlu and Marlik, which are among the prominent artistic works of this period in the National Museum of Iran. Artifacts from the Elamite and Median civilizations are other features of this gallery.

The third gallery of the exhibition is dedicated to artifacts from the Islamic era in Iran. This gallery consists of two sections, displaying a selection of Iran's rich heritage from the Islamic



period in the fields of calligraphy, metalworking, and the textile. The first section of this gallery contains outstanding works from the early centuries to the Qajar period, including a Quran written in Muhaqqaq script from the Ilkhanid period dated 704 AH (1305 CE), the manuscript of "Masalik va Mamalik," Ilkhanid mihrab tiles, an astrolabe, and a celestial globe from the Seljuk period.

According to organizers, the second section of the third gallery also displays exquisite Safavid-era textiles, showcasing a brilliant example of Iranian textile art. It features works such as silk brocade (Zarbaft) with delicate Gol-o-Morgh (flower and bird) patterns, satin fabrics with golden backgrounds, and brocaded borders (Zari), all woven in the workshops of Isfahan, the art-loving capital of the Safavids. These precious textiles,

created with astonishing delicacy using silk and golden threads, bear witness to the splendor and artistic taste of the Safavid court and textile industry.

For those planning a visit, the prestigious exhibition is open Saturday through Wednesday from 9:00 in the morning until 5:00 in the evening. On Thursdays and Fridays, the hours are extended, with the exhibition remaining open until 6:00 PM.

UNESCO-listed Chah-Kouran caravanserai undergoes restoration



TEHRAN - Restoration work has begun on the Chah-Kouran caravanserai, a UNESCO-listed heritage site located in Ravar county of Kerman province, provincial cultural officials said on Sunday.

Morteza Nikrou, head of the Kerman Department of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts, told reporters that funding had been allocated to start the project, which he said aims to preserve one of northern Kerman's key historic structures.

Nikrou said the current phase includes traditional waterproofing, plasterwork, grouting and structural reinforcement. He added that Ravar is one of Kerman's main cultural heritage centers and that protecting its

historic buildings is essential for safeguarding the county's identity.

He said continuous and principled restoration could strengthen Ravar's cultural profile at the national and international levels. According to Nikrou, using historic sites is part of Kerman's strategy for sustainable tourism development and aligns with the province's "Smile to the World 1405" tourism program.

He said the Chah-Kouran caravanserai has the potential to support Ravar's tourism economy, adding that standard restoration could increase visitor numbers and improve Kerman's global visibility.

Chah-Kouran was among 54 Iranian caravanserais collective-

ly inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage list in 2023. The centuries-old structure once stood along an old road leading to Mashhad, home to the Shrine of Imam Reza (A.S.), the eighth Shia Imam.

Caravanserais were roadside inns built along ancient trade and pilgrimage routes, providing shelter, food and water for travelers. The serial property includes fifty-four caravanserais regarded as some of the most significant and representative examples of this architectural type in Iran. Together, they illustrate the evolution and diversity of caravanserais across different historical periods, reflecting a wide range of architectural styles, adaptation to climatic conditions—particularly in desert regions—and the use of various construction materials.

The development of the property from the Achaemenid period (559–330 BC) through the Qajar period (1794–1925) demonstrates the enduring role and importance of caravanserais in Iranian history. The Persian caravanserai reflects travel traditions prior to the industrial era and before the emergence of modern roads and railways. In addition to providing essen-

tial services to travelers, caravanserais also served as social spaces where people of different ethnicities, languages and religions interacted, even if briefly. For centuries, they contributed to the exchange of ideas, knowledge and cultural values.

Caravanserai or caravansary is a compound word combining "caravan" with "sara"; the former stands for a group of travelers and the latter means the building. They often had massive portals supported by elevated load-bearing walls. Guest rooms were constructed around the courtyard and stables behind them, with doors in the corners of the yard.

For many travelers, staying in or even visiting a centuries-old caravanserai can be a wide experience; they have an opportunity to feel the past, a time travel back to a forgotten age.

Cozy chambers that are meticulously laid out around a vast courtyard may easily evoke spirals of the past. It's not hard to fancy the hustle and bustle of merchants bargaining on prices, recounting their arduous journeys to one another while their camels chewing hay! You can also conceive the idea of local architectural style and material in its heyday.

handicrafts is currently done through online networks.

He continued that many young artists have combined small traditional workshops with modern sales methods, and this has led to Yazd products reaching foreign buyers directly.

This handicraft exporter considered the future of Yazd handicrafts to be bright, but conditional and stated that to transform Yazd into an international handicraft brand, issues such as standard packaging, continuous presence in global exhibitions, creation of joint brands of artists and support for exports must be seriously pursued.

He said that Yazd has the capacity to find the same place in handicrafts as some countries have in carpets or decorative arts. "We just need to combine art with careful management."

Pointing out that most handicraft workshops are still active in the historical texture of Yazd, Khan Bazaar, Zargarha Bazaar, Fahadan District, and Meybod workshops, he emphasized that a large part of the sales of

Iran discusses expanding ties with Tajikistan, Pakistan in ICT sector

TEHRAN – To boost cooperation with neighboring countries and strengthen regional interactions in the information, communication, and technology (ICT) sector, ICT Minister Sattar Hashemi has held meetings with his counterparts from Tajikistan and Pakistan.

