

Tehran-Baku ties have grown to strategic level in all areas: Iran Page 2



**Iranian lifters snatch** silver and bronze at IWF Junior World C'ships Page 3 Monthly steel products export up 215% year on year Page 4



# Good progress made but key issues remain unresolved in Vienna talks, Iran says

TEHRAN – Spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry Saeed Khatibzadeh has echoed the assessment of Iran's top nuclear negotiator that the Vienna nuclear talks are moving forward but key issues remain unresolved.

Speaking at a weekly press conference on Monday, Khatibzadeh said the talks in Vienna have reached "key points" and that there has been no stalemate in the talks, adding that good and significant progresses have been made, but key issues remain unresolved.

"I have already stated the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We conduct the negotiations and discussions in Vienna with the necessary care and obsession. Each round could have been the last round, but because of some remaining issues, the talks have been moved to the next round," Khatibzadeh explained.

Continued on page 3

# Iran, Azerbaijan discuss expansion of energy ties

TEHRAN - Iranian Energy Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh held talks with Azerbaijan's Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Mustafayev on Sunday to discuss expansion of economic and energy ties.

Mustafayev who visited Tehran heading a high-ranking delegation met with Zanganeh to mainly discuss cooperation in oil and gas sectors, Shana reported.

Speaking in the meeting, Zanganeh stressed positive political and economic relations between the two countries, saying: "Iran-Azerbaijan relations have grown well in all fields over the recent years, mostly in the oil, gas and energy sectors and the development of joint fields in the Caspian Sea."

"Although we have not yet been able to realize this cooperation (development of joint fields) due to external pressures imposed by sanctions, but according to the leaders of the two countries, it will be operational soon," he said.

Continued on page 4

# Ebrahim Hassanbeigi novelizes life story of Martyr Mohsen Hojaji TEHRAN – Ebrahim Hassanbeigi, the In this novel, Has

Iranian writer whose novel "Muhammad" about the Prophet of Islam (S) has been translated into several languages, has fictionalized the life story of Mohsen Hojaji, an Iranian soldier who was martyred by ISIS forces in Syria.

Khate Moqaddam is scheduled to publish the novel entitled "Morning of the Fateful Day", the publisher announced in a press release on Monday.

No let-up in mass anti-Israel demonstrations

In this novel, Hassanbeigi has tried to highlight Hojaji's religious perspective, describing why he volunteered to join Iranian forces fighting against ISIS.

"Although he was quite fashionable during schooldays, nurturing a goatee and wearing jeans and a yellow shirt contrary to his native custom, he always tried to carry out his religious duties and to advance his life based his religious beliefs," Hassanbeigi has said. Continued on page 8

Iran have potential to qualify for 2022 World Cup qualification third round: expert

#### **BY FARROKH HESABI**

TEHRAN - The Iranian national football team will return to action on June 3 against Hong Kong in the 2022 World Cup qualifiers in Bahrain. The competition is very vital for the 'Persian Leopards' since they need to beat their opponents to book a place in the third round. Iran will also play Bahrain, Cambodia and

Iraq in the qualification.

Iran head coach Dragan Skocic's plans have been far from ideal for the upcoming competition. The National Team will step into the tournament without any warm-up match. The team have just started their training camp in Kish Island, from there they will go to Bahrain.

### **COVID-19 inoculation to rollout by homegrown** vaccine this week

TEHRAN - Health Minister Saeed Namaki announced that immunization against coronavirus by the domestic vaccine (COVIRAN BAREKAT) will start by the next week, ISNA reported on Monday.

**Canadian style!** 

COVIRAN, the first coronavirus vaccine made by researchers at the Headquarters for Executing the Order of the Imam, was unveiled on December 29, 2020, and started to be mass-produced on March 29

Though the first phase of vaccination, only volunteers will receive the vaccine, Namaki further stated.

Today, our homegrown vaccines are the most harmless without any side effects. So, in less than a year, we were able to join the world's largest vaccine manufacturers, he emphasized. He went on to note that "fortunately, vac-

cination is going well in the country, and by

Mazandaran province, provincial tourism chief

of a child, which was buried in a seated position

"The archaeologists discovered the skeleton

Seifollah Farzaneh said on Monday.

northern Iran.

groups, including the population above 60, and the incurable and special patients.

Some 85 percent of the toll occurs among the elderly and those with underlying diseases so that vaccination will reduce at least 80 percent of the mortality, and then we will enter the vaccination phase of other age groups by both Iranian and imported vaccines.

Some 1 million doses of the vaccine have been produced; By June, this number will reach 12 million doses per month, and in August, and by September we will produce 20 to 25 million doses of vaccine.

#### Seven countries seeking to purchase Iranian vaccine

South America, African countries, several neighboring and two European countries have asked to purchase COVIRAN vaccine, Hassan Jalili, director of the vaccine research team said.

The massive public outpouring is continuing aggression. Although the scope and reach of such a mechanism are yet to be established, observers in Peshawar, the regional capital of Pakistan's believe some non-Arab states could form a joint northwestern province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

> military coalition in a not-so-distant future. More mass anti-Israel protests are expected in the coming weeks and months, as different opposition parties are planning demonstrations across Pakistan.

> Tension in East Jerusalem has been escalating in recent weeks, centering on the Sheikh Jarrah and the Old City areas. Between May 7 and 10 alone, 1,000 Palestinians were injured by Israeli forces, 735 of these due to rubber bullets.

Widespread clashes erupted in East Jerusalem, particularly in the Al Aqsa Mosque and the Damascus Gate area. A heavy Israeli security presence and large numbers of worshippers contributed to the tensions.

Continued on page 5

See page 3 proclaimed bastion of human rights

in Pakistan

al-Quds.

Israeli aggression.

Praising humanity, Genocidal tragedy in the self-

Despite the setbacks, Iranians hope that their team will qualify for the 2022 World Cup. Jalal Cheraghpur, head of the Technical and Education Committee of the Iranian Football Federation, believes that a lack of friendly matches would not be a problem for the national team if there will be a wise selection of the squad.

"There is no doubt that for entering a tournament, you need to have warm-up matches. It is undeniable. The preparation games make clear the technical and tactical patterns that a coach wants his players to perform," Cheraghpur said.

"However, for a team that most of their players have played along with each other for many years, it will not be a huge problem to start without friendly matches, although I emphasize that the conditions are far from ideal.

"For example, in the defense line, we have Morteza Pouraliganji and Majid Hosseini, who have been the center-backs of the national team for many years and have played in big tournaments like the World Cup and AFC Asian Cup. Also, Hossein Kanaanizadegan and Shoja Khalilzadeh are the other pair that have been teammates in Persepolis and had formed the best defensive line in the Iranian league.

"In the midfield and also in the attacking line, the situation is the same. I think the national team own players that have more than 75 percent of mutual understanding despite not playing along with each other for several months.

"The most important principle that the national team head coach must consider is that he must avoid using players who play together for the first time as much as possible. In fact, he must think of pairs or even triples of players for each line instead of thinking and selecting one by one. The players arrived highly motivated and excited for what's to come. So, we all hope the best for our national team," he added.

the official said.

"This burial may be the manifestation of has discovered remains of an infant that could yield clues about the life of hunter-gatherers in highly emotional moments of the life of hunter-gatherers in Mazandaran [region].... and one The rare discovery was made in Hotu of the emotional behaviors of our ancestors in Cave which is situated in Behshahr county of this part of Iran."

Assessed to belong to a 6-8-month-old baby, the [fossilized] corpse has been found in rock layers of the Epipalaeolithic era, which dates back more than 12,000 years.

ogist Hasan Fazeli Nashli in close collaboration with the University of Tehran.

Early seasons of excavation took place in the cave from 1949 to 1957 by American anthropologist Carleton S. Coon, in which several ancient objects and tools were discovered.

Hunter-gatherer, also called forager, is referred to any person who depends primarily on wild foods for subsistence. Until about 12,000 to 11,000 years ago,

sign MOU

The ceremony, which was held in

The MOU aims to further promote and

Continued on page 6



#### **BY ALI A. JENABZADEH**

TEHRAN - Head of the Center for Political Studies at the University of Lebanon says that Palestine is alive in Shia leaders and thinkers thoughts.

The status of Palestine is fixed in the thought of Shia leaders who spoke about the liberation of Palestine and support for the Palestinian resistance," Dr. Talal Atrissi tells the Tehran Times.

Imam Musa al-Sadr in Lebanon and Imam Khomeini always had supportive stance when it came to Palestine cause, Atrissi notes.

"Imam Khomeini emphasized, not only on the intellectual and political level but also on the practical level, on arming Palestinian people and necessity of support to the resistance groups by all means,' he points out.

Following is the text of the interview:

Today, after decades of struggle, how do you evaluate the Palestinian situation?

After decades of struggle, the Palestine cause is still alive where the Palestinian people uphold this cause and defend their lands.

There is still a Palestinian resistance movement consisting of different factions fighting inside Palestine.

On the other hand, there is a view that claims negotiations can resolve the Palestinian problem. This approach still exists, but it reached a dead end after about twenty years of negotiations.

Continued on page 5

#### Rare discovery yields traces of hunter-gatherers in northern Iran TEHRAN – A team of Iranian archaeologists

as a deterrence against a renewed act of Israeli

Anger is boiling over Israel's atrocities during

Pakistanis are particularly furious over Is-

raeli troops' desecration of al-Aqsa Mosque in

Jerusalem al-Quds. Similar protests have also

been held in major cities against Israel's plans

to evict Palestinians from their homes in the

Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in East Jerusalem

The ongoing protests are mounting increas

Pakistan has backed Turkey's demand to

ing pressure on the Pakistani government to

help Palestinians militarily to prevent another

set up an international protection mechanism

the 11-day conflict, which the United Nations

said could amount to war crimes.



the end of June, we will vaccinate the target

## INTERNATIONAL DAILY TEHRANTIMI

### Tehran-Baku ties have grown to strategic level in all areas: Iran

**POLITICAL TEHRAN** – The Iranian presidential chief of staff has said that relations between Iran and the Republic of Azerbaijan have grown to a strategic level at all areas.

"Today, with the will of the presidents of the two countries relations have reached to a strategic level at all areas," Mahmoud Vaezi told visiting Azeri Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Mustafayev in Tehran late on Sunday.

Vaezi described historical, cultural, ethnic affinities as the "engine of relations" between Iran and the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The presidential chief of staff went on to say that "the Islamic Republic of Iran has been on the side of the government and people of Azerbaijan in different times and now there is a strong relationship between the countries and two nations in all areas.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Vaezi insisted on the implementation of the agreements signed by the presidents of the two countries, saying, "It is necessary to pursue our activities with greater speed so that in the remaining two months these agreements will bear result.

The term of the administration of President Rouhani will come to an end about two months later. The elections to elect a new president in Iran will be held on June 18. However, the elections may go to a runoff.

The presidential chief of staff went on to say that a proper condition has been created to lay the groundwork for implementation of projects which had been halted due to the unjust U.S. sanctions against Iran.

Vaezi also suggested that areas of cooperation should be identified in relations of the two neighboring states that would have long-lasting effects.

For his part, Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Mustafayev said that strengthening relations with Iran are among the priorities of Azerbaijan's foreign policy.

"The level of relations between the two countries have reached the highest level in the recent years and the political will of the presidents of the two countries have been very effective in this endeavor," Mustafayev stated.

Mustafayev went on to say that there is a great capacity for closer cooperation between the two countries in different sectors, including energy, transportation, technology, agriculture and tourism.

The deputy prime minister said his country is "firm to activate these capacities"

He added despite problems created due to the Coronavirus pandemic the volume of trade ties between the two countries increased by 27 percent and "the transit of goods between us was not halted even for a single day.'

# **Candidates express** concerns and present plans

**TEHRAN** — As we get closer to the election day, candidates begin campaigns in social media, TV and radio. The Tehran Times gathered all the remarks the presidential candidates made in the past 24 hours.

LITICS

**JUNE 1, 2021** 

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Saeed Jalili criticized the education system in Iran, tweeting that over 20,000 high school students studying empirical science have an average of 19 and above (out of 20), yet only a few of them can enter the universities to study medicine, whereas the country needs more medical doctors than ever. "We have more facilities than before in the country. Why shouldn't these opportunities be used?" he asked.

He also proposed a plan to give every Iranian a fair share of energy subsidy. "Every Iranian must have an equal share of energy, and if he does not want to use it, he must receive the price of it," he stated.

Mohsen Rezaei discussed various issues, such as establishing a "Southwestern Asian Union," and creating and an environment for economic development.

He said that he will consider housework as a job for household women with two children, paying them monthly salaries.

