



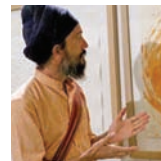
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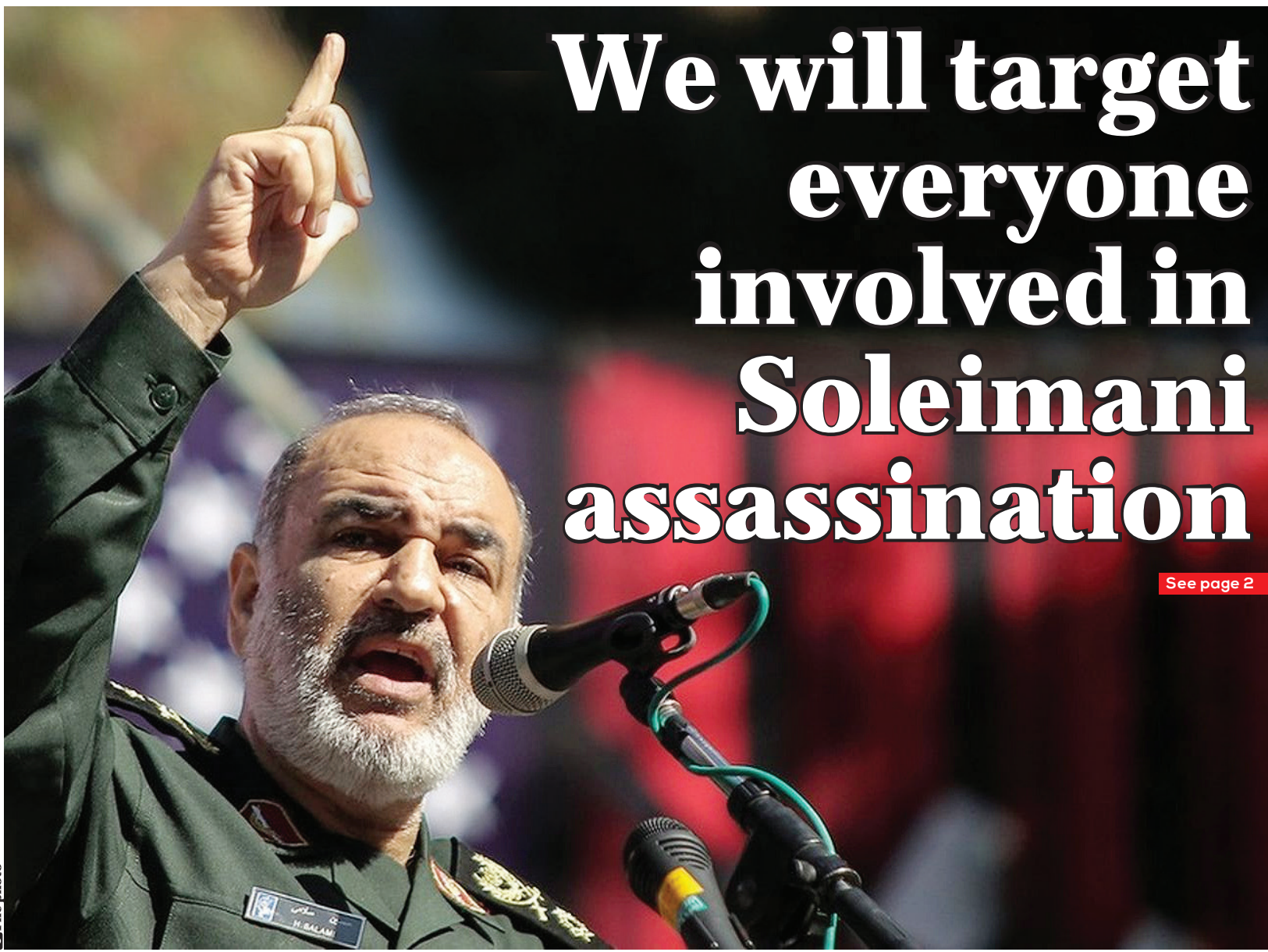
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Iranian megaproject nominated for IPMA excellence award

TEHRAN – Iran’s Bid Boland Gas Refinery project in southwestern Khuzestan Province has been nominated for the International Project Management Association (IPMA)’s Global Project Excellence Award at the energy sector, IRIB reported.

This project, which was recently awarded as the country’s top mega project by the Ninth National Project Management

Award, has been announced as one of the four final nominees for the IPMA’s 2020 Global Project Excellence Award at the energy sector.

As reported, according to the selection of the judges of this international competition, the megaprojects are divided and assessed in two categories of infrastructure and energy. ➔4

Iranian war veteran, suffering chemical injury, has not slept for 35 years

TEHRAN – One of the Iranian soldiers who had suffered a brain injury due to chemical attacks during the eight-year Iraqi imposed war - called the Sacred Defense - has not slept for 35 years as a result of the illness.

Seyed Ghazanfar Mousavi, born in 1995 in the village of Rahiz in Isfahan province, is retired from the Ministry of Interior. He is married and has 5 children.

From 1980 to 1985, he was in charge of logistics, mechanics, and transportation

during the war.

In 1985, he was wounded in Operation Valfajr 8 and suffered neurological and mental problems, but after various treatments and electric shock, got insomnia. Since July 1986, for 35 years, he never slept for a single moment.

“In those first moments, I was under a lot of pressure, and it was hard for me to accept that whatever I do, I cannot sleep,” he says about the first days of his sleep deprivation. ➔7

Poster, photo exhibits observe Iran-Iraq war anniversary

TEHRAN – The 40th anniversary of the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war is being observed by organizing two exhibitions of photos and posters in Tehran.

The Resaneh Cultural Center is playing host to an online exhibition of 40 posters by Mohammad-Saber Sheikhezai named “The Solid Cypress”.

Part of the collection has been designed in collaboration with Khamenei.ir, the official website of Leader of the Islamic

Revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

The exhibition, which was launched on Saturday on [instagram.com/farhang-saarehaneh](https://www.instagram.com/farhang-saarehaneh) and [resaneh.farhangsara.ir](https://www.resaneh.farhangsara.ir), will run until September 29.

Another exhibition, which is scheduled to open on Sunday at the Palestine Museum of Contemporary Art in Tehran, is dedicated to showcasing photos by a number of prominent war photographers. ➔8

E3 reject U.S. push to trigger snapback of UN sanctions on Iran

TEHRAN – In a letter to the president of the UN Security Council on Friday afternoon, European signatories to the 2015 Iran nuclear deal rejected the U.S. announcement that all UN sanctions on Iran would return on September 20, saying the U.S. “notification” to the Security Council was “incapable of having legal effect.”

On August 20, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo sent a letter to the UN Security Council requesting to trigger the “snapback” mechanism, which allows a participant to the Iran nuclear deal –officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) – to reimpose the international sanctions on Iran in case it didn’t uphold its commitments under the deal. The U.S. letter was sent to the Security Council in accordance with UN Security Council resolution 2231, which stipulates that a “JCPOA participant state” can trigger the snapback process. However, the U.S. measure sparked outrage among members of the Security Council, who said the U.S. had no legal right to initiate the process because it withdrew from the nuclear deal on May 8, 2018.

“At the request of our foreign ministers, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom (‘the E3’) would like to follow up on our letter to the presidency of the UN Security Council dated August 20th, 2020. In this letter, we expressed our shared view that the purported notification under paragraph 11 of UNSCR 2231 (2015) received from the United States of America and circulated to the UN Security Council Members is incapable of having legal effect and so cannot bring into effect the procedure foreseen under OP 11. It flows from this that any decisions and actions which would be taken based on this procedure or on this possible outcome would be incapable of having any legal effect,” the E3 said in their letter.

The E3 position has nothing new and it is, in fact, a repetition of the E3 foreign ministers’ position, which was expressed in a statement issued shortly after the U.S. submitted the notification to the Security Council. They said at the time that “the U.S. ceased to be a participant to the JCPOA following their withdrawal from the deal on May 8, 2018”, and that they cannot support the U.S. measure against Iran at the UN. ➔3

U.S. could go it alone to enforce Iran sanctions

TEHRAN – In a blow to Donald Trump’s administration efforts against Iran, European signatories to a 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers rejected the U.S. push to trigger a return of all UN sanctions against Iran.

An expert on international relations tells the Tehran Times that the U.S. could find itself obliged to enforce sanctions on Iran alone given the Europeans’ opposition to its efforts to trigger the snapback process, a mechanism built into the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) to allow a participant to the deal to restore the international sanctions on Iran if it failed to fulfill its obligations under the nuclear deal.

While the U.S. moved to use the snapback mechanism, all JCPOA parties declared that the U.S. had no legal right to initiate the process because it withdrew from the JCPOA on May 8, 2018. However, the U.S. keeps insisting that it’s still a JCPOA participant state and

thus had the legal authority to restore UN sanctions on Iran.

On August 20, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo traveled to New York to submit a letter to the president of the UN Security Council calling for the reimposition of UN sanctions on Iran within 30 days. The letter sparked a diplomatic controversy after 13 of the 15-member UN Security Council questioned the legality of the U.S. measure. All opposing members sent letters to the Council’s president telling him that the U.S. measure was void and invalid.

“France, Germany, and the United Kingdom (‘the E3’) note that the US ceased to be a participant to the JCPOA following their withdrawal from the deal on 8 May, 2018. Our position regarding the effectiveness of the US notification pursuant to resolution 2231 has consequently been very clearly expressed to the Presidency and all UNSC members. ➔3

U.S. protests: 2 dead after mass shooting in Rochester, New York

By staff & agencies

Two people have died and 14 others have been wounded in a mass shooting at a party in Rochester, New York, police said.

A male and a female died in the shooting on Saturday, the interim police chief Mark Simmons told reporters. The wounded people were taken to two different hospitals. Simmons said none of them were reported to have life-threatening injuries, The Guardian reported.

“This is truly a tragedy of epic proportions,” Simmons said near the crime scene.

Officers responded to calls of shots being fired and found about 100 people running from the scene, Simmons said. Before the call, police were not aware of the party, he said.

“This is yet another tragedy where individuals are having these illegal, unsanctioned house parties taking place in these properties, which, number one, is not safe because of Covid, because

of the conditions. And then you add in alcohol and violence and it just becomes a recipe for disaster,” Simmons said. The interim chief said no suspects were in custody, adding that it was too early to tell whether there was more than one shooter.

■ Demonstrators charged with damaging federal building

Five people are facing criminal charges after a federal building in Las Vegas was damaged during protests over the death of George Floyd in May.

The Foley Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse was targeted during a demonstration in the gambling mecca five days after Floyd died while being detained by a White Minneapolis police officer, an incident that ignited nationwide marches against racial injustice and police brutality. During the protest, fireworks were set off, walls were spray-painted with obscenities and graffiti, and small bushes were lit on fire, according to court documents that described the scene as “boisterous.”

Israel’s greatest fear is rapprochement between Ankara and Tehran: Turkish politician

By Mohammad Mazhari

TEHRAN – Dogan Bekin, vice president of the New Welfare Party in Turkey, is of the opinion that Israel’s greatest fear is rapprochement between countries like Turkey and Iran as two regional powers.

Noting that some Western countries want to undermine regional powers and engaged them in “marginal concerns”, Bekin tells the Tehran Times that “the U.S. and Israel’s greatest concern is unity of countries like Turkey and Iran

as regional powers.”

Following is the text of the interview:

■ Last November, Turkey signed an agreement with Libya on maritime borders in the Mediterranean, which was opposed by Greece, Egypt, and Cyprus. Now Ankara criticizes the agreement between Egypt and Greece. What is the main problem between Turkey and these countries?

A: The Exclusive Economic Zone is determined in accordance with Articles 4 and 5 of the London Agreement signed in 1913, article 12 of

the Lausanne Treaty, and 76 and 121 of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea signed in 1982.

Therefore, all countries with coasts in the Eastern Mediterranean have legitimate rights arising from these international agreements.

Here, Greece and the South Cyprus Greek Administration have determined the Exclusive Economic Zone by taking the European Union, France, and the U.S. behind them, and such an economic zone has no international validity. ➔5



© ISNA / Parisa Jofrei

Date harvest season begins in southern Iran

Farmers are picking dates from palm tree plantations on the outskirts of Shadegan, southwestern Iran, September 19, 2020.

The harvest season will last until mid-October. Some 70 types of dates are harvested from 12 thousand hectares area of plantations.

Every year, up to 1.2 million tons of various types of dates are produced in the country, making it the second largest producer in terms of production and area under cultivation and the fifth largest exporter.

Iranian dates are being exported to India, Southeast Asia, CIS countries, Eurasia, Russia and Europe.

“New world order pledged to Jews” 80 years ago

By Laurent Guyénot

Most Zionist diplomacy takes place in secret, through corruption and blackmail (euphemistically called “lobbying”). But sometimes it is deemed appropriate that some statement be written down by some government representative in support of Zionism. The Goyim who write these statements may think them of little consequence, but Zionists know very well how to capitalize on them.