The meetings were conducted on the sidelines of the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 (WTDC-25), being held from November 17 to 28 in Baku, Azerbaijan, ISNA reported.

Tajikistan's Head of the Communications Service, Isfandiyyor Sa'dullo, in a meeting with Hashemi, said the expansion of technological and telecommunications cooperation with Iran is one of the top priorities of Dushanbe. He announced Tajikistan's interest in benefiting from Iran's expertise in infrastructure development, fiber optic expansion, and 5G network deployment, the ICT ministry's website reported.

Referring to Tajikistan's plan to boost network capacity and provide sustainable connectivity to regional routes, the official proposed to explore the possibility of "joint production of fiber optics in Tajikistan", relying on Iran's technical and industrial capabilities.

For his part, Hashemi voiced the country's readiness to share knowledge and experiences with Tajikistan in expanding fiber optics, launching 5G, and managing large-scale projects in the ICT field.

To promote scientific and educational interactions between the universities of the two countries, at the request of the Tajik official, he proposed conducting collaborative educational courses in telecommunications, artificial intelligence (AI), and information technology (IT). Hashemi also called for the immediate implementation of a comprehensive memorandum of understanding signed between the two nations a year ago.



Holding a meeting with Pakistan Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunication, Hashemi underscored the key role of Iran and Pakistan in South and West Asia, and said the two countries should utilize the shared capacities to establish safe and sustainable communication routes.

Elaborating on Iran's expertise in ICT, the official recommended boosting cooperation via sharing technical knowledge, developing border optical connectivity, establishing internet traffic exchange centers, and collaborating in the development of new data transit routes.

For her part, Shaza Fatima Khawaja called Iran a leading country in the expansion of digital infrastructures and services, and said that Islamabad is ready to foster cooperation with Tehran in the ICT sector.

Pakistan is willing to use Iran's experience in developing a national information network, managing information sustainability, and countering cyberattacks, she added.

Calling Iran a leading country in the expansion of digital infrastructures and services, Islamabad is ready to foster cooperation with Tehran in the ICT sector.

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The WTDC-25 is being held under the theme 'Universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity for an inclusive and sustainable digital future'.

On the sidelines of the conference, Hashemi is scheduled to hold meetings with his counterparts and many other high-level delegates to share expertise and foster technological collaborations in different fields like fiber optic networks, 5G technologies, and AI.

The official has so far organized meetings with his Algerian and Kenyan counterparts, discussing ways to develop markets and enhance synergy to promote collaboration on smart government, space industry, digital economy, and cybersecurity.

Hashemi had also met Do-reen Bogdan-Martin, the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), on the sidelines of WTDC-25.

The officials discussed ways to promote collaborations in different fields, including artificial intelligence (AI), communication

infrastructure, digital multilateralism, and communication security.

During the meeting, Hashemi expounded on the country's achievements in information technology, AI, and communication. Highlighting the role of ITU as the primary platform for global coordination, he said that fostering multilateralism and promoting cooperation with specialized institutions are among Iran's priorities in its digital foreign policy.

Bogdan-Martin, for her part, lauded Iran's active participation in the meetings, committees, and programs of ITU, saying that Iran is one of the influential members in policymaking and technical discussions.

Iranian experts' regular presence and the quality of their participation in meetings play a crucial role in pursuing the goals of ITU, she noted.

She voiced the Union's readiness for the expansion of ties in technical skills development, human resource empowerment, and knowledge exchange in emerging technologies through joint efforts.

Literacy Movement starts in elementary schools

TEHRAN – The Literacy Movement Organization, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, has started activities in elementary schools.

The project aims to improve individual and social skills, and life literacy besides formal education, IRNA quoted Abdolreza Fooladvand, an official with the Ministry of Education, as saying.

After 45 years, the literacy rate in the country has risen from 47.5 percent back to 97.5 percent now, he noted.

Currently, the Literacy Movement Organization has about 2000 bases in elementary schools with 89 active centers across the country, Fooladvand added.

Thanks to cooperation between the Welfare Organization and the Literacy Movement Organization, some 19,000 women heads of household will be covered by the project. These women, aged below 50, are either illiterate or with low literacy.

The women heads of household and their out-of-school children from all over the country can benefit from the project, as well, he further noted.

The collaborations between these organizations will contribute to lowering illiteracy and improving education among vulnerable groups.

Literacy Movement Organization's goals

Eliminating illiteracy in the country, promoting cultural independence, and educational justice were among the most important goals in the formation of the literacy movement.

In the past four decades, the growth of literacy in the world has been about 18 percent, while in the same period, this figure in Iran has been 50 percent, IRNA reported.

Nearly one year after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, the Literacy Movement Organization was established by the order of Imam Khomeini with the aim of eradicating illiteracy.

At that time, more than half of Iran's population, over the age of six, was illiterate. Now, Iran is on the verge of removing illiteracy.



lation, over the age of six, was illiterate. Now, Iran is on the verge of removing illiteracy.