"Child rearing and family health are important. In this regard, we consider women who have two or more children and spend their time raising children and family health as employed. After 6 months of training, we pay these women salaries," he explained.

He also claims that he will grant a cash subsidy of 450,000 tomans (almost \$107 at the official rate of 42,000 rials) to 40 million Iranians per month. He says he has worked on this plan for four years. The presidential contender has also stated that he is planning to give each province economic provisions to govern its affairs.

"If I am talking today about the subsidy of 450,000 tomans, this estimate is quite accurate. It has scientific basis and is applicable. We operate in a way that is non-inflationary and does not incur costs for the government because \$130 billion in subsidies are given annually, many of which are being spent by the rich from subsidies to gasoline and electricity to other things," Rezaei stated.

He said that his administration's diplomacy will move towards regional diplomacy "because we consider Iran to be regionally important.

Rezaei stated that until the Islamic Republic does not stabilize its position in the region, it will not be able to make leaps internationally.

'A successful presence in the region will pave the way for a successful international presence," the former chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps added.

He called the establishment of the "Southwest Asian Union" in line with Iran's regional diplomacy and said, "This union consists of 25 countries and will be similar to the European Union. These 25 countries have more than 1,200 billion dollars in foreign exchange, with which we have a very small share."

Qazizadeh Hashemi said on Sunday that pseudo currency should be used in economy, but not in cash. He said that gold, foreign exchange and cryptocurrency are pseudo currencies Iran is using right now, but it should not be cashed.

He also said no Iranian will remain homeless under his administration.

The presidential candidate also criticized injection of huge liquidity into the economy, saying it has raised the inflation rate to up to 50%

He stated that as a physician he cares about the public health. "Healthy food should reach people. For this reason, we have designed a monthly package of 300,000 tomans (almost \$72) for each Iranian.<sup>3</sup>

By this amount of money citizens can buy food rich in calories and vitamins and also healthy and diversified, he explained. In this context, his team has planned from seed to table

how to manage exports, prices and toxins in food products and processing of agricultural materials.

He also says that Iran should not even be selling one drop of crude oil.

"Smart governments are future governments" that make predictions and "then plan for them," he opined. "We will have a smart and young government and a 'government of greetings' for the future of new Iran, which aims to build Iran," he stated.

Mohsen Mehr Alizadeh said that Iran should think about xport as it thinks about production.

We should provide export incentives, especially for the preservation of export markets in neighboring countries, and in no way should we allow a ministry or agency to issue an order every day," he pointed out.

"Currently, about 70% of the country's production capacity consists of small production units, and most of them have been shut down due to these cumbersome bureaucratic issues and

He said that he will increase by five times the subsidy for five low-income deciles from the second month of his presidency. Seyyed Ebrahim Raeisi said on Sunday that internet must

be free for low-income deciles. "Banking facilities must be properly distributed for pro-

duction, marriage and housing," the cleric presidential candidate said.

He said that today the internet has become the right of the people, and educational, economic, and research issues are being carried out in cyberspace in all parts of the country.

"Why not letting people work in cyberspace? A housewife who cooks or a teacher who produces content should get her share of what she does," he suggested.

He said that the popular government has clear plans to make money from the internet.

Abdolnasser Hemmati, the presidential candidate trained in economy, said on Monday morning that by lifting the sanctions, his government will see at least a 5% economic growth and it will be able to lower inflation rate to 8 to 12%. "Economic prosperity and exports are highly important

and have a great impact on the country's economic prosperity. We can increase non-oil exports by up to 50%," he said.

According to Hemmati, in addition to the issue of employment, which is highly important, the social life of the youth also has a high priority.

Hemmati said, "Before we fight corruption, we must confront its origin, and we must not allow corruption to occur in the country, and we must eliminate the grounds for corruption."

The presidential candidate said that all over the world, subsidies are paid through taxes, and Iran cannot solve the problem if it does not tax properly.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Hemmati said, "My effort is for the presence of people who are angry with the ballot boxes and do not intend to participate in the elections." He added, "In order to change the course" he has entered the election race.

He said that government interference in economic affairs, such as the price of tires, chicken feed, etc., must be eliminated, and the government must focus on infrastructure.



**POLITICAL TEHRAN** — Reformist candidate Mohsen Mehr Alizadeh has written a letter asking the Reformist Front of Iran to set an appointment for him at earliest convenience

In the letter released on Monday, Mehr Alizadeh has stated that he is a reformist and he served in Khatami's administration as the head of the Physical Education

Organization.

firmed candidates were announced. Azar Mansouri, the spokeswoman for the Reformist Front of Iran, said that the front has no candidate as the Guardian Council did not endorse prominent reformist figures to run for the post of president.

On May 27, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution thanked all those who registered to run for president, saying, "The honorable Guardian Council did what it

#### Social Media Accounts Odr.gh.hashemi GhaziZade\_ha ⊕ghashemi.com 🔰 GhazizadehSA

#### Supporters

Some groups within the principlist faction, including the Resilience Front

#### Political position on JCPOA

Qazizadeh Hashemi has opposed the JCPOA in the parliament over and over, yet when declared presidential candidacy, he said that the deal is the decision of the policymakers in the Islamic Republic. He says he would continue the ongoing Vienna negotiations for a possible revival of the JCPOA better than the incumbent administration. "I am opposed to essay-writing in the negotiations," he

said.

#### Political position on interaction with neighbors and the West

Qazizadeh Hashemi believes that it is necessary to interact with the world, yet it is important with whom Iran is trying to negotiate. He has not elaborated on his regional foreign policy, but it is expected that he would follow "neighbors first"









**CANDIDATE PROFILE** 

7 candidates in 7 days





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Tel:+2186084642

# circulars," he added



Mehr Alizadeh is seeking to get the approval of reformists in the presidential race. Earlier on May 26, a day after the names of the con-

deemed necessary according to its responsibility. The Leader added that not confirming a candidate "does not mean that a person is incompetent."

policy.

#### **Candidates' views on regional foreign policy**



# **Praising humanity, Canadian style!**

Genocidal tragedy in the self-proclaimed bastion of human rights

POLITICAL TEHRAN The k heart-wrenching discovery of the Tk'emlups te Secwépemc First Nation children's remains has sparked a heated debate over the gross violation of human rights in the recent history of Canada and how to heal the wounds of history that continue to fester even as Canada brags about its track record in respecting human dignity.

The world awoke on Saturday to the heart-breaking news that the remains of 215 indigenous children have been found on the land of a former boarding school that was Canada's largest Indigenous residential school.

The remains of the indigenous children, some as young as three, were found buried in a mass grave at the site of the former Kamloops Residential School located some 220 miles or 354 kilometers northeast of Vancouver. These remains were found with the help of ground-penetrating radar and local officials have not ruled out that more bodies may be found because some areas on the school grounds have not been searched yet.

The Kamloops Indian Residential School was created to forcibly assimilate indigenous children of First Nations origin into Canadian culture.

From the 19th century until the 1970s, more than 150,000 First Nations children were required to attend state-funded Christian schools as part of a program to assimilate them into white Canadian society. They were forced to convert to Christianity and not allowed to speak their native languages. Many were beaten and verbally abused, and up to 6,000 are said to have died, according to the Associated Press.

The Canadian government apologized in Parliament in 2008 and admitted that physical and sexual abuse in the schools was



rampant. Many students recall being beaten for speaking their native languages; they also lost touch with their parents and customs.

The mass grave has renewed calls for the Roman Catholic Church to apologize for its role in Canada's policy of the 19th and 20th centuries that saw Indigenous children removed from families to attend state-funded residential schools.

Tk'emlups te Secwépemc First Nation Chief Rosanne Casimir put out a statement confirming the discovery of the previously undocumented deaths of indigenous people of Canada.

"It is with a heavy heart that Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Kukpi7 (Chief) Rosanne Casimir confirms an unthinkable loss that was spoken about but never documented by the Kamloops Indian Residential School. This past weekend, with the help of a ground penetrating radar specialist, the stark truth of the preliminary findings came to light – the confirmation of the remains of 215 children who were students of the Kamloops Indian Residential School,' the statement said.

Facing the anger of the indigenous people, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau instructed all federal buildings to fly flags at half-mast.

"To honor the 215 children whose lives were taken at the former Kamloops residential school and all Indigenous children who never made it home, the survivors, and their families, I have asked that the Peace Tower flag and flags on all federal buildings be flown at half-mast," he said on Twitter.

Also, Carolyn Bennet, Canada's Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, highlighted the need for Canadians to be educated about the dark side of their history. "The devastating discovery of the remains of 215 children at the former Kamloops residential school underscores importance of educating Canadians about this shameful part of our history," she said on Twitter.

Earlier, she shed light on the dark history of residential schools in Canada, saying these schools were a colonial policy that stole Indigenous children from their communities. "Thousands of children were sent to these schools and never returned to their families. The loss of children who attended these schools is unthinkable," she continued.

The episode reveals how cautious Canada should be in its approach toward human rights. While having several historical unhealed wounds in its society, Canada has been lecturing other countries such as Iran on the need to avoid violating human rights.

"This is a huge human tragedy in Canadian history that can only be called genocide. It is unfortunate that a country that tries to hide behind a humanitarian mask has such tragedies in its history," Saeed Khatibzadeh, spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry, said at his weekly press conference on Monday.

The spokesman also expressed sympathy with the indigenous people of Canada and called on the North American country to make up for its dark days.

"While expressing my condolences to Indigenous Canadians, the ?overnment of Canada must always remember to reflect on the dark days of the past whenever it wants to make human rights gestures, and to try to make up for those dark days at home," Khatibzadeh pointed out.

# Good progress made but key issues remain unresolved in Vienna talks, Iran says

**POLITICAL TEHRAN** – Spokesman for Iran's Foreign e s k Ministry Saeed Khatibzadeh has echoed the assessment of Iran's top nuclear negotiator that the Vienna nuclear talks are moving forward but key issues remain unresolved.

Speaking at a weekly press conference on Monday, Khatibzadeh said the talks in Vienna have reached "key points" and that there has been no stalemate in the talks, adding that good and significant progresses have been made, but key issues remain unresolved.

"I have already stated the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We conduct the negotiations and discussions in Vienna with the necessary care and obsession. Each round could have been the last round, but because of some remaining issues, the talks have been moved to the next round," Khatibzadeh explained.

The spokesman was commenting on the recent remarks by Russia's ambassador to the Vienna-based international organizations Mikhail Ulyanov who has said the current round of talks could be the last round.

Ulyanov's comments came amid intensive nuclear talks in Vienna between Iran and the remaining parties to the 2015 nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). The fifth round of nuclear talks in Vienna between Iran and the remaining parties to the JCPOA was resumed on May 25.

Responding to a Twitter user's question on when the next round of talks would begin, on Sunday Ulyanov tweeted, "The fifth round of the Vienna talks on JCPOA is under way. As of now, there are no plans for the sixth. The negotiators proceed from the understanding that the current round should be final."

Khatibzadeh said the fifth round can be the last round if



plementation of the JCPOA. The JCPOA is what is written, neither more nor less.

Khatibzadeh further said that the U.S. should lift all the sanctions the Trump administration imposed on Iran with the aim of depriving Iran of the benefits envisioned in the JCPOA.

"Iran's position is that all the sanctions imposed by the Trump administration against Iran, all with the aim of depriving Iran of JCPOA's interests and with the aim of destroying the JCPOA, are in complete contradiction with the spirit and words of the JCPOA," the spokesman stated.

He continued, "The opinion of the U.S. negotiating team, which was conveyed to us through the Joint Commission, is that this is not their opinion on some of these issues. We made our views clear and decisive. Certainly, in some key issues, serious decisions have to be made. I think we are at the point where certain decisions need to be made on some issues. The route we took was based on the same instructions

we announced from day one."

deal. Instead of eroding your credibility, focus on reviving the original deal—the ONLY solution on the table," Khatibzadeh said on Twitter.

The spokesman was responding to remarks by UK Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken who both had called for a "stronger" deal with Iran during separate visits to Israel.

During his visit to Israel, which came after the recent flare-up between the Gaza Strip and Israel, Blinken said the U.S. is seeking a "longer and stronger" deal with Iran.

In an interview with Israel's Channel 12, Blinken said, "if Iran returns to compliance with the deal, we would do the same.

We would also seek to make it, as we say, longer and stronger. And we'd also work hard to engage the other issues where Iran is a very dangerous and problematic actor for us and for Israel – destabilizing activities in the region, proliferation of weapons, support for terrorist groups, et cetera. All of those things."

