

History is made in Mashad

By Syeda Farheen Naqi Moosavi

HAFIZABAD, Pakistan - The streets of Mashad witnessed something monumental on 9 July. The holy city became the epicenter of a political earthquake that will be recorded in the annals of world history. The people did not come to observe; they came to declare. Their chants of "We will rise" did not merely echo off the walls they tore through the air, touching the sky and shaking the foundations of the global order. The world heard it, felt it, and is now struggling to absorb its meaning. ► Page 5

What has the Gaza genocide revealed about Israeli politics?

By Wesam Bahrani

TEHRAN - Prolonged wars test the aggressor's political system to produce effective leadership, while also maintaining social cohesion.

The genocidal war on Gaza did not reveal a shortage of leaders in the Israeli regime so much as it highlighted a political system's growing difficulty in producing leadership that commanded broad public trust and could preserve unity of decision-making.

This became evident from the earliest days of the genocide, when an emergency government was formed with the inclusion of Benny Gantz and Gadi Eisenkot in Benjamin Netanyahu's government, reflecting a recognition within the political elite that managing the most dangerous war the regime had faced in decades required a leadership framework broader than the governing coalition alone. ► Page 5

Israel expands its borderless empire of election theft

By Garsha Vazirian

TEHRAN — While Western capitals obsess over fabricated narratives of foreign interference, the most toxic threat to global democracy operates with absolute structural impunity directly out of Tel Aviv.

Israel has constructed a multi-layered subversion apparatus that aggressively manipulates elections and violates national sovereignty across every continent.

From digital sabotage of ballot box software to institutional capture through dark money, Israel's contaminated fingers are actively distorting democratic processes. ► Page 5

Tchogha Zanbil, Iran's first UNESCO World Heritage site

TEHRAN - Situated about 40 km south-east of UNESCO-listed Susa, Tchogha Zanbil preserves the remains of Dur-Untash, a religious city founded in the 13th century BC by the Elamite king Untash-Napirisha. At its center stands a monumental ziggurat that is regarded as one of the best-preserved examples of its kind in the world.

The UN cultural body inscribed Tchogha Zanbil during the third session of the World Heritage Committee in 1979, recognizing the site's outstanding universal value as a testimony to the achievements of the Elamite civilization in architecture, engineering, water management and urban planning. The site is Iran's first site registered in UNESCO list.

The stepped structure originally consisted of five levels and rose to a height of about 52 meters. Approximately 25 meters of the monument remain standing today, reflecting the engineering and architectural capabilities of the Elamite civilization more than three millennia after its construction. ► Page 6



A view of the crowd attending the funeral procession of the martyred leader, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, Mashhad, Thursday, July 9, 2026.

Ayatollah Seyed Mojtaba Khamenei reiterated the call for vengeance in a new statement

The Martyred Leader's Killers Will Never Die in Peace

Ayatollah Seyed Mojtaba Khamenei calls the participation in the Leader's funeral rites in Iran and Iraq "astonishing, enemy-breaking, and historic."

TEHRAN - Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei has vowed that the Iranian nation will avenge the assassination of his martyred father.

Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei issued the message on Saturday following the funeral ceremonies for the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei. He was martyred on the first day of the joint US-Israeli aggression against Iran on February 28.

"We pledge to avenge the pure blood of the martyred Leader and all the martyrs of these two wars from the criminal and disgraced murderers," Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei said. He stressed that avenging their blood is "the demand of our nation and must certainly be carried out."

Before the February 28 aggression, the US and Israel also launched a war on Iran in June 2025. Thousands of people, most of them civilians, were killed in the acts of aggression.

Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei said those responsible "will take to their graves the dream of a peaceful death in bed," adding that the pledge "does not depend on my presence or that of other officials."

He added, "Whether we are here or not, this will be realized, and soon, freedom-loving people across the world will each carry out part of this

divine mission."

He hailed the massive public participation in the funeral of the martyred Leader. "I sincerely appreciate the presence of tens of millions of people in the cities and villages of Iran and Iraq, especially Tehran, Qom, Najaf, Karbala, and Mashhad."

Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei described the turnout as "astonishing, enemy-breaking, and historic."

He stressed that the Iranian nation will preserve the legacy of the late Leader. "With tearful eyes and broken hearts, as we bid farewell to your body, we pledge to preserve your school of thought and steadfastly follow the straight path you charted, fearing no hardship and placing our trust, as you did, in God's promises." ► Page 3



Iranian students secure first place at Intl. Mathematics Summer Camp

TEHRAN - The six-member Iranian team has shown brilliance, claiming the championship at the fourth International Mathematics Summer Camp (IMSC) held in Beijing, China, from June 17 to July 12, demonstrating exceptional teamwork and dedication to mathematics.

Aryan Zandi, Arsha Azizoddin, Seyyed Amir-Hossein Tayeb, Alireza Sharifi, Radin Nik-Eqbali, and Ali Joonbakhsh Najafabadi won 4 gold medals and two silver medals, outperforming students from Poland and Brazil, IRNA reported.

This year's event brought together 58 teams from 46 countries and regions. ► Page 7

Araghchi meets Omani counterpart to discuss Hormuz shipping arrangements

TEHRAN - Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi held talks with his Omani counterpart Sayyid Badr Al-Busaidi in Muscat on Saturday, focusing on bilateral relations, regional developments, and mechanisms to ensure the safe passage of vessels through the Strait of Hormuz under the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

Araghchi arrived in Oman at the head of a political and legal delegation as part of ongoing consultations between Tehran and Muscat on regional issues, particularly maritime arrangements for the strategic waterway. ► Page 2

Iran pursuing war crimes cases against US, Israel: Top judge

Iran is determined to pursue legal action against those responsible for war crimes committed by the United States and the Israeli regime, Judiciary Chief Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei said, stressing that those found responsible must face punishment and pay compensation for the damage inflicted.

Speaking at a meeting with a group of international lawyers and legal experts involved in pursuing war crimes cases, Ejei said Iran is seeking broader cooperation with legal professionals worldwide to advance efforts to prosecute those responsible for crimes committed against the Iranian people. ► Page 3

Imam Khomeini's grandson calls for justice as nationwide mourning for martyred Leader continues

TEHRAN — Seyed Ali Khomeini, the grandson of the founder of the Islamic Republic, calls for "justice and retribution for the death of Iran's martyred Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei," saying officials must remain committed to pursuing those responsible.

Addressing a memorial ceremony in the shrine city of Qom on Friday evening, Khomeini said any official who failed to seek accountability for the Leader's death should "question his conscience," describing the issue as a national responsibility.

His remarks came as mourning ceremonies continued across Iran on Friday, with large crowds gathering in mosques, religious centers, public squares, and streets in cities and towns nationwide to commemorate the late Leader. Memorial services, recitations of the Quran, elegies, ► Page 2

How Martyr Leader shapes Iran's people-centric, defense-oriented economic model

TEHRAN- Danial Davoudi, an economist, in this interview explains how economic nationalism in the thought of the martyred Ayatollah Khamenei was based on people-based production, infrastructure development, core technologies, deterrent defense power, and Iran's active positioning in the global order.

In your reading of the model of progress in the thought of the martyred leader, what exactly does economic nationalism mean, and how does it differ from classical approaches to supporting the national economy or a state-centered economy? ► Page 4

TEHRAN PAPERS

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

Unilateralism on the decline

Jam-e-Jam, in an analysis of the presence of senior officials from various countries at the funeral of the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, quoted Mohsen Pak-Ayeen as saying that a significant portion of the world's countries hold critical views toward the war-driven policies of the United States and the Israeli regime. Their attendance at the funeral, in this context, amounts to a declaration of opposition to hegemonic approaches that have overshadowed the international system in recent years. Furthermore, the presence of countries opposed to US unilateralism can be interpreted as a sign of strengthening tendencies toward multilateralism in global governance. From this perspective, such participation indicates that unilateralism is on a downward trajectory, while the number of states supporting a multilateral order is rising. In this view, Iran has also emerged as a model for these countries.

Khorasan: An end to the Haifa Bridge dream

Khorasan, in an article, examined the strategic dead-end facing the IMEC project. According to Khorasan, while Washington and Tel Aviv introduced the "IMEC corridor" in an effort to remove Iran and Turkey from the global transit map, the consequences of the Gaza war and rising tensions with the Axis of Resistance have turned this ambition into a strategic impasse. Today, not only has Iran's regional influence not been weakened, but regional rivals led by Ankara are drawing a new map that effectively eliminates Israel from the equation. Israel's war-mongering—designed to economically besiege Iran and sideline its competitors—has now become the greatest threat to the regime's own economic survival. While Iran maintains firm control over the Strait of Hormuz and Bab al-Mandab, regional rivals are exploiting the security vacuum created by Israel to construct a new order in which the "Haifa Bridge" will be nothing more than a historical mirage.

Farhikhtegan: Iran must secure its proper place in the new global order

In an interview with Farhikhtegan, Danyal Davoudi, a PhD in development economics, discussed the martyred Leader's perspective on national economic strategy. According to him, the Leader emphasized positioning Iran correctly within the emerging global order and prioritizing economic engagement with the East over the West. Contrary to claims that his emphasis on the national

economy implied shutting Iran's doors to the world, his outlook was never isolationist. He consistently stressed that Iran must secure an appropriate place in the new global order. Given the decline of Western economies—especially that of the United States—and statistical evidence showing that the future of global economic power lies in Asia, he strongly advocated the strategic preference for the East. Without correctly defining its relationship to the global economy, no national economy can be strengthened.

Vatan-e-Emrooz: Conditions do not favor Trump

Vatan-e-Emrooz analyzed the possibility of Donald Trump choosing war with Iran again, arguing that war would be an extremely costly option for him. The Strait of Hormuz, due to US provocations, is currently completely closed. Washington's failure to fulfill its commitments under the agreement has led Iran, in accordance with the text of the accord, to refuse to enter the second phase of negotiations. Thus, not only are current conditions entirely unfavorable for Trump, but their continuation also works against him. Experts believe that prolonging the situation will increase Trump's need for a deal with Iran, giving Tehran the upper hand. Many analysts argue that even if the agreement remains in place and the US does not resume war against Iran, extending the duration of the accord would still carry significant consequences for Trump. The longer time passes, the greater Trump's need for an agreement becomes—and Iran can leverage this to secure more concessions.

Javan: Trump's turbulence produced no results

Javan, in an article on the US government's reckless and provocative behavior, wrote that Washington's disruptive actions after the end of the 40-day war against the Islamic Republic of Iran are less a sign of strength than a reaction born of desperation in the face of new regional realities. These realities are reflected both in the massive, historic turnout of Iranians and Iraqis at the funeral of the martyred Leader and in the deterrent capabilities of Iran's armed forces and Tehran's consolidated role in Persian Gulf security arrangements. The White House, having failed to impose its will militarily, is now attempting through adventurism to influence post-war dynamics—an effort that has been thwarted by Iran's firm military response and insistence on Iranian management of the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran tripled drone production during US-Israeli war: caretaker defense minister

TEHRAN - Iran's caretaker defense minister said on Saturday that the production of various types of domestically developed unmanned aerial vehicles recorded a threefold increase amid US-Israeli aggression.

"At a meeting with members of the Parliament's Commission on National Security and Foreign Policy, I emphasized that the recent onslaught revealed that Iranian elites, coupled with investment in cutting-edge technologies, constitute the most important pillar of the country's defense might," Brigadier General Majid Ibn al-Reza wrote on social media.

"Not only did the production of defense equipment continue uninterrupted in the midst of the war, but our drone production capacity also grew threefold," the caretaker defense minister said.

Ibn Reza reiterated the Armed Forces' full preparedness and their continued efforts to boost Iran's defense and deterrence capabilities.