The most famous such document is the short letter written by the British Foreign Minister Lord Arthur Balfour to Lord Lionel Walter Rothschild, president of the Zionist Federation, on November 2, 1917. Prime Minister Lloyd George later explained the deal in those terms:

“Zionist leaders gave us a definite promise that, if the Allies committed themselves to giving facilities for the establishment of a national home for the Jews in Palestine, they would do their best to rally Jewish sentiment and support throughout the world to the Allied cause. They kept their word.”¹

Less known than the Balfour Declaration is the letter obtained by Nahum Sokolow, head of the World Zionist Organization, from the French Foreign Minister Jules Cambon. Dated June 4, 1917, it not only anticipated the Balfour Declaration but cleared the way for it. It states that the French government “feels sympathy for your cause, the triumph of which is linked to that of the allies.” The cause in question is “the development of the israelite colonization in Palestine” and “the renaissance of the Jewish nationality in that land from which the people of Israel were exiled so many centuries ago.” ➔5

GC spokesman advises against actions benefiting Trump's re-election

POLITICAL d e s k **TEHRAN** — Guardian Council spokesman Ab-bas Ali Kadkhodaei has strongly advised against any action that could benefit U.S. President Donald Trump in the November presidential election.

“Beating on the drum of sanctions, resorting to the policy of Iranophobia, brokering relations between regional governments and the Zionist regime, and promising to establish relations with Iran are all what Donald Trump needs in the upcoming election,” he wrote in a tweet on Friday.

“We should be careful not to play on his court,” Kadkhodaei added.

The United States is set to hold presidential election on November 3, 2020.

It will be the 59th quadrennial presidential election. Voters will select presidential electors who in turn will vote on December 14, 2020, to either elect a new president and vice president or reelect the incumbents Donald Trump and Mike Pence respectively.

Former vice president Joe Biden secured the Democratic nomination over his closest rival, Senator Bernie Sanders, in a competitive primary which featured the largest field of presidential candidates for any political party in the modern era of American politics.

Some observers believe a Biden victory could propel the U.S. to return to the 2015 nuclear agreement, which Trump withdrew in May 2018. Others argue that there's no fundamental difference between Trump and Biden when it comes to the United States' Iran policy.

U.S. versus the world over ‘snapback’ option: AFP

The United States was unilaterally to declare this weekend that UN sanctions against Iran are once again in force, a move that risks increasing Washington's diplomatic isolation while also stoking international tensions.

“Virtually all UN sanctions on Iran will come back into place this weekend at 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time (midnight GMT) on Saturday the 19th,” said Elliott Abrams, the Trump administration's special representative for Iran.

But on this point, Washington is almost alone in the world: all the other great powers -- China, Russia and also the U.S.' own European allies -- have challenged the claim, AFP said in a commentary on Saturday.

How did the UN arrive at this spectacular stand-off between the leading superpower and the rest of the planet? To answer that, one has to go back at least one month.

In mid-August, President Donald Trump's administration suffered a resounding defeat at the UN Security Council when it tried to extend the embargo on conventional weapons being sent to Tehran, which was due to expire in October.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo made an unusually vehement attack on allies France, Britain and Germany, accusing them of “siding with Iran's Ayatollahs,” and on August 20 announced a controversial move known as the “snapback,” which aims to re-establish all sanctions against Tehran a month later.

The sanctions were lifted in 2015 when Iran signed on to an international agreement to curb its nuclear program.

■ A legal pirouette

But Trump said that the landmark accord, negotiated by his predecessor Barack Obama, was insufficient and withdrew the U.S. from the agreement in 2018, then renewed and even strengthened Washington's bilateral sanctions.

At the moment, the United States is insisting it is still a participant in the agreement that it stormed out of, but only so that it can activate the “snapback” option.

Virtually every other member of the Security Council disputes Washington's ability to execute this legal pirouette, and the council has not taken the measure any further.

But this dialogue of the deaf has gone on unabated: the Trump administration acts as if the international sanctions were coming back, while the rest of the international community continues to act as if nothing has changed.

So is this a symbolic gesture designed to recall Washington's hard line against Tehran, or are there more concrete measures in the offing?

The Americans will “pretend that they have activated the snapback and that therefore the sanctions are back up and running,” said one European diplomat. But “this action will have no legal foundation” and therefore “cannot have legal consequences.”

“I don't see anything happening,” said another UN diplomat. “It would be just a statement. It's like pulling a trigger and no bullet coming out.”

■ Trump ‘shock’?

Another diplomat deplored the “unilateral” U.S. act, saying that “Russia and China are sitting, happy, eating popcorn, watching” the “huge destabilizing fallout” between Washington and its European partners.

The U.S. is, however, demanding that the arms embargo be prolonged “indefinitely,” and that numerous other activities linked to Iran's nuclear and ballistic programs be subject to international sanctions.

Pompeo said this week the U.S. will “do all the things we need to do to make sure that those sanctions are enforced.

“We are going to act in a way -- and we have acted in a way -- that will prevent Iran from being able to purchase Chinese tanks and Russian air defense systems,” he said

“We expect every nation to comply with UN Security Council resolutions -- period, full stop,” he added.

That is where the issue risks stoking up international tensions.

Trump could announce secondary sanctions to punish any country or entity that violates UN sanctions, blocking their access to U.S. markets and financial systems, even though the U.S. is one of the only countries to believe that the sanctions are actually in force.

Six weeks away from possibly winning a second term, the U.S. president could also use his Tuesday address to the General Assembly to “try and create a shock by announcing some sort of financial penalty on the UN because of his dissatisfaction over the snapback process,” said Richard Gowan of the International Crisis Group.

U.S. aircraft carrier enters Persian Gulf amid heightened tensions

POLITICAL d e s k **TEHRAN** — A U.S. aircraft carrier has entered the Persian Gulf for the first time in ten months, as tensions soar between Tehran and Washington over a number of issues.

USS Nimitz passed through the Strait of Hormuz with the guided-missile cruisers USS Princeton and USS Philippine Sea and guided-missile destroyer USS Sterett, U.S. 5th Fleet announced on Friday.

“The [Carrier Strike Group] will operate and train alongside regional and coalition partners, and provide naval aviation support to Operation Inherent Resolve,” the statement read.

Nimitz is the first carrier to operate in the Persian Gulf since USS Abraham Lincoln made the Strait of Hormuz transit last November. The last capital ship to sail in the Persian Gulf was USS Bataan in April.

“The Nimitz Strike Group has been operating in the 5th Fleet area of operations since July, and is at the peak of readiness,” strike group commander Rear Admiral Jim Kirk said.

“We will continue our support to the joint force while we operate from the (Persian) Gulf alongside our regional and coalition partners,” he added.

Tehran and Washington have been at loggerheads since Donald Trump became president.

The Trump administration is set to reimpose UN sanctions against Iran under the Iran nuclear deal, despite the fact that other parties to the deal have resoundingly rejected the U.S.



measure as illegal.

It is the latest move in the “maximum pressure” campaign against Tehran, which the U.S. pursued after it withdrew from the nuclear deal, officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), in May 2018.

It comes after Washington failed to extend the conventional weapons embargo set to expire next month under the JCPOA.

“We expect every nation to comply with UN Security Council resolutions -- period, full stop,” U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Thursday.

“And the United States is intent on enforcing all the UN Security Council resolutions. And come Monday, there will be a new series of UN

Security Council resolutions that we enforce, and we intend to ask every country to stand behind them,” he added.

Meanwhile, Britain, France and Germany told the UN Security Council on Friday that UN sanctions relief for Iran would continue beyond September 20, when the U.S. asserts that the sanctions should be reimposed.

In a letter to the 15-member body, seen by Reuters, the three European parties to the JCPOA said any decision or action taken to reimpose UN sanctions “would be incapable of legal effect.”

Iran has also dismissed the U.S. bid, with President Hassan Rouhani congratulating the Iranian people on the imminent defeat of the

U.S. to trigger the so-called snapback sanctions against Tehran.

“In advance, I congratulate the Iranian nation on the upcoming Saturday and Sunday victory [of Iran] and the U.S. humiliating defeat,” Rouhani said during a cabinet session on Wednesday morning.

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said Pompeo was wrong to think that the UN sanctions on Iran would be reimposed on September 20.

“Wrong again, Pompeo. Nothing new happens on 9/20. Just read Resolution 2231. Bolton—who convinced the boss to order you to ‘CEASE U.S. participation’—did. In his words: Process is not ‘simple’, automatic or snappy. But intentionally ‘complex & lengthy’. U.S. is NOT a participant,” Zarif tweeted on Thursday.

On Tuesday, Zarif wrote in a tweet that Trump is being pushed toward a war with Iran by “the habitual liar”, referring to Pompeo.

“The habitual liar bamboozled @realdonaldtrump into assassinating ISIS’ enemy #1 by raising a false alarm,” Zarif said, adding, “Now he’s trying to sucker him into mother of all quagmires by leaking a new false alarm. Time to wake up.”

It came hours after Trump threatened Iran with a “1,000 times greater” attack in response to a fake story run by Politico, which claimed Iran is planning to assassinate the U.S. ambassador to South Africa.

IRGC chief to Trump: We will target everyone involved in Soleimani assassination

These threats are serious, Salami warns Trump

POLITICAL d e s k **TEHRAN** — The chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) has warned U.S. President Donald Trump of a decisive revenge for the assassination of Iran's top general Qassem Soleimani.

“Our promise to take revenge for the martyrdom of General Soleimani is decisive, serious and completely genuine,” Major General Hossein Salami said in remarks on Saturday.

“Mr. Trump, do not doubt our revenge because it is completely decisive and serious,” he told the U.S. president.

Salami said Iran will take a “fair revenge” and that's why it didn't target the American troops in Ain al-Assad airbase.

On January 3, Trump ordered strikes that martyred General Soleimani, chief of the IRGC Quds Force, and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the second-in-command of Iraq's Popular Mobilization Units (PMU).

In the early hours of January 8, the IRGC attacked Ain al-Assad airbase in Anbar province in western Iraq as part of its promised “tough revenge” for the U.S. terror attack. Iran notified the Iraqi government beforehand so as to avoid casualties.

“We are people of honor and gallantry and we will take a fair revenge,” General Salami said. “That's why we did not target

your troops in Ain al-Assad.”

“We will target those who played a direct or indirect role in the martyrdom of the great general Hajj Qassem Soleimani,” he added.

Back in June, Tehran said 36 individuals have been identified in connection with the Soleimani assassination.

“36 individuals who cooperated, collaborated, and participated in the assassination of Hajj Qassem, including political and military authorities of the U.S. and other countries, have been identified,” Tehran Prosecutor General Ali Alqasi-Mehr said.

Alqasi-Mehr named Trump as the key individual at the top of the list, saying his pursuit will continue even after his tenure as U.S. president.

In a controversial move, Politico published a report on September 13, claiming that the Islamic Republic is weighing an assassination attempt against U.S. Ambassador to South Africa Lana Marks to avenge the assassination of Soleimani.

Marks is a South African-born American handbag designer who founded the eponymous fashion brand, Lana Marks. She presented her diplomatic credentials to the South African government on January 28, 2020.

“U.S. officials have been aware of a general threat against the

ambassador, Lana Marks, since the spring,” Politico reported, citing intelligence provided by two unnamed U.S. government officials.

Both Iran and South Africa dismissed the report. Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said in a Monday statement that “we advise the United States’ officials to stop resorting to repeated and decayed methods to create anti-Iran commotion at the international arena.”

However, the bizarreness of the report did not stop the U.S. president from threatening Iran with a “1,000 times greater” attack in case of any Iranian attack.

“According to press reports, Iran may be planning an assassination, or another attack, against the United States in retaliation for the killing of terrorist leader Soleimani, which was carried out for his planning a future attack, murdering U.S. Troops, and the death & suffering caused over so many years,” Trump said in a tweet.

“Any attack by Iran, in any form, against the United States will be met with an attack on Iran that will be 1,000 times greater in magnitude!” he added.

General Salami pointed to the Politico report as well. “Do you think we would target a female ambassador in South Africa for the blood of our martyred brother?” he asked.

“The Americans should know that we will target whoever had a role in the cowardly assassination of General Soleimani,” he said. “This is a serious message.”

“These threats are serious and we're not engaging in a war of words,” he said, adding, “Rather, we'll leave everything to the field of action.”

“Do you think we would target a female ambassador in South Africa for the blood of our martyred brother?” he asked. “The Americans should know that we will target whoever had a role in the cowardly assassination of General Soleimani.”

‘Iran to return to pre-JCPOA era if UN bans imposed’

POLITICAL d e s k **TEHRAN** — The chairman of the Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Committee says Iran will return to the pre-JCPOA era if the UN sanctions are reimposed.

In an interview with Fars published on Saturday, Mojtaba Zonnour said Iran will comply with its obligations under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPO) as much as the other parties to the deal comply with it.

“If the sanctions are reimposed, we will stop all of our JCPOA-related cooperation with

the [International Atomic Energy] Agency,” Zonnour said.

The remarks came after U.S. President Donald Trump's administration announced that on Saturday (2000 EDT Sunday) all UN sanctions on Iran have to be restored and a conventional arms embargo on the country will no longer expire in mid-October.

But 13 of the 15 UN Security Council members have said Washington's move is void. Diplomats say few countries are likely to reimpose the measures, which were lifted

under the JCPOA.

A return of UN sanctions, under the so-called snapback mechanism, would require Iran to suspend all nuclear enrichment-related and reprocessing activities, including research and development, and ban imports of anything that could contribute to those activities or to development of nuclear weapon delivery systems.

All other parties to the deal -- including Iran, China, Russia, France, Britain and Germany -- have argued that the U.S. cannot trigger the

snapback mechanism since it abandoned the nuclear pact in May 2018.

“The first step to initiate the snapback mechanism is that the initiator must be a member of the JCPOA,” Zonnour said.

“This is while the U.S. has exited the JCPOA and is not a member of the JCPOA anymore,” he added.

The top MP said if the United States bullies other countries into following its lead, “the Islamic Republic will naturally produce responses.”