Raab also echoed the same thing during his visit to Israel. After a meeting with his Israeli counterpart Gabi Ashkenazi, Raab said the UK is committed to achieving a "stronger" deal with Iran

"Reiterated the United Kingdom commitment to a twostate solution, the importance of a stronger nuclear deal with Iran & our commitment to Israel's security in my meeting with @Gabi\_Ashkenazi today. Vital we make progress towards a more positive future for Israelis and Palestinians," Raab said on Ťwitter.

The remarks came as the fifth round of nuclear talks in Vienna between Iran and the remaining parties to the JCPOA were resumed on Tuesday. Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araqchi visited the Austrian capital for nuclear talks that are aimed to revive the 2015 nuclear deal

# **SPORTS**

#### Iranian lifters snatch silver and bronze at IWF Junior **World C'ships**

**S P O R T S TEHRAN** – Iran's Reza Hassanpour and Alireza Zandi won silver and bronze medals at the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) Junior World Championships



In the men's +109kg contest, Hassanpour took the silver with 172kg in snatch, 226kg in clean and jerk and 398kg in total.

His counterpart Zandi won the bronze after making 173-221-394 on Monday.

Enzo Kuworge from the Netherlands ended with 180-231-411 to win the gold medal in the weight class.

On Sunday, Yekta Jamali claimed Iran's first-ever medal in the weightlifting championships.

She won a bronze medal in the 87kg weight class by lifting 92kg in snatch and 116kg in clean and jerk for a total of 208. The 2021 IWF Junior World Weightlifting Championships took place in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from May 23-31.

#### Iran football team arrive in Bahrain

SPORTS TEHRAN – Iran national football team aresski rived at the Bahrain International Airport near Manama, Bahrain on Monday.

The players and coaching staff require to submit a negative

PCR test to enter their camp. Iran are scheduled to meet Hong Kong in their first match in

the 2022 FIFA World Cup qualification on June 3. The 'Persian Leopards' will meet hosts Bahrain four days later at the Bahrain National Stadium in Riffa.

Dragan Skocic's side will also play Cambodia and Iraq on June 11 and 15, respectively.

### **Ebadipour praises Alekno for** building trust with players

SPORTS TEHRAN - Iran captain Milad Ebadipour d e s k praised recently appointed head coach, Vladimir Alekno, for his way of establishing a strong bond with his players that could translate to future success.

Iran dropped their opening match against Asian rivals Japan in straight sets but showed a lot of poise, stealing a set against VNL defending champions Russia in the second match on Saturday and defeated Netherlands a day later.

"We expected a tough game because we played against Russia, one of the best teams in the world," Ebadipour told fivb.org.

They were really good, they were better than us, especially in the physical aspects of the match. I have to praise our young players because they played really well. They pushed a lot and Î think the Russians felt it. Of course, we could have won this game, but we made some small mistakes during the match."

There is indeed familiarity with Russia's game on Alekno's part, who was previously the Russian national team coach, and that helped his team improve its game in its second outing. However, an element that the Russian mentor has changed in the Iranian system is its offence.

"Before the tournament, he pushed us to be an offence-driven team, so he prepared us to face teams that are physically better than us like Russia, United States, Brazil and Poland," Ebadi pour explained. "He knew that well and he focused on strengthening our offence against these kinds of teams. We played very well in attack against Russia and if we continue doing this, we could really put other teams in trouble.'

the remaining key issues are resolved.

"If the remaining key issues are resolved, it could be the last round, but if it is not, it will continue. The Vienna talks have made good and significant progress in all three working groups, but key issues remain. These issues must also be addressed carefully," he said. "All JCPOA-related sanctions must be lifted and Verified. This verification will take place in the formulas discussed in Vienna, and then Iran will reverse its compensatory measures.

The spokesman also underlined that there is no stalemate in the Vienna talks.

"There is no deadlock in the Vienna talks, and the talks have reached key points, and key issues need to be decided, and this requires its own care, obsession and time. We do not allow dialogue to become protracted, nor do we rush," Khatibzadeh said, adding, "Our criterion is to ensure the highest interests of the people and the system. Our team carefully follows the instructions from the center. The United States must decide whether to continue Trump's failed legacy or turn the page and return to its commitments under the JCPOA, and if that happens, Iran's response is the full im-

Khatibzadeh also responded to remarks by U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken who has said the U.S. seeks to strengthen and lengthen the JCPOA as well as address regional issues.

"Instead of trying to appease the sworn enemy of the JCPOA, they should return to their commitments under United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 and the JCPOA. The only solution on the table is the JCPOA, which was signed in 2015, and that is the best thing the current U.S. administration can think of," the spokesman pointed out, adding, "If there are other issues to even think about, there is a long list of destructive actions by the United States and its allies in the region, and if the United States is willing to talk about them, it certainly has a long list of actions.'

Khatibzadeh has already responded to Blinken's remarks, warning against the danger of appeasing the JCPOA's sworn enemy that is Israel. He had said in a tweet that the foreign ministers of the U.S. and the UK are trying to appease the sworn enemy of the nuclear deal.

"To appease the sworn enemy of JCPOA, UK/US FMs spin goals of Vienna Talks. Disappointing! The brutal Israeli regime you try to placate has done its utmost to torpedo the

Araqchi has said progress has been made in the current round of nuclear talks but there are issues that remain unresolved.

He said, "All parties are still serious and have taken these talks seriously, many delegations are hoping that this round can be the last round of talks and we will reach a conclusion. You can have such hope, but you have to be a little bit cautious. The issues that remain to be finalized and decided are still important issues, although their number has decreased and we have made great strides in writing the text in previous periods. We can move forward further, but the few issues that remain are still key issues that need to be decided."

The top nuclear negotiator pointed out, "One should still speak cautiously about whether this round can be the last round or not. We hope to be able to do this as soon as possible, but we are looking for an agreement that meets our definite demands and positions that have been repeatedly mentioned before. We have been seriously involved in these talks, and the experts with me will participate in the working groups, and we will take the discussions seriously, and we hope to be able to make faster progress than in the past."

# Araqchi holds meetings with JCPOA parties in Vienna

**POLITICAL TEHRAN** – Iran's negotid e s k ating team in Vienna led by Deputy Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araqchi has held separate trilateral and quadripartite meetings with the European, Chinese and Russian delegations.

Kazem Gharibabadi, Iran's permanent representative to the UN offices in Vienna, said on Monday that Aragchi held a trilateral meeting with the heads of the Russian and Chinese delegations to discuss the latest developments related to the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

"Trilateral meeting between Iran, China and Russia. Heads of delegations discussed and reviewed issues related to ongoing JCPOA

negotiations," Gharibabadi said on Twitter. Mikhail Ulyanov, the head of the Russian delegation, also said that the JCPOA was discussed in the meeting. "A trilateral meeting of the delegations of China, Iran

and Russia at the Vienna talks on JCPOA was held today. The participants exchanged views on current state of affairs and the way ahead." Ulvanov said in a tweet.

During the meeting, the Iranian delegation explained its views on the draft texts and the remaining issues to the Chinese and Russian sides, according to Fars News.

The Chinese and Russian delegations, while providing some comments and explanations, reiterated their full support for Iran's position, Fars News said. It added all

three delegations stressed the importance of continuing to work seriously and away from any unreasonable haste or delay.

Following the trilateral meeting, Araqchi held a quadripartite meeting with European signatories to the JCPOA.

Araqchi's meetings came amid the fifth round of the nuclear talks currently underway in the Austrian Capital of Vienna. The talks made progress but are yet to reach a final stage. Araqchi has said that all parties are still serious and have taken these talks seriously and many delegations are hoping that this round can be the last round of talks and "we will reach a conclusion."

"You can have such hope, but you have to be a little bit cautious. The issues that



remain to be finalized and decided are still important issues, although their number has decreased and we have made great strides in writing the text in previous periods. We can move forward further, but the few issues that remain are still key issues that need to be decided," he said.

The 27-year-old outside hitter also commended his coach for building trust with the players.

We had a bad game against Japan, but we showed that we believed in ourselves against Russia. This is very important for our growth. Even in tough times, trust in each other will make you grow because there is always a good lesson each time," he said

Since Alekno's arrival in Tehran in mid-April, the Russian has shown a positive approach that has inspired the players to give their best.

"I had a bad start in the national team because of an injury, but he trusted me and gave me time to recover. This was important for me. When a coach shows trust in me, it makes me want to give him my 100 per cent all the time. I am sure the other players also felt the same. That's the best thing about Alekno, he puts a lot of trust in his players.

#### **Iranian wrestlers to** participate at Turkey and **Russia's tournaments**

S P O R T S TEHRAN – Iranian Greco-Roman and freestyle k wrestlers will participate at the Vehbi Emre & Hamit Kaplan 2021 in Turkey and Ali Aliev Memorial in Russia. Vehbi Emre & Hamit Kaplan 2021 will be held in Istanbul,

Turkey from June 18 to 20.

Iran will send 16 wrestlers to the event.

Iran's freestyle team will also take part at the Ali Aliev Memorial. The competition will be held in Kaspiysk, Dagestan from

June 25 to 27.

Ali Zurkanaevich Aliev was a Soviet freestyle wrestler who competed at the 1960, 1964 and 1968 Olympic Games.

After his death, the Russian Wrestling Federation has hosted the annual Ali Aliev Memorial International Wrestling Meeting at the Ali Aliev Wrestling Training Center in Kaspiysk, Dagestan, Russia.



### **TEDPIX loses nearly 11,000** points on Monday

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** – TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), dropped 10,963 points to 1.145 million on Monday.

As reported, over 5.166 billion securities worth 42.378 trillion rials (about \$1.009 billion) were traded at the TSE on Monday. The first market's index fell 9,906 points, and the second

market's index dropped 15,723 points. TEDPIX lost 45,000 points, or four percent, in the past Iranian calendar week.



The index closed at 1.109 million points on Wednesday (the last working day of the week).

During the past week, the indices of Social Security Investment Company, Iran Khodro Company, Isfahan Oil Refining Company, National Iranian Copper Industry Company, and Tehran Oil Refining Company were the most widely followed indices.

The Iranian capital market has been going through some turbulence over the past few months and in this regard, the government and related entities have been taking serious measures for stabilizing the market.

#### **Over €500m being invested** to build 2 solar farms in Fars province

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — As announced by a provincial official, 2 mega solar farms are being constructed in Fars province via investing €567 million.

Zafar Afshoun, the deputy governor-general of Fars for the economic affairs, said the mentioned solar farms with the capacity of 631 megawatts (MW) are being built in Abadeh and **Bavanat** counties

It is expected that in these two solar farms, about 1.7 million solar panels, 24,000 tons of all-galvanized steel structures and 16,000 kilometers of cables will be used; and 80 kilometers of concrete canals, 30 kilometers of main access paths, and 70 kilometers of paths will be set up; while internal access, two million cubic meters of earthworks and decoupage operations and about 35 kilometers of power transmission line will be implemented.

According to the studies conducted in the counties of Bavanat and Abadeh and the location studies in the whole country, and considering that these two counties are among the less-developed regions of the country, and given the high efficiency of sunlight, the implementation of these two huge projects with the aim of economic growth and prosperity, job creation and entrepreneur-ship in these two counties has been put on the agenda.



Iranian renewable power plants generated over 140 million kilowatt-hours (Kwh) of electricity in the first month of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21- April 20).

#### Ε С 0 ΝΟ МҮ

# Iran, Azerbaijan discuss expansion of energy ties

 $\rightarrow$  1 Mustafayev for his part emphasized the expansion of mutual relations between the two countries, and said: "I agree that our relations have developed in recent years, which was due to the political will of the presidents of the two countries.

"The relations between the two countries have made significant progress in different fields, and they can be even further boosted by constructive talks," he stated. The official further pointed to oil and gas sectors as great areas for expansion of economic relations between the two neighbors, saying: "We have a long history in cooperation in the field of gas, and since 2004 the gas required by the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic has been supplied by Iran, and we appreciate that.

Mustafayev was accompanied by the



head of the State Oil Company of the Azer- of officials and businessmen in his visit baijan Republic (SOCAR) and a number to Tehran.

# Monthly steel products export up 215% year on year

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — Iran's export of steel d e s k products increased 215 percent during the first month of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-April 21), as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

As reported by the Industry, Mining, and Trade Ministry, 265,000 tons of steel products were exported during the mentioned month of this year, while the figure was 84,000 tons in the first month of the previous vear.

In early May, the ministry issued a three-month waiver for some approved steel production units to be able to export steel products especially long sections. The Industry Ministry had restricted the exports of

steel products and obliged all steel producers to offer their products at Iran Mercantile Exchange (IME). Iran's export of steel during the previous Iranian calendar year 1399 (ended on March 20) declined

13.1 percent compared to the figure for the preceding year, data released by the Iranian Steel Producers Association (ISPA) showed.