The United States and Israel launched their second unprovoked war of aggression against Iran on February 28, initiating the conflict with the cowardly assassination of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, along with several high-ranking military commanders. Far from crippling the nation, this psychological



warfare backfired, prompting a swift and crushing response from the Iranian Armed Forces, which executed 100 waves of highly calibrated counterattacks during 39 days of war. These devastating retaliatory strikes targeted vulnerable US and Israeli military assets across the region, inflicting severe tactical damage and dismantling Western illusions of invincibility. Having suffered a definitive strategic defeat on the battlefield, a desperate Washington was forced to seek diplomacy.

Imam Khomeini's grandson calls for justice as nationwide mourning for martyred Leader continues

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Addressing a memorial ceremony in the shrine city of Qom on Friday evening, Khomeini said any official who failed to seek accountability for the Leader's death should "question his conscience," describing the issue as a national responsibility.

His remarks came as mourning ceremonies continued across Iran on Friday, with large crowds gathering in mosques, religious centers, public squares, and streets in cities and towns nationwide to commemorate the late Leader. Memorial services, recitations of the Quran, elegies, and public processions were held in numerous provinces, reflecting what organizers described as a nationwide display of grief and solidarity following the assassination of the Leader in the U.S.-Israeli airstrike on Feb. 28, in the early moments of the illegal war on Iran.

Referring to the recent war on Iran, Khomeini said Iran's foes had expected the Islamic Republic would collapse within days, arguing that the conflict instead demonstrated the resilience of the Iranian ruling system and its people. He added that the



United States, Israel, and their political, military, and media capabilities had failed to achieve their objectives.

"No credible scholar or research center" could conclude that Washington had emerged victorious from the confrontation, he added.

Ali Khomeini also criticized anti-revolution groups abroad, saying they had relied on foreign intervention and military action by the United States and Israel to bring about political change in Iran.

The failure of those efforts deprived the opposition of its remaining political credibility, he commented.

Noting that "the fear of war is more dangerous than war itself," he said Iran neither initiated the conflict nor seeks war, but would not retreat in the face of

Pezeshkian warns of efforts to undermine regional peace in a call with Pakistan's premier

TEHRAN – Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian warned on Friday that "some countries" are seeking to destabilize West Asia and derail ongoing diplomatic efforts, stressing that lasting peace can only be achieved through mutual respect and full adherence to existing commitments.

During a telephone conversation with Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the two leaders discussed the latest regional developments, the importance of sustaining diplomatic engagement, and efforts to preserve the current ceasefire and prevent further escalation, according to the Iranian presidency.

Pezeshkian said the region continues to face serious security challenges, accusing Israel and the United States of undermining stability by failing to honor previous commitments. He argued that continued reliance on diplomacy is essential to preventing a renewed cycle of conflict and safeguarding regional peace.

"Iran has consistently acted in good faith and fulfilled its obligations," the president said, adding that any durable diplomatic agreement must be based on reciprocal respect and practical compliance by all parties.

Araghchi meets Omani counterpart to discuss Hormuz shipping arrangements

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Araghchi arrived in Oman at the head of a political and legal delegation as part of ongoing consultations between Tehran and Muscat on regional issues, particularly maritime arrangements for the strategic waterway.

During the meeting, the two foreign ministers discussed the implementation of Article 5 of the Islamabad MoU, which outlines arrangements for safe navigation through the Strait of Hormuz. They exchanged views on appropriate mechanisms to facilitate the movement of commercial vessels and maintain maritime security in coordination between Iran and Oman.

Iranian Foreign Ministry

spokesman Esmail Baqaei said Tehran and Muscat have been holding consultations on the issue for the past two months, including several rounds of technical discussions in both capitals. He added that under the agreement, Iran is responsible for coordinating with Oman on restoring normal shipping arrangements and providing necessary maritime services for vessels transiting the waterway.

In the meeting with his counterpart, Araghchi thanked Oman for its message of sympathy and for the participation of the Omani Parliament Speaker in the ceremony honoring the late Leader of the Islamic Revolution. He emphasized Iran's commitment to further expanding bilateral ties with Oman across various fields.

For his part, Al-Busaidi reaffirmed Oman's longstanding position in favor of diplomacy as a means of preventing further escalation in the region. He expressed hope that the full implementation of the Islamabad MoU between Iran and the United States would help improve regional security



conditions.

During his visit, Araghchi also criticized Washington's approach toward the agreement, accusing the United States of failing to fulfill its commitments.

"Iran has so far kept its word, unlike the so-called US Treasury Secretary, who is violating Page 9 of the MoU," Araghchi wrote on X, referring to recent US sanctions imposed on Iran.

He described the sanctions as another breach of the agreement, stressing that commitments must be reciprocal.

scholars, government officials, and the public paying tribute and renewing pledges to uphold his legacy.

People in the cities of Rey, Mashhad, Tehran, Qom, Isfahan, Shiraz, Tabriz, and other cities across the country gathered in Friday prayer halls (Mosallas) to mourn and demand revenge for the assassination of the Leader.

The Policymaking Council of Friday Prayer Imams announced that Friday prayers, beginning on July 10, would be dedicated to commemorating the martyred Leader and other martyrs of the Resistance Front, renewing calls for accountability, and demanding justice for those responsible for their assassinations.

Friday prayers across the country were held under the title "Friday of Revenge," and worshippers chanted slogans of revenge.

On Friday, a large crowd gathered in Imam Hussein (AS) Square in downtown Tehran to mourn. In Mashhad, northeastern Iran, citizens observed Sh-am-e-Ghariban (the Night of the Oppressed) to commemorate the memory of the Leader and his family members.

The gatherings followed the massive turnout witnessed during the funeral processions and burial ceremonies for the Leader and his kin, who were assassinated along with the Leader.

potential of the two countries' economic partnership.

Sharif, for his part, reaffirmed 'the brotherly relationship between Pakistan and Iran, saying Islamabad's participation in the recent memorial ceremonies was both a duty and a reflection of solidarity with the Iranian people.

Expressing concern over the possibility of renewed regional tensions, the Pakistani prime minister underscored the importance of restraint and sustained political dialogue to preserve the ceasefire. He said Pakistan remains ready to continue supporting diplomatic initiatives aimed at de-escalation, including regional mediation efforts involving Qatar.

Sharif also described Iran as a key regional actor and voiced confidence that its leadership would navigate the current challenges with prudence.

The two leaders concluded their conversation by reaffirming their commitment to maintaining close political consultations and accelerating the implementation of bilateral economic and trade agreements.

The remarks followed comments by Baqaei, who said Tehran's policy remains based on the principle of "commitment for commitment." He accused Washington of violating several provisions of the 14-point memorandum, including clauses related to ending military operations and sanctions relief.

Baqaei said Iran would continue fulfilling its obligations only as long as the other side respects its commitments, adding that Tehran would take necessary measures if violations continue.

Ayatollah Seyed Mojtaba Khamenei reiterated the call for vengeance in a new statement

The martyred Leader’s killers will never die in peace

TEHRAN – Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei has vowed that the Iranian nation will avenge the assassination of his martyred father.

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Speaking at a meeting with a group of international lawyers and legal experts involved in pursuing war crimes cases, Ejei said Iran is seeking broader cooperation with legal professionals worldwide to advance efforts to prosecute those responsible for crimes committed against the Iranian people.

He said Iran holds the United States and the Israeli regime responsible for ‘war crimes committed during two wars of aggression against the country,’ adding that the Iranian Judiciary is committed to pursuing the cases through all available legal avenues.

“The perpetrators must be punished in proportion to the crimes they have committed



He added, “Whether we are here or not, this will be realized, and soon, freedom-loving people across the world will each carry out part of this divine mission.”

He hailed the massive public participation in the funeral of the martyred Leader. “I sincerely appreciate the presence of tens of millions of people in the cities and villages of Iran and Iraq, especially Tehran, Qom, Najaf, Karbala, and Mashhad.”

Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei described the turnout as “astounding, enemy-breaking, and historic.”

He stressed that the Iranian nation will preserve the legacy of the late Leader. “With tearful eyes and broken hearts, as we bid fare-

well to your body, we pledge to preserve your school of thought and steadfastly follow the straight path you charted, fearing no hardship and placing our trust, as you did, in God’s promises.”

Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei was laid to rest at the holy shrine of Imam Reza (AS), the eighth Imam of Shia Muslims, in the northeastern city of Mashhad on Thursday.

Addressing Imam Reza, Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei described his martyred father as “a humble servant” who had dedicated everything to his faith and to serving the Imam.

The burial of the martyred Leader followed a historic procession through Mashhad, where

millions of devotion-driven mourners flooded the streets, turning the city into a vast sea of red and black. Waving crimson flags that symbolize the enduring path of martyrdom, they called for avenging the blood of the innocent.

The majestic multi-day funeral rites originally commenced on July 3 at the Imam Khomeini Mosalla in Tehran, where the Leader’s body lay in state as high-ranking foreign dignitaries, heads of state, and global religious figures arrived to pay their respects, completely shattering Western attempts to isolate Iran diplomatically. On July 6, millions of Iranians choked the avenues of the capital for the funeral procession before the ceremonies moved on July 7 to the holy city of Qom.

The funeral then moved to neighboring Iraq, where historic, million-strong farewell ceremonies brought the holy cities of Najaf and Karbala to a complete standstill. Millions of Iraqi believers accompanied the flag-draped coffins to the holy shrines of Imam Ali (AS) in Najaf, and subsequently to the shrines of Imam Hussein (AS) and Hazrat Abbas (AS) in Karbala, underscoring the enduring unity of the Axis of Resistance.

and must also pay compensation,” Ejei said. He called on international lawyers and legal experts to strengthen cooperation with Iran, saying coordinated legal efforts could open “a new chapter” in the prosecution of alleged war criminals.

Ejei acknowledged that the influence of major powers within international institutions and courts presents significant challenges but said Iran would continue pursuing the cases until those responsible are held accountable.

Reaffirming the Islamic Republic’s policy of supporting oppressed people worldwide, Ejei said Iran would continue to support people regardless of their religion, ethnicity, or nationality, particularly the people of Gaza and Lebanon.

Referring to Israel’s actions in Palestine and Lebanon, he accused the Israeli regime of decades of crimes, including mass killings, genocide, and the killing of children, adding that Iran would continue supporting efforts to confront Israeli aggression.

“The voice of truth can never be silenced,” Ejei said, urging justice advocates, international lawyers, and legal experts to work together in confronting injustice. He argued that military and material power cannot suppress the pursuit of justice.

He added that Iran’s Prosecutor General’s Office, the Judiciary’s International Affairs Department, and the Judiciary Lawyers’ Center are actively pursuing the cases, while emphasizing the importance of documenting alleged crimes and exposing those responsible before both international courts and global public opinion.

Concluding his remarks, Ejei said Iran remains determined to pursue those it considers responsible for the crimes and to seek compensation for the losses inflicted on the Iranian nation.

Iranian border guards have intercepted a shipment of explosives and military-grade grenades in western Kurdistan Province, preventing an attempted smuggling operation, a senior official said. Brigadier General Faraj Roshtami said the seizure followed intelligence operations and surveillance of suspicious movements linked to a terrorist group.

Brazilian influencer and pro-Palestinian activist Ariadne praised Iran’s resistance against the United States and Israel while attending the burial ceremony of the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei in the holy city of Mashhad.

Speaking to media on the sidelines of the ceremony, Ariadne thanked the Iranian people for the resilience she said they have shown amid pressure from the United States and Israel. She also paid tribute to Ayatollah Khamenei, saying she admired his leadership and was proud of his stance against US and Israel.