Tangsiri: We will crush your teeth if Iran's interests threatened

TEHRAN (Press TV) — The commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy has warned the enemies that if they threaten Iran's national interests, their teeth will be smashed and their bodies will be sent out of the Strait of Hormuz in Iranian coffins.

In an interview with the Iranian Students News Agency (ISNA) published on Saturday, Rear Admiral Alireza Tangsiri advised the enemies not to threaten the Islamic Republic's interests and sanctities.

“Because if they encroach on [our interests], we will cut off their hand, and if they grit their teeth, we will smash their teeth within their mouths,” he said. “This is not a slogan, and we have proved it in practice.”

Tangsiri added that the enemies should learn the Iranian proverb reading, “It is wrong to test a tested one.”

During the eight-year Iraqi imposed war, the enemies were slapped in the face multiple times despite a lack of Iranian



defensive equipment, especially at sea, he noted.

Today, however, Iran has very advanced equipment, the IRGC commander said. “We will stand against the enemies, both regional and extra regional ones, and on the day of the incident, we will take their bodies out of the Strait of Hormuz

in Iranian coffins.”

Elsewhere in his interview, Tangsiri was asked about which side would have an upper hand in the case of a confrontation between the U.S. and Iran in the latter's southern waters.

“Definitely here is our home and these are American terrorists who have been present in the wrong place. We have never initiated a war and will not do so, but ... if the enemies try to threaten and attack our national interests anywhere in the country, we will decisively stand up to it,” he replied.

The IRGC commander was further asked about the normalization deals that Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have recently signed with Israel.

Referring to the sensitivity of the Persian Gulf, he said, “Certainly, the arrival of the Zionist regime in this region will be to the detriment of the opposing countries. We consider this presence a threat and believe that our neighbors should not allow it.”

Salehi: IAEA has asked for no more access into Iran nuclear activity

TEHRAN (MNA) — Iran's nuclear chief, Ali Akbar Salehi, says the International Atomic Energy Agency has asked for no further probes except for the two cases agreed between Tehran and the Agency last month.

In late August, Iran agreed to grant the IAEA access to two sites specified by the UN nuclear agency.

Speaking on Saturday, Salehi referred to the

first inspection carried out by IAEA in early September, saying that the next probe will be conducted at a set time, however, the time of the inspection will not be announced publicly.

“The Agency has a request under its obligations, and we have no problem doing so,” he noted.

Salehi added that the UN nuclear watchdog has agreed that it will not request any other

access or raise any other questions based on its current information.

Highlighting Iran's constant adherence to its commitments, the AEOI chief said, “This means the agency's requests must be within the framework of the Safeguards Agreement or the Additional Protocol and must be considered sound, reasonable and justified,” he stated.

“This is an important principle that the

Islamic Republic of Iran adheres to. Iran's cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency is defined in this context.”

Following the U.S. withdrawal from the deal in 2018, Iranian officials have been asking the European signatories to the JCPOA to take an effective stand against reimposed American sanctions and open a reliable channel for trade and business in order to sustain the deal.

Snapback mechanism is Trump's campaign propaganda, Leader advisor says

‘The trigger mechanism is a propaganda game’

POLITICAL **TEHRAN** — Aliakbar d e s k Velayati, a senior advisor to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution on international affairs, has said that the U.S. efforts to trigger the snapback mechanism is an election propaganda meant to boost Donald Trump's reelection chances.

“Trump's popularity is declining. What the Americans do is nothing but vociferous propaganda and an effort to attract [the attention of] the public opinion in the U.S.,” Velayati told the Tasnim news agency in an interview published on Saturday.

Responding to a question on the U.S. efforts to trigger the snapback process and Iran's possible response to the measure, the former foreign minister said, “The position of the Islamic Republic is crystal clear; first of all, the JCPOA cannot be unilaterally implemented by the Islamic Republic, but not implemented by the other parties. Also, the Americans who left the JCPOA have no right to act, and their claim is void. When they are not members of the JCPOA, how do they want to trigger the snapback mechanism?”

On August 20, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo traveled to New York to notify the UN Security Council of Iran's “significant non-performance” of the nuclear deal as defined in UN Security Council Resolution 2231. All JCPOA participants, along with 13 members of the 15-member UN Security Council, rejected the U.S. notification. They said the U.S. had no legal authority to initiate the snapback process because it lost the right to do so by withdrawing from the JCPOA on May 8, 2018. However, the U.S. keeps insisting that UN sanctions on Iran would return on September 20.



“We have no acceptable trade or monetary ties with Europe. Because, following the U.S. request, they publicly boycotted Iran. So, in practice, the United States in one way and Europe in another way violated the JCPOA. Therefore, this agreement, which has been practically violated by one party, is not valid,” Velayati says.

On Friday, the three European signatories to the Iran nuclear deal, which is officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), said in a joint letter to the president of the UN Security Council that the U.S. notification

was “incapable of having legal effect” and that the sanctions relief for Iran would continue beyond September 20.

“At the request of our foreign ministers, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom (‘the E3’) would like to follow

up on our letter to the presidency of the UN Security Council dated August 20th, 2020. In this letter, we expressed our shared view that the purported notification under paragraph 11 of UNSCR 2231 (2015) received from the United States of America and circulated to the UN Security Council Members is incapable of having legal effect and so cannot bring into effect the procedure foreseen under OP 11. It flows from this that any decisions and actions which would be taken based on this procedure or on this possible outcome would be incapable of having any legal effect,” the E3 said in their letter.

Velayati said the JCPOA has lost its credibility after it was turned into a one-sided agreement implemented only by Iran.

“We have shown that we stand by our principles. We have been under sanctions since the beginning of the revolution, and when we were supposed to accept the P5+1 plan in exchange for the lifting of sanctions, we fulfilled our obligations, but the other side did not lift the sanctions. So a one-sided JCPOA has no credibility. The trigger mechanism is a propaganda game,” the advisor pointed out.

He also said other parties to the JCPOA have failed to fulfill their obligations under the deal and only made promises while directly or indirectly playing part in the U.S. sanctions.

“We have no acceptable trade or monetary ties with Europe. Because, following the U.S. request, they publicly boycotted Iran. So, in practice, the United States in one way and Europe in another way violated the JCPOA. Therefore, this agreement, which has been practically violated by one party, is not valid,” Velayati said.

E3 reject U.S. push to trigger snapback of UN sanctions on Iran

1→ Despite the European opposition, the U.S. insists that, no matter what members of the UN Security Council would do, the international sanctions will return on September 20.

“If any member of the UN Security Council introduces a resolution to continue sanctions relief, the U.S. will oppose it. If no resolution is introduced, the sanctions on Iran will still return on September 20. That's how UNSCR 2231 works,” tweeted Pompeo on August 27, a week after he traveled to New York to “notify” the Security Council of Iran's “significant non-performance” of its commitments under the JCPOA.

In response, Iran has said no sanctions will be reinstated on September 20. In a tweet on Thursday, Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said his American counterpart was wrong to think that the UN sanctions on Iran would be reimposed on September 20.

“Wrong again, Pompeo. Nothing new happens on 9/20.



Just read Resolution 2231. Bolton—who convinced the boss to order you to ‘CEASE U.S. participation’—did. In his words: Process is not ‘simple’, automatic or snappy. But intentionally ‘complex & lengthy’. U.S. is NOT a participant,” Zarif tweeted.

Now, the Europeans reiterated Zarif's position as well.

They said that “as of September 20 the provisions of resolutions 1696 (2006), 1737 (2006), 1747 (2007), 1803 (2008), 1835 (2008) and 1929 (2010) will continue to be terminated pursuant to paragraph 7 (a) of resolution 2231 (2015). Consequently, any decision or action taken with a view to re-installing the provisions of resolutions 1696 (2006), 1737 (2006), 1747 (2007), 1803 (2008), 1835 (2008) and 1929 (2010) would be incapable of legal effect.”

With the Europeans, along with Russia and China, rejecting the U.S. push to reinstate the international sanctions on Iran, the White House would face an uphill battle to enforce the sanctions if it declares their reimposition in the coming days. Some news reports suggest that U.S. President Donald Trump could issue an executive order to punish arms trade with Iran, which means that the U.S. is going it alone in enforcing the sanctions on Iran.

U.S. could go it alone to enforce Iran sanctions

1→ We cannot therefore support this action which is incompatible with our current efforts to support the JCPOA,” the E3 foreign ministers said in a joint statement on August 20, the same day as the U.S. submitted the notification to the Security Council.

In addition to the E3, China and Russia also strongly opposed the U.S. measure, saying the U.S. had no legal authority to initiate the snapback mechanism.

“The U.S. demand has no legal ground and common sense. It is nothing but a political show staged by the United States. It receives no support of the Security Council members and no acknowledgment of the international community,” Chinese permanent mission to the UN said in a statement shortly after the U.S. submitted the notification. “Having quit the JCPOA, the United States is no longer a participant to the JCPOA and has no right to demand the Security Council invoke a snapback as stipulated in Resolution 2231.”

Russia called the U.S. move “a big mistake which can have extremely negative implications” and vowed to challenge it.

The provisions of UN Security Council Resolution 2231 lie at the heart of the U.S. legal opinion to initiate the snapback process. This resolution stipulates that “the Security Council, within 30 days of receiving a notification by a JCPOA participant State of an issue that the JCPOA participant State believes constitutes significant non-performance of commitments under the JCPOA, shall vote on a draft resolution to continue in effect the terminations of the provisions of previous Security Council resolutions.” And “if the Security Council does not adopt a resolution to continue in effect the termination of previous resolutions, then effective midnight GMT after the thirtieth day after the notification to the Security Council, all of the provisions of resolutions 1696 (2006), 1737 (2006),

1747 (2007), 1803 (2008), 1835 (2008), 1929 (2010) and 2224 (2015) shall apply in the same manner as they applied before the adoption of resolution 2231 (2015).”

All JCPOA parties say the U.S. is no longer considered “a JCPOA participant State” as defined in Resolution 2231. But the U.S. has another opinion. According to John Bolton, the former U.S. national security advisor who oversaw the U.S. withdrawal from the JCPOA, the State Department, with the help of lawyers, has prepared a legal argument that the U.S. still has the right to snap back UN sanctions on Iran.

“State Department lawyers, in an opinion not available publicly, apparently argue that, having been once defined as a ‘JCPOA participant state,’ the U.S. is still one for snapback purposes. This is not only incorrect legally and not the intention of the nuclear pact's drafters but, ironically, could backfire on the U.S. if Biden wins the election,” Bolton said in an opinion piece published by Bloomberg on August 27.

On the same day, Pompeo asserted that the UN sanctions on Iran will return on September 20 as a result of the U.S. notification.

“If any member of the UN Security Council introduces a resolution to continue sanctions relief, the U.S. will oppose it. If no resolution is introduced, the sanctions on Iran will still return on September 20. That's how UNSCR 2231 works,” Tweeted Pompeo on August 27, a week after he traveled to New York to “notify” the Security Council of Iran's “significant non-performance” of its commitments under the 2015 nuclear deal.

A few days before the end of the American deadline, Iran and the E3 said no sanctions would return on September 20.

“Wrong again, Pompeo. Nothing new happens on 9/20. Just read Resolution 2231. Bolton—who convinced the boss to order you to ‘CEASE U.S. participation’—



did. In his words: Process is not ‘simple’, automatic or snappy. But intentionally ‘complex & lengthy’. U.S. is NOT a participant,” Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif tweeted on Thursday.

Similarly, the E3 rejected the U.S. push to reinstate the UN sanctions on Iran. In a statement on Friday, the E3 once again called into question the U.S. right to initiate the snapback process, underlining that sanctions relief for Iran will continue beyond September 20, which means the Europeans will not recognize the U.S. move in declaring the reimposition of UN sanctions on Iran.

In a joint letter to the president of the UN Security Council, the E3 said, “At the request of our foreign ministers, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom (‘the E3’) would like to follow up on our letter to the presidency of the UN Security Council dated August 20th, 2020. In this letter, we expressed our shared view that the purported notification under paragraph 11 of UNSCR 2231 (2015) received from the United States of America and circulated to the UN Security Council Members is incapable of having legal effect and so cannot bring into effect the procedure foreseen under OP 11. It flows from this that any decisions and actions which would be taken based on this procedure or on this possible outcome would be incapable of

SPORTS

Esteghlal reach agreement with Alexander Nouri: report

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Esteghlal football club will d e s k reportedly finalize a contract with Iranian-German coach Alexander Nouri within the next few days.



The Blues were going to bring Andrea Stramaccioni back to the team but failed to reach an agreement with the Italian coach.

Now, a source close to the Iranian club has said that they have reached an initial agreement but the deal will be finalized after the 2020 AFC Champions League.

Nouri started his coaching career in 2014 at the VfB Oldenburg and has also coached Werder Bremen, FC Ingolstadt and Hertha BSC.

The 41-year-old coach had been also linked with Iranian clubs Tractor and Persepolis.

The Iranian popular football team are headed by Majid Namjoo Motlagh after Farhad Majidi stepped down from his role in early September.

ACL2020: Persepolis move top of Group C

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Iran's Persepolis repeated d e s k their 1-0 win over Saudi Arabia's Al Taawoun on Matchday Four of the 2020 AFC Champions League Group C on Friday.

With just three minutes gone into the second half, Iraqi midfielder Bashar Resan handed Persepolis the lead from the penalty spot at the Education City Stadium.

Earlier on Friday, Emirati Sharjah defeated Al Duhaile of Qatar 4-2

The win sent Persepolis top of Group C with seven points. Al Taawoun and Duhaile are second and third with six points, respectively. Sharjah have four points.