Based on the mentioned data, over 2.839 million



tons of steel products were exported in the mentioned year, registering an 18-percent decline year on year. As ISPA data indicated, the exports of steel products, intermediate steel, and sponge iron all declined last year, and despite significant output growth and the demand decline in the domestic construction sector, the exports of the mentioned products did not increase due to the pandemic.

Iran is currently the tenth largest steelmaker in the world and is estimated to climb to seventh place by the Iranian calendar year 1404 (March  $202\hat{5}$ ).

According to the latest data released by the World Steel Association (WSA), Iran was ranked the world's tenth-largest steel producer in the first three-month of 2021.

According to the WSA's data, Iran produced 7.5 million tons of crude steel in Q1 2021, registering a 10.7 percent growth compared to the same period in 2020. The Islamic Republic's steel output stood at 2.6

million tons in March, indicating a 10.7 percent rise year on year.

The Iranian Steel industry has been constantly developing over the past years against all the pressures and obstacles created by outside forces like the U.S. sanctions and the coronavirus outbreak that has severely affected the performance of the world's top producers

# Domestic firms ink MOUs to conduct development study on Azadegan field

**ECONOMY** d e s k **TEHRAN** – National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) has awarded the development study of Azadegan oil field to five domestic companies, Shana reported.

As reported, the memorandums of understanding (MOU) for Azadegan field studies were signed on Monday in a ceremony attended by Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh, between the NIOC and five Iranian exploration and production companies.

The studies on the field will be conducted in three different sections, namely the southern, central, and northern areas.

The MOU for research on the northern part of the field was signed with Persia Oil And Gas Industry Development Company, the central part of the field was awarded to Petropars and PetroIran companies, while MOU for the studies on the southern part was signed with Pasargad Energy Development Company and Dana Energy Group.



Azadegan is Iran's biggest joint oil field near the Iraqi border that covers an area of 1,500 square kilometers.

The field's reservoir is estimated to contain 32 billion barrels of oil, and its

development has so far been pursued in two sections, the Southern Azadegan and the Northern Azadegan.

Azadegan is one of the five major oil-

fields Iran shares with Iraq at the western part of Iran's southwestern region of Karoun, known as West Karoun fields.

Meanwhile, Iranian Petropars Group, which is in charge of developing the South Azadegan oil field, has inked a deal with a local contractor called Dana Energy Company for adding 10,000 barrels per day (bpd) to the field's output capacity.

The mentioned Engineering, Procure-ment, Drilling (EPD) contract includes engineering services, procurement, drilling, drilling services, and completion of 10 new wells over a 16-month period, according to Petropars Managing Director Hamidreza Masoudi.

Masoudi stated that based on the deal, nine production wells and a well for discharging unwanted fluids will be dug.

"The contractor has been selected through tender and in competition with other competent contractors; based on the contract it is expected that about 40 kilometers of drilling operations will be conducted in this project," he explained. Back in July 2020, the Iranian Petroleum Engineering and Development Company (PEDEC) and Petropars Group signed a deal for completing the development of the South Azadegan oilfield

in southwestern Iran. The deal, worth \$961 million plus 11.83 trillion rials (about \$281.66 million), was signed by PEDEC Managing Director Touraj Dehqani and Petropars Head Hamidreza Masoudi at the presence of Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh.

West Karoun holds great importance for the country's oil industry since according to the latest studies, its in-situ deposit is estimated to be 67 billion barrels containing both light and heavy crude oils, and therefore it could have a big impact on Iran's oil output increases in the future.

Having an estimated 67 billion barrels of in-situ oil, West Karoun fields definitely deserve the spotlight which has been put on them recently.

**JUNE 1, 2021** 

'Industrial sector should use stock market capacities for funding projects'

Electricity generation from renewables in the said month led to economizing on the consumption of natural gas by 40 million cubic meters while saving 31 million liters of water and also prevented the emission of 91,000 tons of Green House Gases (GHG). Iranian households and small businesses have been welcoming renewable energies over the past few years, so that according to

the Energy Ministry data, by the end of the mentioned month over 5,012 wind and solar units with a total capacity of 69,320 kilowatts have been put into operation by consumers all around the country.

The capacity of Iran's renewable power plants currently exceeds 920 megawatts (MW) of which solar power plants with 452.75 MW have the biggest share.

Wind power plants with 317 MW of energy production stand in second place, followed by small hydropower plants with a generation of 105.65 MW.

Renewables, including hydropower, account for about seven percent of the country's total energy generation, versus natural gas' 90 percent share.

Overall, in the next four years, Iran is aiming for a 5,000 MW increase in renewable capacity to meet growing domestic demand and expand its presence in the regional electricity market.

According to Iran's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (known as SATBA), the number of small-scale solar power plants across the country which are used by households or small industries is increasing noticeably as Iranian households and small industries are embracing the new technology with open arms and investors also seem eager for more contribution in this area.

Iran is also planning on expanding its presence in the region's renewable energy market.

According to the Energy Minister Reza Ardakanian, the country has great potentials in the field of renewable energies and can have a significant role in developing the region's market for such energies.

"Relying on the high potential of renewable energy sources, including solar, wind, biomass, geothermal, etc., the Energy Ministry has planned good measures in order to implement new policies for creating positive changes in the development of the country's renewable energy sector," Ardakanian has said.

Back in December 2020, SATBA Head Mohammad Satakin said the capacity of the country's renewable power plants was going to reach 1,000 MW (one gigawatt) by the end of the current government's incumbency (August 2021).

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — Head of Iran's Securities d e s k and Exchange Organization (SEO) has said the stock market is the most important source of capital for development projects and the industrial sector should use this market's capacities for funding their projects.

Speaking in the SEO's second industry expert desk on Sunday, Mohammad-Ali Dehqan Dehnavi said: "In recent years, the capital market has found a special place in the country's economy due to the large presence of shareholders. The significance of the capital market is such that today even in political issues, such as presidential election, a large volume of content is related to the stock market, and this shows the important position of this market in the country."

SEO has started a program for establishing industry expert desks in which the challenges, issues, and needs of various industrial sectors are discussed separately and solutions are presented to overcome them.

The first desk of the SEO, held in mid-May, was focused on the refining industry, while the second desk has been dedicated to the mining industry with a special focus on



cement production units.

Speaking in this meeting, Dehnavi pointed to the goals of establishing the mentioned desks, saying: "This desk has a consulting role in the first step and will examine various issues, challenges, and problems of various industries through the interaction of different elements of the capital market and industry."

These desks can be attended by all producers, relevant associations, scientific and research bodies, and financial institutions, he stressed.

"The opinions of policy-making institutions such as the Ministry of Industry, Mining and Trade, the Research Center of the Iranian Parliament, and members of parliament can also be used in these meetings," the official added.

The meetings should lead to the preparation and formulation of specific solutions to solve problems and to determine what laws and regulations are needed to address the existing challenges, so that ultimately, by addressing these challenges and consequently the growth and development of the industry, the capital market could also benefit, Dehnavi stated.

Earlier on May 17, the official had mentioned forming expert desks as a productive way for discussing and resolving the issues of various industrial sectors and noted that SEO is seeking to establish expert desks for all the industrial sectors active in the stock market.

# Gasoline exports from Shahid Rajaei port hit 780,000t in 2 months

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** – Mansour e s Khoram-Shokouh, the deputy director of ports and maritime department of southern Hormozgan Province, said 780,000 tons of gasoline has been exported from Shahid Rajaei port in the mentioned province, during the first two months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-May 21).

According to Khoram-Shokouh, the mentioned volume of exports has been carried out via 23 vessels and through three special wharves dedicated to the exports of petroleum products.

The official noted that the increase in the export of petroleum products and the high volume of traffic in the first and second wharves of the port has made the department consider adding a new wharf for this purpose. Iran is currently the biggest producer and

exporter of gasoline in West Asia, according to the Managing Director of National Iranian Oil Refining and Distribution Company (NIORDC) Alireza Sadeq-Abadi.

"We are exporting to most of our neighboring countries including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Iraqi Kurdistan," Sadeq-Abadi said in January.

In the Iranian calendar year 1396 (ended on March 20, 2018), the production of gasoline in Iran stood at 59 million liters per day; the figure reached 107 million liters per day last



year, and currently the country's gasoline production capacity is between 107 to 120 million liters per day.

Iran has achieved this success despite

the external pressures and hurdles imposed by the U.S. sanctions on the country's oil industry, Sadeq-Abadi stated.

The significant increase in the country's gasoline production and exports comes despite the fact that nearly two years ago Iran was an importer of the strategic product, shipping in 17 million liters per day of gasoline.

Iran exported over \$1.4 billion worth of gasoline in the first seven months of the previous Iranian calendar year 1399 (March 20-October 21, 2020).

The country exported nearly \$490 million worth of the mentioned commodity during the Iranian calendar year 1398 (ended on March 19, 2020).

# **National information network:** More than just a "flash in the pan"!

#### By Imad al-Din Payande

In recent years, some countries have successfully collaborated with the tech giants such as Facebook, Google, and Twitter. Facebook introduced its legal representative in Turkey to set the agenda for cooperation under the country's new cyberlaw. Google agreed to follow Australia's revenue model and executive instructions, advised by the regulatory body of the country when publishing news on its platform. When it comes to fake news and misinformation, countries such as France, Singapore, and the United Kingdom have also had successful experiences in persuading social media platforms to enforce their national rules. The experience of The Islamic Republic of Iran working with Durov brothers clearly shows that at least at one time such a strategy was on the country's agenda. However, the big question mark brings forward that whether the ruling system ever had objectives of this sort in mind while developing the national network of information. These forms of cooperation seemingly- don't require documents adopted by the authoritative power and administration of vast bureaucracies. So, let's think twice over this problem.

In 2000, Cord Meyer, a senior CIA officer, wrote a piece to heap praise on the CIA for its role in covertly establishing and sponsoring Radio Free Europe, describing it as one of the most prominent innovations of the U.S. in defeating the Eastern Bloc in the Cold War. In exploring the underlying cause of the unduly success of this project in the Eastern Bloc countries and the consequently widespread public dissatisfaction, he argues that the CIA was certain from the beginning, that no matter how the Soviet Union and Western Germany responded to this emerging phenomenon, they were destined to fail. In other words, the former CIA officer claims when in 1950 the United States heavily invested in consolidating communication infrastructure (transmitting and amplifying frequency), started news-editorial offices, trained media personnel, and formulated agenda-setting principles for social phenomena, it was unequivocal that authoritarian communist leaders would merely resort to the conventional practices of physical interference; such as making arrests, framing people, assassination, and strategies of that nature. It was as trying to stop an exponentially-growing avalanche simply with a wooden barrier. Thus, during the 1950s, Radio Free Europe amplified the population of ardent advocates of capitalism by thousands a day, while central governments in the Eastern



Bloc -in blissful ignorance- were busy interrogating citizens on the charges of working for this medium.

looking retrospectively at the historical records as to how developing countries have dealt with modern technologies, in particular ICT, one cannot help but detect the same line of reasoning. When the Internet, as an emerging being, was put on the decision-making table the desire to form committees, Commissions and councils are nurtured in the heads. Oblivious to the fact that by the time the never-ending bureaucratic paperwork is done and policymakers are ready to present the first measures, technology has already gone beyond blockchain, platform economy, and a myriad of other things to which the sky is the limit. The tragedy of national network of information in Iran works in the exact same fashion. "National Network of Information" is arguably the most ambiguous policy ever introduced to address the transformational technologies of information and communication. The way people see this four-word phrase as an equivalent to the international internet has indeed its roots in this sweeping ambiguity. A mode of incertitude, not specifically tied to the nature of the matter, yet tangled with the macro-level approach a country takes to represent itself in international affairs. That is to say, the real questions of what do we expect from the national network of information or what concerns have led us to develop such a policy (existential philosophy), takes precedence over what it really is and how it works. Maybe it is time for us to proceed through the labyrinth of percentages and once again, instead of arguing about the scale of facts, which is basically an endless argument, ponder their underneath existential logic. Considering the starting point of decision-making meetings in 2016, with the objective of determining the scope of the national network of information and the respective execution strategies in the country, it has taken four years for the country to enact the legislation in 2020, meaning the country has practically spent four years to legislate a phenomenon, knowledge of which is at least four years outdated. A four-year term with all the technological and economic advancement, which essentially leaves the former policies futile. However, the issue is in part indicative of the unparalleled taken measures towards the emerging technologies, which is not necessarily specific to developing countries. The problem is that ongoing regulatory structures do not respond swift enough in adapting accordingly to the evolving social and economic conditions, particularly up-and-coming technologies. Moreover, the bureaucratic structure of regulatory governmental institutions is entirely opposed to any risk-taking and cognitive flexibility. **Destined to fail** 

National network of information has a view which it focuses on such as independence and self-sufficiency which to achieve these we should understand the logic of layers in cyber governance. Instead of making an active content which shows the culture language, etc. We need a platform to publish the content, quality and competitive advantage in the service layer and the capacity in the infrastructure layer. In the past when you owned a high-quality content for example a TV show you could show your culture and country. But today it is obvious the internet value system, platforms are as linking chains between content and form, which are important for the paramount. In this fast passed arena, the only rule that can help the country is to reach to a larger scale of audience.