Bluster to mask defeat: Trump’s rhetoric exposes US-Israeli disarray in the face of Iranian resilience



TEHRAN – President Donald Trump has intensified military threats and rhetoric against Iran as he struggles to find an off-ramp to bring a permanent end to the joint US-Israeli war against Iran that initially began more than four months ago.

Trump stated the US would “completely decimate and destroy all areas of Iran” should there be an assassination attempt against him. “1,000 missiles are locked and loaded and aimed at the Islamic Republic of Iran, with thousands more to immediately follow, should the Iranian government act on its threat,” Trump wrote in a post on his Truth Social account.

On the first day of the US-Israeli aggression that began on February 28, Iran’s Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, several of his family members, and senior military commanders were martyred.

During the course of the war, which was paused by a Pakistani-mediated ceasefire on April 8, thousands of people in Iran were killed in US-Israeli strikes, most of them civilians. In response to the aggression, the Iranian Armed Forces carried out 100 waves of drone and missile strikes against Israel and American bases in the Persian Gulf region. According to US media, Iran’s attacks dealt severe blows to US military installations and equipment in the region. Experts believe the effectiveness of Iran’s strikes pushed Trump to accept the April 8 ceasefire on Iran’s terms. Both the US and Israeli media have admitted that the aggressor suffered a strategic defeat at the hands of the Iranian Armed Forces.

However, the US continued to violate the ceasefire. Nonetheless, Iran’s military responses and its assertive control over the Strait of Hormuz exerted significant pressure on the US. Iran’s control over the strategic waterway has pushed fuel prices and inflation up in the US. The unpopularity of the war has also dragged Trump’s popularity to a record low. Democrats and some Republicans have denounced Trump’s war on Iran, while Congress has banned Trump from continuing the war without its permission.

Internal pressure and the huge cost of the war pushed Trump to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Tehran on June 17. The 14-point MoU called for a permanent end to hostilities on all fronts and committed both sides to continue negotiations on a final agreement within 60 days. But the US carried out strikes in southern Iran a few days ago, in violation of the truce. Trump said he had agreed to continue talks with Iran but reiterated that the ceasefire outlined in the June MoU was over.

US Central Command (CENTCOM) announced that its forces had launched a fresh wave of strikes against Iranian air defense and other military targets on Tuesday and Wednesday, in what it claimed was an effort to “further degrade Iran’s ability to attack commercial shipping” in the Strait. CENTCOM stated that around 170 targets were hit across the two days. In response, Iran attacked US military bases in Bahrain and Kuwait.

Iran’s foreign minister stated on Saturday

that Iran had “kept its word” on the ceasefire. “Iran has so far kept its word, unlike the so-called US Treasury Secretary who is violating Para 9 of the MoU,” Abbas Araghchi wrote in a post on X. The US Treasury announced new sanctions against an Iranian financier and Iranian exchange houses on Friday. Paragraph nine of the MoU states that, pending a final deal, Iran will “maintain the current status quo of its nuclear program” and that the US “will not impose any new sanctions” or “deploy additional forces in the region.”

“That violation follows other violations and missteps by the United States. Reality check: There can only be mutual compliance,” Araghchi added.

Since the funeral processions of Iran’s martyred Leader began on July 3, the public has consistently called for avenging his assassination. Such calls grew louder in the northeastern city of Mashhad, where the late Leader was laid to rest on Thursday. Iran’s unity and its unwavering support for the Islamic Republic and the martyred Leader have infuriated Trump.

The US and Israel operated under the delusion that the assassination of Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and senior military commanders would lead to the collapse of the Islamic Republic. Instead, his martyrdom has solidified unity across Iran and demonstrated the resilience of the Iranian people in the face of foreign aggression.

The volatile escalation of threats from Trump represents a transparent attempt to mask a profound strategic crisis, offering bombastic social media rhetoric to divert attention from Washington’s tangible failures on both the battlefield and the diplomatic stage. By issuing unhinged proclamations regarding “locked and loaded” missiles, the US president is actively trying to gloss over the reality that his administration was forced to accept the terms of the April 8 ceasefire following devastating Iranian counter-strikes against American regional installations. This reliance on theatrical bellicosity, rather than coherent statecraft, underscores a desperate American effort to control the domestic narrative as the economic fallout of the conflict—manifested in soaring inflation and destabilized energy corridors—erodes Trump’s political standing at home.

Diplomatically, the immediate collapse of the June 17 memorandum of understanding exposes the structural bankruptcy of the current US approach. Rather than operating from a position of strength, the Trump administration’s rapid pivot back to unilateral sanctions and truce-breaking airstrikes reveals a total inability to enforce its will or secure regional concessions. Tehran’s disciplined posture and its strict adherence to the principle of exact reciprocity have effectively trapped Western planners in an asymmetric dilemma. By using provocative rhetoric to deflect from a clear lack of strategic options, Trump has failed to realize that empty threats can neither erase the historical resilience demonstrated by the Iranian public nor alter the shifting balance of power in West Asia, where the limits of US-Israeli military coercion have been fundamentally exposed.

LATEST NEWS

■ Qalibaf warns Iran ready for full-scale defense if US violates accord

Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf said Tehran remains prepared for full-scale defense should the United States violate the agreement reached between the two sides. In a post on X, Qalibaf said Iran does not trust Washington and must maintain readiness while pursuing diplomacy. He warned that any breach of commitments would trigger a decisive response to protect Iran’s interests. Qalibaf added that while ending the war remains a priority, the conflict would not conclude through Iran’s surrender.

■ Iran rejects UN council meeting on nuclear issue as ‘legally baseless’

Iran’s UN Ambassador Amir Saeid Iravani rejected a Security Council meeting on Tehran’s nuclear program as “legally unfounded,” arguing that Resolution 2231 expired in October 2025 and no longer provides a legal basis for Council action. Speaking after the July 10 session, Iravani thanked Russia and China for opposing the meeting and criticized the US, UK, and France for ‘a political misuse of the Council.’ He also rejected allegations against Iran’s nuclear activities and reaffirmed Tehran’s commitment to agreements if Washington fulfills its obligations.

■ Iraq’s Kata’ib Hezbollah reaffirms support for Iran’s Islamic Revolution

Iraq’s Kata’ib Hezbollah has reaffirmed its unwavering support for Iran’s Islamic Revolution and pledged allegiance to Iran’s new Leader, Ayatollah Seyed Mojtaba Khamenei. In a statement on Friday, Secretary General Abu Hussein al-Hamidawi vowed the group would continue following the path of resistance inspired by the late Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei and condemned the assassination of Iran’s for-

mer Leader. He said the large turnout of Iraqis at Khamenei’s funeral demonstrated continued public backing for the Axis of Resistance and urged Iraqi leaders to respect the will of the people and resist external pressure.

■ Yemen PM thanks Iran for backing efforts to end blockade

Yemen’s Acting Prime Minister Mohammed Ahmed Miftah said on Friday that the country’s decision to end the air and maritime blockade is irreversible, adding that Iran has pledged continued support for Sana’a’s efforts to restore unrestricted access. Speaking at a rally in the Yemeni capital, Miftah thanked the Iranian government and people for their backing, describing the recent arrival of an Iranian aircraft at Sana’a International Airport despite threats as a significant show of solidarity. He also reaffirmed Yemen’s continued support for the Palestinian people in Gaza.

■ Controlled disposal of obsolete munitions caused blast near Tehran, officials say

A loud explosion heard in eastern Tehran and nearby areas on Saturday morning was caused by the controlled disposal of obsolete munitions, a local official said, ruling out any security incident or external attack. Pakdasht Governor Mohammad Qomi said the planned operation was conducted under strict safety regulations and the supervision of relevant authorities.

■ Americans reject war as Trump misjudged Ayatollah Khamenei assassination bid: US analyst

American political commentator Ryan Dawson says President Donald Trump miscalculated by believing that military strikes and the attempted assassination of martyred Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei would trigger regime change in Iran, arguing that the strategy instead intensified regional tensions while failing

New chapter opens in expanding Iran-Italy water, soil cooperation

TEHRAN- The Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Water and Soil Affairs announced the development of new technical cooperation in the water and soil sector aimed at protecting fundamental resources and utilizing modern global technologies in agriculture between Iran and Italy.

According to a report by IRNA from the Ministry of Agriculture, Safdar Niazi Shahraki stated at a joint webinar meeting between the Department of Water and Soil of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Italian Agricultural Association: This meeting is in line with the implementation of macro-policies for ensuring food security and sustainable production, protecting fundamental resources, safeguarding water and soil, and achieving the goals of updating and using modern global technologies in this sector.

While presenting a report on the status of the country's agricultural lands and irrigation methods and rates, the official stated: Soil is the foundation of food security, sustainable production, and the continuation of life.

Niazi, while emphasizing the need to create a balance between water, soil, and the environment as necessary components for sustainable production, said: Improving water productivity, smart agricultural technologies, salinity management and soil salinity control, and water desalination are among the most important issues considered by this department for establishing areas of cooperation with the Italian side.

He invited the Italian delegation to visit Iran and see the country's water and soil achievements and capacities.

Stefano Ianiri, the head of the Italian Agricultural Association, referring to the capacities of



the Italian Agricultural Association in scientific, research, and software fields, appreciated this opportunity and provided explanations regarding the association's activities.

In this webinar meeting, Safdar Niazi Shahraki, Stefano Ianiri, Kianirad, representative and permanent ambassador of Iran to the FAO, and a group of managers and specialists in the water and soil sector, as well as representatives from the country's Soil and Water Research Institute, were present.

In this meeting, the two sides, utilizing their scientific, specialized, and executive capacities, emphasized the start of joint cooperation in the fields of smart farming, precision agriculture, and the use of modern technologies in the management of water resources, biofertilizers, and water desalination for agricultural and greenhouse uses, and two companies out of 19 private sector companies present at the webinar introduced themselves and their specialized activities.

Finally, the two sides agreed that after initial summaries, subsequent meetings would be held continuously in a specialized format with the presence of relevant offices.

New opportunities identified for Iran-Tajikistan agricultural cooperation

TEHRAN- The Commercial Attaché of Iran in Tajikistan, while introducing new cooperation opportunities in the agricultural sector, reported that the agricultural market of Tajikistan is moving towards technology transfer, joint production, and investment.

According to a report by the Public Relations Department of the Iran Trade Promotion Organization, Mohammad Ali Amirfakhrian, referring to a specialized meeting with officials of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan, said: The capacities for cooperation between the two countries in the areas of seedling production, animal breeding, veterinary medicines, fisheries, processing industries, modern irrigation, mechanization, and investment in the value chain of agricultural products were reviewed, and the continuation of expert consultations was emphasized.

According to him; conducted studies show that Tajikistan's agricultural sector has significant needs in areas such as seedling production, animal breeding, development of related industries, increasing water resource productivity, and modernization of production technologies, which overlap with the technical and specialized capabilities of Iranian companies.

The Commercial Attaché of Iran in Tajikistan, referring to the investment capacities in this sector,

NIORDC announces issuance of 223 licenses, operation of 27 electric vehicle charging stations at fuel stations

TEHRAN- The CEO of the National Iranian Oil Refining and Distribution Company (NIORDC) said that since the beginning of the Iranian year 1404 (March 2025), 223 licenses have been issued by the company for the construction of electric vehicle charging stations at fuel supply stations, and 27 stations have been put into operation.

According to a Saturday report by IRNA from the National Iranian Oil Refining and Distribution Company, Mohammad Sadegh Azimifar announced this news and added: According to the approval of the Economic Council in Bahman 1403 (February 2025), from the beginning of 1404, the issuance and renewal of activity licenses for all urban and intercity fuel stations are conditional upon allocating the required space for the construction of a single-nozzle electric charging station. He stated that the technical, safety, and standardization requirements have been developed with the participation of all stakeholders, and feasibility studies and investor attraction have also been carried out.

