

Iran Re-Closes Strait of Hormuz Over Israeli Crimes in Lebanon

Iran's military announced the closure in response to US-Israeli violations of the first clause of the MoU signed between Tehran and Washington



Buildings damaged by Israeli strikes are seen through shattered glass from the Jabal Amel Hospital in the southern port city of Tyre, Lebanon, Thursday, June 18, 2026.

Lawsuit filed on behalf of families of Minab victims against US

TEHRAN- A lawsuit has been formally lodged on behalf of the families of the victims of the Minab incident against the Government of the United States, according to Hassan Abdolianpour, Head of Iran's Center for Lawyers, Official Experts, and Family Advisors of the Judiciary.

Speaking at a press conference, Hassan Abdolianpour announced that legal proceedings relating to the Minab victims are actively being pursued. He underscored the Center's commitment to exhausting all available domestic and international legal remedies to seek accountability and secure justice for the victims and their families. ▶ Page 2

Iran, US set for technical talks in Switzerland

TEHRAN— Iran dispatched a delegation to Switzerland to press for the implementation of commitments made by the United States under a recently signed interim agreement, as preparations continue for a new round of technical-level talks between the two sides scheduled for Sunday.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei said the delegation traveled to Switzerland to follow up on Washington's obligations under the agreement and seek clarification on how the United States intends to fulfill its commitments.

"This trip is aimed at following up on the implementation of the other side's commitments," Baqaei told Iranian state television, emphasizing that Tehran would closely monitor compliance with the agreement in light of previous disputes over implementation. ▶ Page 2

CPDI depicts ways to improve Iran's sci-tech co-op with BRICS

TEHRAN – The Center for Progress and Development of Iran (CPDI) has prepared a report illustrating Iran's participation in scientific, technological, and innovation co-operation within BRICS, as well as strategic opportunities and required measures to enhance the country's role in this sector.

BRICS, as one of the most important players in the international system in recent years, has made extensive investments in science, technology, and innovation in addition to economic and political cooperation. Now, the bloc has turned into one of the largest scientific cooperation networks in developing countries, benefiting from 14 specialized working groups and dozens of joint research and technological programs.

CPDI, as the center for the coordination of Iran's technological and scientific interactions with BRICS, ▶ Page 7

'Israel targets civilians, as usual, to cover up military failures'

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN – Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) launched more deadly attacks in southern Lebanon in a sharp escalation that has killed more civilians, including a family of four.

According to Lebanon's civil defense, preliminary reports say 20 civilians were killed on Saturday, and many others were injured, suggesting the final death toll will rise. Despite the alleged ceasefire that reportedly came into effect on Friday, the Israeli regime continues to wage deadly aggression against civilians in Lebanon.

The Israeli regime's attacks threaten an agreement between the United States and Iran. Besides the latest deadly strikes on Saturday, the occupying regime launched deadly strikes in Lebanon throughout Friday. Those strikes killed 47 people, including women and children. According to Lebanon's Health Ministry, almost 100 others sustained injuries even though an end to the Israeli regime's hostilities in Lebanon is the very first point of the agreement between the U.S. and Iran. ▶ Page 5

10 sobering lessons the war on Iran forced into the open

By Garsha Vazirian

TEHRAN — Just four months ago, American and Israeli officials and pundits spoke about Iran as if it were a brittle structure waiting to collapse under enough force.

They imagined that strikes, assassinations, sanctions, blockades and psychological pressure would force Tehran into surrender. Instead, the war produced the opposite result.

Iran survived, hardened, and emerged more self-assured, while the United States and Israel have revealed how narrow the limits of their own power have become.

This war matters far beyond Iran. It was a test of American coercion, Israeli maniacal strategy, and the idea that classic military superiority still guarantees political success. These are the ten lessons other countries should take seriously.

I. Iran's enduring strength

The first lesson is the most important: Iran is not a brittle state waiting to fall apart. It is a millennia-old civilization with ideological depth, institutional solidness, and a political culture built around endurance. ▶ Page 5

Seven reasons behind Iran's mistrust of the United States

By Maedeh Zaman Fashami

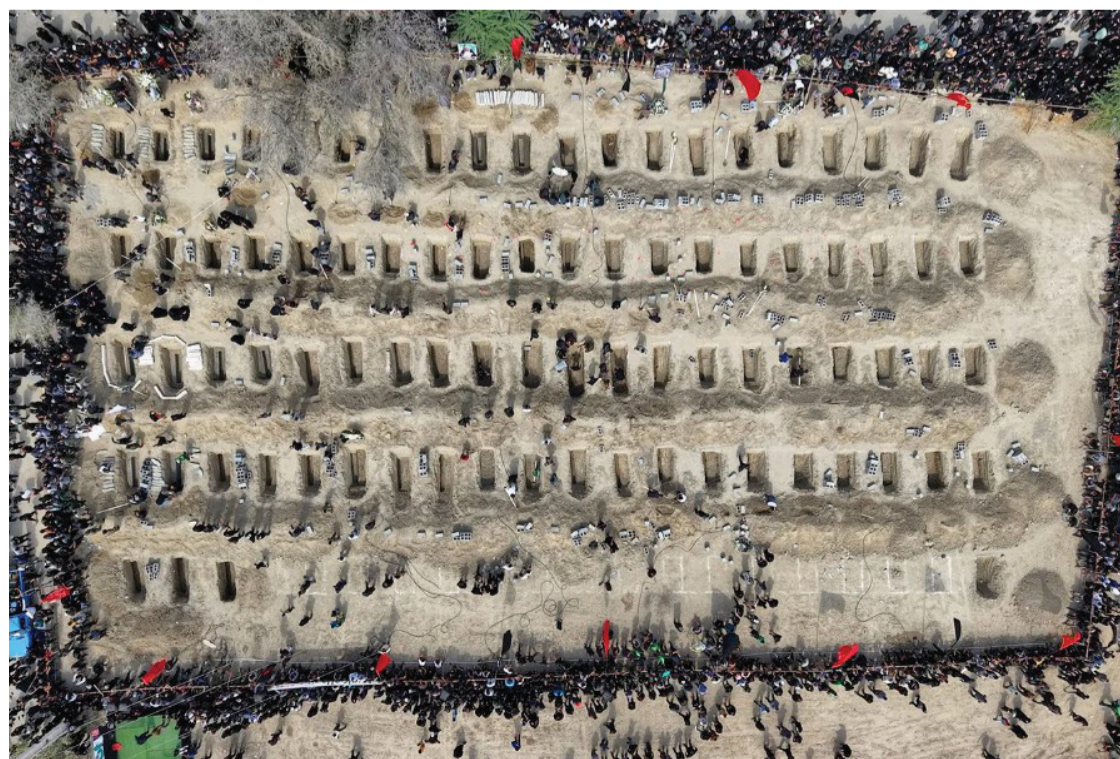
TEHRAN – "There is no trust in the words and promises of the enemy, and what matters to us are concrete achievements that must be obtained." This statement by Mohammad-Bagher Ghalibaf, head of the Iranian negotiating team in the Islamabad talks with the US for ending the war in the region, reflects a broader and long-standing approach in Iran's foreign policy toward Washington. According to this view, experience has shown that Washington's promises are not reliably binding and can easily shift with changes in political conditions or strategic calculations. Within this framework, agreements are not seen as permanent guarantees, but rather as temporary tools for managing on-the-ground conditions, which is why the principle of practical verification has always taken precedence over political trust. From this perspective, even during direct or indirect talks, the dominant assumption is that US behavior must be assessed through action rather than rhetoric or written commitments, as the history of relations between the two countries has repeatedly shown that the gap between promises and actual behavior can shift quickly, and this gap has become one of the core foundations of structural mistrust between Tehran and Washington. ▶ Page 3

Iran, Russia discuss expansion of energy cooperation

TEHRAN- Iran's Deputy Energy Minister Mostafa Rajabi Mashhadi announced a bilateral meeting with the Russian Energy Minister on the sidelines of the 6th Meeting of Energy Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

According to him, in this meeting, the Russian side stated that their specialists will soon be deployed in Iran with greater speed to accelerate the construction of phases 2 and 3 of the Iranian nuclear power plant, so that the implementation process of the project can continue.

Rajabi Mashhadi also referred to talks regarding the electrical connection between Iran and Russia via Azerbaijan, stating that the Russian side has agreed to this plan, and it was decided that the technical issues and the modality of cooperation among the three countries in this regard would be pursued further. ▶ Page 4



Iranian photographer wins top honor at Golden Shot Photography Awards 2026

TEHRAN- Morteza Akhondi, a distinguished photographer from Iran's Hormozgan province, has secured the first-place prize in the Editorial/Press category at the prestigious Golden Shot Photography Awards 2026.

The internationally acclaimed competition awarded Akhondi the Gold Award for his aerial photograph capturing the funeral ▶ Page 8

Iran showcases culture and handicrafts in Mexico City

TEHRAN – Iran's pavilion at the Chapultepec village cultural exhibition in Mexico City has drawn large numbers of visitors, media representatives and cultural figures, showcasing the country's handicrafts, cultural heritage, traditional arts and cuisine, organizers said on Saturday.

The exhibition, which brings together dozens of countries, runs through June 21 and serves as a platform for cultural exchange and public engagement.

From the opening hours of the event, visitors gathered at the Iranian pavilion to learn about the country's history, culture and civilization. Attendees sought information on traditional arts, handwoven carpets, cultural heritage sites and tourism attractions, Miras-e Aria reported. ▶ Page 6

TEHRAN PAPERS

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

If Trump lacks the courage to restrain Netanyahu, Iran does

Siasat-e-Rooz devoted its editorial to one of the clauses in the recent understanding, which requires ending the war on all fronts of the Resistance Axis — a clause Israel has violated. According to the paper, if Trump cannot or does not want to restrain the Zionist regime, Iran can easily discipline it to ensure compliance with the agreement. This clause had already been violated before the agreement was signed, and it continues to be violated afterward. Ignoring the provision, the Zionist regime is still bombing southern Lebanon under Netanyahu's orders, and this "criminal," as the paper describes him, has even ordered intensified attacks. Iran has warned that continued strikes on Lebanon will trigger a response from its armed forces — a warning that was previously carried out when several missiles and drones were launched toward the occupied territories in reaction to violations of the agreement. Although Trump has publicly called for an end to Israel's attacks on Lebanon, he lacks the courage, in his role as US president, to restrain Netanyahu. Perhaps the US ambassador to Israel was right when he told Trump: "If Israel didn't exist, the United States wouldn't exist either."

Donya-e-Eqtesad: A new tourism regime in the Middle East

Donya-e-Eqtesad examined the damage the Ramadan War inflicted on regional tourism. Before the conflict, the global and West Asia tourism landscape looked very different, but conditions have now changed. To better understand the crisis, the paper categorizes the war's impacts into four groups: decline in inbound tourist flows, increased final costs of travel packages, damage to the mental image of the region among tourists and investors, and extra-regional spillover effects. Global tourism has been hit by a major crisis centered in West Asia, casting a shadow over travel worldwide. Although the US president ordered what he imagined would be a "short and swift" war in the Middle East, its consequences have spiraled out of control, affecting many parts of the world. Nearly four months later, the effects have still not subsided. Estimates suggest that if the crisis continues, a full global recovery of travel — after flights resume — will require more than five to six months.

IRGC Navy official: Strength remains the only real guarantee against adversaries



TEHRAN— A senior official of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) Navy has stated that national strength remains the only reliable guarantee in dealing with adversaries, arguing that power—not goodwill—compels opponents to alter their policies.

Rear Admiral Mahmoud Akbarzadeh, Deputy Political Chief of the IRGC Navy, said Iran's adversaries are seeking to weaken the resolve of the Iranian people through media propaganda and efforts to create strategic

Khorasan: From the slogan of partnership to economic reality

Khorasan analyzed Iran's strategic partnership with China. One of the key issues, the paper argues, is the financial settlement mechanism for bilateral trade. Although a large share of Iran's foreign trade appears to be conducted with China, in practice the settlement process is often indirect and routed through intermediaries, with the UAE, especially Dubai, serving as a major hub. The concept of a "strategic partnership with China" has been repeatedly invoked in Iran's economic and political discourse. But experience shows that a real economic partnership depends above all on practical infrastructure. Without it, even if China remains Iran's top trading partner, much of the trade will continue to pass through costly, vulnerable intermediary channels. Thus, Beijing's key will only turn in the lock of Iran's foreign economy when the Dubai bottleneck, dependence on the dirham, and the concentration of settlement networks in a single hub are replaced by a diverse, multi-path, and resilient financial architecture.

Ettelaat: Why were the Iran-US talks in Geneva canceled?