“We are satisfied with our performance against Al Taawoun. We could have scored more goals,” Persepolis coach Yahya Golmohammadi said.

“We are happy to win three points but take nothing for granted. Persepolis still have two matches ahead,” he added.

With just three points separating first from fourth, the last two matchdays will see fierce competition in Group C.

Sepahan fall short against Al Nassr

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Goals from Abdullah Madu d e s k and Abderrazak Hamdallah sealed the points for Saudi Pro League side Al Nassr FC in a 2-0 win against Sepahan FC on Matchday Four of Group D of the 2020 AFC Champions League on Friday.

In the match between the two sides on Tuesday, Al Nassr managed a comfortable 2-0 win courtesy of a Hamdallah brace either side of half time.

“We tried our best to get a good result and did really well in the first 35 minutes, creating a lot of scoring chances,” Sepahan coach Toutouni said.

“We still have a chance at qualification, and for that we have to do everything we possibly can to motivate the players for the next two matches. We still have a theoretical chance of progressing, so we must fight until the end and see how things go.”

The result leaves Al Nassr at the helm of Group D with 10 points, seven points ahead of third placed Sepahan, meaning their place in the Round of 16 is sealed while the Iran Professional League side face an uphill battle to catch up with Al Sadd in second place, who are five points ahead of them.

Graham Potter makes Jahanbakhsh admission after quality display

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Brighton boss Graham Potter d e s k has been impressed with the 27-year-old's attitude and insists he still has a part to play at the Amex Stadium.

Alireza Jahanbakhsh scored a super goal against Portsmouth in the 4-0 Carabao Cup.

“I am really pleased with him, he's pushing. It was another really good performance, I thought,” said Potter.

“He played with enthusiasm and quality. He was in the squad at the weekend, came on, so he's pushing hard.

“The hardest part of my job is to pick a team and not play players.

Esteghlal had more resting time: Namjoo Motlagh

S P O R T S **TEHRAN** — Esteghlal football team interim d e s k coach Majid Namjoo Motlagh says that they are ready to meet Al Shorta since they have had more resting time.

The Iranian Blues are scheduled to play Iraqi Al Shorta on Sunday at the Khalifa International Stadium in Doha in Group A of the 2020 AFC Champions League.

“We had more resting time than any other teams. This will benefit us for match against Al Shorta,” Namjoo Motlagh said.

“Our players are highly motivated to defeat their rival on Sunday. We are Esteghlal and can benefit from our previous experience in the competition,” he added.

“Esteghlal have already played Al Shorta and we know them well. Al Shorta are a very disciplined team and a draw against them is not bad but our priority is to beat the team,” Namjoo Motlagh concluded.

Iranian megaproject nominated for IPMA excellence award

1 → The winners of the IPMA World Awards will be announced in an official ceremony on October 31.

As the largest gas refinery project in West Asia with an investment of \$3.4 billion, the Persian Gulf Bid Boland project is now in operation and will be officially inaugurated in the near future.



Located in Behbahan County in the southwest, Bid Boland will have an annual production capacity of 10.4 million tons of methane, 1.5 million tons of ethane, one million tons of propane, 600,000 tons of gas condensates, and 500,000 tons of butane.

With the implementation of the mentioned project, the production capacity of sweet and other gases will increase, which will be used to feed petrochemical plants in Mahshahr and supply urban areas in the region. Exports are also anticipated.

Catalyst production project launched in western province

ECONOMY d e s k **TEHRAN** — In a ceremony on Saturday, Iranian Vice-President for Science and Technology Sorena Sattari launched the project for construction of a catalyst production unit in a polymer production complex in western Kermanshah province, IRNA reported.

To be constructed in Kermanshah Polymer Company, the mentioned unit will start production of BZN2 catalyst in the next Iranian calendar year (March 2021-March 2022), Ali Rostam-Abadi, the managing director of the company, announced on the sidelines of the ceremony, and said the unit is projected to have an annual production capacity of 50 tons of catalyst.

Addressing the ceremony, Sattari underlined that Iran’s petrochemical industry is experiencing a growing trend.



Iranian Vice-President for Science and Technology Sorena Sattari cuts the ribbon on launching a project for construction of a catalyst production unit in west of country on Saturday.

Strengthening domestic production and indigenizing the knowledge and technology for production of the products and equipment that Iran imports from other countries has become one of the major programs that the country is pursuing in recent years.

To materialize this objective, knowledge-based companies have played a noticeable part, especially in indigenizing the products and equipment applied in the oil industry, which is the major sector in the country’s national economy.

Cooperating with capable domestic knowledge-based companies and startups is one of the very fruitful steps that the oil ministry has taken in its efforts to reach complete independence from the foreign resources for meeting its equipment needs.

To materialize the goal of indigenizing the production of the oil industry’s equipment, the country’s Petrochemical Research and Technology Company (PRTC) has also played a very significant role in collaborating with the knowledge-based companies for working on innovative research projects for producing various equipment and base-products needed in the industry.

PRTC’s Managing Director Ali Pajouhan has announced that the National Petrochemical Company (NPC), in collaboration with domestic companies, is planning to indigenize the knowledge for producing nine major catalysts used in the petrochemical industries within the next two years.

However, catalysts are very expensive substances and currently, the country is spending millions of dollars every year on importing such products into the country, producing such catalysts inside the country would make a huge difference in the profitability rate of the petrochemical plants.

Iranian petrochemical industry is currently using 40 different types of catalysts which cost the industry \$260 million annually.

“Currently, the knowledge for producing 16 of the mentioned 40 types has been indigenized which would save the country \$105 million every year,” Ali Pajouhan said, adding that “We plan to produce over \$100m worth of petrochemical catalysts annually, by the end of the Iranian calendar year of 1400 (March 20, 2022).”

TEDPIX drops 4,597 points on Saturday

ECONOMY d e s k **TEHRAN** — TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), fell 4,597 points on Saturday, which is the first day of the Iranian calendar week.

As reported by IRNA, the index closed at 1.699 million points on Saturday.

TSE, Iran’s major stock exchange, which had witnessed drop of its main index in five consecutive weeks, experienced growth in the past Iranian calendar week (ended on Friday).

TEDPIX closed at 1,704 million points, gaining 148,000 points in the previous week, coming back to the rising trend, which it was experiencing since the last months of the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 19).

The index had dropped four percent in the week ended on September 11, while it had also experienced a five-percent decrease in the week ended on September 4, a two-percent fall in the week ended on August 28, an 11.3-percent drop in the week ended on August 21, and a two-percent fall in the week ended on August 14.

TEDPIX had hit the record high of two million points on August 2, and while it had been experiencing an unprecedented trend of rising over the recent months, it witnessed several days of drop in five weeks.

Development projects properly underway at Imam Khomeini Port

By Mahnaz Abdi

TEHRAN — Imam Khomeini Port is a seaport at the northwestern end of the Persian Gulf near Ahvaz, the center of Iran’s southwestern Khuzestan province.

It is Iran’s second-largest operating port after Shahid Rajaei Port in southern Hormozgan province.

The port was opened in 1960 with two berths, today it offers 40 berths for ships.

Regarding its importance in Iran’s trade, the development of Imam Khomeini Port has been always attached importance by the governments.

A number of development and investment making projects are currently underway at this port.

As announced by the managing director of Iran’s Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO), these projects enjoy some proper progress.

Making the remarks on the sidelines of a recent visit to the port, Mohammad Rastad put the fund allocated to these projects at 1.4 trillion rials (about \$33.33 million) and said that most of the projects have progress



of over 50 percent for the moment.

Rastad also announced that based on the schedule, most of the projects at Imam Khomeini Port are expected to be completed by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20, 2021) and the rest by the end of the first quarter of the next year (June 21, 2021).

Meanwhile, the private sector has made some proper investment in the development projects of the port and the projects enjoy good progress at the moment.

The private sector’s investment has been mainly for the construction of commodity warehouses, and also in production activities. As previously reported, the loading of

Production of 22 major industrial, mining products rises in 5 months

ECONOMY d e s k **TEHRAN** – The production of 22 major mining and industrial products has increased in the first five months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-August 21), compared to the same period of time in the past year, Iranian Deputy Industry Minister Saeed Zarandi said.

According to Zarandi, the mentioned production growth has been achieved despite the specific economic conditions of the country due to the U.S. sanctions and the outbreak of coronavirus which has created problems in the production sector, IRNA reported.

In the mentioned period petrochemical sector achieved more than 25 million tons of production and registered an increase of more than six percent, while production of home appliances reached 1,523,000 units to register 42 percent growth, production of aluminum ingots reached 160,000 tons with an increase of nearly 50 percent, crude steel production exceeded 11 million tons and increased eight percent, passenger cars production stood at nearly 345,000 units with a growth of 18 percent and finally cement production increase by 13 percent to reach 29.5 million tons.

The official noted that nearly €11 billion worth of the mentioned products were exported from the country in the mentioned period, while the value of the imports of such commodities stood at about €14 billion.

“The downward trend in the imports was due to the closure of borders earlier this year and problems created by the outbreak of the coronavirus worldwide,” he explained.

He further said that more than 2,370 licenses have been issued for production units in the mentioned five months in which over 326 trillion rials (about \$7.76 billion) have been invested and direct job opportunities have been also created for nearly 42,000 people.

Iranian Industry Mining and Trade Ministry has been following various programs for supporting domestic production in the current Iranian calendar year which has been named the year of “surge in production” by the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Seyed Ali Khamenei.

These programs include reviving idle units and providing bank facilities for the country’s production units and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

OPEC’s secretary-general welcomes Iran’s deputy FM in Vienna

ECONOMY d e s k **TEHRAN** — Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo, the secretary-general of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), met with Iran’s Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Mohsen Baharvand in Vienna on Saturday.

The meeting, also attended by the country’s ambassador and permanent representative to the Vienna-based international organizations Kazem Gharibabadi, was held on the occasion of OPEC’s 60th establishment anniversary, Shana reported.

In the meeting, the two sides discussed the latest developments in the oil market, while stressing the significance of the Declaration of Cooperation (DoC) among the member nations as well as Iran’s historic and positive

role in OPEC, and future bilateral cooperation.

In his remarks, Barkindo praised Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh as the longest-serving OPEC minister who has defended OPEC interests for decades, calling him a close friend and a big supporter of OPEC.

Baharvand for his part thanked Barkindo for his warm welcome and stressed the importance of dialogue at all levels.

Mohsen Baharvand has traveled to Vienna to participate in a meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

During his visit to Austria, Baharvand also met and held talks with the IAEA Director-General Rafael Grossi and director-general of UNIDO (United National Industrial Development Organization) and delivered a speech at the Agency.

RAI offering support packages for investors in railway sector

ECONOMY d e s k **TEHRAN** — The Islamic Republic of Iran Railways, known also as RAI, is offering support packages to investors in various railway projects to encourage more investment in this area, RAI Head Saeed Rasouli has said.

According to Rasouli, based on the type of project and the type of investment, support packages have been considered for investors in such a way that there would be enough attraction for investors and capital suppliers, especially banks.

“These packages provide the necessary measures for risk management and risk reduction for investors,” he said.

Expanded transportation via railway is



today one of the major pillars of sustainable development for the countries; and it is why the governments usually allocate noticeable funds and resources to the development of the railway. In Iran, too, the development of railway has become a major part of government planning in recent years.

Trade between Iran, Turkey drops 67% in 7 months on year

ECONOMY d e s k **TEHRAN** — The value of trade between Iran and Turkey fell 67 percent in the first seven months of 2020, from that of the same period of time in the past year, ILNA reported, citing the data released by Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA).

TCCIMA put Iran-Turkey seven-month trade at \$4.2 billion.

Drastic drop in Iran’s exports of oil products to Turkey has been reported as the major reason for the high decrease of bilateral trade between the two neighbors during the mentioned period of time.

Earlier in June, land borders between Iran and Turkey reopened after more than three months.

On the first day of border reopening, 150 Iranian trucks entered Turkey, according to the spokesman of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA).

Rouhollah Latifi said that the mentioned trucks entered Turkey via three land borders of Bazargan, Sero, and Razi. Also, 35 Turkish trucks entered Iran as the borders reopened, Latifi announced.

The long-awaited measure came more than a week after Iranian and Turkish presidents discussed the reopening of air and land borders between the two countries when



OPEC Secretary-General Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo (R) greets Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Mohsen Baharvand in Vienna on Saturday.

basic goods at Imam Khomeini Port has risen 24 percent during the first quarter of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20-June 20), compared to the same period of time in the past year.

Over four million tons of basic commodities have loaded at the port and transported to different parts of the country in the three-month period.

Wheat, barley, soybean cake, sugar, rice, and edible oil were the major products loaded at Imam Khomeini Port during the first quarter of this year.

Over 15.7 million tons of basic commodities were loaded and unloaded at Imam Khomeini Port in the past Iranian calendar year (ended on March 19).

Among the underway projects with good progress at this port, it could be referred to the project for the construction of a vessel traffic control tower with 600 billion rials (about \$14.2 million) of credit.

While the underway projects have a good status at the moment, the infrastructure at the port requires to be improved and some overhaul operations are also needed, for example in docks 27 to 34 of the port.

Tehran to host intl. expo on Eurasian trade opportunities

ECONOMY d e s k **TEHRAN** — Tehran Permanent International Fairgrounds is going to host an international exhibition for introducing the Eurasia Economic Union (EAEU)’s trade potentials in early 2021, Managing Director of Iran International Exhibitions Company (IIEC) said.