The Deputy Minister of Oil, referring to the fact that it is possible to obtain a permit for the construction of an electric vehicle charging station through the national portal of licenses for all applicants, emphasized: With the current trend, it is hoped that the share of electricity in the country's transportation basket will increase.

Azimifar continued: In addition to building the aforementioned infrastructure, the company has signed a memorandum of understanding for replacing 20,000 old gasoline-burning motorcycles used in Tehran with electric motorcycles.

Referring to the determination of the National Iranian Oil Refining and Distribution Company to electrify the transportation fleet, he clarified: The draft contract for 3,200 electric motorcycles has been finalized since Bahman 1404 (January/February 2026), and given the legal duties of the Organization for Optimization and Strategic Management of Energy, it is awaiting a decision and approval by this organization.

How Martyr Leader shapes Iran's people-centric, defense-oriented economic model

TEHRAN- Danial Davoudi, an economist, in this interview explains how economic nationalism in the thought of the martyred Ayatollah Khamenei was based on people-based production, infrastructure development, core technologies, deterrent defense power, and Iran's active positioning in the global order.

In your reading of the model of progress in the thought of the martyred leader, what exactly does economic nationalism mean, and how does it differ from classical approaches to supporting the national economy or a state-centered economy?

Economic nationalism in the thought of Ayatollah Khamenei and what was pursued during his leadership has several key components. The first component is the emphasis on the people and the private sector as the wheels of the country's engine of progress. The second component is the development of national infrastructure as the chassis of this engine of progress. The third component is the strengthening of core technologies and knowledge-based enterprises as the motor of this engine of progress. The fourth component is the creation of defensive and security power, which acts like a protective body shielding the national economy. This fourfold framework creates a specific type of economic nationalism—one whose main focus is on internal capacity, the country's productive and scientific potential, and independence from external pressures, and which does not rely merely on customs border controls or state ownership.

In the realm of state ownership, the Leader fundamentally believed in minimal state ownership. Regarding quasi-state ownership, or economic institutions subordinate to the Leadership and those subordinate to military bodies, he envisioned a pioneering role for them. From his perspective, these sectors should invest in areas where the private sector does not enter; but as soon as a field becomes economically viable and attractive to the private sector, these institutions must exit that field, hand it over to the private sector, and migrate to more distant and newer arenas. Therefore, in the Leader's view, state and quasi-state ownership should not compete with the private sector. For state ownership, he truly deemed it only as necessary as required—for example, in military fields or certain specific sectors where production cannot be delegated to the private sector. For the quasi-state sector as well, he envisioned a driving role—meaning this sector must pull the economy forward, enter where there is incoordination or coordination failure, make the field economically viable, hand it over to private sector activists, and then move to further arenas.

From this perspective, in the Leader's view, state ownership is not very prominent, yet at the same time, we are facing a national economy. In classical views of the national economy, customs borders are usually emphasized. Of course, in the literature and statements of the martyred leader, supporting domestic production through customs tariff instruments is prominent; but this instrument is merely a short-term tool for strengthening national production and bringing domestic production to a level where it can compete in global markets. For example, if at some point he supported the home appliance industry by raising import tariffs or banning imports, if in subsequent years he saw that prices had risen or quality had declined, he would caution that his support was meant for the producer to raise



quality, lower prices, and conquer global markets. Therefore, his view was an export-development view, not merely import substitution. Of course, he used import substitution as a tool—a tool for strengthening domestic production and reaching the stage of export development.

In the explanation provided, I think it is clear that the martyred leader's view of the national economy was a comprehensive one. He did not merely look at production, but also paid special attention to infrastructure, the development of knowledge and technology, and the strengthening of defensive and security power as the protective body of the national economy. Compared to other views that emphasize a national economy or a state economy, the important difference in his approach was that he opposed excessive statization and wrongful seizures, just as we saw this behavior and action from the martyred leader in the 1980s. He repeatedly emphasized that the main burden of the economy must be on the shoulders of the people and the private sector. Consequently, he viewed the state not as the owner and main player of the economy, but as a designer, rail-layer, and facilitator. The communication of the general policies of Article 44 was also for this purpose—to open the field for the private sector and the people, and to place infrastructure and security in the service of the people. Also, this economic nationalism found meaning within the framework of prioritizing East over West and Iran's active positioning in the new global order—that is, a kind of independence-seeking coupled with outward-orientation and coalition-building, not isolation and severing ties with the world.

The martyred leader, in his conduct and statements, emphasized the connection between national production, independence, and the country's progress. How can this connection be explained in the form of a model of progress?

In the view of the martyred leader, independence was a prerequisite for Iran's progress. From his perspective, if a country does not have independence, it cannot achieve economic progress. Of course, there have been misunderstandings about the concept of independence in his view. Some have imagined that independence means economic isolation—that is, building a wall around the country's borders and creating an economy within those borders that has little connection with other economies of the world. But the reality is that when we refer to the statements of the martyred leader, we see that he emphasized that independence does not mean isolation. Independence means that a country's economy becomes so large that other countries of the world cannot overlook it in major global transactions and great economic relations, and they are forced to include that economy in the game of major economies. From this perspective, economic independence is not achieved

except by strengthening national production and enlarging the economic pie. In the Second Step Declaration, we also see him emphasizing mass production. Mass and high-quality production is one of the desirable components in his view. Therefore, national production and enlarging the economic pie are tools for the economy to reach independence—independence in the sense that the country's economy is so large that it cannot be denied or sidelined by great powers in major global equations, and it becomes a pillar in shaping the future economic order. In this sense, independence is a prerequisite for Iran's progress. If a country does not have such independence, it essentially cannot think about economic progress and become a developed country.

It seems that all the efforts of the martyred leader and all the economic policies he envisioned were for production. He believed that national production must be strengthened, more goods and services must be produced, mass production must take place, and all his efforts were aimed at achieving greater production. But this is a general statement. To gain a more precise understanding of his intellectual system, we must look at the characteristics he enumerated for production. We must see what characteristics the production that forms the core of Ayatollah Khamenei's economic views—and almost the ultimate goal of his economic policies—has. Of course, this economic goal has other effects as well; but if we look at the economic sphere, the ultimate goal of his economic policy was to increase production in the country. This production had characteristics. For example, it had to be knowledge-based, job-creating, and involve the general public. The production he envisioned was one where the general public would benefit from its increase and growth. He did not envision an approach that merely generates production growth in the country but whose proceeds only go to a specific segment of society. His view was not that economic growth should happen first, and then, once the economic pie grew, the poor and others would benefit from its spillover. His view was that in the process of enlarging the economic pie, we must pursue policies in such a way that the general public benefits. In fact, he did not believe in justice after growth, but rather believed in and pursued justice combined with economic growth. Production with high value-added was also a criterion for him. Production based on raw-material sales was not approved or emphasized by him. He rightly advised that instead of selling raw materials and then buying the same goods from foreign countries—after those countries had created high value-added on them and sold us a higher-quality, higher-technology product several times more expensively—we should create value-added domestically ourselves and export high-value-added goods. Therefore, his view of production had characteristics, and paying attention to those characteristics

can demonstrate the desirable economic model envisioned by the martyred leader. With all these interpretations, production was the focal point of Ayatollah Khamenei's economic views.

From your perspective, what are the most important practical components of the model of progress based on economic nationalism that can be observed in the behavior and decisions of the martyred leader, and are these components capable of being transformed into a model of economic governance?

During his tenure and leadership, the martyred leader truly provided the most important prerequisites and components for strengthening a national economy. The first axis was culture-building. When he spoke of supporting Iranian labor, supporting Iranian capital, and supporting Iranian goods, he mentioned them with pride and explained to his audience that supporting Iranian labor is valuable, supporting Iranian capital is valuable, and buying Iranian goods is a national duty. Therefore, the first axis clearly observable in his views, behaviors, and decisions is culture-building in line with constructing a national economy.

The second axis was infrastructure development. He placed special emphasis on developing infrastructure, for example, in the fields of transportation and energy. We know that a national economy does not grow, progress, or manifest itself without the necessary infrastructure in transportation and energy. For instance, at times he emphasized solar energy among renewable energies and said that the electricity imbalance could be addressed through this path. On the other hand, he also emphasized conservation—conservation that helped keep more energy available for production. In the field of transportation, he specifically emphasized the completion of north-south and east-west corridors and, for example, gave reminders about completing the Rasht-Astara project. Thus, infrastructure development was a serious concern for him. This attention was not limited to transportation and energy. For example, artificial intelligence, as an infrastructure for future production and the economy, was repeatedly emphasized by him in recent years of his blessed life, and he stressed the necessity of its growth.

The third axis was the development of knowledge and technology. On the one hand, he emphasized the development of knowledge in universities, and on the other hand, the development of knowledge-based companies, so that the knowledge existing in universities could move one step closer to industry. He also emphasized the construction and development of science and technology parks to strengthen knowledge-based companies and connect them to economic enterprises. Ultimately, he specifically advised the economic section of the Leadership's apparatus to connect knowledge-based companies to large private sector enterprises. He also emphasized to the economic institutions under his purview that they should use small private sector enterprises in their production chains. In addition to these, the emphasis on core technologies and fundamental sciences such as nanotechnology, biotechnology, nuclear technology, satellites, and artificial intelligence was prominent in his statements. This is the third axis that the martyred leader emphasized for building a national economy.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Israel expands its borderless empire of election theft

From NYC and Bogota to Paris and Luanda, Tel Aviv operates a malicious cyber machine designed to dismantle national sovereignty

From page 1 ▶ This sweeping warfare serves a clear geopolitical purpose, shielding Tel Aviv's unending warmongering from real international accountability.

The digital frontline of subversion

The terrifying scale of this borderless warfare crystallized in July when outgoing Colombian President Gustavo Petro publicly indicted the Israeli cyber-intelligence firm BlackCore for orchestrating a massive digital campaign to manipulate Colombia's presidential election.

Petro detailed how BlackCore deployed half a million automated bot accounts to flood the public square with fabricated smears and compromised vote-counting software by altering server IP addresses, calling it the hardest blow to sovereignty since the Spanish reconquest. Netanyahu's immediate celebration of the result laid bare these mercenaries as direct extensions of Israel.

This onslaught is meticulously targeted to destroy political figures opposing Israeli war crimes.

In June, the French digital watchdog Viginum formally accused BlackCore of conducting foreign interference.

During the March French municipal elections, BlackCore defamed left-wing, pro-Palestine mayoral candidates from La France Insoumise, fabricating sexual violence allegations to assassinate anti-war reputations.

Viginum traced BlackCore's infrastructure deep into the Anglosphere, uncovering parallel operations in Scotland targeting First Minister John Swinney for withholding state funding from defense contractors supplying Israel, and in New York City targeting pro-Palestine mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani. Similar cyberattacks meddled in national elections across Angola and Togo.

Industrialized espionage and the Unit 8200 pipeline

BlackCore represents the evolution of an industrialized Israeli



political warfare market laid bare by the 2023 unmasking of Team Jorge.

Led by former special forces operative Tal Hanan, that network manipulated 33 presidential-level elections worldwide, succeeding in 27 using advanced software to puppeteer fake identities, hack political aides, and plant disinformation.

This private sector serves as a deliberate pipeline for veterans of Unit 8200, Israel's military intelligence wing. Companies such as BlackCore, Black Cube, and NSO Group operate under export licenses from the Israeli war ministry, granting the regime plausible deniability while these entities rig elections and smash anti-war dissent to secure Israel's geopolitical survival.