Ettelaat examined the reasons behind the cancellation of the Geneva meeting. What we are seeing now, the paper argues, resembles the first serious crisis after the signing of the understanding, rather than a weakening of its foundations. Three main actors are currently testing each other's will and capacity: Israel, trying to show that no new regional order can emerge without its security concerns being addressed; Iran, trying to prove that an agreement with the US does not mean abandoning its regional and security priorities; and the United States, attempting to create a stable balance between these conflicting realities. For this reason, what happened in Switzerland should be viewed as part of a larger struggle over the shape of the future regional order. The fate of the agreement will not be determined by the cancellation of a single meeting, but by how these crises are managed. If the parties can navigate this phase, the agreement will enter a stage of consolidation. But if field tensions and pressure from opponents overwhelm diplomacy, this temporary pause may become the beginning of a gradual erosion of an agreement that is still in its earliest stages.

miscalculations. However, he argued that historical experience has shown the Iranian nation to be resilient in the face of external pressure.

Referring to US and Israeli policies toward Iran, Akbarzadeh stated that adversaries retreat only when confronted with strength.

"The enemy backs down when it sees your power, not because it feels sympathy for you," he said.

The senior IRGC official also pointed to regional initiatives such as the Abraham Accords and the "Greater Middle East Project," arguing that the Islamic Republic of Iran has been the main obstacle to the realization of such plans. According to Akbarzadeh, this has been a key factor behind the continued hostility of the United States and Israel toward Iran.

Commenting on recent regional developments and upcoming negotiations, he stressed that power remains the ultimate safeguard in any diplomatic agreement.

"The real guarantee behind any agreement is strength," he said.

Looking ahead, Akbarzadeh said Iran is entering 'a new phase in the evolution of the Islamic Revolution.' He added that, following the consolidation of recent achievements, significant reforms in the areas of economic management and governance would be necessary.

Iran, US set for technical talks in Switzerland

From page 1 ▶ "Given our experience with the other side's failure to honour commitments, we must naturally be very firm and serious in demanding fulfilment of obligations during the implementation phase," he said.

Baqaei explained that the delegation had not traveled to Switzerland as initially planned because the interim agreement was ultimately signed digitally by the presidents of the two countries, eliminating the immediate need for a face-to-face meeting. He added that negotiations on a final agreement could only begin after key provisions of the current arrangement had been implemented.

"Unfortunately, we are not seeing that situation at present," he said, adding that Tehran would use the upcoming discussions to seek assurances regarding the execution of the agreement.



Meanwhile, Switzerland confirmed that discussions between Iranian and US representatives would continue at the Burgenstock resort, which has emerged as a key venue for diplomatic engagement between the two sides.

In a statement, the Swiss Foreign Ministry said it would con-

tinue to provide a "discreet and reliable setting" for talks aimed at facilitating the implementation of the memorandum of understanding signed by Washington and Tehran. The ministry declined to disclose details regarding participants or the substance of the discussions, citing confidentiality requirements.

Separately, Pakistan's Foreign Ministry announced that technical-level negotiations between Iran and the United States will take place in Burgenstock on Sunday as a follow-up to the signing of the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding.

According to the ministry, representatives from Iran and the United States will be joined by Pakistani and Qatari mediators during the discussions, which are expected to focus on practical steps for implementing the agreement and advancing the diplomatic process.

The meetings mark the latest phase in efforts to translate the recently signed understanding into concrete actions, with both sides facing growing pressure to demonstrate progress on implementation before negotiations on a broader and more permanent agreement can move forward.

Lawsuit filed on behalf of families of Minab victims against US



From page 1 ▶ According to Abdolnour, the preliminary phase of the proceedings involved the systematic collection, verification, and documentation of evidentiary materials obtained from a range of governmental bodies, public institutions, and relevant authorities. Pursuant to a directive issued by the Head of the Judiciary, expert assessments prepared by the Center are being formally registered before the Peace Courts as measures for the preservation of evidence,

with the objective of facilitating and expediting subsequent judicial proceedings.

He further stated that powers of attorney have been obtained from the victims' families for the purpose of pursuing both civil and criminal actions. The relevant claims and legal complaints have been filed and are currently under review by the competent authorities. Hearings in connection with these proceedings are expected to be convened in the coming months.

US-Israeli coalition reached strategic deadlock, Iranian commanders say

TEHRAN — Senior Iranian military officials have emphasized that the recent confrontation involving Iran, the United States, and Israel ended in a strategic impasse for Washington and Tel Aviv, warning that resistance movements across the region retain significant retaliatory capabilities despite ongoing efforts to reshape the security landscape in West Asia.

Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Quds Force, Brigadier General Esmail Qaani, on Friday cautioned Israeli leaders against underestimating the military capabilities of resistance groups, particularly in Gaza. In a message posted on X, Qaani referred to the battlefield performance of Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement, saying that previous Israeli failures stemmed from ignoring warnings about the group's operational capabilities.

"When we said Hezbollah has Mirsad drones, you did not pay attention and got caught. Who will answer for the 100 casualties?" he stated.

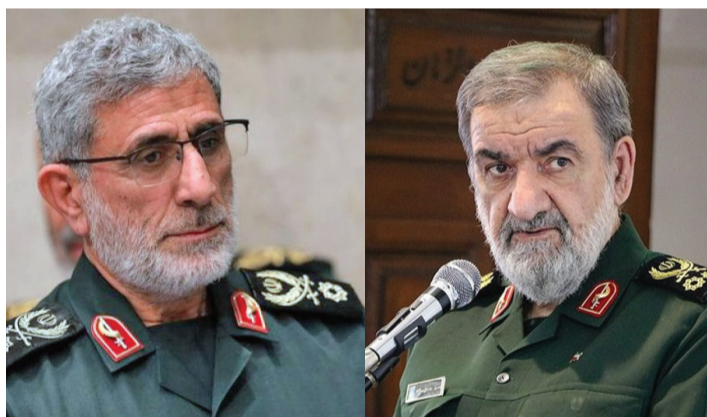
The Quds Force commander further warned that Gaza possesses its own strategic capabilities and could launch large-scale retaliatory operations if Israel continues military escalation.

"Gaza also has a flood. If you act according to your politicians' wishes, you will be caught in the flood. Be careful," Qaani said, in an apparent reference to the Palestinian resistance's ability to conduct surprise and large-scale military operations.

War with Iran ended in a major failure, Bennett says

TEHRAN— Former Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett has sharply criticized the government's handling of the post-war arrangements with Iran, arguing that Israel could have rejected the understandings reached between Washington and Tehran. He also acknowledged that the recent war with Iran ended without achieving Israel's strategic objectives.

Speaking in an interview with Radio 103FM, affiliated with the Israeli newspaper Maariv, Bennett criticized Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's approach following the ceasefire agreement and described the outcome of the conflict as a "major failure."



His remarks came shortly after Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Saeed Khatibzadeh said Tehran remains committed to pursuing peace and stability across multiple fronts in the region.

Speaking to Al Jazeera, Khatibzadeh stated that Iran has been working to secure a cessation of hostilities in both Gaza and Lebanon, noting that Lebanon was included in the recently signed memorandum of understanding between Tehran and Washington because of its direct connection to regional conflicts.

Earlier this week, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and US President Donald Trump electronically signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at creating a framework for ending hostilities between Iran and the United States and reducing tensions across the region.

According to Iranian officials, the agreement calls for an immediate halt to military operations on all fronts, including Gaza and Lebanon, while also facilitating

the reopening of the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

Meanwhile, Major General Mohsen Rezaei, former commander-in-chief of the IRGC and a member of Iran's Expediency Council, argued that a combination of domestic and international factors prevented the United States and Israel from achieving their objectives during the "Third Imposed War."

"The chaotic situation in America was one of the most important factors in the stalemate between the American and Zionist enemies during the war," Rezaei said.

He identified several key factors behind 'the failure of the US-Israeli coalition to gain the upper hand,' including political divisions inside the United States, fatigue and insufficient readiness within the US military, the absence of a viable military solution for the Strait of Hormuz, congressional resistance to further escalation, limited support from Washington's allies, and mounting international pressure.

Rezaei specifically pointed to criticism from several countries, including Spain, as evidence of growing international opposition to continued military confrontation in the region.

"The American and Zionist enemies realized that they had lost control of the situation on the fifteenth day of the war," he said.

The senior commander also underscored the role of the Resistance Front in shaping regional security dynamics, arguing that resistance movements have acted as a deterrent against Israeli expansionism and have contributed to safeguarding neighboring countries from occupation and destabilization.

The remarks by Qaani and Rezaei reflect a broader Iranian assessment that recent developments have reinforced the deterrence capabilities of the Resistance Axis, stretching from Palestine and Lebanon to other parts of West Asia. Iranian officials maintain that despite extensive military pressure and coordinated operations by the United States and Israel, resistance movements remain capable of influencing the strategic balance on the ground.

From Tehran's perspective, the outcome of the latest confrontation demonstrated the limitations of military solutions and highlighted the resilience of regional resistance groups, while simultaneously increasing international calls for a political settlement to ongoing conflicts in Gaza and Lebanon.

rejected a request from President Trump had he been in office, Bennett replied: "I have said no to Joe Biden before."

Elaborating on his remarks, Bennett recalled that the US administration had pressed for the reopening of a dedicated consulate for Palestinians in East Jerusalem (Al Quds) during the final period of Netanyahu's previous term in office. He said that after assuming the premiership, he opposed the proposal and refused to approve it.

Concluding his remarks, Bennett stated: "So yes, it is possible to stand firm and say no."

When asked whether he would have re-

Iran re-closes Strait of Hormuz over Israeli crimes in Lebanon

Iran's military announced the closure in response to US-Israeli violations of the first clause of the MoU signed between Tehran and Washington

TEHRAN – Israel is pressing ahead with its military operations against Lebanon, in clear disregard for a central provision of the recently signed memorandum of understanding between the United States and Iran.

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and US President Donald Trump remotely signed the MoU on Wednesday. The opening paragraph stipulates that Israel must stop its strikes in Lebanon.

"The United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Iran and their allies in the current war are signing this MoU to declare the immediate and permanent termination of military operations on all fronts, including in Lebanon," the US committed in the first paragraph of the 14-point fledgling agreement.

Nonetheless, Israel has continued its strikes in Lebanon. Dozens of people were killed in the attacks on Saturday.

In response, Iran once again closed the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday, citing violations of the MoU by the United States and Israel.

"It is hereby announced that the Strait of Hormuz will be closed to vessel traffic," the Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, which coordinates operations between the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) and the Army, said.

It added in a statement that "this first step is a response to the enemy's breach of promise, and if the aggression continues, further steps will be planned and taken to force the enemy to comply with its obligations."

The statement said the closure comes in response to "the US' bad faith and blatant breach of the first clause of the memorandum of understanding," as well as persistent violations of the ceasefire in southern Lebanon by the "Zionist regime" and the "brutal killing and displacement" of hundreds of thousands of innocent people in the region. It also referred to Israel's refusal to withdraw from southern Lebanon.



anon. The Israeli pullout from southern Lebanon is also among Iran's conditions for reaching a permanent deal with the US.

In addition to halting Israeli strikes in Lebanon, the 14-point MoU calls for oil export waivers, the removal of the US naval blockade on Iran within 30 days, and the restoration of commercial traffic through the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran has already stated that continued Israeli strikes in Lebanon, particularly in southern Beirut, are a red line that Israel is not allowed to cross. Earlier this month, Iran carried out strikes against Israel following the bombing of southern Beirut. Iran stopped the attacks after Trump vowed to push Israel to halt its air campaign in Lebanon.

Trump administration officials have publicly warned Israel against launching attacks against Hezbollah that might derail the MoU. Trump told NBC News in a phone call on Friday afternoon that he spoke with Israeli officials and urged them to agree to a ceasefire. Recent reports suggest Trump has clashed with Netanyahu over his continued war in Lebanon. Trump's calls to restrain the Israeli war machine have drawn backlash in Israel, with Israeli politicians warning Netanyahu not to turn Israel into Washington's "vassal state." On Friday, National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir said, "All of Lebanon should burn."

Vice President JD Vance told reporters in the White House

This suggests that Trump is merely launching a charm offensive while remaining reluctant to impose real costs on Israel to stop its strikes in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, citing current and former American officials, US intelligence agencies have warned the White House that Netanyahu is likely to take steps that will undermine Trump's efforts to reach a lasting peace deal with Iran. The MoU will be followed by 60 days of talks, which are expected to lead to a permanent agreement aimed at ending US-Israeli aggression against Iran that began on February 28.

The new US intelligence report concludes that, ahead of elections this fall, Netanyahu's political survival depends on showing his domestic audience that he will not withdraw troops from Lebanon and that he is intent on escalating fighting with Hezbollah, according to one US official familiar with the report.

Netanyahu, who faces corruption charges, considers a permanent state of war a lifeline that could keep him in power.

Trump, meanwhile, needs a permanent deal with Iran to extricate himself from what many experts describe as the quagmire of war with Iran. US and Israeli media have described the war on Iran as a strategic setback for the aggressors.