To improve the literacy rate in the country, the Literacy Movement Organization has taken several measures.

"In line with the development plans of the Literacy Movement Organization to accelerate the literacy movement in the country, it has been decided to select 10 prioritized provinces of the country as pilots to implement the project," ISNA quoted Gholamreza Borouji, an official with the Literacy Movement Organization, as saying.

The Literacy Movement Organization also plans to benefit from the capacity of students to improve the country's literacy rate in the near future.

"In an effort to promote literacy and make illiterates more interested in learning, we will engage students and leverage their capabilities and knowledge in tackling illiteracy," Pana quoted Borouji as saying.

High school students who are interested in teaching can volunteer to be chosen as teachers, he added.

They will primarily identify illiterate people in their families and relatives, and then register them in a system designed by the Literacy Movement Organization. Once the recorded information is confirmed, they can start teaching, the official said.

Finally, the learners will sit for an exam and get a certificate in case they successfully pass the exam, he added.

Iranian delegation to attend Tokyo Nano Tech 2026



TEHRAN – Supported by the Organization for Development of International Cooperation in Science and Technology, Iranian knowledge-based companies will participate in the 25th International Nanotechnology Exhibition and Conference, known as Nano Tech 2026, which is scheduled to be held from January 27 to 31, 2026, in Tokyo, Japan.

Nano Tech 2026 is themed 'Bridge to Future Business: Innovating Nanotechnology'. It is a place where innovative materials and next-generation devices are gathered to explore the implementation of future technologies in society based on nanotechnology, an important common base technology for research and development.

The exhibition will provide a great opportunity for knowledge-based firm to showcase their products and achievements in different fields like materials, nanocarbon, cellulose nanofibers, graphene, electron microscopes, analytics, nano fabrication, solid state batteries, 5G, 6G, and the environment.

Nanotechnology leaps forward

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

Having published a total of 4,615 articles in the top 25 percent of journals (Q1 journals) in 2024, Iran is placed among the top ten countries in publishing nanotechnology articles, ranking 12th in h-index for nano-articles in the world.

China, the U.S., and India, with 86,924, 14,473, and 11,194 articles, respectively, are the top three countries. Iran is atop England (4,360), Japan (4,022), and Spain (3,830) in the ranking, ISNA reported. The Q1 journal index is used to categorize scientific journals based on their impact. It is most commonly used in databases like Scimago Journal Rank (SJR) and Journal Citation Reports (JCR).

The Journal Citation Report (JCR) Impact Factor 2024 has cited 161 Iranian journals, naming five among the world's most cited in the nanotechnology sector.

Journal of Nanostructure in Chemistry (JNSC) affiliated to Islamic Azad University with an impact factor of 7.9 is placed among the top 25 percent of journals in JCR published by Clarivate Analytics in three categories including Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, ranking 34 among 147 top journals; Chemistry, Multidisciplinary, ranking 41 among 239 journals; and Material Science, Multidisciplinary, ranking 88 among 460 top journals.

Journals of International Nano Letters affiliated to Kermanshah Islamic Azad University, Nano-medicine Journal affiliated to Mashhad Medical Science University, Journal of Nanostructures affiliated to Kashan University, and International Journal of Nano Dimension affiliated to Tonekabon Islamic Azad University received an impact factor of 4.0, 1.7, 1.3, and 1.1, respectively, IRNA reported.

So far, ten out of the 12 specialized nanotechnology journals in the country have been indexed in the international Scopus database, five of which have received an impact factor.

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

'City-friendly schools' scheme launched in Tehran

The "city-friendly schools" scheme was launched in the capital to promote environmental protection and urban development issues among students, ISNA reported on Wednesday.

Mojtaba Daneshvar, director general of citizenship education at Tehran Municipality, said that the project covers more than 550 schools, consisting of 160,000 students.

It aims to familiarize students with the rights and duties of citizens, the environment, waste, transportation and traffic, safety and security, crisis management, he explained.

The training programs will be in the form of workshops, role plays, cultural and educational camps, production of educational content such as books, brochures and posters, he concluded.

آغاز طرح «مدارس دوستدار شهر» در تهران

طرح «مدارس دوستدار شهر» با هدف آشنا کردن دانش آموزان با حقوق و تکالیف شهروندی، محیط زیست و پسماند، حمل و نقل و ترافیک، و ایمنی و مدیریت بحران در مدارس منتخب شهر تهران آغاز شد.

به گزارش ایسنا مجتبی دانشور، مدیرکل آموزش‌های شهروندی شهرداری تهران، گفت این طرح بیش از ۵۵۰ مدرسه شامل ۱۶۰ هزار دانش‌آموز را در بر می‌گیرد.

برنامه‌های آموزشی این طرح در قالب برگزاری کارگاه‌های آموزشی، تولید محتوای آموزشی در قالب کتاب، بروشور و پوستر، اجرای نمایش و برگزاری اردوهای فرهنگی و آموزشی خواهد بود.

Various filmmakers have adapted "The Idiot", including Kurosawa and Tarkovsky, with the latter's project hindered by Soviet censorship. The novel has also inspired television, radio, and opera adaptations worldwide.