European awakenings and the blackmail apparatus

These revelations are forcing a structural shift among European security agencies. Breaking a political taboo, the Netherlands' National Coordinator for Counterterrorism and Security added Israel to its Threat Assessment of State Actors in July 2025, citing hostile political interference and toxic propaganda from Israel's Diaspora Affairs Ministry following the November 2024 Amsterdam clashes, alongside blatant threats against the International Criminal Court.

Similarly, in late 2025, Spain's public broadcaster RTVE accused Israel of rigging Eurovision vot-

ing results to manufacture public normalcy amidst its genocidal military atrocities, provoking unprecedented cultural boycotts across Europe for the 2026 contest.

Beneath digital bots lies systemic blackmail. Contractors such as Black Cube deploy honey traps and illicit surveillance to compromise foreign politicians, as seen in Hungary and Slovenia.

This weaponized extortion shares roots with the legacy of Jeffrey Epstein, whose global sexual blackmail operation represented a function within a co-opted intelligence-adjacent asset network partly designed to harvest compromising footage of global elites.

Institutional capture and the American host

What Israel cannot steal through covert black ops, it buys in broad daylight within the United States.

Overt interference mechanisms, such as AIPAC, inject millions into primary elections, such as the March Illinois primary, to financially liquidate any politician expressing basic human rights concerns for Palestinians.

While the June New York primary signaled a backlash with insurgent candidates defeating AIPAC-backed opponents, figures such as Abdul El-Sayed have characterized this financial pressure as blatant bribery.

This corruption is reinforced by financial institutions and billion-

aire Zionist megadonors such as Miriam Adelson and Larry Ellison, who use their assets to influence political processes and control major media entities such as CBS and CNN, keeping public discourse subservient to Israeli warmongering.

Israel also directed a covert operation to interfere in the 2016 U.S. presidential election, sending secret agents to offer intelligence and operational support to the Trump campaign.

As investigative journalist James Bamford exposed, Benjamin Netanyahu personally micro-managed this subversion.

An elite Israeli operative, working under direct instructions from the "PM," circumvented federal watchdogs to deliver highly sensitive data to Trump loyalist Roger Stone, warning that the Republican candidate would lose without Tel Aviv's covert intervention.

While the American mainstream media spent years weaponizing a hyper-fixated Russian election interference narrative, they blatantly ignored this collusion.

The invisible iceberg of global manipulation

The public exposures of BlackCore and Team Jorge represent merely the sloppy mistakes of an otherwise invisible apparatus.

In the realm of espionage, many successful operations leave no forensic traces. For every digital campaign detected by watchdogs in France or Colombia, dozens of elections across Africa, Latin America, and Asia are silently tipped by Israeli intelligence without a single headline.

Israel's global interference ecosystem is the ultimate scaffolding that sustains its military aggression.

By hollowing out democracies, silencing anti-war voices, and installing pliant regimes, Tel Aviv ensures that its warmongering machine never faces a cutoff of Western arms or diplomatic protection.

History is made in Mashad

From page 1 ▶ This was no simple gathering. It was a political testament. Banners were clear, messages unmistakable. In the heart of the crowd, one banner read "Kill Trump." That was not a random outburst; it was a cry from the heart of a nation that will not forget injustice and crimes against itself. Trump is a man who ordered the assassinations of General Qassem Soleimani and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Trump carries blood on his hands. For the people of Iran, time does not erase blood. The cry for justice was as loud as the cry for survival.

The Americans tried everything to stop this gathering. They knew the streets of Mashhad would overflow with mourners and supporters. What was their response? They struck a railway track (connecting Iran with Central Asia), hoping to sow fear and chaos. They wanted to terrorize the great people of Iran and prevent them from attending the funeral ceremony. But they miscalculated as they often do. Iranians do not bow to threats or surrender to sabotage. The railway attack was meant to break their spirit, but it only hardened their resolve. Every disrupted track became a symbol of American desperation; every delayed train reminded the world that the enemy fears Iranian unity.

Millions poured into Mashhad, not just Iranians, but people of different nationalities, faiths, and origins. They came to honor the Martyr Leader and express loyalty to his cause. The streets were so packed that no space remained empty. The sea of humanity stretched beyond sight. This was not a funeral; it was a declaration. It was the world telling America and its Zionist ally that Iran is not alone, and that bullying has no place among free people.

Trump and his co-conspirator Netanyahu received that message loud and clear. Cameras from every major network broadcast the same image: millions of voices rising together, millions of fists raised against oppression. The American president and his Israeli partner thought they could intimidate this nation with threats and strikes. They thought they could break a people who have survived invasions and betrayals through history. But on July 9, they saw the truth. The sons and daughters of Martyr Leader do not fear. They are united like a mountain that cannot be moved.

While Mashhad roared, a different story was unfolding in the American media. For days, Western headlines had been filled with alarming reports of an "Iranian assassination plot" against Trump. It was painted as an organized conspiracy, designed to create maximum tension exactly when diplomacy was in the air. The narrative was ready; the story was sold. The Americans and their Israeli allies wanted to poison the atmosphere and create a pretext for more aggression.

But then the truth seeped through the cracks. As Axios's Barak Ravid reported, citing two senior U.S. officials, the entire story shrank under scrutiny. Israeli intelligence, which has a long history of fabricating lies about Iran, had not uncovered a specific, organized, or detailed plan to kill Trump. The intelligence amounted to Iranian figures "merely discussing the matter." The dramatic "plot" that the Wall Street Journal framed with such urgency turned out to be nothing more than talk. The gap between a "plot" and "people talking" is the whole story. The Zionist media machine tried to manufacture a crisis, and once again, the truth exposed their lies.

Now consider the psychological reality behind Trump's constant insistence that Iran wants to kill him. This man, who sits in the White House, cannot sleep at night because his own conscience haunts him. He knows he ordered the murder of a great Leader and the innocent children of the Minab school. He knows he has killed innocent people. Every time he claims Iran is plotting against him, he is not telling the truth; he is projecting his own guilt. Psychologically, when a person is consumed by fear of revenge, they see enemies everywhere. Trump is terrified because he knows that justice is real and that innocent blood cries out from the earth. His paranoia is not evidence of an Iranian plot; it is evidence of his own criminal mind. He knows the Iranian nation has every right to hold him accountable, and that haunts him day and night. So he invents a story to distract from his own atrocities. But the world is no longer fooled. The more he shouts about being a target, the more he reveals his fear of the inevitable day of reckoning.

Is it really surprising that Iranian officials discuss revenge against the man who ordered the assassination of Lt. Gen. Soleimani and targeted



the Supreme Leader? It is about as surprising as the weather. But discussing revenge is a long way from an operational plan. The Americans know this; the Israeli regime knows this. Yet they chose to run with a story that would poison the atmosphere, hoping to derail any progress and paint Iran as a rogue actor. The truth has a way of surfacing. This narrative collapsed because it was built on sand, just like the lies about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

For the people of Iran, this vindication does not change the mission. The banner raised was not a diplomatic document; it was a cry from the heart. It was the voice of a people wronged, sanctioned, and threatened for decades by American imperialism and Zionist arrogance, yet refusing to bow. The banners and chants were not about the whims of American media; they were about the dignity of the Iranian nation and the blood of its martyrs.

This is a time for clarity. The world must understand that Iranians are not the creators of chaos, but its victims. They have been patient; they have negotiated; they have shown restraint. But patience has limits, and the memory of martyrs of the Minab school and the Leader is eternal. The Americans and their Zionist allies can shrink stories and rewrite headlines, but they cannot shrink the will of a nation that has endured more than most and still stands tall.

What happened in Tehran to Mashad was not just a protest; it was a promise. The slogans were not just words; they were a lifeline to the future. The world listened, and the echo was louder than their propaganda.

While the United States and the Zionist regime try to reframe the conversation, the reality is simple: the people of Iran have spoken. The history made in Mashhad will serve as a beacon for all who resist oppression. The streets were filled with determination, and the sky witnessed a declaration that will not be silenced. On that day, Iran showed its true face. Brave sons and daughters stood shoulder to shoulder. They did not fear American bombs, Israeli threats, railway strikes, or media lies. They marched with pride and chanted with power. They proved that the Islamic Republic is not just a government, but a civilization that will not surrender.

Trump and Netanyahu thought they could break Iran. They thought sanctions and sabotage would make the people kneel. They were wrong. Iranians are not made of weak material; they are made of steel and faith. On July 9, the streets of Mashhad became the grave of American illusions. The millions who gathered buried the dream of regime change, the hope of the Zionists, and the lie that Iran is isolated.

"We will rise" is not just a slogan; it is the heartbeat of the Iranian nation. It is the echo of history and the promise of tomorrow. From the alleys of Mashhad to the mountains of the north, this voice will continue to grow. It will become the anthem of a people who refuse to be erased, sending shockwaves through the corridors of power in Washington and Tel Aviv. And they will feel it. Like an earthquake, the Iranians' voice shakes the foundations of the hegemonic system. The ground trembles under those who think they can dictate Iranian destiny. On July 9, a seed was planted that will grow into a tree casting its shadow over the entire region. The American empire and the Zionist regime are weaker than they appear, and Iranians know this truth.

From Mashhad to Quds, from Tehran to Beirut, free peoples rise with Iran, a nation whose children will never forget, and whose justice will never forgive the criminals in Washington and Tel Aviv. No railway strike, no media lie, no American threat can halt this march. Empires may crumble, but Iran stands tall, delivering the reckoning they cannot outrun. When the dust settles, the world will see the truth: Iran rose while tyrants fell, and this roar will echo through eternity. History was made in Mashhad when millions chanted: "We will rise."

Death to America.
Death to Israel.
Long live resistance.

What has the Gaza genocide revealed about Israeli politics?

From page 1 ▶ Yet that unity proved to be a temporary response to an extraordinary shock rather than the foundation of lasting political consensus. As the genocidal war continued, disagreements resurfaced over its objectives, matters related to handling the captives, arrangements for "the day after" and the boundaries between the political and military leadership.

The process ultimately ended with Gantz and Eisenkot leaving the emergency government, and political polarization returned to the forefront.

This shift was not limited to the political elite. It was also reflected in public confidence in the regime's leadership. According to an Israeli poll conducted in March 2025, 87 percent of settlers believed Netanyahu should bear responsibility for the October 7 failure, while 72.5 percent supported his resignation either immediately or after the war ended.

By July 2025, confidence in Netanyahu stood at only 40 percent among the general public, compared with 68.5 percent for Chief of Staff Eyal Zamir. By June 2026, 61 percent of Israelis believed Netanyahu should not run in the next elections.

Over time, the leadership crisis expanded beyond the dispute between the government and the opposition to encompass relations between the government and the security

and judicial institutions.

The controversy extended beyond the dismissal of the Shin Bet chief, which reached the Supreme Court, to the appointment of a new Mossad director. That appointment was surrounded by legal objections and court challenges before ultimately being approved by the Supreme Court, illustrating how the dispute had shifted from managing the war itself to managing the institutions of the regime.

The unity imposed by the shock of October 7, therefore, never evolved into a sustainable political consensus. As the genocide dragged on, partisan and institutional divisions returned to the forefront, extending from conflict between the government and the opposition to tensions between the government and the security and judicial establishments, making the leadership crisis one of the war's most significant domestic consequences.

Equally important, the genocidal war erupted at a moment when the regime was experiencing one of the deepest periods of internal division in its short history, driven by the judicial reform crisis and the unprecedented political and social protests and confrontations that accompanied it.

During the first days of the genocide, many believed the security threat would push Israelis to overcome their internal crisis,



or at least postpone it until the fighting in Gaza ended.

The prolonged genocidal war, however, exposed the limits of that assumption. Rather than becoming an opportunity to resolve the structural crisis that had preceded it, the war of attrition interacted with the existing political reality and weak leadership, bringing old disputes back to the surface while adding new fault lines directly related to the conduct of the genocidal war itself.