According to Bahman Hosseinzadeh, the first international exhibition of EAEU trade opportunities is planned to be held during the Iranian calendar month of Bahman (January 20-February 18, 2021), IRNA reported.

All the EUAE member countries are going to have active participation in this exhibition, the official said.

This exhibition is a good opportunity to introduce the capabilities of Iranian producers and upgrade their industrial and commercial competitiveness capacities, while branding and introducing Iranian products to the Eurasian member countries, Hosseinzadeh stressed.

He said that the Eurasia International Exhibition will act as a link for the expansion of relations between Iran and EAEU members by bringing economic convergence and strengthening mutual

relations.

“This exhibition will strengthen Iran’s economic diplomacy with the members of this union and provide new capacities for the country’s traders in order to develop non-oil exports,” he added.

Iran and the Eurasian Economic Union signed a preferential trade agreement last October, based on which 860 commodity items will be exchanged between Iran and the five EAEU members.

Iran’s trade data show that in the past few months following the signing of the agreement, Iranian exports to these countries have increased by nearly 63 percent.

According to the spokesman of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), the value of trade between Iran and the EAEU members reached \$2.112 billion since the implementation of the preferential trade agreement on October 27, 2019.

Some \$1.528 billion of the mentioned figure has been the share of Iran’s imports and \$584 million was gained from the exports, Ruhollah Latifi said in early June.

The two sides have it on the agenda to continue negotiations for the expansion of this agreement in its second year.

“New world order pledged to Jews” 80 years ago

➔ Back in London, Sokolow deposited the Cambon letter at the Foreign Office, where it stimulated a spirit of competition. In January 1918, he returned to Paris, this time with the aim of securing a public French declaration in support of the Balfour Declaration.² A magnificent example of the efficiency of Zionist transnational diplomacy for war profiteering.

If Balfour thought that, after the war, his letter, cautiously worded and typed on unmarked paper, would be of little consequence, he was wrong. Zionists made it a cornerstone to their project. When the British government proved reluctant to deliver after the Versailles Treaty, they invested on the ambitious, unscrupulous and bankrupt Winston Churchill (1874-1965), whose thoughts were, in his own words, “99 per cent identical” with Chaim Weizmann’s.³

During WWII, Churchill and Weizmann conspired to repeat the winning strategy of the Balfour declaration in WWI, attempting to monetize Jewish influence to bring the United States into the war. In a letter to Churchill dated September 10, 1941, Weizmann wrote:

“I have spent months in America, traveling up and down the country [...]. There is only one big ethnic group which is willing to stand, to a man, for Great Britain, and a policy of ‘all-out-aid’ for her: the five million American Jews. [...] It has been repeatedly acknowledged by British Statesmen that it was the Jews who, in the last war, effectively helped to tip the scales in America in favour of Great Britain. They are keen to do it—and may do it—again.”⁴

As soon as he had become Prime Minister in May 1940, Churchill instructed his War Cabinet member Arthur Greenwood to craft a document assuring the Jewish elites that a winning Britain will give them not only Palestine, but a major share in the “new world order” to compensate for “the wrongs suffered by the Jewish people.” Although it is little known, this “Greenwood Pledge” is, according to Zionist Rabbi Sephen Wise, “of wider and farther reaching implications” than the Balfour declaration. The *New York Times* published it in its October 6, 1940 edition, under the amazing title “New World Order Pledged to Jews” (reproduced [here](#) and [here](#)).⁵

The recipient of the declaration, here presented as Dr. S.S. Wise, was a major



player in Zionist deep politics since the time of Theodor Herzl, and a close collaborator of Louis Brandeis, Felix Frankfurter, and Samuel Untermyer. He was the founder of the New York Federation of Zionist Societies in 1897, the first seed for the Zionist Organization of America, of which he was president. In 1917 he participated in the effort to convince President Woodrow Wilson to approve the Balfour declaration. In 1936, he was a co-founder of the World Jewish Congress, dedicated to rally world Jewry against Hitler.

Here is the full text of the *New York Times*, introducing the “Greenwood Pledge”:

**New York Times, October 6, 1940
NEW WORLD ORDER PLEDGED TO JEWS;
Arthur Greenwood of British War Cabinet Sends Message of Assurance Here
RIGHTING OF WRONGS SEEN
English Rabbi Delivers to Dr. S.S. Wise New Statement on Question After War**

In the first public declaration on the Jewish question since the outbreak of the war, Arthur Greenwood, member without portfolio in the British War Cabinet, assured the Jews of the United States that when victory was achieved an effort would be made to found a new world order based on the ideals



of “justice and peace.”

Mr. Greenwood, who is Deputy Leader of the British Labor party, declared that in the new world the “conscience of civilized humanity would demand that the wrongs suffered by the Jewish people in so many countries should be righted.” He added that after the war an opportunity would be given to Jews everywhere to make a “distinctive and constructive contribution” in the rebuilding of the world.

The message was delivered last week to Dr. Stephen S. Wise, chairman of the executive committee of the World Jewish Congress, by Rabbi Maurice L. Perzweig, chairman of the British section of the congress. Rabbi Perzweig arrived from England Monday evening.

Intention to Right Wrongs
Comparing the statement with the Balfour Declaration of 1917, D. Wise declared that in a sense it had “wider and farther reaching implications,” as it dealt with the status of Jews throughout the world. He said that Mr. Greenwood’s message could be interpreted as a statement of England’s firm intention to help right the wrongs which Jews have suffered and continue to suffer today because of Hitler’s “disorder and lawlessness.” Mr. Greenwood, sending the Jews of America a message of “encouragement and warm

good wishes,” wrote:

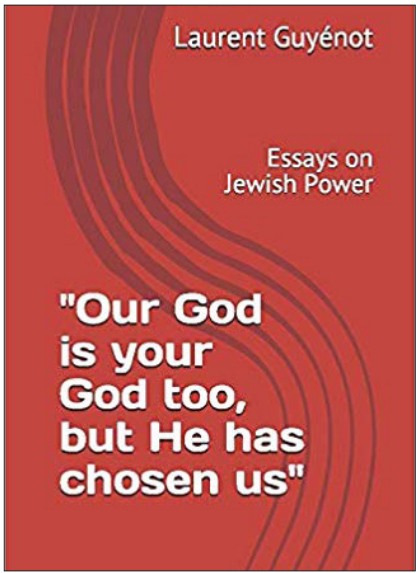
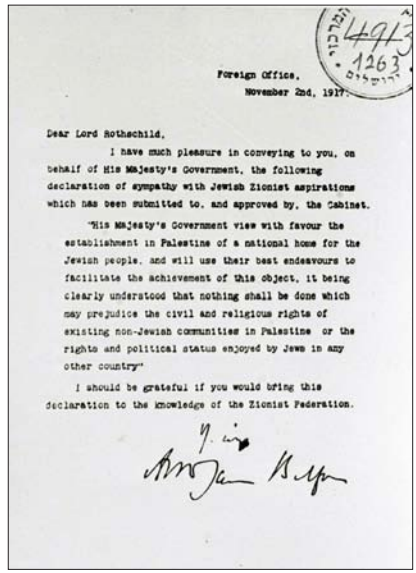
“The tragic fate of the Jewish victims of Nazi tyranny has, as you know, filed us with a deep emotion. The speeches of responsible statesmen in Parliament and at the League or Nations during the last seven years have reflected the horror with which the people of this country have viewed the Nazi relapse into barbarism.

“The British Government sought again to secure some amelioration of the lot of persecuted Jewry both in Germany itself and in the countries which were infected by the Nazi doctrine of racial hatred. Today the same sinister power which has trampled on its own defenseless minorities, and by fraud and force has temporarily robbed many small peoples of their independence, has challenged the last stronghold of liberty in Europe.

New World Order Forecast
“When we have achieved victory, as we assuredly shall, the nations will have the opportunity of establishing a new world order based on the ideals of justice and peace. In such a world it is our confident hope that the conscience of civilized humanity would demand that the wrongs suffered by the Jewish people in so many countries should be righted.

“In the rebuilding of civilized society after the war, there should and will be a real opportunity for Jews everywhere to make a distinctive and constructive contribution; and all men of good-will must assuredly hope that in new Europe the Jewish people, in whatever country they many live, will have freedom and full equality before the law with every other citizen.”

In an interview at the Hotel Astor, Rabbi Perlzweig declared he was certain Mr. Greenwood “speaks for England.” There is a clear realization, he added, that freedom and emancipation for the Jewish people are tied up with emancipation and freedom for people everywhere. The message, Rabbi Perlzweig remarked, was the subject of earnest consideration by the British Government. “This is a declaration in behalf of the whole world,” he observed. “Here the British Government expresses clearly what it hopes will take place after the war is won.”



- 1 According to a 1937 report of the Palestine Royal Commission, quoted by Alfred Lilienthal, *What Price Israel?* (1953), Infinity Publishing, 2003, pp. 18-21.
- 2 Martin Kramer, “The Forgotten Truth about the Balfour Declaration,” June 5, 2017, on [mosaicmagazine.com](#)
- 3 Martin Gilbert, *Churchill and the Jews: A Lifelong Friendship*, Henry Holt & Company, 2007.
- 4 David Irving, *Churchill’s War*, vol. 2: *Triumph in Adversity*, Focal Point Publications, 2001, pp. 76–77.
- 5 Thanks to M.S. King, who made this information known here : [www.tomatobubble.com/nwo_jews.html](#)

Israel’s greatest fear is rapprochement between Ankara and Tehran: Turkish politician

Dogan Bekin likens UAE-Bahrain normalization deals with Israel to ‘cotton thread’

➔ What is at stake here is that the Exclusive Economic Zone agreement of Greece is not in accordance with international law, but it is in accordance with the European Commission and European Parliament’s plan.

The Seville Map drawn by Juan Luis Suarez de Vivero has nothing to do with reality. Turkey has a 1,700 km length of the border, which is the longest in the Mediterranean. But Greece pushes Turkey to accept the aforementioned Sevilla Map, which compresses Turkey into a narrow space with 41,000 square kilometers. Here, all parties are required to come together and designate their Exclusive Economic Zones in the Eastern Mediterranean according to the determined articles of international law. In this way, all problems will be eliminated.

■ What options does Turkey have against the coalition between the UAE, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Israel in the Mediterranean?

A: Turkey protects her rights arising from international law in the eastern Mediterranean. However, the UAE-Egypt-Saudi-Israel coalition try to force Turkey to be completely besieged in a narrow space compression project in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Similarly, in the (Persian) Gulf, the U.S. is trying to besiege Iran by bringing the (Persian) Gulf countries and Israel closer. Finally, Bahrain’s similarly coming into this rapprochement is a result of this insidious plan.

■ Turkey first raised the slogan of “zero problems with neighbors,” while today, some observers talk about “nothing but problems.” What is your comment?

A: The government’s policy of zero problems with neighbors, in fact, was the first step of the U.S. cooperation with countries such as the UAE, Egypt, and Bahrain for Israel’s security. When it failed to be realized, creating domestic riots in Syria started, and external interventions have accompanied it.

Previously prime minister of the 54th government, Dr. Nejmeddin Erbakan, touched upon Syria’s issue, saying: “If that inference leads to an internal turmoil in Syria, the result will affect Iran and Turkey.”

The opinion of the Welfare Party on this issue is clear: the D-8 Organization to be mobilized urgently and no to intervention by foreign powers to solve the problems of our region.

Cooperation of powerful countries such as Turkey and Iran can play a greater role. Gangrenous problems in countries such as Syria, Iraq, and Yemen can only be resolved in this way.

■ Do you believe that Iran, Turkey, and some other countries in the region can establish a regional alliance?

A: Of course, Turkey, Iran, and other countries may establish regional cooperation. Prime Minister of the 54th Government, Dr. Nejmeddin Erbakan, opened the way for regional cooperation by making his first trip abroad to Iran. Despite different administrations, D-8 countries came together easily and developed cooperation among one another.

In fact, the U.S. and Israel’s greatest fear is unity between countries like Turkey and Iran as regional powers. They want these countries to be engaged in marginal concerns. We think that the convergence of the UAE-Bahrain-Israel and the U.S. should be seen within this framework.

■ What is the attitude of Turkey toward the presence of foreign powers in the region, especially in Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan?

A: As the Welfare Party, we, with the foreign powers to withdraw from Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Especially, while the USA expressed that it would bring freedom, peace, and democracy to Iraq and Afghanistan, it only brought tears and blood to these countries.

The USA has no eternal friend and no eternal enemy. Only its interests come first. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo met in Qatar’s capital Doha with Mohammad Nabi Omari, who was held in Guantanamo for 12 years. This is important in terms of revealing the true face of the USA to us. Suppose the USA can establish friendly cooperation today with those whom it identified as terrorists yesterday. In that case, this must be an issue that Muslims should take into account very well.

■ What do you think of the normalization agreement between the UAE and Israel?

A: Unfortunately, the rulers of countries like the UAE and Bahrain have entered into a normalization agreement with Israel not for the benefit of their people but for the interests of themselves and their seats.

Israel is trying to besiege Iran in the Persian Gulf by using these countries step by step. It is a fact that these accords cannot last long. These deals are weak and fragile, like cotton thread. They want Turkey and Iran not to come together in order to pass the absolute solution-oriented policies for the region.

France denies U.S. accusation against Hezbollah

France’s foreign ministry said that there was no evidence to suggest the armed wing of Lebanon’s Hezbollah was storing chemicals to make explosives in France after a senior U.S. official said the group had set up caches in Europe since 2012.