In a newly published report, The Guardian spoke to Israelis in a city near Tel Aviv regarding the regional conflict and its fallout. Many Israelis told the British outlet that the MoU negotiated by the US with Iran is a betrayal.

Commentators have condemned the tentative deal as a surrender and humiliation that was "even worse than Israel had feared," according to the report.

Others emphasized the "abject failure" of Israel to achieve its war aims, including regime change, the destruction of Iran's nuclear program, and the elimination of its ballistic missiles.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Seven reasons behind Iran's mistrust of the United States

From Page 1 ▶ Against this backdrop of deep mistrust toward US, the Islamabad memorandum of understanding between Iran and US was signed on Thursday morning. This agreement came to fruition in a period in which Trump repeatedly adopted threatening positions toward Iran throughout the negotiation process and even during sensitive phases related to the ceasefire. These threats included references to military options, warnings about swift and severe responses, and the use of maximum pressure rhetoric alongside diplomatic channels. This simultaneity between negotiations related to the agreement and the release of threatening messages created an atmosphere of structural uncertainty from the very beginning of the talks.

Even at the moment of signing this agreement, the dominant approach in Iran was one of structural skepticism and maximum caution. This skepticism was not merely the result of isolated events, but rather the outcome of a long historical experience of fluctuations in relations between the two countries, repeated breakdowns or redefinitions of agreements, and continuous changes in Washington's approach toward Tehran.

In the literature of international relations, mistrust is generally not a momentary feeling; it is the product of accumulated historical experience, security perceptions, behavioral changes, and even ideological differences. In the case of Iran-US relations, this pattern is clearly visible. From the perspective of many Iranian analysts, diplomacy with US has always operated under a structural shadow of doubt, a doubt that is not only political but also security-related and identity-based.

However, it is not only Iranian analysts who believe that relations between Iran and US are based on mistrust. Gary Sick, professor at Columbia University, Middle East expert, and author of several books on Iran-US relations, argues: "Iranians have strong reasons not to trust us." Jack Straw, former British Foreign Secretary, also stated: "Many Iranians, across different political orientations, do not trust US for many reasons."

But why do we not trust US?

Mistrust toward US is not an isolated incident, but part of a broader and recurring pattern in which Iran has concluded that engagement with US always carries security risks and political instability. In the following sections, seven main roots of this mistrust are analyzed.

1. A history of broken commitments; the historical memory of relations

Iran's mistrust of US in diplomacy cannot simply be considered the result of occasional disputes or political misunderstandings. Rather, this mistrust is based on a long and accumulated historical experience in which the pattern of "commitment-change-violation" has been repeated many times. In the mindset of Iranian policymakers, relations with US have always been based on the assumption that international commitments are not necessarily stable and may change with shifts in political conditions or Washington's domestic interests.

A key reference point in this mindset is the nuclear agreement, which was formed as a multilateral deal involving world powers. From Iran's perspective, this was not a simple bilateral agreement, but a complex legal and political structure that was expected to be more stable than ordinary agreements. However, the US withdrawal under Trump in 2018 challenged this fundamental assumption and sent a clear message that even multilateral international agreements can be vulnerable to the political will of a single administration in Washington.

But this issue is not limited to that event. From the Iranian point of view, the history of relations between the two countries includes a series of experiences starting from the 1953 coup against Prime Minister Mossadegh and continuing through various periods of sanctions, economic pressure, and shifts in foreign policy. This historical repetition has created an institutional memory in which mistrust is not a temporary feeling, but a structural assumption in decision-making.

2. The personality of Trump and the crisis of predictability in relations

The Trump presidency was a turning point in which Iran's mistrust of US moved from a historical level to a behavioral and operational one.



During this period, US foreign policy was more than ever influenced by individual decisions, momentary perceptions, and media reactions. This created a fundamental problem for Iran: a severe reduction in the predictability of the counter-part's behavior.

While indirect negotiations were underway to manage tensions and design a limited agreement, contradictory messages were simultaneously coming from Washington. On one hand, dialogue was not fully rejected, and on the other hand, explicit military threats and economic pressure were being discussed. This simultaneity blurred the boundary between diplomacy and pressure.

From Iran's strategic analysis, this situation sent a clear message: decision-making in US can change rapidly and is not necessarily based on a stable institutional logic. This is particularly important when long-term agreements are involved, as such agreements require a minimum level of stability in behavior.

The dual nature of this behavior sends a dangerous message in Iranian analysis: lack of stable decision-making. Even if an agreement is reached at the diplomatic level, it may later be delegitimized at the political or media level.

The core issue is not what Trump said or did, but that the US political system allows such sudden and drastic changes in foreign policy at the presidential level—creating structural uncertainty.

3. The role of Israel in foreign policy and its impact on US decision-making

One of the important elements shaping Iran's mistrust of US is the role of Israel in regional dynamics and its influence on US policy. This issue is not limited to bilateral relations but extends to Iran's perception of the decision-making structure in Washington.

From this perspective, US policy toward Iran is not merely the result of an independent and centralized decision, but part of a complex network of interests, alliances, and security considerations. Within this network, Israel and pro-Israel lobbying groups in US are seen as influential actors in shaping Washington's security priorities in the Middle East.

From this viewpoint, it must be considered that some pressure policies, sanctions, or even diplomatic frameworks may be influenced by overlapping security interests between US and Israel. This perception turns bilateral diplomacy into a multi-layered and complex relationship.

In such conditions, the main issue for Iran is not only the content of negotiations, but the decision-making structure of the other side. In other words, whether any agreement is purely between two governments or is influenced by other actors and therefore subject to change.

This network-based perception of power increases uncertainty and makes trust-building more difficult, since the greater the number of actors involved in a decision, the lower its predictability and stability.

4. Broken commitments in diplomacy and attacks during negotiations

One of the most important factors shaping mistrust in Iran-US relations is the repeated experience of negotiations occurring simultaneously with increased political, economic, and security pressure. This pattern has been observed in various forms over the years and became more intense during the Trump era.

In this framework, Iran has repeatedly experienced situations in which diplomatic channels were active while economic pressure increased or political and military threats escalated. Iran and US were engaged in negotiations last June when Israel launched attacks against Iran, and shortly afterward US joined these attacks and the president supported them. These attacks lasted 12 days and began with the assassination of military commanders and scientists, resulting in the deaths of more than a thousand Iranians.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

LATEST NEWS

■ Pakistan's interior minister arrives in Iran for high-level consultations

Pakistan's Interior Minister, Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi, arrived in Iran, Mashhad, the capital of Iran's Razavi Khorasan Province, on Saturday.

Naqvi was officially welcomed by Gholamhossein Mozaffari, Governor of Razavi Khorasan Province, upon his arrival at Shahid Hashemi-Nejad International Airport.

Following his visit to Mashhad, the Pakistani minister traveled to Tehran for consultations on ongoing regional and political developments.

Naqvi also met with Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Saturday evening as part of his visit.

According to MFA Spokesman Esmail Baqaei, Naqvi is scheduled to hold separate meetings and consultations with his Iranian counterpart, Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni, as well as Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, during his official visit.

■ Iran announces arrest of 17 US-Israeli-linked operatives in Ilam

Iran's Ministry of Intelligence announced on Saturday that it had identified and arrested 17 individuals linked to a 'US-Israeli-backed' sabotage network operating in the western province of Ilam.

According to a ministry statement, the arrests included three alleged field commanders and 14 operatives.

Authorities stated that the suspects were accused of engaging in activities against national security and described them as individuals who had collaborated with foreign adversaries.

The ministry added that security forces seized three TNT cartridges, a Kalashnikov

assault rifle, a hand grenade, and a substantial cache of weapons, including machetes, during the operation.

■ Italy reopens embassy in Tehran

The Embassy of Italy in Tehran announced that it has resumed operations in the Iranian capital as of June 19.

The announcement came in a brief statement issued by the embassy, marking the restoration of its diplomatic activities amid ongoing regional developments.

■ Vance signals possible Iran talks in Switzerland

US Vice President JD Vance said negotiations aimed at ending the conflict involving Iran could take place as early as Sunday, expressing confidence that the current ceasefire can be maintained.

Speaking in an interview with Fox News, Vance said diplomatic efforts remain active and noted that US Special Envoy Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner, President Donald Trump's son-in-law, are currently in Switzerland for discussions related to the ongoing negotiations.

The vice president also indicated that he expects to travel to Switzerland in the coming days.

"I expect that I will leave sometime in the next couple of days, but it is always a delicate matter involving coordination and diplomatic protocols," Vance told Fox News.

Separately, Axios, citing an informed source, reported that Vance is expected to travel to Switzerland on Saturday to participate in negotiations.

Washington is ready to ease economic pressure on Iran, if it fulfills the US' demands, US Vice President JD Vance said.

"We have a lot of economic pressure

briefing room on Thursday that "Donald J. Trump is the only head of state in the entire world who is sympathetic to the nation of Israel at this moment in time, and he happens to be the head of state of the world's superpower." He added, "If I were in the cabinet of the Israeli government, I might not be attacking the only powerful ally I have left in the entire world."

Many experts believe tensions between the US and Israel are being made public in an effort to salvage a deal with Iran. Harrison Mann, a former US Army officer who served as an analyst at the Defense Intelligence Agency, told The Washington Post that the US has leverage over Israel.

"The US can cut off munitions, jet fuel and maintenance support, limiting the scope of any Israeli offensive, freeze critical intelligence sharing, or withdraw US forces currently deployed to protect Israeli airspace, raising the cost of any Israeli war," Mann said.

However, the US remains unwilling to use this leverage over Israel, particularly at this critical juncture, to stop Israel's war in Lebanon.

Aaron David Miller, a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace who has advised both Democratic and Republican administrations, told The Washington Post: "If you ask me, has an American president ever threatened to impose real costs and consequences on Israel in real time? The answer would be no."

applied to the Iranians that we would be willing to relieve if they do what we need them to do. If they don't do that, of course, there's no skin off our back. They're still in a much-weakened position," he said on Fox News.

■ Iran condemns int'l inaction over Israel at UN

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei has condemned international impunity for Israel following a tense exchange at a United Nations meeting. Reacting to a confrontation between Israel's UN ambassador, Danny Danon, and a UN representative during discussions on allegations of sexual violence against Palestinians, Baqaei said continued international inaction has emboldened Israel to disregard legal and moral norms. He urged the international community to 'a growing threat to peace and humanity across the region.'

■ Analyst: Lebanon caught between US, Iranian and Israeli agendas

Sami Nader, Director of the Levant Institute for Strategic Affairs, said the latest violence in Lebanon highlights the fragility of the ceasefire agreement with Israel and underscores the country's vulnerability to broader regional dynamics.

"The ceasefire has been extremely fragile from the outset," Nader told Al Jazeera, arguing that the renewed military operations demonstrate the failure of efforts to separate Lebanon's internal crisis from wider regional tensions.

He said military activity had resumed despite the ceasefire and warned that Israel was expanding its operations deeper into southern Lebanon. According to Nader, attempts to isolate Lebanon from the broader US-Iran confrontation have proven unsuccessful.

Iran presents investment-ready projects to Azerbaijan

TEHRAN- Mehdi Heydari, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance and Head of the Organization for Investment, Economic and Technical Assistance of Iran, held bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the 51st Annual Meeting of the Board of Executive Directors of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) in Baku with the head of Azerbaijan's Export and Investment Agency.

According to IRNA from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, Mehdi Heydari, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance and Head of the Organization for Investment, Economic and Technical Assistance of Iran, in a meeting with Yusuf Abdullayev, the head of Azerbaijan's Export and Investment Agency, while referring to the capacities and programs on the organization's agenda to encourage and improve foreign investment, emphasized the exchange of experiences and identification of common points and projects for cooperation.

Referring to the signing of the memorandum of understanding of the Joint Investment Committee during President Pezeshkian's visit to Azerbaijan, Heydari said that it was decided to hold the first meeting of the said committee, but the desired conditions were not provided, but it is possible to hold it at the earliest opportunity.

He added that the axes agreed upon at the meeting of the Joint Commission of the two countries can be the agenda of the committee.

Referring to the economic capacities of the two sides, common opportunities for cooperation, and the capabilities of Iranian companies, he emphasized that the necessary platform for action is provided.

In this meeting, the list of projects prepared for foreign investment in Iran was presented to the Azerbaijani side, and the conditions of each sector were explained.

Yusuf Abdullayev, while referring to the duties, programs, and measures of Azerbaijan's Export and Investment Agency, declared his readiness to hold the first meeting of the Joint Committee.

He evaluated the recent measures and programs of the organization, including the design of information on investment opportunities, as positive and said that the agency will hold the Azerbaijan International Investment Summit in September 2026, which is a good opportunity for the presence of economic activists, investors, and capable Iranian companies.

The head of the Azerbaijani agency, referring to the history of Iranians' activities in Azerbaijan's economy, added: There are good opportunities to increase cooperation, and the Joint Investment Committee is a very suitable advantage for structuring cooperation.