Instead of remaining an external factor that temporarily imposed unity, the genocidal war became one of the forces reshaping the regime's political and social landscape.

This assessment is no longer confined to political observation; it has also become part of the regime's own research. Studies show one of the aggression's most significant consequences

is identified as the deepening of polarization within Israeli politics and society, dividing itself as one of the genocide's domestic outcomes rather than a crisis that predated it.

Opinion polls likewise confirm that this transformation extends beyond research assessments and is reflected in the Zionist regime's public opinion. A survey conducted in June 2026 showed confidence in the government stood at 57 percent among coalition supporters, compared with only 5 percent among opposition supporters. The gap reflects not only differing evaluations of the government but also the extent to which the war itself has become a subject of political polarization. The same survey found that 66 percent of settlers believed social solidarity was weak or limited, rising to 80 percent among opposition supporters.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Piazza: Week 3 will be tough, but we're ready

TEHRAN - Iran men's national volleyball team head coach Roberto Piazza says his side face a major challenge in Week 3 of the 2026 Volleyball Nations League (VNL), but believes it is the perfect opportunity to prove they can compete with the world's best.

Iran will take on Ukraine, Germany, Slovenia, and Turkey in Week Three, which begins on Wednesday in Belgrade, Serbia.

"It's going to be a tough week, but it's also a great opportunity for us because we can prove that we are on the same level as the top teams in the world," Piazza said.

The Italian coach praised the team's preparation, emphasizing that the training camp has allowed the players to focus on their own development and reflect on the progress they've made since the opening week of the competition.

"This camp has been really positive because we've been able to focus on ourselves. We've looked back at how we played in Week 1 and how much we've improved."

Piazza highlighted Iran's competitive performances against volleyball powerhouses such as France, the United States, Japan, and Cuba, saying those matches have significantly boosted the team's confidence.

"Focusing on those performances is very important for our confidence. We have to believe it's possible. Now we're starting to realize that what once seemed out of reach is actually in our hands. That's the most important thing."

Looking ahead to the opening match against Ukraine, Piazza expects a highly motivated opponent.

"The first match against Ukraine will be crucial, as always. I'm sure they'll be looking for revenge after what happened last season in Brazil. It's also the first match of the week, so they'll be fully prepared."

He added that both teams enter the contest with healthy squads.

"We've recovered from our injuries, and so have they. Everything has been reset, so it will be a very difficult match."

Piazza also warned that Iran's second match against Germany could be even more demanding.

"Germany have had an outstanding tournament so far. Then we'll face Slovenia and Turkey, who are also very strong teams."

Despite the difficult schedule, Piazza remains optimistic.

"It's a tough week, but it's exactly the kind of challenge we need. Just as we showed against Japan, France, and the United States, we want to prove that we belong at this level."

He concluded with a reminder of how fine the margins are in elite volleyball.

"At this level, the difference is often just two points."

Iran to face Kuwait at 2026 Asian Junior Handball Championship opener

TEHRAN - Iran will open the 19th Asian Men's Junior Handball Championship with a match against Kuwait.

Iran are drawn in Group B along with Japan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Qatar, India, and the UAE.

Group A consists of China, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Chinese Taipei, and Hong Kong. The 19th Asian Men's Junior Handball Championship will be staged in Chuzhou of China from 15 to 26 July 2026.

The event serves as qualification event for the 2027 IHF Men's Junior World Championship.

Republic of Korea hold the distinction of being the most decorated team overall,

having won a total of 13 medals, comprising three gold, seven silver, and three bronze medals. The host nation China, claimed their lone championship title during the 2nd edition in 1990, which was held in Tehran, Iran.

The Asian Men's Junior Handball Championship is the official competition organized by Asian Handball Federation for junior men's national handball teams of Asia, and takes place every two years.

In addition to crowning the Asian champions, the tournament also serves as a qualifying tournament for the IHF Men's Junior World Championship.

Iran aim title at 2026 AVC Boys' U18 Volleyball Championship

TEHRAN - Iran will start the 2026 AVC Boys' U18 Volleyball Championship, aiming to win the title for the eighth time.

The young Persians will play the Philippines on Sunday before facing India and Bahrain in the following days in Pool B.

Pool A features defending champions China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, and Indonesia. Pool C is composed of Pakistan, Thailand, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan; while Pool D includes Japan, South Korea, Australia, and Saudi Arabia.

The 2026 AVC Boys' U18 Volleyball Championship is the 16th edition of the Asian Men's U18 Volleyball Championship, a biennial international volleyball tournament organized by the Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) with China Volleyball Association (CVA).

The tournament is scheduled to take place at Haikou Wuyuanhe Gymnasium in Haikou, China from 12 to 18 July.

This tournament will serve as the qualification tournament for the FIVB Volleyball Boys' U19 World Championship. The top four teams of the tournament will advance to the 2027 FIVB Volleyball Boys' U19 World Championship as the AVC representatives.

China are the defending champions after beating Iran 3-2 at the final in Manama.

Iran are the most decorated team in the competition, having won seven times, followed by Japan with three titles.

Players must be born on or after January 1, 2009. Asia U18 players who have already played once in the FIVB U19 Championship cannot play in AVC U18 Championship as it is a qualification event for the following year of FIVB U19 event. In principle, the players can participate in Asian U18 and FIVB U19 only once.

European clubs eye Iran star Mohebi

TEHRAN - Iran international Mohammad Mohebi has reportedly attracted interest from several European clubs following his impressive performances at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, including his goal against New Zealand.

According to Russian outlet Championat, the 26-year-old winger could be nearing the end of his spell in the Russian Premier League after an outstanding season with Rostov.

The report claims that Mohebi has received offers from a number of European clubs, with Austrian giants Red Bull Salzburg emerging as the leading contender for his signature. Salzburg have built a strong reputation as a stepping stone for talented players seeking moves to Europe's elite clubs.

Although no official agreement has been reached between Rostov and any interested club, Championat reports that Mohebi is keen to take on a new challenge, making a summer departure from Russia increasingly likely.

If a deal is completed, the Iranian international could be set to feature in the UEFA Champions League next season.

Mohebi has made 80 appearances for Rostov in all competitions, scoring 15 goals and providing 11 assists during his time with the Russian club.

Tchogha Zanbil, Iran's first UNESCO World Heritage site

TEHRAN - Situated about 40 km southeast of UNESCO-listed Susa, Tchogha Zanbil preserves the remains of Dur-Untash, a religious city founded in the 13th century BC by the Elamite king Untash-Napirisha. At its center stands a monumental ziggurat that is regarded as one of the best-preserved examples of its kind in the world.

The UN cultural body inscribed Tchogha Zanbil during the third session of the World Heritage Committee in 1979, recognizing the site's outstanding universal value as a testimony to the achievements of the Elamite civilization in architecture, engineering, water management and urban planning. The site is Iran's first site registered in UNESCO list.

The stepped structure originally consisted of five levels and rose to a height of about 52 meters. Approximately 25 meters of the monument remain standing today, reflecting the engineering and architectural capabilities of the Elamite civilization more than three millennia after its construction.

Archaeologists say the significance of Tchogha Zanbil extends beyond its monumental architecture. The city was designed with three concentric defensive walls and contained temples, palaces, royal tombs, ceremonial spaces and service facilities arranged within an integrated urban plan.

One of the site's most notable features is its ancient



water-management system. Because the nearby Dez River flowed at a lower elevation than the city, direct water transfer was not possible. Engineers constructed a canal of about 45 km from the Karkheh River to supply the settlement. Archaeological evidence indicates that water was first deposited in sedimentation basins before being distributed through a network of ceramic pipes, a system that many researchers consider among the earliest known examples of water treatment and management in the ancient world.

The site has also yielded thousands of inscribed bricks bearing Elamite and Akkadian texts, providing important information on

construction practices, religious beliefs, political organization and royal ideology in the Elamite kingdom.

Dur-Untash was eventually devastated during the Assyrian campaigns led by Ashurbanipal in the 7th century BC and was gradually abandoned. The city remained buried for centuries until renewed interest in the 1930s led to systematic excavations. Extensive archaeological work beginning in the early 1950s under French archaeologist Roman Ghirshman brought the major elements of the sacred city back to light.

Today, Tchogha Zanbil remains one of Iran's most important cultural tourism destinations and a

symbol of the country's contribution to the shared heritage of humanity. Its inscription marked the beginning of Iran's presence on the UNESCO World Heritage List, which now includes numerous historic sites across the country, among them Persepolis, Naqsh-e Rostam Square and Pasargadae.

The renewed focus on Tchogha Zanbil ahead of the upcoming UNESCO meeting in Busan, a large port city in South Korea, highlights not only the importance of preserving ancient monuments but also the enduring global significance of one of the earliest urban and ceremonial centers of the ancient Near East.

Ardabil plans permanent venue for nomad migration festival



TEHRAN - A permanent venue for the Shahsavan nomad migration festival will be established in Bileh Savar county in Iran's north-

western Ardabil province under a project to create a nomadic Ecocamp, a provincial official said on Saturday.

Jalil Jabbari, director-general of cultural heritage, tourism and handicrafts for Ardabil province, announced the plan during a meeting to review issues and development needs in Bileh Savar county, Miras-e Aria reported.

Jabbari said the Ecocamp would be developed in cooperation with relevant government agencies and would serve as the permanent site for the Shahsavan nomad migration festival.

According to Jabbari, the planned complex could host a range of events and activities, including handicrafts markets, nomadic accommodation facilities and agricultural tourism programs.

He said one of the main concerns of tourism operators in Ardabil province is the seasonal nature of tourism demand.

Jabbari said the climate conditions in the northern parts of the province, particularly during the second half of the year, could help attract visitors outside the traditional tourism season.

He said the ecocamp would contribute to the development of tourism infrastructure and attractions in northern Ardabil province and support efforts to expand tourism activity throughout the year.

Iranology research institute to be established in Fars province

TEHRAN - The Fars provincial department of cultural heritage, tourism and handicrafts and Shiraz University of Art signed a cooperation agreement on Saturday to establish a self-funded Iranology research institute in the southern province of Fars, officials said.

The agreement was signed during a ceremony attended by university officials, faculty members, researchers and cultural heritage authorities, according to statements released by the provincial cultural heritage department.

Behzad Moridi, director-general of cultural heritage, tourism and handicrafts in Fars province, said the institute would focus on interdisciplinary and applied research related to Iranian identity, cultural heritage and tourism.

"No program can achieve sustainable results without scientific and research support," Moridi said at the signing ceremony. "The path of development for cultural heritage, tourism and hand-



icrafts should be based on specialized studies and the capacities of universities."

Moridi said the initiative was intended to narrow the gap between academic research and executive implementation. He said researchers often produce valuable findings that are not sufficiently used in policymaking, while government agencies do not fully benefit from scientific capacities.

Citizen donates three Iron Age artifacts to Iran's Ilam cultural heritage authority



TEHRAN - A resident of Chavar county in western Iran has donated three historical artifacts from the Iron Age to the provincial

cultural heritage authority in Ilam, the head of the organization said on Saturday.

Farzad Sharifi, director-general of cultural heritage, tourism and handicrafts in Ilam province, said the donated objects included a ceramic teapot, a ceramic bowl and a ceramic goblet. Expert examinations identified the items as belonging to the Iron Age, he said.

Sharifi said the artifacts were handed over voluntarily by a citizen of Chavar county and described the donation as an example of public participation in protecting cultural heritage.

"Public participation plays a decisive role

He said the idea of establishing the Iranology institute emerged after months of discussions between the provincial department, Shiraz University of Art and a group of academics and researchers.