An economic theory, commons, is a situation which there is a shared resource system between consumers. Although each consumer is acting alone for their self-benefits and against the others interests. This causes extinction with their collective activities. Different institutions broke down the entirety of this policy. The national network of information is quite the same as tragedy of commons. On one hand the economic prospect is the usage of international internet traffic in the country while in another part, some are trying to get benefit from national traffic production. If we consider the national network of information as a political economy paradigm in accordance with the global definition, now the context of the World Wide Web and cyber space show us a new view. Tiktok, wechat, yandex, telegram, etc. have managed to leave their marks in political and economic field of cyberspace. These Avant-grade trends never rely only on filtering, adopting documents, passing laws, forming supreme and non- supreme councils, fragmenting cyberspace, or allocating innumerable infrastructure subsidies.

#### The path forward

The country's largest internet shareholder, mobile phone operator, have access to the nost accurate tools available to measure and find out the effect of different platforms on national and international traffic usage. Think how subsidies and other forms of direct and indirect support on the infrastructures layer are moved towards the social media platform based on the effect they have on national traffic consumption in each sector instead of going to data centers, internet infrastructure, equipment, or operators. At the end, greatest policy making on this subject is to guide them to the advantage of national traffic. To put it another way, rather than making costs of the differences between price and quality of national and international traffic for the consumer, the benefit of major stakeholders like mobile phone and fixed operators should come from local traffic consumption. On the other hand, when the operators are interested in generating national traffic and of platforms in effecting local content, a new form of order is automatically systematized, fundamentally the formation of data nationalization ecosystem in the country. The internet industry will enjoy true nationalization just when all the stakeholders' aims are originally developing quality digital products in all parts of the internet value chain.

# Palestine has a fixed position in Shia thought: Lebanese professor

 $\rightarrow$  1 There are those who consider that peace and normalization with Israel will resolve the Palestinian problem and will end the state of hostility with Israel, and this is what some (Persian) Gulf states have done. But in sum, after all these years, Palestine raises the slogan of resistance as a humanitarian goal, and therefore there is still a feeling that the occupation of Palestine is an unnatural measure.

How do you assess the role of Arab coun-

those who conciliated with Israel, nor did anything for Palestine. They believe in negotiation and political solutions to solve this conflict.

How do you assess America's role in supporting Israel over the past decades?

America's support for Israel is one of the American constant policies. The United States of America has always stated that its strategic interests in the Middle East (West Asia) are to protect oil and Israel's security.



#### No let-up in mass anti-Israel demonstrations in Pakistan

 $\rightarrow$  1 On May 10, 657 Palestinians were injured, mostly in the upper bodies, with at least one Palestinian losing his eye. According to Israeli media and Israeli police reports, 32 Israeli officers were reportedly injured on May 10, of which 21 were in the Al Aqsa compound.

Some political observers believe that public anger against the Israeli regime is widespread inside and outside of the occupied territories

#### **Chad accuses Central African Republic troops of war crime**

Chad's defense ministry has accused troops from neighboring Central African Republic (CAR) of attacking a Chadian military post and committing acts of aggression that it said amounted to a war crime

In an official statement on Monday, the ministry claimed that gunmen attacked an outpost manned by 12 Chadian soldiers near Chad's 1,000-km border with CAR, killed one soldier, and kidnapped and executed five others in the early hours of Sunday.

The ministry branded the attack as an "extremely serious war crime," adding that, "This premeditated murderous attack, planned and carried out within Chad ... cannot go unpunished.

Chad's embassy in the capital city of Bangui was allegedly told by the head of CAR's military police to collect the executed bodies of the soldiers.

Chadian Foreign Minister Cherif Mahamat Zene confirmed in a statement that five of the captured soldiers were "executed in Mbang on the Central African Republic side.'

The Central African Republic, which has been ravaged by instability since a 2013 insurrection toppled President Francois Bozize, has not responded to the allegations yet.

Chad is seen as the dominant military force in the region. It is supported by France and the U.S., which in turn need the cooperation of the Chadian military in the region.

The country played a key part in African efforts to stabilize CAR for a period before withdrawing its forces in 2014.

#### **China announces three-child** policy in major policy shift

China announced on Monday that married couples may have up to three children, a major policy shift from the existing limit of two after recent data showed a dramatic decline in births in the world's most populous country.

The change was approved during a politburo meeting chaired by President Xi Jinping, the official news agency Xinhua reported.

In 2016, China scrapped its decades-old one-child policy-initially imposed to halt a population explosion- with a two-child

limit, which failed to result in a sustained surge in births as the high cost of raising children in Chinese cities

deterred many couples from starting families. "To further optimize the birth policy, (China) will implement a one-married-couple-can-have-three-children policy," Xinhua

said in a report on the meeting. The policy change will come with "supportive measures, which will be conducive to improving our country's population structure, fulfilling the country's strategy of actively coping

with an ageing population and maintaining the advantage, endowment of human resources," Xinhua said.

It did not specify the support measures.

The announcement drew a chilly response on Chinese social media, where many people said they could not afford to have even one or two children.

'I am willing to have three children if you give me 5 million yuan (\$785,650)," one user posted on Weibo Early this month, China's once-in-a-decade census showed that the population grew at its slowest rate during the last decade since the 1950s, to 1.41 billion.

Data also showed a fertility rate of just 1.3 children per woman for 2020 alone, on a par with aging societies like Japan and Italy.

Also on Monday, China's politburo said it would phase in delays in the country's retirement ages, but did not provide any details.

#### U.S. spied on Merkel, EU officials through Danish cables: report

#### tries when they address the Palestinian-Israeli conflict?

Unfortunately, the Arab role is generally not positive, as some Arab countries have normalized relations with Israel, opened consulates and embassies, and received Israeli delegations as if they are not an enemy of Arabs and Muslims.

The Arab League also no longer adopts a firm stance toward Israel, and therefore the Arab situation today is catastrophic regarding the Palestinian cause. Indeed. some Arab countries consider Hamas and Hezbollah terrorist movements, while they are just resistance movements that confront the Israeli occupation.

Therefore, the Arab position today is not divided between those who normalized ties with Israel and

Israel is an advanced military fortress for the West and to defend the West's interests in the Middle East (West Asia); and for this reason, the United States has always stood by Israel in all its wars and aggressions. What is the status of Palestine in Shia leaders

#### and scholars' thought?

The status of Palestine is fixed in the thought of Shia leaders who spoke about the liberation of Palestine and support the Palestinian resistance. Imam Musa al-Sadr in Lebanon always used to say, "I support Palestinian cause, because the resistance is right, and Israel must be wiped out. There can be no reconciliation with it, and Palestine must be liberated."

Before the victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979. Imam Khomeini issued a fatwa that Muslims must

#### "Indeed, some Arab countries consider Hamas and Hezbollah terrorist movements, while they are just resistance movements that confront the Israeli occupation."

financially back the Palestinian resistance groups.

After the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the first country to open an embassy for Palestine was the Islamic Republic.

Imam Khomeini insisted, not only on at intellectual and political level but also at practical level, on arming Palestinian people and the necessity of support to the resistance groups by all means so that the resistance movement could continue and make an attempt to end the Israeli occupation. So, there is a common goal for Shia and Sunni scholars which is the Palestine cause and the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people.

## Oman's Sultan congratulates Syria's Assad on victory

Oman's Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has offered his felicitations to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on his victory in the 2021 presidential election.

In a cable sent on Sunday, Sultan Haitham also expressed his best wishes of success to the Syrian president "in leading the Syrian people towards further aspirations of stability, progress and prosperity".

Assad won his fourth seven-year term in the 2021 presidential election by a landslide, securing 95.1 percent of the popular vote.

Syrian parliament speaker Hamoudeh Sabbagh announced on Thursday that Assad had overwhelmingly won the country's presidential election as opposed to 88.7 percent in the 2014.

Sultan Haitham is the first Persian Gulf Arab leader to congratulate Assad on his re-election

Oman reinstated its ambassador to Syria last October, becoming the first Persian Gulf Arab state to do so since a foreign-backed militancy erupted in the country.

Some Arab states are seeking reconciliation with Damascus after the country gained the upper hand against the foreign-backed terrorists.

In December 2018, the UAE officially reopened its embassy in Damascus, which had been closed soon after the militancy began in Syria in 2011. The Persian Gulf country has a charge d'affaires there.

Syria has been gripped by foreign-backed

militancy since March 2011. The Syrian government says the Israeli regime and its Western and regional allies, including the UAE, have been aiding the Takfiri terrorist groups that were wreaking havoc in the Arab country

Syrian forces have already managed to undo the terrorist gains across the country and bring back almost all of Syrian soil under government control.

Bouthaina Shaaban, the political and media adviser to Bashar al-Assad, said on Wednesday that efforts are underway to improve diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia after more than a decade of estrangement between the two Arab nations.

"Efforts are being made to upgrade ties

with Saudi Arabia, and may soon have positive results," Shaaban told local Arabic-language Sham FM radio station.

However, Qatar, which, along with Saudi Arabia, is one of the main regional backers of the anti-Damascus militants ruled out the re-establishment of ties with Syria.

"So far, we see nothing on the horizon for a political solution acceptable to the Syrian people ... the (government's) approach and conduct has not changed," Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani said in an interview with UK-based Al Araby television which was aired on Friday.

"There is no motivation for us to re-establish ties with the Syrian regime at this time," he added.

The United States used a partnership with Denmark's foreign intelligence unit to spy on European leaders, including German Chancellor Angela Merkel, according to Danish public broadcaster Danmarks Radio (DR).

The findings are the result of an internal investigation conducted by the Danish Defense Intelligence Service (FE) in 2014 and 2015, DR said in a report on Sunday, citing nine unnamed sources who had access to the classified information.

According to the investigation, the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) used a collaboration with FE to eavesdrop on Danish information cables to spy on senior officials in Sweden, Norway, France and Germany from 2012 to 2014.

In addition to Merkel, the NSA also spied on then-German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier and former German opposition leader Peer Steinbruck, DR said.

The investigation found the NSA had access to extensive data streams that run through internet cables to and from Denmark and intercepted everything from text messages and telephone calls to internet traffic including searches, chats and messaging services.

Denmark, a close U.S. ally, hosts several key landing stations for subsea internet cables to and from Sweden, Norway, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

One DR source described FE's access to the cables as having "strategic significance" for relations between the U.S. and Denmark.

The FE launched the internal investigation - code-named "Operation Dunhammer" – following concerns about Edward Snowden's leaks in 2013 revealing how the NSA works. Snowden, the former NSA contractor, blew the lid on the U.S. mass spying program.

But upon receiving the Dunhammer findings, FE's top man-agement at the time did not scrap the collaboration with the NSA, according to DR.

Danish Minister of Defense Trine Bramsen, who took over the defense portfolio in June 2019, was informed of the spying in August last year. That same month, she suspended the head of the Defense Intelligence Service and three other officials.

DR said Bramsen declined to comment on its report but told the broadcaster that the "systematic eavesdropping of close allies is unacceptable".

### Rare discovery yields traces of hunter-gatherers in northern Iran

INTERNATIONAL DAILY TEHRANTIMES

→ 1 when agriculture and animal domestication emerged in southwest Asia and Mesoamerica, all peoples were hunter-gatherers. Their strategies have been very diverse, depending greatly upon the local environment; foraging strategies have included hunting or trapping big game, hunting or trapping smaller animals, fishing, gathering shellfish or insects, and gathering wild plant foods such as fruits, vegetables, tubers, seeds, and nuts. Most hunter-gatherers combine a variety of these strategies in order to ensure a balanced diet.



Soaked in a vibrant history, Mazandaran (also known as Tabarestan) was a cradle of civilization since the beginning of the first millennium BC. According to Britannica Encyclopedia, it was almost overrun in about 720 CE by the Arab raiders.

Its insecure eastern and southeastern borders were crossed by Mongol invaders in the 13th and 14th centuries. Cossacks attacked the region in 1668 but were repulsed. It was ceded to the Russian Empire by a treaty in 1723, but the Russians were never secure in their occupation. The area was restored to Iran under the Qajar dynasty. The northern section of the region consists of a lowland alongside the Caspian and an upland along the northern slopes of the Alborz Mountains.

#### **Give your home timeless elegance with Persian carpet**

**TEHRAN** – Persian carpet with its awe-inspiring patterns and brilliant colors can create a house with timeless elegance for you.

Laying a carpet in your sitting room makes space impressive timely and without any trouble.

Carpets can turn your home into a place that fits your lifestyle. They are treasured handicrafts that are practical and long-lasting. Think twice about this fascinating souvenir from Persia and

bring this delightful handicraft to your home. The Iranian website Chidaneh provides some tips for you to make your choice easier. Below you can read the tips:

First comes Persian carpet

As the American author, Edgar Allen Poe mentioned in his article "The Philosophy of Furniture" (1840), "The soul of the apartment is the carpet".

"From it are deduced not only the hues but the forms of all objects incumbent."

It is very true for today as well. When you single out a carpet, you choose the overall decoration of the space.

By selecting the carpet, you choose the dominant color for the place you live in. In this way, it is easier for you to buy other furniture.

Imagine your floored space via websites

There are several websites, which explain about characteristics of carpets and provide you with photos and some ideas about interior design.

It would be great help for you to have the best choice.

Don't hold firm about carpet size!

Can't you decide the right carpet size for your space? Your persistence on a special size just limits your options.



# Persepolis: once awe-inspiring gateway opens to public after millennia

**TOURISM TEHRAN** – After two millennia, the public is to get access to [the remnants of] a majestic gateway, which is situated near the UNESCO-registered Persepolis in southern Iran.

Named Tall-e Ajori, the archaeological site and its surroundings, which has been subject to archaeological work over the past decade, was officially inaugurated as an open-air museum by the visiting Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Minister on Monday.

According to local experts, tours of Persepolis can start from Tall-e Ajor to have a more detailed introduction of the Iranian culture of the time, allowing tourists and researchers to see the art of the Achaemenids from another angle.

The gateway is made of brick and clay materials and the whole exterior has been decorated with painted bricks. The lower parts and the plinth of the walls are decorated with [themes of] lotus flowers, the body, and facade of the walls are embellished with various colored panels of mythical animals, symbols, and belief symbols of ancient Iranians, Elamites, and Mesopotamians.

Supervised by a joint mission of Iranian and Italian archaeologists and cultural heritage experts, the excavations on Talle-Ajori uncovered vestiges of a massive gateway measuring 30 by 40 meters with a height of approximately 12 meters.



The archaeologists succeeded in proving that Cyrus the Great had ordered the construction of the gateway near Persepolis in Tall-e-Ajori and that this magnificent gateway had been put into operation during the reign of his son Cambyses.

"The building had a corridor in the center, which was in form of a rectangular room measuring eight by twelve meters, and inside this central room, there were four living chairs. And the central corridor opened on both sides to

the Achaemenid campus," according to Alireza Askari-Charoudi who is a senior Iranian archaeologist.

The royal city of Persepolis ranks among the archaeological sites which have no equivalent, considering its unique architecture, urban planning, construction technology, and art. Persepolis, also known as Takht-e Jamshid, whose magnificent ruins rest at the foot of Kuh-e Rahmat (Mountain of Mercy) is situated 60 kilometers northeast of the city of Shiraz in Fars province.

The city was burnt by Alexander the Great in 330 BC apparently as revenge to the Persians because it seems the Persian King Xerxes had burnt the Greek City of Athens around 150 years earlier. The city's immense terrace was begun about 518 BC by Darius the Great, the Achaemenid Empire's king. On this terrace, successive kings erected a series of architecturally stunning palatial buildings, among them the massive Apadana palace and the Throne Hall ("Hundred-Column Hall").

This 13-ha ensemble of majestic approaches, monumental stairways, throne rooms (Apadana), reception rooms, and dependencies is classified among the world's greatest archaeological sites. Persepolis was the seat of the government of the Achaemenid Empire, though it was designed primarily to be a showplace and spectacular center for the receptions and festivals of the kings and their empire.

The site is marked by a large terrace with its east side abutting the Kuh-e Rahmat ("Mount of Mercy"). The other three sides are formed by a retaining wall, varying in height with the slope of the ground from 13 to 41 feet (4 to 12 meters); on the west side, a magnificent double stair in two flights of 111 short stone steps leads to the top. On the terrace are the ruins of several colossal buildings, all constructed of a dark gray stone (often polished to a marble-like surface) from the adjacent mountain.

# Minister inaugurates 28 tourism projects in Fars province

**TOURISM** desk gurated 28 cultural heritage-and-tourism-related projects in Fars during his visit to the southern Iranian province. The projects worth 7.3 trillion rials (about \$173 mil-

The projects worth 7.3 trillion rials (about \$173 million at the official rate of 42000 rials) include hotels, apartment hotels, traditional restaurants, agritourism unites, museums, eco-lodge units, and rural guesthouses, and architectural amenities, according to data provided by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts.

The inaugurations are expected to add more than 600 beds to the hospitality sector of the province and generate 267 new job opportunities.

The ancient region of Fars also spelled Pars, or Persis was the heart of the Achaemenian Empire (550–330 BC),

which was founded by Cyrus the Great and had its capital at Pasargadae. Darius I the Great moved the capital to nearby Persepolis in the late 6th or early 5th century BC.

The capital city of Shiraz is home to some of the country's most magnificent buildings and sights. Increasingly, it draws more and more foreign and domestic sightseers flocking into this provincial capital which was the literary capital of Persia during the Zand dynasty from 1751 to 1794.

The Islamic Republic expects to reap a bonanza from its numerous tourist spots such as bazaars, museums, mosques, bridges, bathhouses, madrasas, mausoleums, churches, towers, and mansions, of which 24 being inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Under the 2025 Tourism Vision Plan, Iran aims to increase the number of tourist arrivals from 4.8 million in 2014 to 20 million in 2025.



# 7,000 relics so far excavated from ancient hills of Qom province

HERITAGE desk HERRAN – Some 7,000 historical relics have so far been excavated from various archaeological

hills and sites scattered across Qom province, the provincial tourism chief said on Monday. The objects, some of which dating back to 7,000 years ago, are being kept in museums and their treasure troves of the province,

and their treasure troves of the province, Alireza Arjmandi said. In a recent discovery, which took place last year Tepe Yousef Khan in Qom. relics.

last year Tepe Yousef Khan in Qom, relics, and remains relating to the Kura–Araxes culture, known as one of the most developed Bronze Age cultures of the time, were brought to life.



The Kura–Araxes culture, also called the Early Transcaucasian culture, was a civilization that existed from about 4000 BC until about 2000 BC, which has traditionally been regarded as the date of its end; in some locations, it may have disappeared as early as 2600 or 2700 BC. The earliest evidence for this culture is said to be found on the Ararat plain; it spread northward in the Caucasus by 3000 BC.

Sources say that the economy of the Kura– Araxes communities was based on farming and livestock-raising (especially of cattle and sheep). They grew grain and orchard crops, and are known to have used implements to make flour. They raised cattle, sheep, goats, dogs, and in later phases, horses.

Before the Kura-Araxes period, horse bones were not found in Transcaucasia. Later, beginning about 3300 BC, they became widespread, with signs of domestication. There is evidence of trade with Mesopotamia as well as Asia Minor. It is, however, considered above all to be indigenous to the Caucasus, and its major variants characterized (according to Caucasus historian Amjad Jaimoukha) later major cultures in the region.

The first well-documented evidence of human habitation in the Iranian plateau 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).

You can cover your sitting room up and the furniture float in the center. You can also cover your place halfway, so the front two legs of the furniture are on the carpet.

For your rooms, you can use runners or center them. Each of them has its privilege and beauty.

If you would not obsess with the size of your carpet, you have more options in color and pattern.

Color is in the foreground in Persian carpet

Color is an important factor in the selection of a Persian carpet. Many carpet retailers in Iran let you take the carpet to your home and change its color after some days if you don't like it.

Remember that bright colors make your ceiling look higher and with dark colors the entire ceiling feels lower.

#### Motifs and layouts in Persian carpet

Persian carpets are commonly woven according to pre-planned patterns, which are composed of layouts and motifs.

All-over, repeat medallion, vase design, garden, tree of life, pictorial, modern and Gabbeh are main layouts used in a Persian carpet.

Different layouts refer to the type and location of patterns in the rug.

There are also different motifs for Persian carpet including botteh (bush), Gol (flower), Herati (a very common repeat field design consisting of a flower centered in a diamond with curving lanceolate leaves located outside the diamond and parallel to each side), Mina-Khani (patterns made up of flowers arranged in a rows, interlinked by diamond (often curved) or circular lines), Rosette and Shah Abbasi (patterns composed of a group of palmettes).

The curve of lines and the size of motifs are important in interior decoration.

However, the most important thing is what you feel about your home decoration. If it seems stylish and homey to you, you made the right choice so enjoy it!

# Ancient gypsum furniture discovered in fire temple central Iran

**HERITAGE** d e s k **TEHRAN** – Sets of gypsum furniture including an engraved table and chairs have recently been discovered during an archaeological excavation in central Iran.

Available evidence suggests the furniture was once used for traditional rituals during the Sassanid era (224-651), according to the Research Institute of Cultural Heritage & Tourism.

A joint team of archaeologists from the universities of Isfahan, Tehran discovered the objects at a fire temple in Vigol, which is located approximately 10 km north of Aran-Bidgol near Kashan.

In many ways, Iran under Sassanian rule witnessed tremendous achievements of Persian civilization. Experts say that during the Sassanid era, the art and architecture of the nation experienced a general renaissance.

In that era, crafts such as metalwork and gem-engraving grew highly sophisticated, as scholarship was encouraged by the state; many works from both the



East and West were translated into Pahlavi, the official language of the Sassanians.

Encyclopedia Britannica states that a revival of Iranian nationalism took place under the Sassanid rule. Zoroastrianism became the state religion, and at various times followers of other faiths suffered official persecution. The government was centralized, with provincial officials directly responsible to the throne, and roads, city building, and even agriculture were financed by the government.

The dynasty was destroyed by Arab invaders during a span from 637 to 651.

Aran-Bidgol is the gateway to Maranjab desert and caravansary, which also draws thousands of domestic travelers each year. The desert, which is a top destination for off-roaders, lead to salt lake from the north, Band-e Rig and Desert National Park from the east, Masileh Desert, Hoz-e sultan and Moreh Lakes from the west and eventually Aran and Bidgol from the south.

Situated in Isfahan province, the town is surrounded by desert from the north and east, and thus it has a typical climate of hot and dry in summer, cold and dry in winter, and very little rainfall during the year.

### **Iranian handicrafts: Moj-bafi of Ilam** s one of the arts is usually hundred in one hundred and fif- simple. The weavir

Moj-bafi ("weaving Moj") is one of the arts and handicrafts of the people of western regions of Iran and has a very long history. It has accompanied nomadic and villager people for years. Moj is a hand-woven textile with big geometric and cross patterns. The wraps and wefts yarn is produced from completely handspun wool. This textile is weaved by the traditional "Chahar Verdi" machinery and in colors such as blue, dark blue, yellow, and red.

Generally, two kinds of products are weaved in Moj workshops: 1. "Sajadeh" or prayer rugs, that is used as a floor cover when praying. The size of these prayer rugs

is usually hundred in one hundred and fifty centimeters. 2. Moj or wrapping for the bedding, that is weaved usually by the order of the clients. The Moj textile is weaved in two meters and the width, depending on the thickness of the yarn, varies from forty-five to seventy-five centimeters.

In the past, for many self-sufficient nomadic and village families of Bakhtaran, weaving these textiles for the beddings was one of the tasks of the members in their leisure time and has turned into a craft and home activity. The primitive material is wool that is always available in the animal husbandry society of Iran in this region and its machinery is very

simple. The weaving process usually lasts a whole year, mostly at the end of spring and the beginning of winter. The more motifs a piece of Moj has, the more shuttles are used in the weaving process and that is a reason why it will take more time and energy. Generally, the weavers assess the quality of Moj textile and pattern based on the number of shuttles used for their production. During recent years when these fabrics have become more decorative than applicable, their sizes, forms, materials, and patterns have altered. Some of the common patterns of Moj are "Kashkuli", "Hozi", "Chakhmaghi", small patterns, simple, "She Hozi", "Kabki", "Gole



Gole" (separated flowers), and many more. Each shuttle is used to weave one color of yarn which means more shuttles are used to make more complicated and elaborate designs that are more valuable.

(Source: Visit Iran)

#### By Faranak Bakhtiari

**TEHRAN** – Geologists call subsidence a "silent earthquake" because an earthquake is instantaneous and its effects are visible at the same time, but subsidence is the cause of environmental depletion and its impact appears gradually; which is getting a big threat in the country.

Land subsidence, a gradual settling or sudden sinking of the Earth's surface due to subsurface movement of earth materials is mainly caused by aquifer-system compaction, drainage, and decomposition of organic soils, underground mining, oil and gas extraction, hydro compaction, natural compaction, sinkholes, and thawing permafrost.

Subsidence results in significant economic losses in the form of structural damage and high maintenance costs. This affects roads and transportation networks, hydraulic infrastructure, sewage systems, buildings, and foundations. The total damage worldwide is estimated at billions of dollars annually. **80% of groundwater resources** 

#### withdrawn

Iran is greatly affected by the phenomena, Alireza Shahidi, head of Geological Survey and Mineral Exploration told ISNA on Monday.

With the onset of drought in every country, people are more inclined to use water resources and due to limited water resources in Iran, wells are drilled legally and illegally across the country to compensate for the drought, he added.

In the whole world, water resources withdrawal is between 3 to 20 percent, and when it reaches 40 to 60 percent which is considered problematic, and it will be a crisis when exceeding 60-80 percent, Shahidi noted.

"Yet the contribution of groundwater withdrawal to subsidence in Iran is outpacing the world, withdrawing over 80 percent," he further noted.

Highlighting that aquifer-system depletion intensifies land subsidence, he said that subsidence is called a "silent earthquake" by geologists because earthquake occurs instantly and its effects immediately ap-



Some 30 provinces of Iran are struggling with the issue of subsidence, while two densely populated provinces of Tehran and Isfahan are vastly subsiding by 36 and 17 centimeters annually, respectively; becoming increasingly vulnerable to flooding and natural incidents as well as bearing huge infrastructure damage.

pear, while subsidence occurs when aquifers, plants, animals, and human societies have already been damaged.

How aquifer overexploitation can sink lands?

Over the past decades, some of the aquifer levels dropped by 100 centimeters.

On top of that, groundwater drawdowns result in the filling of vacant cavities between soil particles and highly compressible soils which diminishes the capacity of aquifers and increases subsidence probability.

Groundwater overexploitation will affect the plains, as rainwater will not penetrate into the subsurface reservoirs and cause high rates of soil erosion along

with permanent inundation.

Inefficient irrigation methods in addition to digging illegal wells are the other main causes of groundwater extraction-induced subsidence, as out of 50,000 wells pumping underground water resources in the capital, 30,000 are illegal.

30,000 are illegal. Almost all provinces struggling with subsidence

Except for Gilan province, all 30 provinces of the country are struggling with the issue of subsidence, which, fortunately, in Isfahan province, more measures are taken to deal with the crisis, he noted.

Two densely populated provinces of Tehran and Isfahan are vastly subsiding by 36 and 17 centimeters annually, respectively; consequently, become increasingly vulnerable to flooding and natural incidents as well as bearing huge infrastructure damage, he explained.

<sup>4</sup>While statistics show that 4 mm of subsidence is referred to as a crisis in the EU, he added.

He went on to state that drought causes people to migrate from the south to the northern cities and depopulate large parts of the country, which will bring up security crises for the country.

Rising temperature, rising tendency for more water resources

It should be noted that over the next 40 years, the country's temperature will rise by 2.6 degrees on Celsius Scale, which will increase the country's need for more water resources.

Out of 608 plains in Iran, more than 300 are vastly sinking and forbidden to enter, he said.

According to Shahidi, by 2100, due to climate change and melting glaciers, the southern coast of Iran in the provinces of Khuzestan, Bushehr, and Hormozgan will be submerged.

#### How to reduce the risk?

The installation of smart meter systems on the water pumps and wells is an efficient measure in this regard.

The Ministry of Energy should take steps toward reducing groundwater exploitation, in addition to banning well construction as well as shutting down the illegal wells in the sinking provinces.

It should also control agricultural products and prohibit the cultivation of water-consuming products in those provinces, and instead, introducing agricultural products which require a low amount of water.

The Ministry of Agriculture should cooperate to implement watershed management projects in order to increase the storage capacity of aquifers.

The Department of Environment is another responsible organization that must take more serious steps toward environmental assessment of land subsidence and its prevention techniques.

## COVID-19 inoculation to rollout by homegrown vaccine this week

→ 1 Although, we are capable of exporting the vaccine, however, through the policies adopted by the Ministry of Health, no vaccine will be exported until the domestic need is fully met, he stated.

14,000 more hospital beds to pace up coronavirus fight

Over 14,000 hospital beds will be added to the health system by mid-August to sooner contain the coronavirus pandemic, Kianoush Jahanpour, head of the Information Center of the Ministry of Health, announced.

Moreover, 1,400 health projects will be inaugurated, which have been started 12 months ago, he stated. This movement in less than 14 months in the most difficult

conditions of sanctions and epidemic will be remembered as a record in the history of the health system of Iran, he noted.

Vaccination to end by late November

President Hassan Rouhani said on Saturday that If the volume of COVID-19 vaccine required by the country is provided, the vaccination of people with underlying diseases



15 million doses of vaccine is required, while we now have 5 million doses, so another 10 million must be provided to complete the process by the end of July, then we will continue the process with foreign and domestic vaccines, he explained. ulation by the end of the summer (September 23), noting that given the country's ability of vaccine administration, vaccinating 500,000 people in 24 hours, the entire population can receive the vaccine within three to four months. **Homegrown vaccines** 

The second Iranian-made vaccine developed by the Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute (Razi Cov Pars) to be administered among the population in early August; which started the clinical trial on February 27, entered the second phase of the human trial on Friday.

Iran has also successfully completed the first phase of the human trial for Fakhra vaccine, the third domestically developed COVID-19 vaccine, named after nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh (he was assassinated in November 2020 near Tehran), that was unveiled and started the clinical trial on March 16.

"Osvid-19", the fourth domestic vaccine produced by Osvah Pharmaceutical Company is also undergoing human trials, which will also be available in early September. TEHRANTIONAL DAILY

**COVID-19 UPDATES** 

The statistics are related to 24 hours started 2:00 p.m. May 30

New cases	11,042
New deaths	217
Total cases	2,913,136
Total deaths	80,156
New hospitalized patients	1,388
Patients in critical condition	4,160
Total recovered patients	2,458,684
Diagnostic tests conducted	19,936,548
Doses of vaccine injected	4,166,063

# Five snake species endemic to Iran

(Part 3)

So, any trade of the species is permitted only with the CITES's permission, and all 183 member parties are obliged to control the ports and prevent the trade of this viper.

Spider-tailed horned viper was declared endangered by the DOE in November 2018.

#### Cerastes gasperettii

Cerastes gasperettii, commonly known as the Arabian horned viper, is a venomous viper species found especially in the Arabian Peninsula and north to Israel, Iraq, and Iran. It is very similar in appearance to C. cerastes, but the geographic ranges of these two species do not overlap. No subspecies of C. gasperettii are recognized.

First, this snake lives in very tropical areas of our country, such as Ahvaz (Al-Baji region) in the sandy and earthen hills and has a limited distribution in Iran, Shahrdaripanah said.

"The vegetation where this species is found is also very limited in diversity. Unfortunately, we are not very aware of its protection status in Iran because not much work has been done. Some specimens of this viper have two deformed horn-like scales on their heads, which is their unique feature, while others are hornless.

This snake is one of the species that have a high camouflage ability. It is completely colored similar to sand which helps camouflage it. On the other hand, the shape of the scales is also effective in hiding. The scales are prominent and the two bands start from the side of the nose and extend along the face to the cheeks, appearing like two lines on the head from above. The spots on his body are not perfect zigzags, but they are spots. In the camouflage mode, the pupil of the snake's eye and part of the horn is out of the sand, which has a different effect.

This snake is nocturnal and is not seen during the day due to the hot weather. Depending on its size, it chooses its prey and its diet consists of rodents and even lizards. One way to identify this snake is to leave a mark on the sandals. Because it moves in a zigzag pattern, but the wind quickly destroys the traces and makes it difficult to find.

This snake is laying eggs and the place where it lays eggs must be on a balanced level; That is, where it is neither too hot nor too deep. These snakes lay between four and eight eggs each time, depending on environmental conditions. Their venom is also strong, but because they are nocturnal and live in desert and warm habitats, they do not have much conflict with humans," he explained.

# Iran's Hara forests, a key biosphere reserve

The Hara forests, covering an area of 27,310 hectares in southern

will be completed by late July, and the whole population will be vaccinated by late November.

To vaccinate people with underlying diseases, about 14-

He expressed hope to start vaccination of the whole pop-

On May 24, the first coronavirus vaccine made by the private sector in Iran succeeded in receiving the code of ethics and entered the phase of clinical studies.

### ENGLISH IN USE

# LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

## Iran pioneer in cancer innovation, research among Islamic countries

Iran has the most research and innovation in the field of cancer both in the region and among Islamic countries, deputy health minister Reza Malekzadeh has stated. Referring to the great progress in cancer research, he said that "We have been able to play a role in this area globally." He added that one of the hopes for early detection of cancer is the use of urine and blood tests for people who are susceptible to cancer.

"We have conducted researches in the field of blood and urine biomarkers, which will help control cancers in the country," he said.

Pointing out that there are about 250,000 cancer patients in the country, Malekzadeh noted that 50,000 people die each year from the disease and 125,000 new patients develop cancer, so that the number of people with the disease increases each year. ایــران بیشــترین نــوآوری و تحقیقــات سـرطان را بیــن کشــورهای اســلامی دارد

معاون تحقیقات و فناوری وزیر بهداشت، درمان و آموزش پزشکی گفت: ایران هم در منطقه و هم بین کشورهای اسلامی بیشترین میزان تحقیقات و نوآوری ها در حوزه سرطان را داشته است.

دکتر رضا ملک زاده روز شنبه در گفت و گوبا خبرنگار علمی ایرنا با اشاره به اینکه ما در زمینه تحقیقات سرطان پیشرفت های خیلی خوبی داشتیم، گفت: ما در سطح جهانی هم توانستیم در این حوزه نقش آفرین باشیم. وی افزود: یکی از امیدهای خیلی روشن برای تشخیص زودرس سرطان، استفاده از آزمایش ادرار و خون برای افرادی است که استعداد سرطان را دارند. معاون وزیر بهداشت گفت: در ایران تحقیقات خیلی خوبی در زمینه بیومار کرهای ادراری و خونی در دست اجرا داریم و امیدواریم با این کار، امکان کنترل سرطان ها در کشور میسر شود.

ملک زاده با اشاره به اینکه در حال حاضر تعداد ۲۵۰ هزار مبتلا به سرطان در کشور داریم، گفت: هر سال حدود ۵۰ هزار نفر براثر این بیماری می میرند و ۱۲۵ هزار بیمار جدید اضافه می شوند. در نتیجه هرساله تعداد مبتلایان این بیماری بیشتر می شود. Iran, is a key biodiversity site due to its remarkable Avicennia mangrove ecosystem.

The core area of the reserve is a marine zone. The major topographic features of the region include a wetland with a series of small islands (mud hills), mangrove forests, tidal marshes, and shallow coves.

Wetlands are ecosystems saturated with water, either seasonally or permanently. They store water and ensure its quality, providing resilience against drought. They play a central role in sustainable development by supplying all our freshwater.

Wetlands play a major role in protecting the land against floods and the impacts of storms. They provide food and diverse habitats which support genetic, species, and ecosystem biodiversity. Wetlands play a key role in the life cycles of many species and in annual migration patterns.

Unfortunately, wetlands are being degraded and lost due to pollution, overexploitation, climate change, and human population growth. In recognition of these challenges, the RAMSAR Convention, an international treaty, was adopted in 1971.

Ramsar Wetlands are sites inscribed on the List of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") under the Convention on Wetlands.

Designated a Ramsar site, the Hara biosphere reserve is located in the Mehran River delta in the south of Iran. It is situated near the Straits of Khuran between Queshm Island and the Persian Gulf.

Sea snakes take advantage of Hara aqueous habitats for feeding, breeding, and subsistence. A species of Xerophilous snake (Echiscarinatu) in the region is found on the northern coast of the region, and the critically endangered Hawksbill sea turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata) is found in the coastal waters of the reserve.

The Strait of Khuran, in which the reserve is located, is a Ramsar site, which provides a habitat for the pelican (Pelecanus Crispus) during the winter months and acts as a regular feeding place for the green turtle (Chelonia mydas) – both globally threatened species.

The area is a major habitat for migratory birds in the cold season, and for reptiles, fish, and varieties of Arthropoda and bivalves. Venomous aquatic snakes are also indigenous to the forests.

Birdlife includes herons, flamingos, pelicans, and angler eagles. Another important feature of these forests is the appropriate and suitable seabed conditions for the ovulation of fish in the Persian Gulf.



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There are many educated people who have ruined their future on account of their ignorance of religion. Their knowledge did not prove of any avail to them.

Imam Ali (AS)

#### Garden in Persian art

#### Part 1

The garden as an artifice has inspired other forms of art, particularly poetry, painting, and the decorative arts.

As with poetry, reference to the garden and its vegetation may recreate the garden in another form, use the garden as a setting, or allude to elements associated with the garden.

For poetry, the first category would include descriptions and impressions of gardens as the subject of the poem, while the second mentions the garden in passing.



Garden in a Persian .painting

considerably older than the earliest surviving garden carpet. According to Tabari, the Arab conquerors of Ctesiphon, the Sassanid capital, discovered an immense carpet in the audience hall, bearing the design of a garden, complete with water channels, flora and fauna, bejeweled and threaded with gold and silver, which was then cut up and divided among them.

It is referred to as Bahar-e Kesra, Farsh-e Zemestani, and Baharestan. However, there is no evidence for the continuation of this tradition in the Islamic period until the time of Shah Abbas I (1588-1629).

A garden carpet now in the Jaipur Museum has inventory labels dating its arrival in Amber as a "foreign" carpet in 1632. Most garden carpets date to the 18th and 19th centuries, but all follow the style of the Safavid model.

The garden is presented as a ground-plan, showing the network of intersecting canals and pools, but the vegetation and animal life are represented as in paintings. This makes for some confusion in the image, but the carpet would have been viewed from many different directions and levels.

One of the earliest representations of a garden in Islamic times,

Sunrise: 5:49 (tomorrow)

ART&CULTURE JUNE 1, 2021

# **Ebrahim Hassanbeigi** novelizes life story **of Martyr** Mohsen Hojaji

 $\rightarrow 1$  Hojaji, whose name has become synonymous with bravery and struggle against savage terrorism, was captured by ISIS forces near Al-Tanf in southeast Syria on August 7, 2017, and was beheaded two days later.

A biography of the 26-year-old soldier by Mohammad-Ali Jafari was published by Shahid Kazemi Publications in September 2018. His friends and family also give an account

of Hojaji in the book titled "The Proud". After his martyrdom, Hojaji became the subject of numerous artworks and cultural exhibitions.

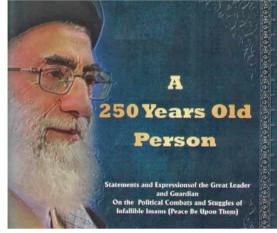
Hassan Ruholamin, an Iranian painter who is most famous for illustrating stories from the history of Islam, created a painting of Hojaji, depicting him moments before he was brutally beheaded. Hassanbeigi is the writer of "Two Captions

for One Picture", which won the prize for best novel for young adults at the Seyyed Ali Andarzgu Literary Awards, which are given to books on the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

His credits also include "The Rose on the Rug", "Gisu and the Magic Lamp", "Sufi and the Magic Lamp", "Aladdin and the Magic Lamp" and "Mayor's Excellency".



A poster released by the publisher Khate Moqaddam shows pictures of writer Ebrahim Hassanbeigi and Martyr Mohsen Hojaji.



Front cover of the English version of "A 250-Year-Old Person".

# Ebook edition of Leader's "A 250-Year-Old Person" released

**CULTURE TEHRAN** – An ebook edition of the English translation of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei's "A 250-Year-Old Person" has recently been released.

The ebook is available for free download on https:// islamglory.com/a-250-year-old-person/#wz-section-wzs191, Islam Glory, the publisher of the ebook, has announced. The book contains a collection of speeches and writings by

the Leader about the household of Prophet Muhammad (S). The Ahl Al-Bayt World Assembly, an organization affiliated

with the Islamic Cultural Relations Organization (ICRO), is the publisher of the English translation of the book.

The second volume of the Thai translation of "A 250-Year-Old Person" was published in Bangkok in the spring of 2020. The first volume of the book was published in 2019.

The book has been translated and published in a joint collaboration between a publishing house in Bangkok and the Iranian Cultural Center.

Earlier in September 2019, Eslamica, a publishing house based in the German city of Bremen, released the book under the title of "Der 250-jährige Mensch".

The book arranged in 17 chapters also gives a chronological account of the lives of Prophet Muhammad (S) and the Shia Imams (AS).

In 2016, the ICRO announced a plan that Asgharia Pakistan, a major Shia Muslim organization of students in Pakistan, and the Cultural Center of Iran in Karachi would translate the book into Sindhi

# Fajr festival picks six Swiss films for Classic

# **Preserved review**

TEHRAN – Six films d e s <sup>k</sup> from renowned Swiss filmmakers are being reviewed in the Classics Preserved section of the 38th Fajr International Film Festival, which is currently underway in Tehran.

The movies have been restored by the Swiss Film Archive, the organizers have announced.

Director Jacques Feyder's 1925 silent film "Faces of Children" is a highlight of the lineup.

It tells the story of a young boy whose mother has died and the resentments that develop when his father remarries. It was a notable example of film realism in the silent era, and its psychological drama was integrated with the natural landscapes of Switzerland where much of the film was made on location.

"My Persia Flight", a documentary by the Swiss aviation pioneer, Walter Mittelholzer, about his flight from Zurich to Tehran in 1924 will also be screened in this section.

The lineup also included director Alain Tanner's 1969 drama "Charles, Dead or Alive". This film is about a man who is dissatisfied with his position in life, assumes a fake name, leaves home and begins traveling aimlessly with a couple he meets.

"The Madman", director Claude Goretta's drama, will also be reviewed. The 1970 Frenchlanguage film follows George, a man who takes care of his invalid wife and holds down a full-time job. When an investment firm wipes out his life savings, the middle-aged George is soon forced into retirement for health reasons. George takes up a life of crime when the company turns his back on

him and the money is gone overnight. He is soon driven to the brink of insanity over the unfortunate series of events that transpire.

Michel Soutter's "The Surveyors" has also been selected to be screened. In this 1972 drama, a lazy surveyor is thwarted by two women whose houses he is surveying for destruction to make way for a park. In another realm of the story, a man is given a hat by another man, who asks him to give it to his fiancée as a gift. However, he mistakenly gives the gift to another girl entirely, and

makes love to her. Also included is "The Big Night", director Francis Reusser's 1976 drama. It is about Leon who gets involved with a small Leninist group where he meets Lea, the group leader's mistress and a dedicated activist. But everything goes downhill once the police



This combination photo shows posters for some Swiss classics that have been selected to be screened in the Fajr Classic Preserved.

begin to watch their every move.

The organizers of the 38th Fajr International Film Festival previously said that the Renowned Russian filmmaker Andrei Arsenvevich Tarkovsky's debut film "Ivan's Childhood" would be screened in the Classics Preserved section of the event, which will come to an end on Wednesday.

# "You're dead? So what?" published in Persian

**CULTURE TEHRAN** — Zahra Ameli's translation of Cheryl L. Neely's book "You're dead? So

She investigates the level of information sharing regarding cases, the treatment of victims, the public perception of the case, and the overall public interest in crimes that subsequently pressure law enforcement agencies to solve cases. In a cautious comparison of several cases of both Black and white female victims, Neely reveals that Black women are more likely than white women to be victims of violent crimes in the U.S., and less likely to have the news coverage they deserve, while the police were also observed as not having any serious incentive to investigate and take on their cases She conducts other studies on the time and resources spent by law enforcement institutions on the investigation of crimes, the media coverage of which often generates leads. Neely consequently concludes that the African-American women who are victims of violence do not receive equal institutional privileges as that of their white counterparts, nor are they given equal treatment as others in being represented by law enforcement.

special circumstances, these allusions may be viewed as allusions to paradise

Garden reproductions. The tradition of simulating the formal garden layout in a floor covering is

The third comprises figures of speech and garden imagery, usually comparing aspects of the loved one to beautiful or fragrant plant elements. For the decorative arts, the

appearing on a bronze salver dated to the 8th-9th centuries, displays the facade of the pavilion in the center, surrounded by an arcade with vegetation. A cartographic approach was thus used for depicting the garden on both the carpet and the salver.

Garden elements were also reproduced as three-dimensional objects. The Abbasid caliphs had trees of gold in the courtyards of their city palace, complete with golden birds. The octagonal garden pavilion with upper balconies for viewing, served as a model for a ceramic drum-like table in the 13th century.

#### Garden setting

Since some of the more notable events in the lives of important persons and heroes took place in garden settings, the garden was frequently depicted in art.

 domed pavilion similar to the one on the salver is represented in an Arabic manuscript of pseudo-Galen treatise on antidotes dated 1199. This type of pavilion recalls the form of the canopy mausoleum represented in the Samanid tomb at Bukhara.

At least two illustrations from the famous Mongol Shahnameh manuscript, known as the "Demotte Shahnameh", take place in garden settings. Both folios are now kept in the Arthur Sackler Gallery of Art, The Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Garden settings appear frequently in Persian miniature paintings from the late 14th century on. A fenced patio with a pool often fronts a pavilion with balconies. On the patio the prince sits on a raised carpeted dais, often under an awning.

Flowering trees and plants appear beyond the fence, and the more elaborate scenes show a narrow stream or even some of the workmen in the garden.

Another view of the garden emphasizes the lofty pavilion. The story of the master eavesdropping on the bathing girls from Nezamis Haft Peykar called for a large pool, giving the artist an opportunity to show the entire garden. Representations of the prince hunting are ubiquitous, but usually without indication of a formal garden setting as distinguishable from an open meadow.

Mughal gardens were inspired by the Timurid gardens of Khorasan and Transoxania, and the realistic renditions of gardens by Mughal painters add significant information. Zahir ad-Din Mohammad Babor himself is shown in several illustrations of the late 16th century, laying out the parterres of his garden. Safavid painting emphasizes the lush quality of the vegetation as well as the richness of the architectural decoration.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica To be continued

what?" has been published in Persian by Saad Publications in Tehran.

An ebook edition of the Persian translation has also been released, the publisher has announced.

It is an empirical study of media and law enforcement bias in reporting and investigating violence against African-American women compared to their white counterparts.

Neely is a professor of sociology and criminology at Oakland Community College.

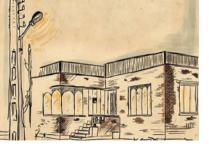
Her book is one of the few studies that has focused on both race and gender as collective factors in determining the extent and prominence of media coverage, as well as the particular method through which violence against Black women is disregarded in America.

In a thorough discussion, the African-American author outlines the corresponding relationship between law enforcement institutions and news agencies.



A poster for the Persian translation of Cheryl L. Neely's book "You're dead? So what?"





A poster for "The Castle" directed by Saba Qasemi.

**R T TEHRAN** – Several d e s k films by Iranian directors won awards in various categories at the Tietê Internacional Film Awards (TIFA) in Brazil as the organizers announced the

# Iranian films win awards at **Brazil Tiete festival**

winners on Sunday.

"Recordist" actor-cum-director Reza Sakhai won the Silver Anhuma for best feature film, best screenplay, best sound design and best actor. Sakhai received the award for best actor.

"The Castle" directed by Saba Qasemi won the Silver Anhuma for best screenplay in the narrative short category.

In this film, there are only 23 days left until the house is demolished. Aria is back home to pack his books. He asks for help from a rubbish-collector boy, Qasem. Qasem asks if he can stay in the house until the demolition and finally Aria agrees. But he decides to stay in the house himself to make his final memories at home.

The Silver Anhuma for best editing in the

feature film category went to "The Nine" by Shahin Rashidi.

"The Nine" is about a photographer who selects eight young people every year, taking them to remote areas to perform annual rituals. The characters in the story, however, are unaware of the horrific fate that awaits them.

Masumeh Normohammadi's "Fukushima Traveler" won the festival's award for best sound design in the documentary competition.

Normohammadi's documentary accounts the first days of 2011, which were recorded as the most devastating winter in Japan, when a magnitude 10.0 earthquake shook the eastern part of the country and caused the Pacific Ocean to tremble.

The tsunami that struck Japan caused

two explosions at the Daiichi Fukushima power plant, releasing radioactive material that polluted a large area.

Since the incident, Afshin Valinejad, a freelance journalist living in Japan, made more than 70 land trips to the Fukushima region and has recorded hundreds of hours of video and thousands of photographs of various events, which make up Normohammadi's documentary.

TIFA's Bronze Tilapia - Social Awareness Award was given to the short film "Warehouse" by Hossein Torkjush. The award is presented to a film with a relevant theme in the current social context.

The Tiete International Film Awards (TIFA) was organized both physically and online, showcasing a variety of films from across the world.