In this meeting, some of the measures and achievements of the two sides in attracting foreign investment were also described with the aim of exchanging views and using existing experiences.

In late February, Iran and Azerbaijan signed a cooperation document outlining joint economic initiatives across 10 sectors, including transport, energy, electricity and water, the Ministry of Transport and Urban Development said.

The memorandum was signed at the 17th session of the Iran-Azerbaijan Joint Economic Committee by Iran's Minister of Transport and Urban Development Farzaneh Sadegh and Azerbaijan's Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Mustafayev.

The document sets out a framework for bilateral cooperation in infrastructure, energy and water projects, as well as broader economic, social and cultural fields.

In transport, the two sides agreed to expand cooperation in road transport, border management and railway development.

Key infrastructure projects include the Kalaleh-Aghband bridge, the Astara bridge, the widening of the Kalaleh-Jolfa road, the Kalaleh-Siahroud rail link and the launch of the Astara rail terminal at the shared border, with both parties emphasizing the need to accelerate implementation.

In the energy sector, the sides approved cooperation in oil blocks one and two and agreed to establish a joint working group to follow up on related memoranda of understanding.



In electricity, agreements covered plans to connect the power grids of Iran, Azerbaijan and Russia, as well as electricity exports from Azerbaijan to Iran.

Water cooperation focused on joint projects related to the Khoda Afarin and Qiz Qalesi dams and power plants, along with the Marazad-Orduabad hydropower project.

The agreement also includes understandings in areas such as tourism, agriculture, customs, industry, investment, sports and youth affairs, paving the way for deeper economic ties and expanded strategic cooperation between Tehran and Baku.

Iran targets 15m tons of transit on western INSTC corridor by 2030

Speaking at the committee meeting, Sadegh said Iran aims to increase transit volumes on the western branch of the International North-South Transit Corridor (INSTC) to 15 million tons by 2030.

She said trade between the two countries has reached around \$650 million over the past two years, with exchanges following an upward trend. Drafting a trade cooperation roadmap could provide clearer prospects for expanding economic relations, she added.

Transport and transit were identified as key pillars of cooperation. Over the past year, about 120,000 Iranian trucks transited through Azerbaijani territory, while more than 50,000 Azerbaijani trucks entered Iran, reflecting substantial cross-border freight activity.

Sadegh said achieving the 15-million-ton transit target by 2030 would require more than tripling current fleet movements, underscoring the need to upgrade border infrastructure and streamline procedures.

She noted that construction of the Kalaleh-Aghband bridge is in its final stages and is expected to play a significant role in facilitating transit flows and trade once completed.

Energy cooperation and joint projects on the Aras River were also cited as strategic areas of collaboration, alongside agriculture, tourism — particularly health tourism — and broader cooperation in industry, investment and infrastructure.

The minister said expanding cooperation across transport, energy and trade could strengthen economic integration and support regional connectivity goals under the INSTC framework.

The seventeenth meeting of the Iran-Azerbaijan Joint Economic Committee opened in Baku on Monday, focusing on transport links, border infrastructure and broader economic and cultural ties.

Farzaneh Sadegh, Iran's minister of transport and urban development, and Shahin Mustafayev, Azerbaijan's deputy prime minister, were co-chairing the two-day meeting in the Azerbaijani capital.

Iranian minister of transport and urban development met with the president of the Republic of Azerbaijan to discuss the review of new railway infrastructures and joint oil fields, the development of transportation cooperation, the utilization of new border infrastructures, and cooperation in the energy sector.

Farzaneh Sadegh, on Monday morning (February 23) before the start of the 17th meeting of the Iran-Azerbaijan Joint Economic Committee, met with Ilham Aliyev, the president of Azerbaijan. During this meeting, she conveyed the greetings of Masoud Pezeshkian and stated that the president of Iran places special importance on relations with the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Emphasizing the historical, religious, and cultural ties between the two countries and the importance of bilateral relations, the minister discussed the most important priorities for bilateral cooperation in the economic fields, which were also emphasized by the president of Azerbaijan.

Iran submits proposals for expanding energy co-op among SCO member states

TEHRAN- Iranian deputy energy minister, at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Energy Ministers' meeting, emphasizing the necessity of expanding regional cooperation in the energy sector, presented five operational proposals of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the development of energy cooperation among the member countries of this organization.

According to Shana news agency, quoting the Ministry of Energy, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Energy Ministers' meeting was held on Friday in the city of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, with the presence of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In this meeting, Mostafa Rajabi Mashhadi, representing the Minister of Energy and serving as the Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy, headed a delegation that included the Deputy Chief of the Renewable Energy and Electricity Efficiency Organization (SATBA), the Director General of the Office of Strategy, Monitoring and Control of Electricity Transmission and Distribution of the Ministry of Energy, the Deputy



Director of the International Affairs Center of the Ministry of Energy, a specialized SCO expert in the Deputy for Electricity and Energy, and representatives from the Ministry of Petroleum and the Atomic Energy Organization.

In his speech, Rajabi Mashhadi described the organized cooperation of the SCO member states in the energy sector as an effective factor for sustainable development, strengthening energy security, and regional economic growth, and emphasized the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to expand cooperation

within this framework.

Referring to Iran's capacities in the energy sector, including the country's significant share in oil and gas reserves and production, as well as the connection of Iran's electricity grid to seven neighboring countries, he elaborated on the areas for developing joint energy cooperation among the organization's members.

The Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy also enumerated the development of joint investment, technology transfer, expansion of renewable energies, optimization of energy consumption, and development of

smart electricity grids as among the most important axes of cooperation among member countries.

Rajabi Mashhadi further proposed the five operational initiatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran for developing energy cooperation within the SCO, which include forming an energy consortium of member states, developing regional electricity grid connections, establishing a regional electricity market framework, technological cooperation in the field of smart grids, and holding an annual electricity conference of the member countries.

He also, while emphasizing the importance of energy infrastructure security, condemned the recent attacks on Iran's energy facilities and reminded that energy infrastructure is considered a protected target from attack under the Geneva Conventions and UN Security Council resolutions.

At the end, the Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy expressed his gratitude to the government and officials of Kyrgyzstan as the hosts and organizers of this meeting.

Combined rail transit from Iraq to Afghanistan begins from Kermanshah railway station

TEHRAN- The Director General of the Arak and Kermanshah Railway Region said: In an important step in the development of international transport corridors and increasing the railway's share in regional transit, the first combined rail transit shipment from Iraq to Afghanistan was operationalized through the western axis of the country and Kermanshah freight station.

Ahmad Torqi said on Saturday in an interview with IRNA: This shipment, which after entering from the western borders of the country and undergoing logistics processes at Kermanshah freight station, has been transferred to the railway network, will be transported through the country's rail lines towards the eastern borders and the final destination of Afghanistan.

According to him, this event is considered a turning point in activating the neglected capacities of the western axis and developing international rail transit.

The Director General of the Arak and Kermanshah Railway Region further stated: The realization of this international transportation is the result of continuous follow-ups, specialized planning, and extensive coordination between Kermanshah Railway with cargo owners, transport companies, customs, and other relevant bodies.

Torqi emphasized: This action has been carried out in line with the macro policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railway to attract transit cargo and develop combined transport, and will pave the way for increasing the volume of commercial exchanges through

the country's rail route.

Kermanshah province has a total of more than 371 kilometers of common border with Iraq, and along this border there are two official border crossings and 5 active border markets, and annually nearly three billion dollars of goods are exported from these borders to other countries.

A large part of the export of goods from Iran to Iraq is carried out through the borders of Kermanshah province. The Kermanshah - Malayer railway route was put into operation in 2018 and this province was connected to the country's rail transport network. The connection of this network to Iraq through the Khosravi border in Qasr-e-Shirin county is under implementation.

Iran, Russia discuss expansion of energy cooperation

TEHRAN- Iran's Deputy Energy Minister Mostafa Rajabi Mashhadi announced a bilateral meeting with the Russian Energy Minister on the sidelines of the 6th Meeting of Energy Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

According to him, in this meeting, the Russian side stated that their specialists will soon be deployed in Iran with greater speed to accelerate the construction of phases 2 and 3 of the Iranian nuclear power plant, so that the implementation process of the project can continue.

Rajabi Mashhadi also referred to talks regarding the electrical connection between Iran and Russia via Azerbaijan, stating that the Russian side has agreed to this plan, and it was decided that the technical issues and the modality of cooperation among the three countries in this regard would be pursued further.

The Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy added: In the field of gas transmission, given the damage inflicted on gas infrastructure, the Russian side declared its readiness for cooperation, and it was decided that Iran's requirements in this area and other related sectors would be officially sent to the Russian side so that the cooperation can lead to practical results.

In early April, Russia's Energy Minister emphasized that his country will continue to expand energy contracts with Iran despite the current situation in the West Asia region.

According to IRNA from TASS news agency, Sergey Tsivilyov

made the remarks on the sidelines of the Energy-2026 Forum in the city of Kazan, in response to reporters' questions: Russia does not intend to suspend its energy contracts with Iran, but will continue to develop these contracts based on the principles of fairness and its own technological sovereignty.

Elsewhere in his remarks, the Russian Energy Minister stated that Cuba is currently under complete siege and that imports of oil and petroleum products to the country have been cut off, adding: "We will not abandon the Cubans."

He further noted: One Russian tanker has already broken the Cuban siege, and a second tanker is currently being loaded for dispatch to Cuba.

Earlier, the Russian Ministry of Transport reported that the Russian tanker Anatoly Kolodkin, carrying 100,000 tons of humanitarian aid, has arrived in Cuba.

According to the report, the fuel situation in Havana worsened after the United States military operation in Venezuela in January 2026 to arrest Nicolás Maduro, the president of that country. Venezuela was one of the main oil exporters to Cuba.

In February 2026, the US President signed an executive order allowing Washington to impose tariffs on goods from countries that supply oil to Cuba. Subsequently, reports were published claiming that the United States, for humanitarian reasons, has no objection to periodic oil shipments to Cuba by Russia and other countries.

Iran and Russia have steadily deepened their ties over the past decade, driven by geographic proximity, overlapping regional interests, and a shared sense of pressure from Western policies that threaten their national security and economic stability.

With the signing of the Iranian-Russian Treaty on a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in January 2025—and its ratification and implementation later that year—exchanges between Iran and Russia have intensified to an unprecedented level. These interactions have taken many forms, including joint commissions, peopletopeople exchange, and a steady stream of official visits.

Among them was a visit to Tehran in mid-February by Russia's energy minister, Sergey Tsivilyov.

The centerpiece of Mr. Tsivilyov's trip appeared to be his participation in the 19th session of the Permanent Iranian-Russian Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, which convened on Wednesday and concluded with what both sides described as significant outcomes, including the signing of four memorandums of understanding. Ahead of the meeting, he held talks with Iran's late national security chief, Ali Larijani, and later that evening sat down with the Tehran Times for an exclusive interview.

In the interview, Mr. Tsivilyov addressed a wide range of issues, including the two countries' growing coordination in international forums, the development of major joint projects in Iran, efforts to advance the Interna-

tional North-South Transport Corridor, and the exchange of technology and technical expertise between the two sides.

Answering to the question, "In which areas—such as LNG, gas-to-liquids, or refinery upgrades—is Russia ready to share advanced technology with Iran?" The Russian official said: "There are currently several Russian companies operating very successfully in Iran, and they make use of the latest Russian technologies.

After we were cut off from Western technological ecosystems, our president ordered the creation of a Russian scientific and technological ecosystem. Today, we possess almost all the technologies we need domestically, and in some cases our technologies are even more advanced than their Western counterparts.

The president has also instructed us to share these technologies with friendly countries and to cooperate in building a joint technological domain. Iran is not only our friend, but also an important partner in the Middle East. Accordingly, we regularly share our technologies with our Iranian partners, including in the gas and energy sectors.

From our perspective, technological governance should ensure that all countries have access to the technologies they need to meet their requirements.

At the same time, we also benefit from Iranian know-how and technology. For example, Iran has a company that manufactures turbines. We already purchase these turbines and plan to localize their production in Russia in the future."

10 sobering lessons the war on Iran forced into the open

From page 1 ▶ Former deputy of the French National Assembly Pierre Lellouche wrote in *Le Figaro* that Iran emerged from the war stronger and more revanchist than before, and that judgment fits the result. The so-called Iranian opposition in the diaspora, long treated in Western circles as a ready-made alternative, proved irrelevant both inside and outside the country.

The deaths of officials, commanders, scientists, and civilians did not trigger collapse. In Iran's anti-fragile political culture, martyrdom reinforces legitimacy and resolve.

II. Geography still decides wars

The second lesson echoes a truth as old as the Iranian plateau itself, which is that geography is power. Iran's mountains, depth, and dispersed infrastructure made it far harder to strike decisively than planners expected. The Zagros and Alborz ranges serve as a natural fortress, providing the concealment and survivability necessary to withstand any assault.