Speaking on Thursday, Nathan Sales, the U.S. State Department’s coordinator for counterterrorism accused the Hezbollah of smuggling and storing chemicals, including ammonium nitrate, from Belgium to France, Greece, Italy, Spain, and Switzerland.

According to IP (Iran Press) ammonium nitrate is an industrial chemical commonly used in fertilizers and explosives used for quarrying and mining.

“It stores these weapons in places so it can conduct major terrorist attacks whenever its masters in Tehran deem necessary,” Sales said in a briefing without elaborating or providing evidence of the activities.

“To our knowledge, there is nothing tangible to confirm such an allegation in France today,” foreign ministry spokeswoman Agnes von der Muhll told reporters in response to Sales’ allegations.

During a recent visit to Beirut, French President Emmanuel Macron stressed that Hezbollah had been elected by the Lebanese people and that there is a partnership between Hezbollah and other Lebanese parties.

The United States and its allies have stepped up efforts to increase pressure on the resistance in the region following the successes of Iran and Hezbollah in Lebanon in countering terrorist groups in the region.

Iran and Lebanon’s Hezbollah, as key members of the Resistance Front, play a key role in countering U.S.-Israeli conspiracies and actions in the region.

Maduro calls Pompeo’s ‘war-mongering’ tour a ‘failure’

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro has slammed U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo’s visit to Latin American countries as a “war-mongering” tour that has failed.

He added that the Venezuelan people are “made for resistance” and that his country “is never going to give up.”

The U.S. Department of State earlier announced Pompeo would be visiting South America with the aim of showing support for local democracies and containing the “threat” coming from “Maduro’s illegitimate regime”.

U.S. military deploys more troops, armored vehicles to oil-rich eastern Syria

The U.S. military has sent a new convoy of military vehicles and troops to oil-rich eastern Syria amid rising tensions with Russian forces in the region, and as Washington seeks to loot crude resources in the war-torn country.

Captain Bill Urban, spokesman for the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM), said in a statement on Friday that the United States “has deployed Sentinel radar, increased the frequency of U.S. fighter patrols over U.S. forces, and deployed Bradley Fighting Vehicles to augment U.S. forces” in the area.

Without mentioning Russia, Urban added that the moves were meant “to help ensure the safety and security” of the U.S.-led military coalition purportedly formed to fight the Daesh (ISIL) terrorist group.

He asserted that the U.S. “does not seek conflict with any other nation in Syria, but will defend coalition forces if necessary.”

Biggest Thai protest in years targets government and monarchy

Around 20,000 people protested in Thailand’s capital on Saturday against the government of former coup leader and Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, with many demonstrators also calling for reforms to the monarchy.

“Down with feudalism, long live the people,” was one of the chants at the biggest demonstration in Bangkok since Prayuth took power in a 2014 coup< Reuters reported.

Protests have been building in the southeast Asian country since mid July, demanding the removal of the government, a new constitution and elections. They have also broken a long-standing taboo by criticising the monarchy of King Maha Vajiralongkorn.

Resistance News

Protests in Al-Aqsa against normalization agreements

INTERNATIONAL DESK TEHRAN— Thousands of Palestinians responded to calls by Islamic and national activists to pray in the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque and participate in the protest against normalization following the Friday prayer.

The worshipers organized a protest after the prayers to denounce the agreement signed by the UAE and Bahrain with the Israeli occupation state under U.S. sponsorship.

The protesters carried banners and posters denouncing normalization and chanted slogans calling for the protection of the Al-Aqsa Mosque from the occupation’s plans.

These activities come in response to the unified national leadership’s call for popular resistance, considering Friday a day of popular anger and rejection in the homeland. On this day, the Palestinian flag is raised in all villages, cities and refugee camps in the homeland denouncing and rejecting the normalization agreement.

Sheikh Muhammad Salim, the preacher of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, affirmed during the Friday sermon that the right of Muslims to Al-Aqsa is a religious, historical, and political one because Palestine is the land of Isra and Mi’raj.

The preacher of Al-Aqsa called for steadfastness on this land, stressing the importance of unity among the Palestinian people because in disagreement there is an ongoing evil and unity is permanent good.

The Palestinian Unified National Popular Resistance Command had announced the launch of its programs and activities based on the decisions of the Conference of Secretaries-General of the Palestinian factions two weeks ago.

Coronavirus: Clean Cave Day to be observed under strict health protocols

HERITAGE d e s k **TEHRAN** – The Iranian Cave and Speleology Association has requested nature lovers and ordinary people not to enter caves on the Clean Cave Day, September 23, saying, this year the occasion will be observed under strict health protocols by experienced cavers.

“The ban is necessary to keep the caves and cave creatures isolated from the coronavirus. It is better to avoid entering the caves as much as possible because such closed spaces are highly prone to become infected,” the association announced in a press release on Saturday.



“Caves should not be neglected as the last untouched human habitat and a relatively pristine edge and sensitive ecosystem of nature,” parts of the press release reads.

The 2nd day of Mehr (which this year falls on September 23) is called “Clean Cave Day” by the Iranian Cave and Speleology Association. It’s an occasion when cavers and nature lovers throughout the country take bags, go to the caves in their provinces for cleansing.

Iran is geologically a part of the Alpine-Himalayan organic belt. The country features a variety of mountain ranges and hundreds of caves with Ali-Sadr, Karaftu, Kataleh Khor, Quri Qaleh amongst the most notables.

According to Britannica Encyclopedia, the enigmatic evidence of human presence on the Iranian plateau is as early as Lower Paleolithic times. The first well-documented evidence of human habitation is in deposits from several excavated cave and rock-shelter sites, located mainly in the Zagros Mountains of western Iran and dated to Middle Paleolithic or Mousterian times (c. 100,000 BC).

WCC holds online training course for Iranian artisans

HERITAGE d e s k **TEHRAN** – The World Crafts Council held an online webinar on Friday for Iranian artisans aiming to develop traditional methods of learning into formal education.



Titled “Education for Artisans: Past, Present, and Future”, the discussants examined educational paradigms where traditional oral learning and apprenticeships have been deepened and extended through the layering-on of formal education for artisans.

A number of Indian experts, namely Judy Frater, the founder of a design school for traditional artisans; carpet weaver Naran Siju; Jaspal Kalra, a design academician, and social entrepreneur; and Ms. Ritu Sethi, the editor of the

Global InCH Journal of intangible Cultural Heritage and Asia delivered speeches during the webinar, which was hosted by India International Centre (IIC).

The Islamic Republic seeks to preserve national cultural heritage passed down from generation to generation through the expansion of education.

Back in July, the third handicraft school in Tehran was inaugurated in collaboration with the Art and Cultural Organization of the Tehran Municipality.

Dozens of Iranian handicrafts have gained the UNESCO Seal of Excellence during the past couple of years.

Qajar-era Soleimanieh Palace undergoes restoration

TOURISM d e s k **TEHRAN** – Parts of the Qajar-era (1794–1925) Soleimanieh Palace in Alborz province have undergone some rehabilitation work, a provincial tourism chief has said.



The palace’s courtyard and the pool in its northern side, which have damaged over the years, are under restoration, Fereydoon Mohammadi said on Saturday.

The palace, which is also a Qajar-era paintings museum, will open its doors to the public after the project is fully carried out, the official added.

The mud-brick palace was built in the early 19th century upon the order of Fath Ali Shah, a Qajar monarch who reigned from 1797 to 1834. It was named after the king’s 34th son Soleiman Mirza. The palace was built on a pilot, which in its time was considered an innovation and its façade has no special decoration.

The historical monument was inscribed on the National Heritage list in 1948.

Iran seeks to expand handicrafts market in southern China

HERITAGE d e s k **TEHRAN** – Iran seeks to expand handicrafts exports to southern China, including Guangzhou province, mainly through holding exhibitions and selling products online.

The scheme is based on a previously-discussed initiative “One Belt and One Road Intangible Cultural Heritage Exchange” aimed to revive the glory of arts, architecture, and civilizations along the ancient Silk Road, the Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts announced in a press release.

The deputy tourism minister, Pouya Mahmoudian, and the newly-appointed consul general in Guangzhou, Hossein Darvishi, discussed ways to formulate and implement the plan as well as utilize untapped potential for exporting handicrafts to the Chinese metropolis in a meeting held in Tehran on Tuesday.

Mahmoudian reminded the excellence of Iranian handicrafts with world markets as a prerequisite for hitting into targeted markets, saying: “Considering the position of Iranian handicrafts in the world and the interest of the Chinese people to bargain luxury Iranian handicrafts, they should hit the Chinese market through participating in exhibitions and fairs; supplying to stores via suitcase trade and official exports; and



also laying the necessary infrastructure for online sales of Iranian handicrafts to China.”

Mahmoudian attached great importance to China’s initiative “One Belt and One Road Intangible Cultural Heritage Exchange”, adding “Given the influence of Iranian handicrafts, drawing an intelligent

cooperation model can increase the influence of Iranian handicrafts in Chinese markets.”

Darvishi for his part briefed about economic prosperity in the southern Chinese city, as well as its trade and technology, concluding “We will use all the facilities to introduce Iranian handicrafts

Uraman landscape to boost tourism infrastructure

TOURISM d e s k **TEHRAN** – A budget of 20 billion rials (about \$476,000 at the official rate of 42,000 rials) has been allocated to boost tourism infrastructure in the Uraman rural landscape in western Iran.

Located in the western province of Kordestan, Uraman rural landscape is a candidate for becoming a World Heritage site in 2021.

Stretched on a steep slope in Uraman Takht rural district of Sarvabad County, the village is home to dense and step-like rows of houses in a way that the roof of each house forms the yard of the upper one, a feature that adds to its charm and attractiveness.

The budget will be spent on the improvement of Uraman’s historical structure as well as the development of the region’s villages, Kermanshah province’s tourism chief Omid Qaderi announced on Saturday.

Earlier this month, Pouya Talebnia, the director of the cultural landscape, announced that a UNESCO assessor will travel to Kordestan by Sept. 21 in order to review the status of the Uraman rural landscape for the World Heritage list.

“That will be the last [field] step for the global registration of Uraman, and the UNESCO evaluator [will probably] recommend us to solve issues within six months, and next year, on such days, a voting session will be held for the registration of Uraman on UNESCO list.”

Iran submitted the UN body a dossier for the Uraman cultural landscape in 2019. Some eighty experts in various fields compiled and developed the dossier in terms of anthropology, archeology and history, natural sciences, architecture, historical documents, and other related fields.

Uraman is considered a cradle of Kurdish art and culture from the days of yore. Pirshalyar, which is named after a



legendary local figure, is amongst time-honored celebrations and rituals that are practiced annually across the region.

Handmade knifemaking to be revived in Ardebil

TOURISM d e s k **TEHRAN** – The forgotten art of making handmade knives, which was once flourished in northwestern Ardebil province, is planned to be revived in the near future.

Due to its long history, Ardebil province is one of the regions that has several traditional and ancient handicrafts and arts, one of which is knife making.

The field was popular to such an extent that there was a part in the historic bazaar of Ardebil called the bazaar of knife-makers, however, nowadays, there are only five crafters active in this field in the province.

Reviving this field of handicrafts is on the agenda of the province’s Cultural



Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Department, and necessary measures are being taken in this regard, provincial tourism chief Nader Fallahi said on Saturday.

Creating a sales market for the crafters’ products in this field is as important as reviving the field, the official added.

Knifemaking is one of the oldest handicrafts practiced for centuries in several Iranian cities, of which the northwestern city of Zanajn is the most famous.

Knives, swords, and daggers were produced and a lot of knife making workshops were active in these cities. But due to their design, cut, diversity, and durability, Zanjan knives have been the most successful.

The most important material for handmade knives is Iron. The handle is made from materials such as elk horns,

seashells, wood, fiber, or ivory. The knife makers usually carve their name into the blade. Gems, jewelry, filigree, pieces of seashells and ivory are some of the ornate they add to their creations.

Sprawling on a high, windswept plateau, Ardebil is well-known for having lush natural beauties, hospitable people, and its silk and carpet trade tradition. It is also home to the UNESCO-registered Sheikh Safi al-Din Khanegah and Shrine Ensemble.

The province is very cold in winter and mild in summer, attracting thousands every year. The capital city of Ardebil is usually recorded as one of the coldest cities in the country in winter.

Disabled crafters to be supported for selling products

HERITAGE d e s k **TEHRAN** – Virtual markets and online sales of handicrafts produced by the crafters with disabilities in the northwestern Qazvin province will be supported, the provincial tourism chief has said.

Supporting disabled crafters and providing the necessary infrastructure for promoting their products more properly is one of the priorities of the province’s tourism department, Alireza Khazaeli announced on Saturday.

Considering the current situation, online sales could be a proper way to promote and boost sales of products made by disabled crafters, which can lead to generating income as well as developing home-based businesses, the official added.

Iran exported \$523 million worth of handicrafts during the past calendar year 1398 (ended March 19). Of the figure, some \$273 million worth of handicrafts were exported officially through customs, and about \$250 million was earned via suitcase trade (allowed for customs-free and tax-free transfer) through various provinces.

Back in May, deputy tourism minister Pouya Mahmoudian noted that due to the outbreak of coronavirus, suitcase



exports of handicrafts were completely stopped since the month of Esfand (the last month of the year), and official exports of handicrafts experienced a steep decline.”

“Some 295 fields of handicrafts are currently practiced across Iran with more than two million people engaging, majority of whom are women... Handicrafts also play an

Restoration of 16th-century Portuguese fort in Iran continues

TOURISM d e s k **TEHRAN** – A fresh restoration work, which entails mapping survey, documentation, and masonry, has been commenced on the 16th-century Portuguese fort in the Persian Gulf island of Hormuz, southern Iran.