According to Moridi, the institute will conduct research on Iranian identity, tangible and intangible heritage and the country's cultural capacities. He said it would seek to support the preservation of historical sites, the development of cultural tourism and the strengthening of the heritage economy through applied studies.

Under the agreement, the institute will operate through five specialized groups: archaeology and tangible heritage; architecture, restoration, urban planning and adaptive reuse; art and handicrafts; anthropology, linguistics and identity studies; and heritage management, tourism economics and branding.

He said the objects would be registered, documented and stored in secure cultural heritage repositories in accordance with regulations.

According to Sharifi, the artifacts will also be made available for specialized research after the completion of expert assessments.

Sharifi thanked the donor for what he called a responsible act that contributes to safeguarding the historical heritage of Ilam province and Iran's cultural legacy.

Iran chairs event at UN headquarters on Intl. Day of Combating Sand and Dust Storms

TEHRAN – Iran's ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations, Amir-Saeed Iravani, chaired a high-level event held to mark the International Day for Combating Sand and Dust Storms (SDSs) in New York on July 10.

The event was organized by the Permanent Missions of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, the Republic of Senegal and Mongolia, in cooperation with members of the United Nations Coalition on Combating Sand and Dust Storms, providing a platform to exchange experiences, strengthen partnerships and identify actions to advance implementation at the national, regional and global levels.

At Iran's initiative, in 2023, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed July 12 as the International Day of Combating Sand and Dust Storms, recognizing that SDSs and their negative impacts at different scales are issues of international concern.

This year, the day was marked under the theme: 'From Source to Impact: Protecting Land and Life from Sand and Dust Storms'. The event brought together Member States, United Nations entities, regional and international organizations, experts and other stakeholders to strengthen international cooperation and accelerate action to address the growing impacts of sand and dust storms.

As highlighted by the four host countries, dust storms, beyond degrading land and the environment, have severely impacted human health, food and water security, agriculture, transportation, infrastructure, economic activities, biodiversity, and the achievement of sustainable development goals.

Addressing the event, Iravani highlighted that dust storms have become a global challenge affecting development, health, food security, transportation, the economy, climate change, and the environment, which requires a comprehensive, preventive approach based on broad international cooperation to be dealt with, IRNA reported.

Besides climate change, drought, desertification, land degradation, and the unsustainable use of natural resources, conflicts and wars, particularly in the West Asia, have resulted into land degradation, deterioration of natural resource management, and emergence or expansion of dust and sandstorm hotspots, he noted.

Highlighting the impact of uni-



lateral coercive measures and sanctions on the capacity of developing countries to protect their environments, Iravani stressed the need to eliminate barriers to environmental cooperation and ensure equitable access for affected countries to necessary resources, technology, and knowledge.

The official welcomed the regional programs of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific as well as the inter-regional cooperation between the Commission and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

He described the United Nations Decade on Combating Sand and Dust Storms (2025–2035) a significant opportunity to convert political commitments into practical, results-oriented actions.

During the interactive dialogue session, representatives of UN member states called for strengthening scientific, technical, and financial collaborations, developing early warning systems, ensuring sustainable land management, combating desertification, and enhancing the resilience of vulnerable communities.

The participants noted that SDSs know no political border, and that no individual country can tackle the challenge on its own. Accordingly, enhancing the role of the UN, fostering cooperation among source countries where dust originates, transit countries, and destination countries that receive dusts, as well as effectively supporting developing countries are essential to achieve sustainable responses.

The four countries, Iran, Iraq, Senegal, and Mongolia, issued a

joint statement reaffirming their commitment to promoting regional and international cooperation to combat dust storms. They called for governments, the UN, financial institutions, regional organizations, scientific centers, private sectors, and other stakeholders to enhance their cooperation in areas like prevention, monitoring, early warning, land restoration, knowledge and technology transfer, capacity building, and securing financial resources.

omprehensive plan for combating SDSs

Dust storms are significant environmental challenges that adversely affect food security, human health, and the sustainable development process at national and regional levels.

Being located in an arid and semi-arid area, Iran has been negatively impacted by climate change. The rise in temperatures, drop in precipitation, intensified droughts, and frequent SDSs have not only threatened the ecosystem and biodiversity but also jeopardized the country's food security by exacerbating soil erosion, expanding desertification, and declining agricultural productivity.

In August 2025, the national specialized working group on sand and dust storms (SDSs), in cooperation with other governmental bodies, approved a comprehensive plan to address SDSs, which will be used as a national reference document to enhance the country's resilience against one of the most acute environmental threats.

At the 29th meeting of the national specialized working group on SDSs management, the 150-page comprehensive plan was de-

veloped with cross-sectoral collaboration of 15 executive agencies and government bodies, including the DOE, the ministries of agriculture, health, energy, and transport, as well as the Natural Resources Organization, Crisis Management Organization, and Meteorological Organization, IRNA reported.

The plan involves ten key strategies, hundreds of specific actions, performance indicators, an implementation timeline, and institutional labor division among responsible agencies.

In July 2025, President Masoud Pezeshkian issued an order calling for the establishment of a specialized working group to address SDSs, which have turned into a significant public health concern in the country.

In this line, the DOE presented a report on the hazards of SDSs as a comprehensive and growing threat, and enumerated the national plans and strategies to mitigate the impacts of SDSs, IRNA reported.

Highlighting the significance of preserving the environment, as a critical issue of the country, the president ordered the establishment of a working group, consisting of experts, academics, representatives of ministries and executive agencies, to prepare and implement operational plans to combat the dust phenomenon, drawing on successful international experiences.

Dust storms are major environmental challenges that adversely impact food security, human health, and the sustainable development process at national and regional levels.

Iranian students secure first place at Intl. Mathematics Summer Camp

TEHRAN – The six-member Iranian team has shown brilliance, claiming the championship at the fourth International Mathematics Summer Camp (IMSC) held in Beijing, China, from June 17 to July 12, demonstrating exceptional teamwork and dedication to mathematics.

Aryan Zandi, Arsha Azizoddin, Seyyed Amir-Hossein Tayeb, Alireza Sharifi, Radin Nik-Eqbali, and Ali Joonbakhsh Najafabadi won 4 gold medals and two silver medals, outperforming students from Poland and Brazil, IRNA reported.

This year's event brought together 58 teams from 46 countries and regions, including 41 international teams and 17 teams from China, with over 500 Chinese and international students, teachers, and coaches in total.

The event served as a training ground for the upcoming International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), which will take place in Shanghai, China, from July 13 to 21.

The program included more than 340 IMO lectures, 15 IMO showcase lectures, 10 optional seminars, as well as mock tests and problem sessions delivered by 20 experienced lecturers. It also included three distinguished guest lectures delivered by famous mathematicians.

In the third IMSC, the Iranian team ranked second, grabbing a gold medal, four silver medals, and a bronze medal.

Iran won two gold medals, three silver medals, and a bronze medal at the 66th IMO 2025, held from July 10-20 in Australia.

Recent achievements

Iran's Physics Olympiad team, consisting of five students, achieved an astounding triumph at the International Scientific Physics Olympiad 2026, winning two gold medals, a silver, and a bronze.

Hirbod Foudazi was ranked first among all participants, receiving the title of absolute winner, achieving the best result in the Theoretical Exam, and grabbing the gold medal and the national diamond, IRNA reported.

Amir-Sam Goharpey won the other gold medal; Kian Zarrabian and Mohammad Mir-mohammadi received a silver medal and a bronze medal, respectively.

The ISPhO-2026 Olympiad was held exclusively online from June 21 to June 30, 2026. All events took place on the Olympiad's website and consisted of:

Theoretical exam: three problems, one of which involved elements of computer modeling (no special programming skills required).

Experimental exam: working with specialized software that emulates experimental

equipment, as well as working with experimental data.

Four Iranian female students attended the Open International Geography Olympiad (OpenGeo) 2026, winning four medals, including a silver medal and three bronze medals for the first time.

Artina Heidari won the silver medal; Seta-yesh Haqnazari, Sana Karbalaei Vali, and Helia Khodabandelou received the bronze medals, IRIB reported.

The achievement showcased the Iranian students' comprehensive expertise in geography and serves as a significant step in preparing students for successful participation in the International Geography Olympiad (IGO).

The OpenGeo aims to promote interest in geography among secondary school students worldwide; develop geographical thinking, analytical, and practical skills among school students and future geographers; and support international connections between young geographers.

Organized by the Faculty of Geography, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow State University High School, and Primakov School, the competition was held online on June 20 and 21, with competitors from 27 countries attending the contest.

The participants were students aged between 14 and 19 years old enrolled in secondary school or graduating in 2026.

The competition consisted of a Written Response Test (WRT) taking 2.5 hours, a Practical and Mapping Exercise (PME) taking 2.5 hours, and a Multimedia Test (MMT) taking one hour.

According to the head of Young Scholars Club, Reza Hosseini, the number of students participating in Olympiad competitions has increased from 87,000 in the past Iranian year 1403 (March 2024- March 2025) to 121,000 this year, indicating an increase of 40 percent.

This year, the number of students has been the highest over the past ten years, ISNA quoted Hosseini as saying.

The provinces of Tehran, Khorasan Razavi, and Mazandaran had the largest number of participants. The highest number of students in relation to student population belonged to North Khorasan (with 24 percent), Mazandaran, South Khorasan, and Kordestan, respectively.

The number of participants in Markazi, Kerman, and Ardabil provinces experienced an increase of 232, 119, and 109 percent, respectively, Hosseini noted.

Boys accounted for 52 percent of participants, and girls accounted for 48 percent, the official added.

The importance of cyberspace in martyred Leader's views

TEHRAN - The martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, once made a memorable statement that reflected his strategic view of cyberspace: "If I were not the Leader of the Revolution today, I would certainly become the head of the country's cyberspace sector." This remark showed how important he believed cyberspace was in shaping the future of both Iran and the world.

According to his vision, cyberspace was not simply a collection of communication tools or digital technologies. He viewed it as a key arena that influences culture, the economy, education, security, science, media, public opinion, and people's lifestyles. He believed that the future of nations would increasingly be shaped in this digital environment.

The martyred Leader consistently described cyberspace as an opportunity to raise public awareness, strengthen insight, improve communication, promote scientific progress, and enhance the country's soft power. At the same time, he warned against leaving its management uncontrolled or allowing foreign powers to dominate its infrastructure and governance.

In his view, managing cyberspace did not mean limiting its opportunities. Instead, it meant protecting national independence, strengthening security, ensuring long-term stability, and making the best possible use of digital opportunities for the benefit of the people and the country.

He was also known for his forward-looking perspective on technological developments. Years before recent conflicts highlighted new digital threats, he warned about cognitive warfare, poor data governance, neglecting public opinion and users' needs, dependence on foreign digital infrastructure, and emerging cyber threats. He repeatedly stressed the importance of future studies, continuous monitoring, and long-term planning.

The late Leader believed that technology is truly valuable only when it serves humanity by strengthening families, protecting the mental well-being of young people, promoting public ethics, preserving cultural identity, and improving people's quality of life. From this perspective, technological progress without investment in human and cultural development could never be complete or sustainable.

He also described artificial intelligence as more than an emerging technology. In his view, AI is one of the most important elements of national power and a key factor in shaping the future of the world. He emphasized that Iran should not remain only a user or consumer of AI technologies. Instead, the country should rely on its scientists, universities, and research centers to develop the underlying technologies and infrastructure, because future global competition will depend on leadership in this field. He believed that technological dependence on AI could eventually lead to dependence in future national decision-making.

For this reason, he considered artificial intelligence a major opportunity to improve governance, increase efficiency, advance scientific research, strengthen national power, and safeguard Iran's future independence. He believed that active and innovative participation in this field is a shared responsibility for government officials, academics, researchers, and members of the country's technology ecosystem.

The late Leader also emphasized the close connection between scientific research, technological development, industry, innovation, and wealth creation. He believed that scientific strength would become lasting only if it helped solve real social challenges, supported strategic technologies, strengthened knowledge-based companies, increased domestic production, and created economic value through knowledge.

For this reason, supporting talented experts, directing research toward national priorities, and transforming scientific achievements into valuable products and services remained among his key strategic priorities.

Today, as the digital economy, artificial intelligence, and emerging technologies become the main drivers of global development, these recommendations have become more relevant than ever. They continue to provide a clear roadmap for advancing technological capability and supporting Iran's long-term development.

Iran, WIPO underline need to bolster ties



TEHRAN – The head of the State Organization for Registration of Deeds and Property, Hasan Babaei, and the director general of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Daren Tang, have highlighted the need to expand technical cooperation and expedite the implementation of collaborative projects.

The officials met on the sidelines of the Sixty-Eighth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO, taking place at WIPO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, from July 7 to 15, IRIB reported.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed recent developments in Iran's intellectual property system, ongoing joint efforts, and explored the potential for the enhancement of interactions.

Elaborating on the country's measures in 2025, Babaei stated that the signing of the WIPO treaty on intellectual property, genetic resources, and associated traditional knowl-

edge, and accession to the Vienna and Strasbourg Agreements, indicate Iran's determination to strengthen its participation in the international intellectual property system.

He referred to the implementation of the new Industrial Property Law in Iran as a significant legal and institutional development for the country. The new law has taken into account the standards and obligations outlined in relevant international instruments, paving the way for updating the system for the registration and protection of industrial property rights.

The official went on to say that supporting the intellectual property and innovation ecosystem is one of Iran's key priorities, and emphasized the need to develop the capacities of specialists in this sector, expand intellectual property services to small and mid-size enterprises (SMEs), and foster more effective connections between the registration system, academic institutions, businesses, and innovation stakeholders.

For his part, Tang said Iran is a country with an ancient civilization, a rich cultural heritage, and significant scientific and innovative capabilities. He underlined the significance of benefiting from these capabilities to develop the intellectual property system and strengthen ties between WIPO and Iran.

The official went on to announce WIPO's readiness to deepen technical ties with the country.



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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

The weakest person is he who is unable to secure a friend for himself, and weaker than him is he who loses his friend.
Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon:12:10 Evening: 19:43 Dawn: 3:15 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 4:58 (tomorrow)

ICRO chief urges media activists to convey realities about Iran



TEHRAN- To counter distorted narratives and showcase the authentic cultural and social landscape of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hojjatoleslam Mohammad-Mehdi Imanipour, the head of Iran's Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO), hosted a high-profile gathering titled "Tell the World About Iran" on Tuesday evening.

The event saw the participation of over 100 prominent influencers and media activists hailing from 27 different countries, marking a significant diplomatic effort to engage with digital content creators on a global scale.

Addressing the international delegates, Hojjatoleslam Imanipour opened the session by expressing gratitude to the participants, stating that the Iranian people would never forget the empathy shown during their times of hardship. He lauded the free-thinking nature of the guests, asserting that their commitment to speaking the truth constitutes a vital service to the global community.

Turning to the recent national mourning, Imanipour highlighted the significance of the funeral procession for the Martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

He described the event as a "referendum," stating that the million-man marches signify the Iranian people's renewed vote of confidence in the Islamic Republic of Iran. He emphasized that the legacy and school of thought established by the Martyred Leader pose a direct challenge to hegemony-seeking powers, who consequently seek its

destruction.

In a sharp critique of Western foreign policy, the ICRO head asserted that the conflict between the United States and Iran is not merely about nuclear issues, proxies, or human rights, but is fundamentally a clash of civilizations and cultures. "The Americans are concerned that Iran challenges the American liberal-democratic system," he stated, adding that Iran is currently battling a campaign of "media terrorism" designed to distort the truth.

Imanipour further urged the global community not to forget the legitimate hatred and opposition toward the Zionist regime. He noted that the primary message emanating from the recent funeral processions was one of "rising up," arguing that mere verbal condemnation of enemies is insufficient.

"Our war today is a war of truth against falsehood," Imanipour declared. He asserted that Iranians do not succumb to threats, but rather transform such challenges into opportunities. He concluded by stating that the blood of the Martyred Leader would create new opportunities for the nation, as Iran strives toward a new civilization rooted in the East and guided by religious teachings.

The ICRO head closed his remarks by reaffirming Iran's commitment to interfaith dialogue and the value of communication between different religions, framing the initiative as part of a broader diplomatic strategy to enhance the country's "soft power" and foster intercultural dialogue in an era of digital polarization.

New painting by Abdolhamid Ghadirian bids farewell to Martyr Leader

TEHRAN – The latest artwork by Iranian painter Abdolhamid Ghadirian, titled "In the Path of Light," has been unveiled.

Using oil on canvas, with dimensions of 190 by 150 cm, the painting narrates the magnificent yet heartbreaking moments of millions of people from all walks of life bidding farewell to the martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, ILNA reported.

Reflecting on the creation process, Ghadirian said, "I began working on this piece after the martyrdom of the Leader. I spent a long time thinking about what to depict. In art, the subject and the narrative are important, but what shapes the narrative is the medium of its expression. I have been working on the concept of 'light' for years, and I even held an exhibition titled 'The Light Has Come'. I felt that this event was beautifully intertwined with that very concept."

Regarding his perspective on the character of the Martyr Leader, the painter noted, "What stood out to me about his character was that he always strived for God's will to be manifested rather than his own personal will, and for the people, in accordance with the verses of the Quran, to align themselves with the divine plan."

"The magnificent funeral procession held in Iraq was astonishing, and the enemy's anger is the result of a great luminous event. God has increased the contrast between light and darkness to such an extent that there



is no longer any room for shades of gray," Ghadirian added.

Describing the visual atmosphere of the work, he said, "I tried to make the space of the painting dynamic and alive—a space in which the slogan 'We Must Rise' is manifested. I felt that the Martyr Leaders' body was no longer in the hands of the people. We must learn to coexist with the 'Unseen'. In eschatological discussions, we are confronted with lights, and this forward movement is driven by the light of the Ahl al-Bayt (AS)."

Ayatollah Khamenei was martyred on February 28, along with

several members of his immediate family, during the first hours of the nearly forty-day war launched by the United States and the Israeli regime. On July 10, the Martyr Leader was laid to rest at the holy shrine of Imam Reza (AS) in the northeastern city of Mashhad, Khorasan Razavi Province.

Born in Tehran, Abdolhamid Ghadirian, 66, completed his studies in painting and got his master's degree at the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Tehran. He has also received a first-class art certificate – equivalent to a PhD – in the field of costume de-

sign from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance.

Ghadirian started his professional activities in the field of painting in 1981 and cinema in 1986. So far, he has designed costumes for dozens of movies and TV series; the costume design of the "Saint Mary" series is one of his works.

His other achievements in the cultural and artistic field include artistic management of the construction of the Museum of Tehranology, writing books and publishing articles, and holding individual and group exhibitions inside and outside the country.

Iranian director restages "Waiting for Godot" in Tehran

TEHRAN- Iranian director Amir Hossein Javani is restaging an adaptation of Irish novelist and theater director Samuel Beckett's 1953 play "Waiting for Godot" at Labkhand Theater Hall in Tehran.

After more than 500 performances across Iran, the play has now returned to Tehran for a limited run.

Amir Mohammad Rafikhah, Hamid Rahimi, Ahmadreza Khaksari and Ali Mahmoudi are the main members of the cast for the play, which is based on a Persian translation by Najaf Daryabandari.

"Waiting for Godot" was originally published in 1952 in French as "En attendant Godot". It was a true innovation in drama and the Theater of the Absurd's first theatrical success.

"Waiting for Godot" consists of conversations between Vladimir and Estragon, who are waiting for the arrival of the mysterious Godot, who continually sends word that he will appear but who never does.

They encounter Lucky and Pozzo, they discuss their miseries and their lots in life, they consider hanging themselves, and yet they wait.

Often perceived as being tramps, Vladimir and Estragon are a pair of human beings who do not know why they were put on earth; they make the tenuous assumption that there must be some point to their existence, and they look to Godot for enlightenment. Because they hold out hope for meaning and



direction, they acquire a kind of nobility that enables them to rise above their futile existence.

"Waiting for Godot" has become one of the most well-known and celebrated plays of the 20th century, earning critical acclaim for its unique approach to existential themes and its innovative use of language.

The play was first performed in Paris in 1953 and was an instant success, winning the prestigious Prix de la Critique award for best play. The play's success quickly spread, with performances taking place all over Europe

and eventually reaching the United States in 1956.

Over the years, "Waiting for Godot" has been performed in countless theatres around the world, with each new production offering its own interpretation of the play's complex themes and symbolism. The play's minimalist set, sparse dialogue, and absurdist humor have proven to be a challenging yet rewarding experience for actors, directors, and audiences alike.

"Waiting for Godot" has also been adapted into various forms of media, including a 2001 opera by composer Phillip Glass and a 2005 film adaptation directed by Michael Lindsay-Hogg.

In 1969, Samuel Beckett was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature for his contributions to modern drama, with "Waiting for Godot" being cited as one of his most significant works.

Beckett (1906–1989) was an Irish-born Nobel Prize-winning novelist, dramatist, poet, and translator, renowned for his existentialist themes. His works often explore bleak and tragicomic experiences of life, employing black comedy and absurdity. As his career progressed, Beckett's writing became increasingly minimalist, featuring linguistic experimentation and techniques like stream of consciousness and repetition. Living primarily in Paris, he wrote in both French and English and was involved in the French Resistance during World War II, earning the Croix de Guerre in 1949.

Europe's first Palestinian bookstore opens in Barcelona

Europe's first bookstore dedicated exclusively to Palestinian culture and history has opened in Barcelona's historic Gràcia district, marking the launch of a cultural initiative designed to promote Palestinian literature, history, and identity.

Named Finistres Palestine, the bookstore was established by the Finistres Foundation to foster a deeper understanding of Palestine through books, educational activities, and cultural events.

Organizers describe the project as more than a traditional bookstore, saying it aims to serve as a space for dialogue and learning about the Palestinian experience, Roya News reported.

Palestinian writer Mohammed Bittari, one of the project's supervisors, said the bookstore houses thousands of titles translated into several languages. The collection includes novels, poetry, theater, history, visu-

al arts, and academic works, offering what organizers describe as one of Europe's most comprehensive collections dedicated to Palestinian culture.

Bittari said the idea for the bookstore emerged after Palestinian books in a Spanish library were deliberately vandalized by having coffee poured over them. The incident prompted the foundation to create an independent space devoted entirely to Palestinian literature and intellectual production.

According to the organizers, the project is intended to protect and amplify Palestinian voices while providing readers with direct access to works produced by Palestinian authors both before and after the occupation.

The bookstore has drawn interest from academics, writers, local residents, and visitors to Barcelona. Organizers said publishing houses responded quickly to the initiative, helping expand the collection with newly re-

leased books related to Palestine.

In addition to selling books, the venue functions as a cultural and information center, offering reading recommendations, historical context, and discussions to help visitors better understand the Palestinian cause through literature and documented historical accounts.

The foundation plans to host lectures, educational programs, book launches, and literary events featuring Palestinian writers, artists, and intellectuals.

Organizers say they hope the bookstore will strengthen cultural dialogue and deepen awareness of Palestinian history and heritage across Europe.

"The bookstore is not just shelves of books," Bittari said. "It is a place where people can ask questions, exchange ideas, and learn about Palestine through its literature, history, and culture."

Cartoon of Day



Trump and the World Cup

Cartoonist: Fahd Bahady from Syria