Then there is the vital Strait of Hormuz. Traffic through the strait remains central to the ceasefire logic because even limited disruption immediately affects global energy markets. That makes Iran's location a strategic asset no bombing campaign can erase.

Some commentators have described the Hormuz lever as more powerful than a nuclear bomb. American political scientist Robert Pape has said that Iran is far stronger than it was before the recent U.S.-Israeli attack. "It is in control of 20% of the world's oil and is now an emerging fourth center of power," he argued.

III. Cheap weapons changed the cost of war

The third lesson is about the economics of modern war. Iran showed that cheap drones and missiles can force a richer enemy to spend far more on interception, alert status, and redeployment. A low-cost attack can trigger an expensive response, and that asymmetry can become decisive over time.

Swedish writer Malcolm Kyeyune masterfully compares the U.S. military dilemma to the Hussite wars of the 15th century. The U.S. relied on "sky knights," professional pilots flying \$100 million fighter jets. Iran countered this with the "Bohemian"



strategy: mass-produced, cheap, domestically manufactured suicide drones and ballistic missiles.

The war was not won by the side with the most advanced aircraft. It was shaped by the side that could impose costs faster than its overstretched opponents could absorb them.

IV. 'Decapitation' did not produce collapse

The fourth lesson is one the Pentagon keeps relearning. Killing leaders does not automatically destroy the state they serve. The war initiators assumed that "decapitation" strikes and targeted assassinations would produce panic, confusion, and surrender. Instead, Iran adapted. Command survived, succession held, and the political center became more disciplined.

Robert Pape has long argued that coercive bombing rarely produces the political effect attackers want, especially against states with layered institutions and ideological cohesion. Iran confirmed that logic again. Leadership strikes have helped create a stronger story of resistance.

V. The Resistance Front rendered divide-and-conquer tactics futile

The fifth lesson is that the Resistance Front can no longer be understood as isolated. The assumption that Hezbollah, Iraqi resistance groups, Yemen's Ansarallah, and other aligned actors could be neutralized separately proved weak. Pressure in one arena produced response in another. That is the practical meaning of "unity of theaters."

The war revealed a networked reality, not a set of disconnected militias. Washington and Tel Aviv wanted sequential campaigns. Instead, they faced a system in which pressure spreads across borders. Once that became clear,

the strategy of compartmentalized containment looked outdated.

VI. U.S. bases became liabilities

The sixth lesson is especially important for countries that host American forces. In this war, U.S. bases made host states more vulnerable, not safer. They became targets, pressure points, and magnets for justified retaliation.

That is why many regional governments have panicked. They have realized that American and Israeli militaries bring American and Israeli priorities, and those priorities are not aligned with local interests. Under fire, the supposed security umbrella acts only as a beacon for targets.

VII. The world reacts to pain, not principle

The seventh lesson is stark but true. A significant population of the world did not react strongly to Iran's suffering on moral grounds. They reacted when the war threatened oil, shipping, insurance, and inflation. Humanitarian concern matters in speeches; material disruption matters in practice.

That is why Hormuz mattered so much. Once energy flows were endangered, the war became everybody's problem. The global attention quickly sharpened when markets were at risk. The lesson is simple: international sympathy is thin, but economic pain is immediate.

Yet, this cold calculus does not diminish the profound value of true empathy and alliance; the Iranian people do not forget those who stood with them, who protested and held the portraits of the martyred Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and the Minab schoolchildren, for such acts of solidarity are deeply etched into

the national memory.

VIII. Tel Aviv and Washington only understand the language of force

The eighth lesson is bleak. Appeals to restraint do not stop an actor that sees compromise as weakness. Jeffrey Sachs has argued that Israeli regional strategy rests on dominance, not co-existence, and the war fits that logic closely. Sachs has also said that the goal of American foreign policy has become "full spectrum dominance in every region of the world."

Iran's response made one thing plain: force met force, and only force changed the pace of the war. That is not a comforting lesson, but it is the one the war delivered.

IX. American unpredictability is not strategy

The ninth lesson concerns the mythology around Trump-style volatility. For years, Trump's unpredictability was sold as a strategic virtue, as if erratic behavior were the same as planning.

The war exposed the weakness in that idea. When pressure rose, unpredictability looked less like mastery and more like improvisation. It confused allies more than enemies.

Iran, by contrast, looked deliberate. It knew what it could absorb and what would trigger a response. That is the difference between strategic clarity and political noise. A great power that acts erratically under stress eventually trains others to hedge against it.

X. The American world order is suffering a terminal decline

The final lesson is the broadest. The U.S.-Israeli war has accelerated the erosion of the old American order.

The United States can still strike, kill, punish, and destroy. What it can no longer assume is that force will reliably produce control. Israel remains capable of inflicting damage and taking innocent lives, yet strategic victory remains entirely beyond its reach.

The war has deepened skepticism toward American guarantees, strengthened multipolar instincts, and reminded the world that empire can still wound but no longer command as it once did. Iran turned the war into evidence that the age of easy Western coercion is ending.

The end of a 100-day war

By Syeda Farheen Naqi Mossavi

HAFIZABAD, Pakistan – After more than 100 days of intense fighting, the conflict officially entered its final chapter on June 15, when representatives of the United States and Iran signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at ending hostilities. While a final peace treaty is expected to follow a 60-day negotiation window, both sides have acknowledged that the active phase of the war has effectively concluded.

For Tehran's allies, the outcome represents far more than a ceasefire; it is a landmark geopolitical achievement. They contend that Washington entered the fray intent on crippling the Iranian government, imposing its will, and redrawing the regional strategic map. Instead, the war culminated in negotiated concessions, commitments to lift sanctions, and an agreement widely viewed in the Islamic Republic as a vindication of its political independence.

Initial disclosures from the memorandum indicate that the United States has agreed to ease restrictions on Iran's oil exports, roll back a broad array of punitive sanctions, and dismantle its naval blockade. Crucially, Washington has also committed to engaging in future negotiations based on mutual respect for territorial integrity. In Tehran, these provisions have been met with fervent public acclaim and hailed as a diplomatic masterstroke.

The financial ramifications are equally profound. As one of the world's pre-eminent

crude producers, Iran's return to global energy markets is poised to recalibrate supply chains and help stabilize prices that spiraled throughout the conflict. For many analysts, Washington's decision to relent underscored the mounting financial toll of prolonging the war, a toll that ultimately outweighed the strategic gains it initially sought.

Across much of the Global South, the conflict has been reinterpreted as a broader referendum on sovereignty and self-determination. For developing nations familiar with external coercion, Iran's resilience has become an enduring symbol of resistance against perceived Western interventionism. Pro-government factions in Tehran argue that the war exposed the limits of American military and economic leverage, signaling a definitive turning point in global power dynamics.

The United States lost the war of coercion against Iran the moment its "maximum pressure" campaign collapsed into a cycle of empty threats and public rejection. After walking away from the nuclear deal, Washington tried to strangle Iran's economy and force a surrender through sanctions, sabotage, and military posturing, but instead of breaking, Tehran adapted, deepened its regional influence, and waited out the pressure.

The most exemplified proof of that failure came as Donald Trump announced no fewer than 39 times that a deal with Iran was imminent, each time projecting victory only to have Iran immediately and publicly reject the claim, exposing American bluster as pow-

erless theater. Far from bringing Iran to its knees, the United States was left begging for negotiations that never came, turning Trump's repeated boasts into a ritual of humiliation that marked the definitive defeat of American strategy.

That narrative draws its emotional power from the words of the Martyr Leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei uttered on January 3, 2026, at the war's darkest hour: "We will bring the enemy to its knees."

At the time, the declaration was dismissed by skeptics as wartime bravado. By the conflict's denouement, however, his supporters viewed it as a prophecy fulfilled.

Of course, Washington offers a different framing. American officials maintain that the agreement represents a strategic recalibration, a cost-saving redeployment rather than a surrender of objectives. Critics on Capitol Hill, however, have been less charitable, lambasting the deal as an unprecedented retreat that squanders American credibility.

As diplomats finalize the details of a permanent settlement, one conviction has taken firm hold among Iran's backers: the United States failed to achieve its primary goals, while Iran preserved its national autonomy and emerged demonstrably stronger.

History will ultimately render its own verdict. But for the crowds celebrating in Tehran's streets, the judgment is already irrevocable.

Iran endured. Iran resisted. And Iran emerged victorious.

'Israel targets civilians, as usual, to cover up military failures'

From page 1 ▶ The Israeli Premier, Benjamin Netanyahu, who finds himself and his cabinet more isolated than ever, and running out of time, is keen to sabotage the only real path to peace in Lebanon.

In a post on social media, Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev summed up Netanyahu's cabinet.

"An unstable agreement easily explodes with new strikes on Lebanon or other provocations. And that's exactly what the Netanyahu cabinet, which is sustained by war, needs. So, expecting peace is rash," Medvedev wrote.

Since the early hours of Saturday, the IOF launched more strikes on areas in southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa Valley.

In the town of Qanarit, located in the district of Sidon, an air raid killed at least seven people, including five children.

According to Lebanon's state news agency NNA, a father, mother, and their two children were killed when an IOF aircraft bombed a three-story residential building in the town of Basrish in the Tyre district.

IOF warplanes and drones struck the city of Nabatieh, Nabatieh al-Fawqa, Kfar Jouz, Doueir, and Kfar Tebnit in the Nabatieh District, as well as the town of Shehour in the Tyre District.

The Lebanese Civil Defense reported evacuating 47 residents and transporting 16 bodies and 12 wounded people following the attacks on the Nabatieh area.

In a statement, the Lebanese Civil Defense Directorate General said that personnel from various centers across the Nabatieh regional district had been conducting evacuation, transport, and emergency response operations since the early morning in response to the ongoing attacks targeting the area.

The Lebanese Army announced that a soldier was killed after an IOF airstrike targeted the Kfar Reman road in Nabatieh, southern Lebanon, on Saturday.

The army emphasized that the continuation of these "brutal" Israeli attacks is clearly aimed at obstructing any solution that could restore stability to Lebanon.

Several Lebanese Army personnel have been killed in IOF attacks across multiple areas in the south and the Bekaa region amid continued violations of the ceasefire by the Zionist regime since April 17, 2026.

In light of these developments, Lebanese President Joseph Aoun stressed that the ceasefire represents a fundamental pillar for advancing the Lebanese-American-Israeli negotiations scheduled to take place in Washington next week.

IOF troops have also paid the price for the Israeli aggression in southern Lebanon and its attempts to expand the occupation. On Saturday, another soldier succumbed to injuries sustained during a Hezbollah operation on an IOF infantry unit on Friday that killed four soldiers and injured many others.

Netanyahu used this resistance operation as a pretext to expand the aggression in Lebanon,



citing the "Hezbollah threat" to northern settlements.

In reality, Hezbollah did not target northern settlements, nor did resistance fighters target IOF barracks and bases, illegally stationed in southern Lebanon. Hezbollah waged a resistance operation that thwarted the IOF from expanding its occupation north of the Litani River in al-Taher hill.

United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701, adopted after the July 2006 war, called for the area between the "Blue Line" and the Litani River to be free of weapons not under the authority of the Lebanese state, in exchange for the full withdrawal of the IOF from southern Lebanon and all other Lebanese lands occupied.

The occupation regime has yet to comply with this resolution to this day. It continues to occupy Lebanese territory, in particular the Shabaa farms, the Kfarhouba hills, and Ghajar village, while violating Lebanese airspace long before escalating its aggression on March 2, 2026.

In essence, the Lebanese state and its army lack the conventional military capabilities needed to confront the Israeli occupation. This has been the central argument advanced by Hezbollah since its founding in 1982 following the Israeli invasion and subsequent occupation of Lebanon.

Hezbollah has repeatedly and publicly stated that it would be more than willing to engage in discussions with the government regarding its weapons if the Lebanese state possessed the military capability to compel Israel to withdraw from the lands.

Hezbollah has consistently emphasized that this remains the fundamental path to safeguarding Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity. In a statement issued on Saturday, the Lebanese resistance movement said the Zionist regime "is once again resorting to false claims to justify its violation of the ceasefire, which it has never respected, including violations carried out from last night until today."

Hezbollah highlighted that it has "adhered since Friday evening to the ceasefire, even after the enemy violated it from the very first moments. However, it has kept its hand on the trigger, given its awareness of the enemy's habitual betrayal and treachery."

The statement lashed out at the Israeli regime for "targeting, as usual, civilians to cover up its military failures."

Iran emerges stronger and more determined in the war, says French expert

TEHRAN - Convinced that it has already defeated both the world's foremost military power and its Israeli ally, the Islamic Republic of Iran is likely to emerge from its confrontation with Trump in a position of overwhelming regional dominance, argues former French minister and international politics expert Pierre Lellouche.

The following is an excerpt of his op-ed published in *Le Figaro*:

Trump began the war by promising Iran's "unconditional surrender." He is ending it with a flawed agreement, whose consequences the West has yet to fully reckon with. In reality, this war has become a strategic nightmare for the Trump administration—a nightmare reminiscent of the darkest days of the Carter presidency, when Jimmy Carter failed disastrously to secure the release of the American hostages held at the U.S. embassy in Tehran for 444 days 45 years ago.

After three and a half months of conflict, it is clear that none of the war's three principal objectives has been achieved: neither the dismantlement of Iran's nuclear program, nor the destruction of its missile arsenal, nor the cessation of support for Hezbollah and other allies. More sig-

nificantly, the Islamic Republic emerges from the conflict strengthened, more determined than ever to seek retribution, and convinced that it has already defeated both the world's strongest military power and its Israeli ally.

On the nuclear issue, the ostensible centerpiece of the war, Iran has maintained its longstanding position: the assertion of its sovereign right to enrich uranium. This stance allows Tehran to preserve the scientific and technical expertise even if enrichment activities are temporarily suspended. In essence, the arrangement bears a striking resemblance to the JCPOA agreement concluded by Obama in 2015—an accord Trump famously denounced as "terrible" before withdrawing from it three years later during his first term.

Moreover, new nuclear negotiations are likely to drag on for months due to their extreme technical complexity.

Yet the most consequential issue concerns the Strait of Hormuz. Tehran had been seeking to establish de facto control over the entire strait. That objective has now been achieved, with far-reaching consequences.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Iran, Belgium chase first Group G victory: 2026 World Cup

TEHRAN – Iran national football team will face in a pivotal Group G clash at Los Angeles Stadium Sunday night, with all four teams in the group deadlocked on one point apiece.

The Red Devils were held to a 1-1 draw by Egypt in their opener, while Team Melli and New Zealand shared the spoils in a 2-2 draw.

Belgium are seeking to banish the memory of their 2022 World Cup in Qatar, where they were eliminated in the group stage despite arriving as one of the tournament favorites.

A squad containing Kevin De Bruyne (119 caps, 37 goals), Romelu Lukaku (126 caps, 90 goals), and Thibaut Courtois in goal ought to be finding ways to break down lower-ranked opposition, and the Red Devils will be determined to put that right at SoFi Stadium.

Iran, meanwhile, will need to tighten up defensively after being held by New Zealand, when Elijah Just and Chris Wood repeatedly troubled the Iranian back line.

Iran will look to captain Mehdi Taremi, along with Ramin Rezaeian and Mohammad Mohebi, who scored against New Zealand, to provide the attacking threat against Belgium.

If Belgium or Iran earn at least four points from their next two games they will be guaranteed a place in the Round of 32 as either group winners or runners-up.

Iran coach Amir Ghalenoeei has publicly highlighted the restrictions placed on his squad, with players forced to base themselves in Mexico and fly in for matches due to U.S. travel constraints. Several backroom staff members were also denied visas. It is a remarkable backdrop for any football team to operate against.

Sayyadmanesh on verge of joining Lech Poznan

TEHRAN – Iranian winger Allahyar Sayyadmanesh has arrived in Poznan, Poland to undergo medical examinations ahead of his proposed transfer to Lech Poznan.

Sayyadmanesh began his medical tests on Thursday afternoon at the Rehasport Clinic. If everything goes according to plan and he successfully passes all examinations, he will sign a three-year contract with the Polish club.

The 24-year-old previously played for Belgian side KVC Westerlo. During the last season, he made 31 appearances in all competitions, scoring seven goals and providing five assists.

The medical process is expected to continue until Friday afternoon. If all required tests are completed successfully, the transfer to Lech Pozna? will be finalized and officially announced shortly afterward.

This move would mark a new chapter in Sayyadmanesh's career as he prepares to join one of Poland's most successful football clubs.

"We are happy to announce that Allahyar Sayyadmanesh has signed a three-year contract with Kolejorz. Despite his young age, he already has a lot of experience, whether from the Turkish or Belgian leagues. The 24-year-old will strengthen the competition in virtually any offensive position, because he can perform on the right or left wing and in the attack" – Sporting director of Lech, Tomasz Rzasas.

"I've been watching some of the Railways games for a while now because my good friend Ali Gholizadeh has been performing here, so I've already gotten to know the team and the atmosphere a little bit. There are great fans here who support the team. From the beginning I was impressed, I additionally talked to Ali, who told me a lot about the club and how everything works here. It's an interesting project for me, that's why I'm in Lech," Sayyadmanesh said.

Skocic emerges as leading candidate for Persepolis job

TEHRAN – Croatian coach Dragan Skocic has emerged as a leading candidate to take charge

of Persepolis following reports that the Tehran giants are preparing to part ways with Brazilian coach Osmar Loss.

Skocic enjoyed a highly successful 2024/25 campaign with Tractor, guiding the Tabriz-based club to the Iran Persian Gulf Professional League (PGPL) title. His achievement has significantly enhanced his reputation in Iranian football and attracted the attention of Persepolis, the country's most successful and popular club.

According to local reports, Persepolis officials have identified the Croatian tactician as a strong option to lead the team into the new season. The club are expected to make a final decision on their coaching situation in the coming weeks as they seek to strengthen their position both domestically and in continental competitions.

The 56-year-old is no stranger to Iranian football. During his coaching career in Iran, Skocic has managed several clubs, including Malavan, Foolad, and Sanat Naft. He also served as head coach of the Iran national team, leading Team Melli through a successful World Cup qualifying campaign.

His familiarity with Iranian football, combined with his recent title-winning success at Tractor, makes him an attractive choice for Persepolis. If appointed, Skocic would face the challenge of meeting the high expectations that come with managing the most decorated club in the history of the Iranian league.

Roberto Piazza targets 2028 Olympics quota

TEHRAN – Iran men's national volleyball coach Roberto Piazza has reaffirmed that securing a place at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics remains the team's ultimate objective, expressing full confidence in his players and the team's setter despite recent criticism.

Speaking about the ongoing rebuilding process, Piazza acknowledged that Iran have undergone significant changes since last season and stressed the importance of developing a stronger mentality within the squad.

"We started once again like we did last season," Piazza said. "Many players have changed, and the biggest thing we need to change is our mindset. We must accept some mistakes and leave others behind."

The Italian coach emphasized that his role is to prepare the team for long-term success, with every match serving as a step toward Olympic qualification.

"Our goal is only one: the Los Angeles Olympics," Piazza stated. "I have always said that if we improve step by step and game by game, the results will come closer to us."

Piazza also defended Iran's setter, pointing to the team's strong side-out efficiency as evidence of his quality.

"Our problem is not side-out play," he explained. "In that area, we are among the top six or seven teams. That shows our setter is doing a very good job. I know many people in Iran have strong volleyball opinions and may not like our setter, but believe me, he is a very good player."

Reflecting on recent performances, Piazza compared the current campaign to last season's start, when Iran suffered narrow defeats before finding momentum. He admitted disappointment following the loss to Brazil, believing his side had a genuine opportunity to secure a victory.

"I was disappointed after the Brazil match because I think we could have beaten them," he said. "We were ahead in the fourth set but couldn't maintain our advantage. They were really under pressure."

The coach concluded with a message to Iranian fans, thanking them for their continued support and promising that the team will keep striving to reach their full potential.

"We need your support," Piazza said. "We can feel it, and we will do everything possible to become the best version of ourselves. I know that effort alone is not enough—we must do something special. But I believe in my players."

Ancient DNA reveals Zagros foothills as Bronze Age crossroads of peoples and cultures

TEHRAN – The Zagros mountain range and its foothills have long served as a crossroads for the movement of peoples, cultures, and languages. A question that has occupied scholars for decades is whether these cultural influences and population movements were accompanied by significant genetic changes. New research published in *Genome Biology*, which analyzed the ancient DNA of 17 individuals from the archaeological site of Bakr Awa in Iraqi Kurdistan, located in the western foothills of the Zagros, offers important insights into this question.

Bakr Awa is one of the largest archaeological mounds in Iraqi Kurdistan, situated near the Iranian border. Located in the Shahrizor Plain close to the city of Halabja, its strategic position made it a key corridor for trade and communication between the Zagros foothills, the highland communities of the Zagros Mountains, and populations farther east on the Iranian Plateau. Archaeological excavations have revealed cultural influences from southern Mesopotamia, Anatolia, and the Caucasus. But was this cultural diversity also reflected in the genetic makeup of its inhabitants?

By extracting DNA from human remains dating to the Bronze Age (ca. 4000–1200 BCE) and the Iron Age (1200–550 BCE), researchers reconstructed a remarkable picture of the region's population history. Their findings reveal that during the Bronze Age, Bakr Awa was home to a highly diverse population. Rather than descending from a single ancestral group, the inhabitants



were the product of admixture among populations with Anatolian, Levantine, Caucasian, and Eurasian Steppe ancestry.

This genetic diversity stands in marked contrast to the population structure of the earlier Pre-Pottery Neolithic period in the same region. While individuals from the nearby Neolithic site of Bestansur show the strongest affinity to Neolithic populations from the central Zagros Mountains, the Bronze Age inhabitants of Bakr Awa represented a genetic mosaic of multiple ancestral groups. In simple terms, the demographic composition of the region underwent profound changes over the course of several millennia.

The significance of these findings extends beyond Iraqi Kurdistan. Bakr Awa and neighboring sites lie along the northwestern extension of the Zagros range—the same mountain system that stretches through western Iran. As a result, the demographic and genetic developments documented at Bakr Awa may offer

valuable insights into parallel processes that occurred in the Iranian Zagros and could help guide future genetic investigations at archaeological sites in western Iran.

One particularly intriguing discovery was the identification of an Early Bronze Age adolescent who carried clear evidence of Caucasus-Steppe ancestry in both his genome and Y chromosome. Strontium and oxygen isotope analyses of his teeth indicated that he had recently migrated to Bakr Awa from the Zagros Mountains. This individual provides rare and direct evidence of human mobility during the second millennium BCE and highlights the close connections linking communities on both sides of the Zagros.

Perhaps the most significant finding of the study concerns the transition from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age. Bakr Awa was destroyed by a major fire during the Late Bronze Age, around the fifteenth to fourteenth centuries BCE, and was subsequently

abandoned for a period. When the site was reoccupied during the Iron Age, an important question emerged: did this resettlement involve the arrival of a new population?

The genetic evidence suggests that it did not. The DNA of Iron Age inhabitants indicates that they were not newly arrived migrants or invaders but rather descendants of the same diverse Bronze Age population. In other words, the multiple genetic lineages present during the Bronze Age were not replaced by a new population during the Iron Age; instead, they became increasingly integrated over time. These findings challenge conventional assumptions about demographic change following the Late Bronze Age collapse and demonstrate that major cultural and political transformations do not necessarily coincide with large-scale population replacement.

Overall, the study reveals a dynamic demographic history in which the region was characterized by substantial genetic diversity during the Bronze Age, followed by increasing integration and admixture during the Iron Age. Conducted through a collaboration among researchers from universities in Australia, the United States, Poland, Germany, and the United Kingdom, this research underscores a broader lesson: human genetic history, much like cultural history, is shaped by continuous processes of migration, interaction, admixture, and transformation. The archaeological sites of western Iran will undoubtedly provide crucial evidence for future chapters of this unfolding story.

Iran showcases culture and handicrafts in Mexico City



From Page 1 ▶ Iranian handicrafts and traditional artworks were among the main attractions at the pavilion. Handwoven carpets and examples of traditional craftsmanship drew sustained attention from visitors, many of whom spent time examining the details of the exhibits.

Journalists, photographers and cultural

content creators also visited the pavilion and documented the displays, which were presented as examples of Iran's historical and cultural heritage.

The pavilion also served as a venue for cultural dialogue between visitors and representatives of Iran. According to organizers, many Mexican visitors expressed interest in

learning more about Iranian culture, art and daily life.

Traditional Iranian foods were another feature of the exhibition. Products including Sholeh-Zard, a saffron rice dessert, Sambouseh pastries, saffron and Khakshir drinks, cardamom beverages and traditional fruit snacks were offered to visitors.

Organizers said all available food products sold out before the end of the exhibition's first day, reflecting strong interest in Iranian cuisine among attendees.

The Iranian embassy in Mexico also continued a cultural initiative highlighting the children of Minab, who were martyred by US airstrikes on Feb. 28, 2026. Badges featuring the design of the "Minab backpack" were worn by pavilion staff and attracted the attention of visitors, providing an opportunity to introduce the initiative and its objectives.

The Chapultepec exhibition is scheduled to continue until June 21. Organizers said three specialized workshops will be held on the sidelines of the event, focusing on Iranian history and civilization, traditional Iranian music and the country's cultural heritage.

Malileh Kari of Zanjan: a legacy of Persian silver filigree

TEHRAN – Malileh Kari, the traditional Persian art of silver filigree, is one of Iran's most distinguished handicrafts and a defining symbol of the northwestern city of Zanjan. Renowned for its delicate craftsmanship and intricate designs, the art has earned the city international recognition and helped secure its place on the global map of traditional arts.

The history of filigree work in Iran dates back to the Achaemenid era (550–330 BC), when goldsmiths and silversmiths devoted considerable skill to the creation of ornamental vessels and decorative objects. Metalworking flourished through the Achaemenid, Parthian, and Sassanian periods, while documented evidence shows that filigree production in Zanjan has existed since at least the 16th century.

Malileh Kari involves shaping precious metals, primarily silver and occasionally gold, into ex-

tremely fine wires. These wires are carefully twisted, bent and soldered together to form intricate geometric and floral motifs. Unlike conventional jewelry making, filigree relies on lace-like networks of metal strands that create patterns resembling delicate embroidery or woven fabric.

Among the most common motifs used by Zanjan's artisans are stylized leaves, flower buds, arabesques, paisley designs, spirals and other decorative elements inspired by traditional Persian art. The exceptional precision and originality of these patterns have made Zanjan's filigree products highly sought after both in Iran and abroad.

Many historic filigree works have been lost over time because the gold and silver used in their production were often melted down and reused. As a result, relatively few examples from

earlier periods have survived. Artifacts dating to the Qajar era, including trays, hookah components, cup holders and jewelry, remain preserved in museums, private collections and cultural institutions.

The city's longstanding reputation culminated in 2019 when the World Crafts Council designated Zanjan as the "World City of Filigree." The recognition highlighted the city's role as a leading center for the production, preservation and development of the craft.

Today, thousands of artisans work in filigree workshops across Zanjan. The traditional

master-apprentice system remains central to the transmission of skills, ensuring that new generations continue to learn the demanding craft. Production ranges from jewelry such as rings, necklaces and earrings to decorative vessels, vases and ornamental artworks.

As global interest in traditional craftsmanship grows, Zanjan's filigree artists continue to showcase their work at international exhibitions and cultural festivals, helping introduce Persian artistic heritage to wider audiences while sustaining one of Iran's most enduring handicraft traditions.

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DOE, UNEP to boost co-op on documenting war damage

TEHRAN— The head of the Department of Environment (DOE), Shina Ansari, and the under-secretary-general of the United Nations and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Inger Andersen, have discussed ways to expand cooperation on documenting war environmental impacts in the country.

In an online meeting on Friday, Ansari detailed the environmental impacts of the war on the country, IRNA reported.

Air strikes on Shajareh Tayyebeh school (in Minab, Hormozgan province), oil storage facilities, petrochemical plants, and industrial centers have led to widespread fires, dissemination of toxic pollutants and greenhouse gases, soil and water pollution, degradation of natural ecosystems, and decline in biodiversity, she said.

Highlighting the role of UNEP in supporting the environment amid conflicts, Ansari called on UNEP to support the DOE through holding training courses for experts affiliated with the department on documenting the environmental damage and pursuing legal actions against perpetrators.

The official also invited UNEP international experts and technical teams to pay a field visit to Iran and assess environmental damage first-hand.

For her part, Andersen censured the US-Israeli strikes on Iran's environment and environmental facilities.

The official said that the UNEP, in cooperation with the United



Nations Development Program (UNDP), is ready to hold specialized training courses on documenting environmental impacts of war for Iranian experts and provide technical support to them.

The DOE is supposed to introduce a group of experts to the UNDP secretariat to follow up on the discussed issues, and Iran's ambassador to Kenya will also do needed arrangements.

Environment remains a victim of violations of international law

United Nations experts say that beyond immediate destruction, armed conflicts disrupt ecosystems, deplete natural resources, contaminate the environment, and jeopardize the health of the planet for future generations.

The Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modifi-

cation Techniques (ENMOD) was adopted in 1976 to prohibit the use of environmental modification techniques as a means of warfare. In addition, Additional Protocol I (1977) to the Geneva Conventions includes two key provisions — Articles 35 and 55 — prohibiting methods or means of warfare that are intended, or may be expected, to cause widespread, long-term and severe damage to the natural environment.

However, the adequacy of these two instruments was called into question during the 1990–1991 Persian Gulf War. The extensive pollution caused by the deliberate destruction of more than 600 oil wells in Kuwait, along with subsequent claims of \$85 billion in environmental damage, led to growing calls to strengthen legal protections for the environment during armed conflict.

Since the start of terrorist at-

tacks by the United States and the Zionist regime against Iran, numerous infrastructures — including oil storage facilities — have been targeted in acts of aggression.

A spokesperson for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), speaking at a press conference in Geneva, raised concerns about the health and environmental consequences of attacks by Israel and the United States on oil depots in Iran due to the release of toxic pollutants into the air.

The spokesperson stated that these impacts raise “serious questions regarding compliance with the principles of proportionality and precaution under international humanitarian law,” emphasizing that the sites struck did not appear to have been used exclusively for military purposes.

Christian Lindmeier, spokesperson for the World Health Organization (WHO), also warned that the “black rain” and “acid rain” reported in Tehran following the attacks pose real dangers to public health in Iran, according to Al Jazeera.

Public concern over the targeting or misuse of the environment during wartime first reached its peak during the Vietnam War, widely regarded as the longest war of the 20th century and a military defeat for the United States. In the US, the conflict gave rise to what became known as the “Vietnam Syndrome,” reflecting widespread public aversion to American military interventions abroad.

WFP releases May report on Iran

TEHRAN – The World Food Program (WFP) has released a report, expounding on activities in Iran over the month of May.

In May, WFP food assistance reached 35,259 beneficiaries, including Afghan and Iraqi refugees, through a hybrid combination of in-kind food and cash-based transfers (CBT).

Refugees are assisted with a staple food basket, which includes fortified wheat flour (a ration of 9 kg per person, reduced from 12 Kg since the month of November 2025 due to funding shortfalls).

As part of the ongoing inclusion of 7,000 newly referred refugees, a total of 1,900 beneficiaries since March 2026, with additional eligible individuals expected to be incorporated progressively.

CAFIA, the Iranian authorities handling refugees status, paused documentation processing temporarily due to the escalation of conflicts, but the process for administrative processing has now resumed.

Under CBT modality, WFP continued to provide cash assistance to support the essential living costs of vulnerable refugees. The transfer is IRR 8 million (USD 5.4) for households headed by men and IRR 9 million (USD 6.1) for households headed by women.

By May, WFP Iran helped ease the financial burden associated with the gluten-free dietary needs of 57 refugee celiac patients from WFP's beneficiaries by providing them with an extra cash amount of IRR 9.7 million (USD 6.5) per person as a replacement for their usual food entitlement.

Moreover, WFP supported 408 refugees with disabilities across eleven settlements, each receiving an additional monthly cash support of IRR 3 million (USD 2), on top of their regular aid. Initially launched in two provinces, the initiative was gradually expanded to cover 11 settlements in Saveh, Semnan, Bani Najar, Sarvestan, Bezileh, Abazar, Rafsanjan, Bardsir, Jahrom, Meybod, and Torbat-e-jam.

As schools shifted to remote learning amid rising hostilities, WFP transitioned to take home rations, distributing biscuits and date bars to 8,250 refugee students and their teachers in May. Milk could not be procured due to funding shortfalls and its high cost. A total of 3.4 mt of date bars and 2.8 mt of fortified biscuits were distributed.

WFP provided 2,699 refugee girls with a monthly cash incentive of IRR 2 million (USD

1.3) transferred to their bank accounts. This is a part of WFP Iran's efforts to promote education for refugee girls by providing them with cash for each month of regular school attendance.

To enhance the economic resilience and self-sufficiency of 311 refugees (41 percent women) in May, WFP continued its support for 27 income-generating initiatives across 18 settlements. Activities included welding, tailoring, baking, and farming, among others.

In 2025, WFP sustained food assistance to some 33,300 vulnerable refugees living in 20 settlements across 13 provinces, including 404 refugees with disabilities (40 percent women) who received monthly cash top-ups. About 183 women and 190 men received WFP livelihood support.

WFP doubled cash transfer values since January 2025 safeguarding access to food amid price volatility and protecting the most vulnerable households.

Assistance remained uninterrupted, with targeted adjustments: wheat flour entitlements reduced from 12 kg to 9 kg (Nov-Dec) and school snacks paused (Oct-Dec) to stretch limited resources.

To promote girls' education and reduce barriers to attendance, approximately 2,629 girl students received cash incentives as part of WFP's commitment to empowering young women. Some 9,261 boys and girls and their teachers benefitted from WFP school snacks.

For more than four decades, the Islamic Republic of Iran has hosted Afghans fleeing conflict and hardship. In 2025, WFP remained essential to protecting the food security of vulnerable refugees residing in 20 settlements, where households rely on shelter, education and primary health care by the Government and other humanitarian actors, complemented by WFP's monthly food assistance (through cash and in-kind modalities).

The program's focus is on maintaining a dignified minimum basic needs while prioritizing those with the highest vulnerability, including households headed by women and persons with disabilities.

Operations are implemented in close collaboration and coordination with the Center for Alien and Foreign Immigrant Affairs (CAFIA), WFP's primary governmental counterpart, and with International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGO) and UN agencies mainly United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to ensure coherent refugee support and re-



ferral pathways.

Despite a complex year, marked by economic volatility and temporary operational risks, WFP sustained core assistance to settlement refugees. To safeguard purchasing power, WFP increased cash-based transfer values by 100 percent in January 2025 following the recommendation of a settlement-specific Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) assessment; this was complemented by a one-time cash top-up to cushion households during market instability and reduced income after Iran-Israel 12-day conflict.

Targeted adjustments preserved program continuity: wheat flour entitlements were reduced from 12 kg to 9 kg per person for November-December, and the school snacks program was suspended for October to December.

These measures limit service disruptions while protecting life-saving transfers for the most vulnerable. Livelihood activities were scaled down given funding shortfalls and corporate efficiency measures, with WFP continuing to explore cost-effective, resilience-building options that can be re-activated as resources allow.

By December 2025, Iran continued to be one of the world's largest refugee-hosting countries, sheltering approximately 2.5 million Afghans, including 773,000 individuals with official refugee status. Among them, around 35,000 critically vulnerable refugees reside in 20 settlements across 13 provinces.

Due to their extreme vulnerability, these refugees depend on free housing, primary healthcare, and education provided by the government and humanitarian actors. WFP supports these individuals through monthly food assistance (cash and in-kind), complemented by cash top-ups for persons with disabilities, celiac diseases, as well as school meals and livelihood program.

CPDI depicts ways to improve Iran's sci-tech co-op with BRICS

TEHRAN – The Center for Progress and Development of Iran (CPDI) has prepared a report illustrating Iran's participation in scientific, technological, and innovation cooperation within BRICS, as well as strategic opportunities and required measures to enhance the country's role in this sector.

BRICS, as one of the most important players in the international system in recent years, has made extensive investments in science, technology, and innovation in addition to economic and political cooperation. Now, the bloc has turned into one of the largest scientific cooperation networks in developing countries, benefiting from 14 specialized working groups and dozens of joint research and technological programs.

CPDI, as the center for the coordination of Iran's technological and scientific interactions with BRICS, is responsible for leading the country's representatives, analyzing special documents, providing technical advice, and developing connections among domestic institutions and BRICS specialized structures.

According to the report, 2025 can be considered as the starting point for Iran's involvement in BRICS scientific, technological, and innovation structure, which has succeeded in showcasing the country's capabilities in science and technology, laying the basis for active participation in collaborative projects in the future, and strengthening the country's position in scientific and technological cooperation.

The country had a dynamic participation in BRICS technical and specialized meetings in different scientific fields like artificial intelligence (AI), biotechnology, neurosciences, ocean sciences, spatial information technology, astronomy, photonics, nanotechnology, material sciences, social and human sciences, and research infrastructures in 2025.

BRICS, a platform for expanding research collaborations

One of the main focuses of BRICS activities in 2025 was the development of collaborative research projects among member states in fields such as AI, health, clean energy, food security, quantum technologies, data sciences, and advanced materials.

Iran's membership in this network would provide a great opportunity for researchers and scholars to participate in international projects.

In 2025, BRICS member states discussed developing data infrastructures, sharing supercomputer capacity, creating joint scientific networks,



and utilizing new technologies to address global challenges.

Featuring its capacities in AI, data processing, and knowledge-based companies, Iran has tried to gain a greater share in BRICS future technological projects.

BRICS Action Plan for Innovation 2025–2030 is a document that outlines the roadmap of cooperation among member states in the digital economy, technology transfer, support for knowledge-based companies, and the development of an innovation ecosystem.

Iran's engagement in the plan can pave the way for the exchange of technical knowledge, enhancement of industrial cooperation, and entry of Iranian knowledge-based companies in new markets.

The report also shows that human capital and innovation are among the top priorities of BRICS; the 10th Young Scientists Forum, 8th BRICS Young Innovator Prize, and the first BRICS Startup Forum are among the main events held in this sector.

Iran's membership in BRICS can bring about numerous advantages, such as greater access to international scientific and research networks, collaboration in joint research projects, enhancement of technological and industrial cooperation, utilizing the capacity of the technology transfer network, developing a market for knowledge-based companies, and attracting investment in technology and innovation sectors.

The report highlights AI, biotechnology, nanotechnology, quantum technologies, digital economy, and space technologies as the most important axes for future cooperation between Iran and BRICS member states.

It also calls for the promotion of scientific ties among universities, research centers, knowledge-based companies, the private sector, and executive bodies to establish a national coordination mechanism to enhance cooperation with BRICS member states.

Knowledge-based company develops nano kit for early detection of gastric cancer



TEHRAN – An Iranian knowledge-based company has managed to develop a nano diagnostic kit for early detection of antigens associated with helicobacter pylori, which is the most frequent cause of chronic gastritis, duodenal ulcer, and stomach cancer.

Helicobacter pylori is a gram-negative bacterium that infects more than half of the world's population. The global prevalence of the infection is estimated to be 44 percent. It is regarded as a significant risk factor for chronic gastric conditions and certain gastrointestinal cancers, yet the infection is preventable if detected early, IRNA reported.

Titled 'Helicobacter Pylori Antigen Rapid Test', the kit is developed based on Lateral Flow Assay technology that enables rapid, easy, low-cost diagnosis of infection in healthcare centers, laboratories, and even at home; the new method is highly accurate and non-invasive.

The achievement will reduce dependence on

imported products, enhance the screening system, improve patient access to diagnostic services, and lower healthcare system costs.

According to the health ministry, cancers are the leading causes of premature mortality in the country.

Cancers account for more than 55 thousand deaths annually. Some 34 thousand deaths out of 122 thousand premature deaths (under 70 years of age) and 11 thousand deaths out of 85 thousand very premature deaths (under 50 years of age) are caused by various cancers.

The first 10 most common cancers in Iran are breast, prostate, colon, stomach, lung, bladder, thyroid, uterus, brain, and spine cancers. The most common cancers of Iranian women include breast, colon, thyroid, stomach, uterine, leukemia, ovary, brain and spine, lungs, and esophagus.

Early detection through screening will increase the chance of successful treatment and improve the life expectancy of the patients.



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JUNE 21, 2026

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

He is the wisest and the most knowing man who advises people not to lose hope and faith in the Mercy of Allah and not to be too sure and over-confident of immunity from His Wrath and Punishment.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon:12:06 Evening: 19:45 Dawn: 3:02 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 4:49 (tomorrow)

What's in Tehran art galleries

Jewelry



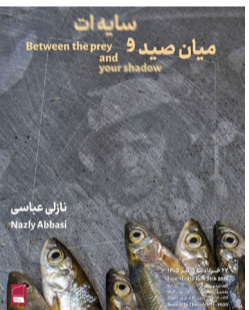
* Sanaz Shafaqi is showcasing her latest jewelry collection in an exhibition at the Art Room of Vaali Gallery.

Curated by Qazal Zare and Farin Bonakdar, the exhibit will continue until July 3 at the gallery located at 72 Khoddami St., Vanak Sq.

Painting

* A collection of paintings by a large number of artists is currently on display in an exhibit at Binesh Gallery.

Named "Green Memory", the exhibition runs until June 28 at the gallery located at 22 Khakzad Alley, Vali-e Asr Ave.



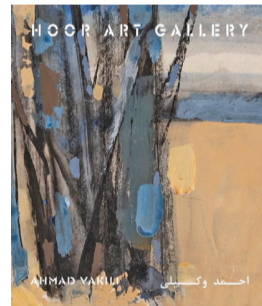
* Paintings by Nazly Abasi are on display in an exhibition at Sheidai Gallery.

The exhibit entitled "Between the Prey and Your Shadow" will continue until June 26 at the gallery located at 149 Bahar Shiraz Square near Haft-e Tir Square.



* Paintings by Farinaz Saatian are on display in an exhibition at Soo Gallery.

The exhibition will continue until June 26 at the gallery located at 30 Purmusa St. off Somayyeh St.



* Hoor Gallery is currently playing host to an exhibition of paintings by Ahmad Vakili.

The exhibition will be running until July 3 at the gallery located at 12 Naeimi Alley, North Mirza Shirazi St., off Motahhari Ave.

* An exhibition of paintings by Kambiz Derambakhsh is underway at Saless Gallery.

The exhibit will run until June 30 at the gallery located at 148 Karim Khan Ave.



* Paintings by Pouyeh Peyman, Pantea Baghdadi, Sanaz Hamed, Hanieh Foroutan and Helia Mardani are underway at Seyhoun Gallery.

The exhibit named "Simple Present" will run until June 24 at the gallery located at No. 11, 4th St., Vozara Ave.

* An exhibition of paintings by a large number of artists is underway at E1 Gallery.

The exhibit named "Rava" will run until July 3 at the gallery located at 1 Hamid Dead End, off Lesani Alley, Jebbeh St., off Mahdiah St. in the Elahieh neighborhood.



* Sharif Gallery is playing host to an exhibition of paintings by a group of artists.

The exhibit entitled "Das Man" will be running until June 26 at the gallery that can be found at 11 Mahrzadeh Alley, Shariati Ave. near Quds Square.

Iranian photographer wins top honor at Golden Shot Photography Awards 2026



TEHRAN- Morteza Akhondi, a distinguished photographer from Iran's Hormozgan province, has secured the first-place prize in the Editorial/Press category at the prestigious Golden Shot Photography Awards 2026.

The internationally acclaimed competition awarded Akhondi the Gold Award for his aerial photograph capturing the funeral and burial procession of 168 martyred students and teachers in Minab, Fars reported on Friday.

The image, lauded for its powerful visual narrative and creative composition, has resonated deeply with global audiences and captivated the international jury, the report added.

The award-winning photograph provides a bird's-eye view of a historic and tragic moment, documenting the final farewell to the young victims of a widely condemned crime committed by the US and the Zionist regime.

In the small city of Minab, the loss of so many young lives was a heavy burden for the community. To honor the victims, a large area of land was turned into a cemetery, with graves dug in neat, endless rows.

This striking imagery is what makes Akhondi's photograph remarkable. The aerial view shows the haunting arrangement of

these small graves, each symbolizing a life lost too soon. Surrounding this solemn site, the entire city gathered in grief, their shared sorrow creating a powerful contrast to the orderly rows of students being laid to rest.

In this category Akhondi was followed by Bartosz Matenko from Poland and Mohammed Muhtasib from Saudi Arabia, who secured second and third places, respectively.

The caption accompanying the photograph on the official awards website underscores the gravity of the subject: "Minab - 168 Students. The resting place of children whose only 'fault' was being children... Innocent, they were silenced, and history will never forget the crime."

The jury also granted an honorable mention to another Iranian photographer, Ali Nejatbaksh in this category. His recognized series titled "Solidarity" provides a harrowing visual record of the aftermath of an Israeli missile strike on June 13, 2025.

The images document the desperate hours following the destruction of a residential building on Patrice Lumumba Street in Tehran—the home of Ahmadreza Zolfaghari, a faculty member of nuclear engineering. Through these frames, the resilience of firefighters, rescue teams, and

municipal crews is immortalized as they labored under unstable conditions and temporary lighting to clear debris and search for survivors amidst the ruins.

The tragedy in Minab, depicted in Akhondi's winning work, remains one of the most harrowing episodes of recent history, marked by the cold-blooded massacre of 168 innocent students and teachers.

On February 28, the Shajarah Tayyebah elementary school in Minab, Hormozgan province, became the site of a catastrophic massacre during the initial waves of aggression launched by the United States and the Zionist regime against Iran.

The strike occurred as students—children aged between 7 and 12—were beginning their morning lessons. A precision missile strike caused the immediate collapse of the school building, trapping students and teachers beneath mountains of rubble. Official reports confirmed a final death toll of 168 victims, with at least 95 others sustaining severe injuries, marking one of the most harrowing atrocities of the conflict's opening day.

While US and Zionist authorities initially attempted to distance themselves from the carnage as images of the ruins

flooded social media, rigorous forensic and digital investigations have since exposed the truth. An extensive analysis by Al Jazeera's digital investigations unit, utilizing over a decade of satellite imagery and ground-level video, confirmed that the school was a distinct civilian facility, isolated from any military installations for at least ten years. Furthermore, satellite data revealed that the school was "triple-tapped"—hit by three separate, deliberate strikes—proving the attack was not a mistake, but a calculated targeting of children.

This conclusion has been echoed by the international community's most reputable news outlets. Investigations by The New York Times, BBC Verify, CBC, and NPR have all independently concluded that the United States was responsible for the strike. These findings have sparked global outrage and raised fundamental questions regarding the "intelligence" used to justify the bombing, as the pattern of the attack suggests the direct targeting of an educational institution. The Minab school tragedy now stands as a somber testament to the immense human cost of this aggression and a primary focal point for international demands for accountability.

Cinema Museum to screen documentary about Iran by Albert Lamorisse

TEHRAN - The Cinema Museum of Iran in Tehran will show the restored version of "The Lovers' Wind," a documentary directed and produced by the late French filmmaker Albert Lamorisse about Iran, on Monday.

The 1978 movie has been digitally improved with the help of the National Film Archives of Iran. It will be shown along with parts of its unseen footage.

The film screening, part of the "Documentary Nights" program of the Cinema Museum of Iran, will begin at 6 p.m., IRNA reported.

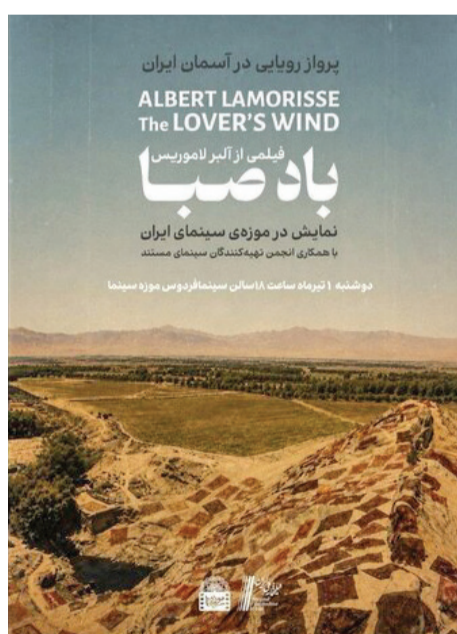
Afterwards, documentarian Mohammad Moghaddam will discuss Lamorisse's works and their place in documentary cinema.

"The Lovers' Wind" is a dreamlike documentary film that scans Iran's stunningly variegated landscape of both natural and manmade wonders.

The documentary beautifully depicts landscapes of Iran from an aerial view, showing waters of the Caspian Sea in the north and the Persian Gulf in the south, palm trees in the west, central deserts and eastern meadows, ruins of ancient historical sites like the city of Susa and Persepolis, as well as people in different locations.

About 85 percent of the film was shot from a helicopter. Although it shows real images of the country, there is a fictional (and funny at times) narration by the acclaimed Iranian veteran filmmaker, writer, editor, translator, and voice artist Manouchehr Anvar.

Iranian traditional and ethnic music also accompanies the picture and narration. The composition by Master Hossein Dehlavi, includes several pieces with Persian instru-



ments tar, tonbak, santur, ney, and violin, greatly contributing to each scene.

In Persian, the title of the movie is translated as "Saba Wind" coming from the northwest symbolizing the message of love. The film is lyrically narrated by the voice of the wind.

Born in Tehran, Anvar, 95, graduated from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London and started his artistic career in 1958 after returning to Iran.

Lamorisse (1922-1970) was a French filmmaker, film producer, and writer of short films which he began making in the late 1940s. He also invented the strategic board game Risk in 1957.

In the filmmaking sphere, he invented a steady-camera mounting system for helicopters, called "helivision," which helped support his lifelong fascination for filming aerial subjects, as well as for filming ground-level subjects from the air.

Thanks to his unique aerial documentary capabilities, Lamorisse was commissioned in 1968 by the Iranian Ministry of Art and Culture to make a film celebrating Iran's magnificent culture, from ancient times up to the present, that would feature his patented aerial photography.

Lamorisse completed much of the shooting for the film in 1969, most of which (about 85 percent) featured aerial cinematography, in accordance with his own poetic view of what the film should be about. He came back in 1970 to shoot more material featuring modern industrial developments but was killed in a helicopter crash while filming the Karaj (Amir Kabir) Dam 63 km northwest of Tehran.

His widow and son, both of whom had been working as assistants on this film's production, completed the film, based on his production notes, and released it eight years later in 1978. It was nominated for a posthumous Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 1979.

There is also a postscript to the story, in the form of a six-minute film. After the accident at Karaj, Lamorisse's camera was retrieved from the wreckage, and its film was developed in the lab of the Ministry of Art and Culture. The footage was then edited together by Iranian members of his original crew to create a tribute to the director and a memorial of his death.