“Documenting, mapping and preliminary studies and tests have been commenced to restore the northern side of the Portuguese fort on Hormuz Island,” Hormozgan province’s tourism chief Reza Boroumand said in a press conference on Saturday.

The latest restoration project on the ruined stronghold, which is one of the last

surviving monuments of the colonial rule in the Persian Gulf, became controversial over the past couple of months, causing disapprovals from cultural heritage experts and devotees. The restoring project, however, was stopped last month by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts for further technical investigation.

History of the castle goes down in time when Commander Afonso de Albuquerque ordered the construction of a fortress in 1507 after his troops capture the island in the early 16th century.



Made from reddish stones on a rocky promontory at the north end of the island, the stronghold was cut off from the rest of the island by a moat, traces of which still remain. It involves an arms depot, water reservoir, barrack, prison, church, command center, and central hall.

Muscular-looking walls, chambers, and archways as well as sets of rusting cannons in the courtyard still give the area a scenic beauty. In addition, the upper levels of the fort offer wonderful views of the island, its village, rugged mountains all surrounded by the blue waters of the Persian Gulf.

Quenching thirst of arid plains or jeopardizing nature?

By Faranak Bakhtiari

TEHRAN — Transferring water from a basin to drought-ridden areas over varying distances is among the plans in Iran to quench the thirst of some provinces, while construction of such tunnels is inherently risky and can result in unpredicted events or irreparable environmental issue.

Water resources are deemed essential for agricultural, industrial, and urban development, especially in developing countries, and water scarcity can put severe pressure on the economy, society, and culture.

To reach prevent problems caused by water shortages, transferring the water from coastal to central areas is a part of Iran's strategy for water supply, given that vast swathes of the country are regarded as arid and semiarid.

The construction and operation of water transfer tunnels to different parts of the country have always been accompanied by criticism.

Hossein Rafi'e, a water activist, said that the worst kind of water transfer is through canals and pipelines, adding that such measures would lead to many environmental challenges that would be very difficult or almost impossible to compensate.

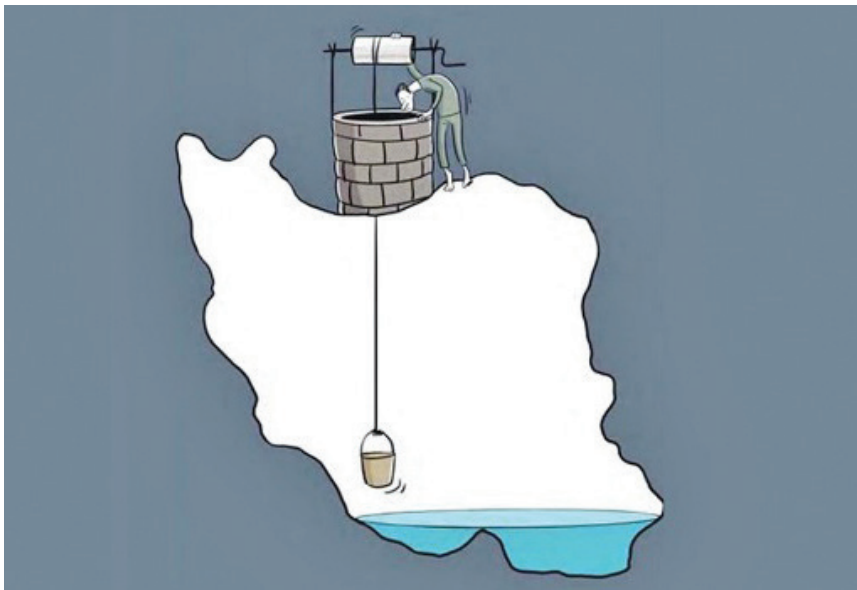
Nature is in order, and the transfer of water is an interference in this natural order, and human beings, in order to meet their water needs, take advantage of nature and water resources without caring about the environment, he lamented.

He went on to note that rivers naturally irrigate their surroundings and supply groundwater aquifers along their way, so the transfer of water through covered pipes can cause serious environmental damage.

Referring to the water transfer project from Karaj Dam to Tehran, which started in 2005, he explained that the project will leave no significant amount of water in the Karaj River, and all gardens, vegetation, and the surrounding environment will be degraded.

Also, the water required for groundwater resources will no longer be provided, so that there will be a big challenge causing dire consequences or high cost to compensate for, but considering today's need and ignoring the future, is the worst kind of water management, he stated.

Rafi'e emphasizing that the Iranians have taken very clever steps to transfer water in



the past noted that "In the past, the Iranians used to transfer water through Qantas and in a natural way, harnessing water along the route where necessary."

Qanats had extraordinary features, but unfortunately, now we do not use this indigenous-traditional knowledge and instead use new methods that have not been localized, he concluded.

■ Water transfer projects

A project on transferring water from Zab River to the lake has been proposed by the government and a budget of 3 trillion rials (nearly \$71 million at the official rate of 42,000 rials) has been earmarked in this regard.

The Zab water transfer tunnel to Lake Urmia will be completed in the next few months, and with its operation, the lake's water volume will reach 14.7 billion cubic meters over the next seven years and will rehabilitate the lake after years.

A water transfer project has been proposed by the government which looked to Oman seawater quenching the thirst of the southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan, as well as the eastern provinces of South Khorasan and Khorasan Razavi. A budget of \$400 million was allocated by the government in March 2016.

The project aims to boost production, industry, and agriculture, as well as provide

potable water to residents in arid areas.

Another water transfer project from the Persian Gulf to the provinces of Kerman, Yazd, and Hormozgan will be put into operation in the next Iranian calendar month of Mehr (September 23-October 22).

The water transfer project from the Persian Gulf is being implemented on a large scale with 11 pumping stations to be established over 830 kilometers of land, which is a unique project in the country.

■ No solution: water transfer entails economic, environmental burden

Experts believe that these projects entailing economic and environmental burden are no solution to droughts, and demanded the water transfer projects to be dismissed due to the irreparable damages to the environment namely deforestation, wildlife habitat destruction, biodiversity degradation, improper land change use, and contaminated seawater.

Mehdi Zare, a seismic expert, said that human intervention, speeding up climate change, is one of the major threats to today's human life and even the future. One of the threats is that transferring water to dry areas increases the population burden in those areas while imposing unsustainable development where there is no suitable climate for such a concentration.

The disastrous consequences of such interventions have so far been appeared in the country, especially in provinces of Tehran and Isfahan located in arid areas, which have been demolished being accommodated a population of three to five times the size of their carrying capacity in the last 50 years, he lamented.

Additionally, the development of huge industries inappropriately deployed to their climatic conditions added insult to injury, he added.

■ What is wrong with qanats?

Some experts believe that the current water scarcity is due to poor water management policies, do qanats give us the right policy? What was wrong with these traditional water supply systems that have been put aside?

Over the centuries, Qantas have served as the main supplier of freshwater in arid regions of Iran, as provided the opportunity for people to live in extremely dry zones (even in deserts), and thus helped harmonize the population distribution across the country.

The ancient qanat system of tapping alluvial aquifers at the heads of valleys and conducting the water along underground tunnels by gravity, often over many kilometers, first appeared in Iran, which was then spread to other Middle Eastern countries, China, India, Japan, North Africa, Spain and from there to Latin America.

Employing this ancient water supply system may reveal and highlight some benefits to contain water shortage in the country.

Throughout the arid regions of Iran, agricultural and permanent settlements are supported by subsurface water or freshwater resources withdrawal, while qanats representing the system include rest areas for workers, water reservoirs, and watermills.

According to the Ministry of Energy, about 36,300 qanats have been identified in Iran, which have been saturated with water for over 2,000 years.

Qanats can come efficient to contain water scarcity due to relatively low cost, low evaporation rates, and not requiring technical knowledge, moreover, they proved sustainable being used in perpetuity without posing any damages to the environment, despite new water transfer projects, which not only puts the environment in danger but brings the country heavy economic burden.

Russia welcomes biotechnology, pharmaceutical co-op with Iran

SOCIETY TEHRAN — The director of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Alexander Sergeev, has said that Iran and Russia can cooperate in various fields, including biotechnology, medicine, and other fields of technology, including the ecology of the Caspian Sea.

During an online meeting with Sourena Sattari, the Iranian vice president for science and technology, Sergeev said that joint projects should be defined in prioritized areas that both countries agree upon.

To achieve this, a joint working group should be formed to present their ideas to enhance scientific relations and collaborations, he suggested.

Sattari for his part said that the way of joint scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries, especially in the field of advanced pharmaceutical technologies, is paved.

He considered 2017 as the beginning of joint university projects between the two countries and said that in the first year, 18 joint projects were defined, but since then, the number of joint projects has increased dramatically.

In a recent call, more than 370 projects have been submitted, from which the main priorities are selected to be supported, he highlighted.

Given the current problems caused by the COVID-19 outbreak worldwide, fields of cooperation can be achieved by defining several scientific and technological projects, Sattari said.

Referring to the ability of Iranian knowledge-based companies and research institutes in the field of medicine and vaccines, he said "We are ready to support important and significant projects."

Sergeev also expressed readiness to cooperate with Iran in various fields of biotechnology, medicine, the ecology of the Caspian Sea, as well as medicine, infectious diseases, and other technological fields.



Ismail Ghaderifar, head of the center for strategic technologies development of the vice presidency of science and technology added that under sanctions in the most difficult conditions, Iran combatted the pandemic and knowledge-based companies could make the country independent. Moreover, they managed to produce pharmaceutical items required by the country's health system.

"Also, the production of medical equipment such as ventilators is one of the honors of knowledge-based companies, which is a vital and important item for ICU patients, which have even reached the export stage," he said.

Electrospinning is another product made by knowledge-based companies, which can apply a nano-layer on the fibers. Europe which was the only producer of the product refused to transfer the production line to Iran due to sanctions, and the price of each production line was one million euros, he highlighted.

Sourena Sattari, the vice president for science and technology, told the Tehran Times that some of the knowledge-based companies reached a production capacity of more than 200-300 thousand diagnostic kits per day, which surpassed the country's need for diagnostic kits, and there

is a great export potential.

Pointing out that multiplying the production of COVID-19 equipment led to significant measures that led to foreign currency saving for the country, he said "it also helped us cope with problems and not to run out of equipment because no matter how much money we gave, no country had the equipment to sell."

Mehdi Kashmiri, director for technology and planning at the science ministry, said in July that about 450 knowledge-based companies were active in the country for manufacturing protective equipment and treatment products to fight the coronavirus.

Production of more than one million face masks per day, production of more than 1.5 liters of disinfectants per day, diagnostic kits, non-contact thermometers, protective clothing, ventilator are among the produces manufactured by these companies, he added.

Iranian-made innovative products in the field of diagnosis, screening, and fighting coronavirus were also unveiled to combat the disease, namely, ozone generator, nanotechnology face shields, disinfection gate, and molecular COVID-19 diagnostic kits.

In the press briefing on Saturday, Sima-Sadat Lari confirmed 2,845 new cases of COVID-19 infection, raising the total number of infections to 419,043. She added that 357,632 patients have so far recovered, but 3,893 still remain in critical conditions of the disease.

In the past 24 hours, 166 patients have lost their lives, bringing the total number of deaths to 24,118.

Lari added that so far 3,719,210 COVID-19 tests have been conducted across the country.

She said the high-risk "red" zones include Tehran, Mazandaran, Gilan, Qom, Isfahan, Khorasan Razavi, East Azerbaijan, Kerman, North Khorasan, Semnan, Yazd, Zanjan and Qazvin.

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

A ← → ج

Iran spends \$477m on refugee education annually

Iran spends about 20 trillion rials (nearly \$477 million at the official rate of 42,000 rials) every year on the education of foreign national students residing in the country, head of the international affairs department of the Ministry of Education has said.

Over 558,000 foreign national children are receiving education in Iran completely free of charge, 474,000 of whom are Afghan children, ISNA quoted Gholamreza Karimi as saying on Wednesday.

Karimi said that there are currently about 137,000 undocumented Afghan students in the country, adding that their parents do not have valid residency documents, "but we have provided the conditions for enrolling them in schools."

ایران سالی ۲ هزار میلیارد تومان برای دانش آموزان اتباع خارجی هزینه می کند

ایران هر سال حدود ۲ هزار میلیارد تومان برای ۵۵۸ هزار دانش آموز اتباع خارجی در مدارس سراسر کشور هزینه می کند.

به گزارش روز چهارشنبه ایسنا، غلامرضا کریمی رئیس مرکز امور بین الملل و مدارس خارج از کشور وزارت آموزش و پرورش گفت از این تعداد ۴۷۴ هزار نفر آنها اتباع افغانستانی هستند.

کریمی با بیان اینکه در حال حاضر ۱۳۷ هزار دانش آموز غیرمجاز در کشور داریم گفت پدر و مادر این افراد مدارک اقامتی معتبر ندارند اما ما شرایط ثبت نام آنها را مدارس فراهم کردیم.

Magnitude 3.1 earthquake strikes Tehran province

SOCIETY TEHRAN — An earthquake of 3.1 magnitude rocked Tehran province on Saturday, according to the Iranian Seismological Center.

The earthquake occurred at 9:58 a.m. local time at a depth of 6 kilometers in Firouzkooh city near Damavand, northeastern Tehran. No damages or injuries have so far been reported.

The same region has recently been rocked by a number of quakes. On May 27, an earthquake measuring 4.0 on the Richter scale was occurred.

On May 8, a 5.1 quake jolted the same area, killing two and injuring 33.

The region has a history of major historical earthquakes, for instance, in 958 A.D. in Rey-Taleghan with an estimated earthquake magnitude (EEM) of 7.7; 15 June 1665 with EEM 6.5 that caused a landslide and created Taar lake in the vicinity of Damavand, actually a mountain promenade in Tehran province; 27 March 1830 EEM 7.1 in Shemiranat; 2 October 1930 EEM5.0 in Ah-Mobarakabad; 20 January 1990 EEM5.9 in Firouzkooh; and 9 May 2020 EEM5.1 in Damavand, according to Mehdi Zare, a professor of engineering seismology.

Tehran is one of the most hazardous metropolises in the world in terms of the risk of different natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, subsidence, drought, landslide, fire following an earthquake, etc. On the other hand, Tehran has over 8,300,000-night time population with a mixture of old non-resistant structures as well as modern high-rise buildings that affect the vulnerability of this city.

Iranian war veteran, suffering chemical injury, has not slept for 35 years

1 → "Life seemed very difficult for me, but by reading the Holy Quran, I calmed down and thanked God and asked him to make me patient in enduring hardships," he said.

While being awake all night, he is still short of time, for watching Quran programs, doing housework, going to Mount Dena, farming, repairing the house, or even making pickles.

The Iraqi army invaded Iran on September 22, 1980, setting the stage for eight years of war. With support from certain Arab and Western countries, Saddam Hussein ordered an attack on Iran nearly 19 months after the Islamic Revolution.

The war drew to a close in August 1988. The United Nations declared Saddam as the initiator of the conflict.

In Iran, Sacred Defense Week is commemorated every year from September 21st.

According to official statistics, 225,570 people were martyred and 574,101 people became veterans during the holy defense. Also, freed prisoners of war were 43,173.

LET'S LEARN PERSIAN

(Part 29)

(Source: saadifoundation.ir)

Text

دُکْترِ بَهِمَنِ نامدارِ ایرانی است. او اُسْتادِ زَبانِ فارسی و آهلی تِهْران است. خانمِ نامدارِ آهلی هِمْدان است. آن‌ها سِه بَچَه دارند.

اِسْمِ بَچَه‌هایِ آن‌ها مَهِسا، مَهِیار و مَهِدیس است. مَهِیار پِسر است. مَهِسا و مَهِدیس دُخْتَرِ هَسْتند.

خانمِ دُکْترِ نامدار قَشَنگ است. این خانمِ سِه اُتاقِ بُزرگ دارد.

Structure

■ Persian Alphabet (نَسْتعلیق (Nasta'liq):

الف ب پ ت ث ج چ ح خ
د ذ ر ز ش س ض ط ظ
ع غ ف ق ک گ ل م ن و ه ی

■ "بودن" و "داشتن" "To Be" and "to Have"

هست + بُدَن — هَسْتند /hasand/ They are
دار + دَنَد — دَارند They have ⇒ workbook دارند

■ منفی "Negative"

نِ + هَسْتند — نِیْسْتند /nistand/ They are not
نِ + دَارند — نَدَارند /nadārand/ They do not have

● Exercise 1. Complete with "to be" or "to have":

۱. مَهِسا و مَهِیار ایرانی
۲. بله، آنها چند عکس قَشَنگ

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GUIDE TO
SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Try to compete with one another in good deeds and hurry to seize the opportunities, and forget the good deeds that you haven't hastened to do.

Imam Hussein (AS)

Visual Arts Festival for Youth announces winners

A R T TEHRAN — Winners of the 27th edition of the Visual Arts Festival for Youth, whose artwork had been displayed at the Iranian Artists Forum, were announced on Saturday.

The festival is organized every year in the categories of drawing, painting, calligraphy, miniature, sculpture, cartoon, photography and illustration for artists aged from 16 to 25.

Razieh Qalyan won the award for best designer in the poster category, and Farzaneh Neyshaburi was selected as best illustrator.

The award for best calligrapher went to Masud Nazarinejad, and Sina Galledari was the top artist in the drawing section.

The award for the best photographer was presented to Ali Shahsavari, and Mohammad Abbasi was selected as best cartoonist.

Tahmineh Mahdian won the award for best sculptor, and Armita Keymoradzadeh received the award for best painter. Saber Halvani was picked as best miniaturist and Abolfazl Asgari won the award in the new media category.

Goethe Museum Dusseldorf hosting Gunther Uecker's "Tribute to Hafez"

A R T TEHRAN — German sculptor and op artist Gunther Uecker's exhibition "Tribute to Hafez" has been renamed "Orient and Occident Can No Longer Be Separated, Uecker-Hafez-Goethe" to be showcased at the Goethe Museum in Dusseldorf, Germany.

The show builds a bridge between the centuries and leads the view from the Orient to the Occident and also back from the West to the East with a film documentary about Uecker's exhibition trip to Iran, the museum has announced.

Since 2016, Uecker has exhibited his works in an exhibition under the title "Tribute to Hafez", traveling through all parts of Iran, where he has stopped eight times and has inspired local artists to create their own works.

"Tribute to Hafez" has been inspired by the ghazals of Persian poet Hafez. Uecker has created a collection of graphical works, in which the ghazals are transformed into colors and the sound of the poems into written images.

This method to translate spoken language into pictorial expressions has characterized the artist's oeuvre since the 1970s.

In 2016, Uecker first displayed his collection in Shiraz where the mausoleum of Hafez lies. The Imam Ali (AS) Religious



An art aficionado visits artworks from the collection "Tribute to Hafez" by German sculptor Gunther Uecker on view at the mausoleum of Hafez in Shiraz in 2016. (YJC/Elaheh Purhossein)

Arts Museum in Tehran, Isfahan Museum of Contemporary Art and Kerman Museum of Contemporary Art hosted

the exhibition afterwards.

Parallel to the Uecker's Goethe exhibition, the Breckner Gallery is also displaying

sculptures by eight Iranian artists inspired by Uecker's works until October 9.

The Iranian artists are Mohammadreza Yazdi, Ali Mahbubi, Morteza Tavassoli, Shahriar Rezai, Babak Montazeri, Arefeh Arad, Farzad Dashti and Neda Ayati.

The artists are from the Iranian cities of Tehran, Shiraz, Isfahan, Kerman, Bushehr, Kish, Mashhad and Rasht, which have hosted the exhibition since 2016.

Uecker is a member of the ZERO movement, best known for his signature use of nails arranged into tactile, sculptural paintings.

His oeuvre includes paintings, art objects and installations as well as stage designs and films. He is mainly interested in the Eastern European avant-garde of the 1920s and 1930s, but he is likewise fascinated by Asian cultures and their ideas.

Uecker's works can be seen in collections and at large fairs in both the West and the East. His artistic creativity reached a climax in 2000 with the prayer room he designed for the rebuilt Reichstag building in Berlin.

The Goethe Museum Düsseldorf is one of the three major Goethe archives and research centers.

The exhibit has been organized to celebrate the 90th birthday anniversary of the artist and will be running until November 15.

"Sunless Shadows", "A Horse Has More Blood Than a Human" competing in Korea DMZ festival

By Seyyed Mostafa Mousavi Sabet

TEHRAN — "Sunless Shadows" and "A Horse Has More Blood Than a Human" have joined another Iranian film "The Unseen" competing in the 12th DMZ International Documentary Film Festival in South Korea.

The award-winning "Sunless Shadows" directed by Mehrdad Oskui is about a group of adolescent girls in an Iranian juvenile detention center, who are serving time for having murdered their father, husband or another male family member.

Oskui observes the inmates' frank conversations and playful interactions, which gradually make apparent that apart from being a prison, this closed, all-female environment is also a shelter from a male-dominated society.

The film has been selected to be screened in the international competition.

"A Horse Has More Blood Than a Human" directed by Abolfazl Taluni has been picked for the short competition of the festival, which opened in Gyeonggi Province, Paju and Goyang on September 17.

The documentary revolves around an elderly Iranian



"A Horse Has More Blood Than a Human" directed by Abolfazl Taluni.

couple, whose dreams of a quiet retirement are shattered by the realization that their hometown has become a smuggling gateway to Europe, and everyone they know is involved.

In a report published earlier in August, the organizers announced that "The Unseen" has been selected to be screened

in the Asian completion of the event.

It is about homeless women in Iran who are locked away, banished to the outskirts of the city, and made invisible. Director Behzad Nalbandi secretly conducted interviews in the camps and creates a world of his own: cardboard animations make those affected visible again.

In addition, "Silent House" co-directed by Farnaz and Mohammadreza Jurabchian has been selected for the DMZ Docs Pitch.

The documentary tells the story of three generations of an Iranian family who live in a historic and exceptional hundred-year-old house.

DMZ Docs Pitch is a co-production and financing forum where Asian creative documentary projects with high potentials are discovered and presented to key industry players ranging from commissioning editors and funders to broadcasters.

The program mainly supports documentary projects in the production stage as well as in the rough-cut stage and provides them with diverse opportunities via its official pitching sessions.

The festival will come to an end on September 24.

"Nanny Scheherazade in Wonderland" gives children lessons on peace, hope

A R T TEHRAN — Director Hooman Hosseinejad is staging the children's musical "Nanny Scheherazade in Wonderland" at Tehran's Honar Hall to teach them lessons about peace and hope.

The play's target audience is children above three, he said in a press release, however, he added that it is even appropriate for adults.

"The play intends to give good educational messages through the hero characters in the story and also wants to promote the good spirit of kindness and sympathy among children and takes them to a wonderland where they can listen to the stories," he added.

"Messages of peace, life without war, sympathy, friendship, life without borders, book reading and hope for a better world are also given in this story while it tries



Thespians perform "Nanny Scheherazade in Wonderland" by director Hooman Hosseinejad.

to denounce violence, telling lies and insulting," he added.

"The musical can communicate with families well. Families are tired of the current situation of the spread of the coronavirus, however, they want to spend an hour in an intimate atmosphere while observing health protocols and social

distancing," he explained.

"The hall can host audiences of 250, however, it can only host 100 individuals to observe social distancing. All members of the audience must be wearing a face mask and families can sit and watch the play without difficulty," he said.

He added that the play is also available online for the interested applicants.

"The play says the world is beautiful with love and kindness. In the hearts of each legend there lies a truth. Several brave souls get united to save their world. We can be a hero in our lives, if we dare to try hard. Now, we can unite to become stronger. We can live on the planet where peace survives. We should try to live in the world without war," he concluded.

Sanaz Samavati, Amir Zarivand, Nima Fazeli and Hooman Hosseinejad are among the main actors of the play.

Poster, photo exhibits observe Iran-Iraq war anniversary

➔ The exhibition titled "The Sacred Epic" is hanging photos by Saeid Sadeqi, Bahman Jalali, Jaseem Ghazbanpur, Rasul Molaqolipour, Mohammad Farnud, Amir-Ali Javadian and several other photographers.

Most of the photos depict scenes of the early days of the war

when Iranian civilians in Khorramshahr, Abadan and several other cities on the border defended their hometowns against the invading Iraqi forces.

The exhibition will run until October 1 at the museum located in Mozaffar St. near Palestine Square.

Persian readers welcome "An Ideal Husband", "A Woman of No Importance"

CULTURE TEHRAN — The fifth edition of the Persian translation of Irish writer Oscar Wilde's plays "An Ideal Husband" and "A Woman of No Importance" have recently been republished.

The plays translated by Parviz Marzban were released by Elmi Farhangi, a major Iranian publisher in Tehran, in one book for the first time in 1955.

"An Ideal Husband" written in 1895 revolves around blackmail and political corruption, and touches on the themes of public and private honor. The action is set in London and takes place over the course of 24 hours.

"Sooner or later, we shall all have to pay for what we do," Wilde had written about the play. But he added, "No one should be entirely judged by their past."

Together with "The Importance of Being Earnest", it is often considered

Wilde's dramatic masterpiece. After "Earnest", it is his most popularly produced play.

"An Ideal Husband" was adapted for the screen five times. The first came in 1935 by German director Herbert Selpin.

In 1999, British director Oliver Parker adapted the play for a film starring Julianne Moore, Minnie Driver, Jeremy Northam, Cate Blanchett and Rupert Everett.

In 2000, British director William Cartledge made another screen adaptation of the play.

"A Woman of No Importance" premiered in 1893 at London's Haymarket Theatre. Like Wilde's other society plays, it satirizes English upper-class society.

Following its publication, critic William Archer wrote that Wilde's plays "must be taken on the very highest plane of modern English drama." It has been performed on stages in Europe and North America



Front cover of the Persian translation of Irish writer Oscar Wilde's plays "An Ideal Husband" and "A Woman of No Importance".

since his death in 1900.

Four screen adaptations were made of this play, the first of which was in 1921 by American director Denison Clift.

In 1991, BBC Radio broadcast an adaptation by Adrian Bean, starring Diana Rigg and Martin Jarvis.



Visual Stories
from Ashura

The enemies circled
around the lifeless body of
Imam Hussain (AS)

The women came out
of the tents and
Zeynab (SA) went to
the battlefield.

When Zaynab got
there, she found
her brother's
blood-soaked
body in the warm
ground of
Karbala plain

Zaynab put her hands under the body of Hussain ibn
Ali (AS) and cried; "O God, accept this sacrifice
from the dynasty of Muhammad (pbuh)"

The enemies each one dealt a blow to the pure body of Imam Hussain. Zaynab ran to the battlefield. When she reached there, she said to his grandfather:

"O my dear grandfather, look at the hot plain of Karbala. This is your Hussein who is covered in the dust and blood

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei