

Fruitful Negotiations Have Their Own Requirements

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Report

Ethiopians denounce U.S. at pro-government rally

TEHRAN - Tens of thousands of Ethiopians have hit the streets in Addis Ababa to support Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's government as federal troops battle rebel fighters, the Tigray People's Liberation Front, who have been reported to be threatening to march on the capital city.

The demonstrators denounced the United States, one of the foreign powers that analysts say stands accused of supporting the rebels in a conflict, that has intensified in the past week. One placard read "Shame on you USA," while another said the United States should stop "sucking Ethiopia's blood."

37-year-old Tigist Lemma told media outlets "[the U.S.] want to destroy our country like they did to Afghanistan. They will never succeed, we are Ethiopians." Many of those gathered for the rally in Meskel Square in Addis Ababa wrapped themselves in the national flag.

Other protesters voiced their anger at a U.S. demand for the government and Tigray People's Liberation

Front rebels, who are accused of war crimes and have made advances over the past week to negotiate. In June, Prime Minister Abiy's party won a landslide victory in the elections.

The mayor of Addis Ababa, Adanech Abiebe, addressed the protesters citing the country's history putting up resistance against colonial powers.

A year ago, the conflict in the north of the country erupted when fighters loyal to the Tigray People's Liberation Front took over military bases in the Tigray region. In response, Abiy sent in the army, which managed to drive the Tigray People's Liberation Front out of the regional capital, Mekelle. However, since June this year reports have emerged of the militia group making territorial gains against the government troops.

The Ethiopian government has designated Tigray People's Liberation Front as a terrorist organization who has defied Abiy's authority.

On Tuesday, U.S. President Joe Biden's administration accused Ethiopia of "gross violations" of human rights and plans to remove the country from a U.S. trade pact. ▶ Page 5

Iran beach soccer legendary goalkeeper Hosseini retires

TEHRAN - Iran beach soccer legendary goalkeeper Peyman Hosseini announced his retirement from international duty.

The 38-year-old custodian represented Iran for more than 100 times and scored 24 goals for the team.

Hosseini helped Iran win Beach Soccer Intercontinental Cup three times in 2013, 2018 and 2019.

He also represented Iran at FIFA Beach Soccer World Cups (2013, 2015, and 2017) and won the bronze medal in 2017.

"I think it was right time to say goodbye. I want to give the chance to the younger goalkeepers since we have talented keepers in our football," Hosseini said.

"I would like to thank all the people who supported me in the decade. I hope that they are happy with my performance during the years," he added.

Peyman Hosseini was part of Iran national team in the 2021 Beach Soccer Intercontinental Cup, where the 'Persian Leopards' won the silver medal.

Iranian submarines blow up mock targets with torpedoes

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TEHRAN - On Monday, the Iranian Navy's submarines blew up various naval targets with domestically produced torpedoes in the military exercise in the Sea of Oman.

Hitting the mock hostile watercraft took place on the second day of the annual drills,

codenamed Zolfaqar-1400.

The submarines, called "Tareq" and "Qadin", launched a domestically-manufactured torpedo named "Valfajr" to hit the naval targets.

The spokesman for the drill, Rear Admiral Mahmoud Mousavi, said the Tareq submarine also laid

DM-1 mines during the exercise, Tasnim reported.

In another operation, the offshore naval units could jam the radars of the hypothetical enemy stationed on the coast by flying "Omid", an anti-radiation drone used for electronic warfare, the news agency said. ▶ Page 2

Iran, Oman chambers of commerce discuss expansion of ties

TEHRAN - Heads of Iranian and Omani chambers of commerce met in Tehran on Monday to discuss expansion of cooperation in various areas, the Portal of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) reported.

Head of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) Redha bin Juma Al Saleh met with Gholam-Hossein Shafeie at the place of ICCIMA.

In the meeting, Shafeie stressed the long history of political and economic relations

between Iran and Oman and noted that the two countries have the capacity to expand their trade relations to a great extent.

He mentioned the first Iran-Oman Virtual Expo which was launched in late September by the Iran-Oman Joint Chamber of Commerce in collaboration with ICCIMA and, noted that this exhibition was an opportunity to introduce the capabilities and the latest technological products and initiatives used in the industrial and manufacturing fields of

the two countries and was well received.

The official expressed hope that such events would be held more often and will continue to be held in the future.

Shafeie further mentioned some of the problems that Iranian traders and businessmen are currently facing in trade with Oman, saying: "there are still problems related to banking relations for Iranian investors in Oman, so we request that these problems be resolved by the relevant authorities." ▶ Page 4

Restoration work begins on Semnan's Shah Abbasi caravanserai

TEHRAN - The Safavid era (1501-1736) Shah Abbasi caravanserai in the north-central province of Semnan, which served as a prison for over 40 years, has undergone some rehabilitation works, the provincial tourism chief has announced.

The project involves removing extensions of the last few years and the parts that damage the original building, CHTN quoted Hamidreza Dustmohammadi as saying on Sunday.

Strengthening the walls and replacing worn-out materials, removing debris, improving the electrical system, and repairing wooden doors are also part of the project, the official added.

The project is being carried out under the supervision of cultural heritage experts and by the order of the Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Minister Ezzatollah Zarghami, he noted. ▶ Page 6

Health Ministry to promote Iranian traditional medicine

TEHRAN - The Ministry of Health is determined to expand the use of Iranian traditional medicine in the health system, the director of the Iranian Medicine Office of the Ministry of Health, has announced.

The results of several meetings that have been held in this regard will be published soon as the Iranian medicine protocol, IRNA quoted Nafiseh Hosseini Yekta as saying on

Monday.

"There are a number of outpatient and counseling centers in different cities that provide services to COVID-19 patients; There are also health centers in Tehran, Shahid Beheshti, and Mashhad universities that provide services to outpatients.

In some hospitals in different cities, Iranian traditional medicine specialists are consult-

ing hospitalized patients. Also, the expansion of these centers and providing services to patients on a large scale in different cities is on the agenda," she explained.

According to published articles, countries that have used traditional medicine to help treat patients during the epidemic have better conditions than other countries, she stated. ▶ Page 7

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Iran's Quds Force chief meets Iraqi president, PM

TEHRAN — In an unannounced meeting on Monday, Iran's Quds Force Chief Esmail Qaani met with Iraqi President Barham Salih and Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi who escaped an assassination attempt on Sunday.

Stressing the importance of stability and unity in Iraq, Qaani said warned any action that threatens the security of Iraq must be avoided.

He also emphasized the need to respond to the demands of the Iraqi people and the protesters to the election results within the framework of law.

In his meeting with al-Kadhimi, the Quds Force chief strongly condemned the failed assassination attempt against the prime minister. Qaani also said Tehran is ready to help investigate the incident.

In a failed assassination attempt, a suicide drone hit the Iraqi Prime Minister's residence in the early hours of Sunday, November 7.

The Iraqi military called it an assassination attempt and stressed that al-Kadhimi escaped the attempt safe and sound.

According to the Iraqi military, six people were injured in the assassination attempt, all of whom were the prime minister's staff members.

No individual or group has claimed responsibility for the attack that happened in the Green Zone, an area of the city housing many government buildings and foreign embassies.

Qaani also met with several other Iraqi officials and stressed that Iraq needs stability and national unity, suggesting it is necessary to refrain from any action that threatens the security of Iraq.

Iran reminds UK to repay old debt

TEHRAN — Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian and British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss discussed bilateral issues, the Vienna nuclear talks and some regional issues in a telephone conversation on Monday.

The phone call came just 21 days before the resumption of the nuclear talks in Vienna for possible revival of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) - the common name for the 2015 nuclear deal.

The chief Iranian diplomat reminded that most of the trade agreements between the two countries have not been implemented based on the JCPOA.

A promotion of trade and the facilitation of financial relations between the two countries entails actions by London, Amir Abdollahian suggested.

Amir Abdollahian also stressed the need for immediate action by London to repay its debt to Iran as soon as possible.

The UK owes approximately £400m to the Iranian government coming ▶ Page 2

Iran reminds UK to repay old debt

From page 1 ► From the non-delivery of Chieftain tanks ordered by the Shah of Iran before the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

In their first meeting on September 23, Amir Abdollahian reminded Truss that the United Kingdom must repay its debt. Truss acknowledged that Britain owed the sum but said sanctions made it impossible to pay Iran back.

JCOA can be successful if sanctions are lifted

The Iranian foreign minister also blamed the U.S. for the current situation surrounding the JCPOA.

He also criticized Europe's inaction, saying some European parties to the deal have also contributed to the current situation by refusing to fulfill their commitments and being silent in the face of U.S. actions.

Amir Abdollahian went to say that a success of nuclear talks in Vienna will rest on lifting all sanctions, a return of all parties to their commitments, as well as providing the necessary guarantees for implementation of what would be possibly agreed in Vienna and a verification of the other side's actions.

The top diplomat reminded that normalization of trade relations with Iran has been one of the commitments made by the European parties to the 2015 nuclear deal and this issue should be a topic of the talks in Vienna.

For her part, the British Foreign Secretary wished immediate recovery of her Iranian counterpart from the coronavirus.

Expressing satisfaction with the



Truss

Abdollahian

announcement of the date for the Joint Commission of the JCPOA, Truss called on two fellow European countries (France and Germany) to make efforts to progress of the negotiations.

She said European parties to the JCPOA are serious about the nuclear deal talks.

According to the Iranian foreign ministry website, some consular issues were also discussed during the phone conversation.

The two foreign ministers also discussed the need to send humanitarian aid to the people of Afghanistan and forming an inclusive government in the country. They also exchanged views about the catastrophic humanitarian situation in Yemen and the need to the siege on the country.

In the phone conversation the Iranian foreign minister also expressed support for stability in Lebanon and lamented continuation of human rights violations in Bahrain.

Rashid explained.

Noting that the greatest lesson of the 8 years of the sacred defense entails having military power to respond to threats, General Rashid said the armed forces are "pillars of country's defense power based on the national, historical and strategic heritage of 8 years of the sacred defense to prevent miscalculations by (possible) invaders."

The sacred defense refers to Iran's resistance against the invading Saddam army during the 1980s.

"We have learned the components of power and how to use it from the experiences of 8 years of the sacred defense and we hope that the enemies will avoid testing the power of our Army and Guards," the top general emphasized.

In announcing the holding of the drill on Saturday, Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari, the chief commander of the maneuvers, said the war game carries a serious warning to the enemies and ill-wishers.

"And for the friendly and Muslim countries and our dear people, it carries hope regarding the resistance of the country's Army and other Armed Forces... to establish and strengthen security in the region without the presence of extra-regional forces," Sayyari told reporters.

He added that holding such a large-scale exercise will definitely "make our friends happy."

On the other hand, the admiral said, boosting defense capabilities will deter the enemy from daring to encroach on national interests and territorial integrity.

"We should not allow any country to make the promotion of the Islamic Republic of Iran's defense capabilities look like a threat to others with the aim of sowing discord and Iranophobia," Sayyari insisted.

Amphibious operations to be conducted in Zulfiqar-1400 drills

TEHRAN — A spokesman for the Zulfiqar-1400 Drills of the Iranian Army says the amphibious operations are one of the most complex military operations at sea and coast, which will be carried out during the exercises.

Rear Admiral Mahmoud Mousavi said in the first stage of the exercise the planning and implementation of the amphibious operations are on the agenda, noting the operations are carried out in two stages of offensive and defensive, Mehr reported on Sunday.

The exercises started on Sunday morning. Troops serving in the Army's infantry, armored units, mechanized regiments, Navy, Air Force, and Air Defense have taken part in the main stage of the exercise.

The offensive stage will be carried out to capture the coast of the enemy in which the operating forces, after penetrating the coast and passing

through layers of defense, will pave the ground for the transfer of major equipment and strengthening the defensive positions, Mousavi said.

"In the next stage, we have the defense operations of our own coasts, which will be carried out using the four operating forces of the army," general explained.

The drills spokesman added: "Using the firepower of the Ground Forces' artillery, Army Aviation's helicopters, using manned and unmanned systems of Air Force to support forces operating on the coast and at sea, as well as surface and sub-surface units and marine and commando brigades along with electronic warfare systems and coast-to-sea missile system deployed across our coast will be actively involved in this exercise."

Mousavi emphasized that the implementation of amphibious operations is one of the most complex military operations at sea and coast, which requires the interaction and proximity of the operating forces.

Iranian submarines blow up mock targets with torpedoes

From page 1 ► Iran fires 300-km range missile at mock enemy target in sea

In the second day of the military exercises, the Army also test-fired three types of missiles: coast-to-sea Qader and Nasr missiles as well as the long-range Qadir.

The word Qader translates to "able," Nasr to "success," and Qadir to "capable."

The Qadir cruise missile is able to hit mobile and motionless targets 300 kilometers away.

"The operation to destroy surface and subsurface vessels of the (mock) enemy was conducted by using Iranian-made Qader and Nasr cruise missiles," the drill spokesman Rear Admiral Mahmoud Mousavi stated.

The coast-to-sea Qader



missile, which was fired by the Navy at southeastern Makran coasts, hit the target at a distance of 200 kilometers, Mousavi explained.

The Nasr cruise missile was also launched by a missile firing destroyer, he added.

Mousavi went on to say the Army has abundant and different kinds of marine cruise missiles.

He said these missiles have unique capabilities with great explosive capacity that can also resist electronic warfare.

"Today the Navy is able to destroy surface and subsurface vessels by using coast-to-sea local missiles from long distances," Mousavi said, adding the technology to produce such missiles will keep advancing

more and more.

He went on to say that the navy's missiles are deployed at the coasts and "are ready to bury any invader at the depth of the sea."

On Sunday, the Army launched the annual exercises near the mouth of the Persian Gulf.

"The military exercise in Iran's coast on the Sea of Oman is to display the country's military might and readiness to confront our enemies," Mousavi said on Sunday.

The exercise covers an area from the eastern parts of the Strait of Hormuz to the northern tip of the Indian Ocean and parts of the Red Sea.

The drill involves forces from the Army Ground Force, Navy, Air Force, and Air Defense units.

Westerners need JCPOA more than Iran: MP

TEHRAN — The chairman of Parliamentary National Security and Foreign Policy Committee says the United States and Europe need the 2015 nuclear deal, officially called the JCPOA, more than Iran.

"Americans and Europeans need the JCPOA more than us," Vahid Jalalzadeh said, the Mehr news agency reported on Monday.

The senior MP added, "The Islamic Republic, after overcoming Trump's 'maximum pressure' intended to destroy Iran's economy, has been able to meet many of its needs based on its domestic capabilities."

Jalalzadeh said Iran has succeeded to break the backbone of sanctions. He also said due to oil embargo against Iran the price of this commodity has increased to a large extent.

"The structure of sanctions is broken and oil is becoming more expensive," he remarked.

He stated an interest by new American President Joe Biden to return to the deal was the failure of the policy of "maximum pressure" on the Islamic Republic.

The Americans were sending messages that Iran should return to the JCPOA talks as soon as possible, he said, but the Biden administration's excessive emphasis to bring Iran back to the negotiating table is a misplaced emphasis.

The MP said the Biden administration sought three months to return to the talks to revive the JCPOA but now with the change of government in Iran Washington is putting a great pressure on Iran to return to the Vienna talks

"At the beginning of its formation, the Biden administration asked for three months to conduct comprehensive studies regarding its return to the JCPOA. The same administration

is pressuring the newly formed Iranian administration to announce the timing of the talks as soon as possible. They should give the Iranian administration the right to develop its own new platform for new negotiations," Jalalzadeh pointed out.

Iran has announced that it will enter negotiations on November 29 with the aim of lifting "illegal and inhumane sanctions" on the Iranian nation.

Officials in Tehran has been insisting that a return of U.S. to the JCPOA must be fully verified.

The top MP said verification will be a serious issue in the incoming negotiations.

The parliament also will oversee Ebrahim Raisi administration's actions in the negotiations to implement the strategic parliamentary law on lifting sanctions, and would exercise its oversight at all stages of the negotiations, he added.

The chairman of parliamentary committee also says that the 1,500 sanctions on Iran that are on the U.S. list in the Vienna talks are part of the "minefield" created by former U.S. President Donald Trump.

Iran has been insisting that it will only negotiate on the JCPOA and rejected calls by the West to for talks on Iran's defensive missile program or its regional influence.

Jalalzadeh said the Biden administration has been following Trump's maximum pressure on Iran.

The representative of Urmia in the parliament also said a position by the Republicans that they would not allow an implementation of the JCPOA if they win the majority in Congress is not a new position.

"The Islamic Republic, with its experience



of such American positions, emphasizes the need for verification and assurances from the Europeans, and the Europeans and the Biden administration must take into account the concerns of the Islamic Republic."

The MP went on to say that the Islamic Republic had made verification one of its serious conditions for the continuation of the JCPOA-related negotiations, but Europe and the Biden administration are opposed to this condition.

The recent stance of the Republicans revealed the reason for Iran's insistence on verification, he said.

Jalalzadeh added: "According to the order of the Supreme Leader, Iran has set conditions for the return of the United States to the JCPOA including the lifting of sanctions."

Verification is a basic and serious condition by Iran, he said.

The parliamentarian has underlined that verification means that after a return of the United States to the JCPOA, Iran can sell its oil and the money from oil sales can be transferred to Iranian banks so that "we can benefit from this income."

He added, "A deal that has no economic benefits for Iran is useless."



Fruitful negotiations have their own requirements

TEHRAN – With Iran setting a date for resuming the much-awaited nuclear talks in Vienna, conditions appear ripe for the United States to demonstrate seriousness in reviving the 2015 Iran nuclear deal.

The clock is ticking. And November 29 is approaching day by day. As the resumption date for the nuclear talks comes closer, Iran outlines in a clearer way its demands and conditions to revive the nuclear deal, formally called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

During his Monday press briefing, Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh laid out under what terms Iran would be ready to accept a U.S. return to the tattered deal.

Khatibzadeh said Iran would return to full compliance with the JCPOA if the U.S. does three things: Washington accepts responsibility for the JCPOA's current state of affairs, removes all the Trump-era sanctions all at once and provide guarantees that no U.S. administrations would repeat what the Trump administration did to the JCPOA.

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian further clarified Iran's position in a phone conversation with his British counterpart Liz Truss. "On Vienna talks, reiterated return by other parties to full implementation of obligations; lifting of all sanctions & verification; & guarantees," Amir



Abdollahian said on Twitter.

The Iranian foreign minister said the Vienna talks' success is contingent on the removal of all sanctions, the return of all sides to their obligations, giving necessary assurances about the implementation of all talks' results, and verification of actions by the other sides, according to a statement by the Iranian foreign ministry.

Whether the U.S. would remove all the sanctions imposed under Trump and provide guarantees that they won't return again remains to be seen. But U.S. allies in Europe have a unique role to play in the days before the talks are resumed.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Bagheri Kani is planning to pay a visit to a number of European countries including the three countries that are signatories to the JCPOA – France, Germany, and the UK, collectively known as the E3.

Truss told Amir Abdollahian that the European troika is serious and eager about making progress in the Vienna talks. But eagerness per se is not enough.

Khatibzadeh said Bagheri Kani will explain Iran's position on the nuclear talks during his European tour.

Commenting on the chief Iranian nuclear negotiator's trip to the E3 countries, Khatibzadeh said, "Iran will not stop its retaliatory measures unless it is certain that unilateral, extraterritorial, and illegal U.S. sanctions will be lifted in an effective and verifiable manner with the necessary and objective guarantees."

He then uttered a position possibly affecting the whole negotiation process. "Nothing will be agreed until everything is agreed," Khatibzadeh warned.

This makes it all the more important for the E3 to draw on their coming meetings with Bagheri Kani to facilitate

the Vienna negotiations if they want a swift conclusion of the next round.

Iran has already outlined its position and it will highly likely reiterate this position in the seventh round of talks. So, the Europeans can work from now to make the next round easy and increase the possibility of success. Bagheri Kani's visit will provide them a genuine opportunity to directly hear from Iran and determine how to deal with the position of the new government of Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi.

In addition, the Europeans are responsible for the current "disarray" in the JCPOA, at least from the Iranian perspective. In his conversation with Truss, Amir Abdollahian referred to the state of the Iran nuclear deal, blaming the disarray on the U.S. He reiterated that some other signatories to the deal are also at fault over the current situation due to their irresponsibility and silence toward Washington's actions.

Amir Abdollahian said the bulk of trade agreements between Tehran and London following the 2015 nuclear deal were not put into practice. He said that increasing trade and facilitating financial ties call for a more active role by London.

Iran made it clear that past experiences should not be repeated and the talks should be "result-oriented," rather than protracted. At the end of the day, talks for talks are not in the cards in Tehran.

SPORTS

Tehran derby date revealed: IPL

TEHRAN – Tehran derby date between Esteghlal and Persepolis football teams has been revealed.

The match will be held on Dec. 4 in Tehran's Azadi Stadium on Matchweek 8 of 2021/22 Iran Professional League.

Persepolis are defending champions and look to win the IPL title for the sixth in a row while Esteghlal are determined to end their nine-year title drought.

The Iranian giants have played each other 96 times with Esteghlal narrowly lead the encounters by 26 wins to 25 with 45 draws.

Nazemi shortlisted for IFFHS Women's World Best Referee 2021

TEHRAN – Iranian referee Gelareh Nazemi has been nominated for the IFFHS Women's World Best Referee 2021.

At the end of the month of November, the IFFHS will announce the Awards 2021 winners in all categories.

Anastasia Pustovoitova and Stephanie Frappart are favorites for the Award 2021.

Nazemi has most recently officiated at 2021 FIFA Futsal World Cup in late September and was fourth official in the final match.

She had already officiated the men's competition.

Nazemi officiated the final match of the 2018 Summer Youth Olympics in Buenos Aires, Argentina between Portugal and Japan.

Iran freestyle team 2nd in 2021 U23 World Wrestling Championships

TEHRAN – Russia freestyle team outplaced Iran to win title of the 2021 U23 World Wrestling Championships.

Russia captured the title with 145 points while Iran finished second with 140. The surprise came at the third position which went to Armenia who had 114 points.

Iran's Amirali Azarpira won a gold medal in the competition in the 97kg weight class.

Mohammadsadegh Firouzpour and Sajad Gholami won two silve medals in the 74kg and 86kg, respectively.

And five Iranian wrestlers Ahmad Mohammadnejad (57kg), Aliakbar Fazli (70kg), Ali Savadkouhi (79kg), Amirhossein Firouzpour (92kg) and Mehdi Hashemi (125kg) won bronze medal in the campaign which was held in Belgrade, Serbia.

Javad Nekounam returns to Foolad: IPL

TEHRAN – Javad Nekounam returned to Foolad less than three months after he parted ways with the Iranian football club.

The former Iran assistant left the Ahvaz based club in late August in a shock move since Foolad won Iran's Hazfi Cup title under leadership of him.

Abdollah Veisi was appointed as Foolad coach but he failed to meet the expectations after four weeks.

The 50-year-old coach started the 2021/22 Iran Professional League (IPL) with a 3-1 loss against Persepolis in Ahvaz and also lost to Aluminum 3-0 in their second match. Foolad earned the first win on Matchweek 3, beating Mes 2-1 but played out a goalless draw against Naft Masjed Soleyman a week later.

Nekounam, 41, had been also linked with Tractor hotseat but opted to return to his former club.

Hard work pays off for Shahrdiri Sirjan: Maryam Nejati

TEHRAN – Shahrdiri Sirjan head coach Maryam Nejati praised her charges for their 2-1 victory over Uzbekistan's FC Bunyodkor in the AFC Women's Club Championship 2021 on Sunday.

Goals from Roghayeh Jalal Nasab and Zahra Alizadeh put Shahrdiri Sirjan comfortably ahead before Bunyodkor pulled one back through Dildora Nozimova.

Victory for Shahrdiri Sirjan leaves them tied for first place with Jordan's Amman Club, who edged India's Sree Gokulam Kerala FC 2-1 in the group's other fixture.

Shahrdiri Sirjan took only six minutes to find the back of the net with Nejati saying the Islamic Republic of Iran club had prepared well for the challenge of their Uzbekistan opponents.

"I'm very thankful that we claimed our first victory in this competition," said Nejati "This result is dedicated to the people back home in Iran and this proves that hard work pays off."

"We studied how Bunyodkor would approach the game and played out a few scenarios during training. It was useful as we managed to utilise what we have trained for during the match effectively.

"I'm so proud of my players, they each had different roles and they played well today. It was not an easy match, but we identified their weaknesses on the left flank and played to our advantage.

"Now with the three points in the bag, we will switch focus to the next match against India's Gokulam Kerala."

Nejati's opposite number Elmira Gulamova vowed to bounce back from their early setback.

"We didn't expect to lose our first match this way," said Gulamova. This is the first time we are playing in a competition at the Continental level and we are grateful to be here.

"Even though we lost today, our focus must be to improve in our next match."

Bunyodkor now face a must win tie against Amman Club on Wednesday while Shahrdiri Sirjan will be aiming to claim another three points when they face Gokulam Kerala.

Iran fall short against Syria in FIBA Women's Asia Cup Division B

TEHRAN – Iran suffered a 78-71 loss against Syria in the 2021 FIBA Women's Asia Cup Division B on Monday.

The Iranian team had started the campaign with a 66-64 loss against Lebanon.

Iran failed to book a place in the competition's semifinals.

Group B consists of Jordan, Kazakhstan and Indonesia.

The tournament takes place between Nov. 7 and 13 and is hosted by Jordan, who recently hosted the FIBA Women's Asia Cup, which was won by Japan.

A total of six nations compete in this Division B tournament. They have been split into two groups and try to make it to the knockout stages.

Four teams will land in the Semi-Finals, while two countries will miss out. The main prize at the event is that the eventual winners will move up and replace the recently relegated India at the next edition of the FIBA Women's Asia Cup in 2023.

Enemies seek to sow despair among people: president

TEHRAN – Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi has addressed the state of affairs in the country, saying the enemy's strategy against Iran rests on creating despair and hopelessness among the Iranian people.

Underlining that the enemies have adopted a strategy of disappointing the people, the president said, "They are upset and angry that an atmosphere of hope has been created in the country and seek to create despair among the people by making unrealistic claims, so everyone must be vigilant of such attacks."

Speaking at a cabinet session of Sunday, Ayatollah Raisi referred to various suspicions raised in the media, including the attention of some ministers to the appointment of their relatives, saying, "Ministers and executive officials must respond immediately to false news and claims and not allow negative mentality to prevail in the society."

The president emphasized, "The purpose of creating doubts is to create despair and hopelessness among the people, and in this regard, unfortunately, some people unknowingly accompany the enemy's strategy," according to a readout of the meeting published by the official website of the Iranian presidency.

Ayatollah Raisi added, "Officials, while being careful not to get involved into false trivia, should pay attention to public opinion and respond to suspicions in a documented and reasoned manner."

He described discrimination in payment of salaries and various employment contracts in government organizations and departments

unacceptable and stressed, "One of the important manifestations of justice in the 13th government is a fair payment system and all agencies should work to ensure non-discrimination."

Referring to the importance of the Public Culture Council, Ayatollah Raisi called on the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance to remove obstacles to the council's activities.

After the cabinet's vote of confidence in Mohammad Mahdi Alaei as the Governor-General of Qazvin, Mojtaba Abdollahi as the Governor-General of Alborz and Seyyed Mahmoud Hosseinpour Nouri as the Governor-General of Mazandaran, the president said, "In all three provinces, there are many opportunities for employment and activating tourism economy and digital economy as well as a maritime economy on the shores of Mazandaran, and all capacities must be used to solve the problems of the people, especially to create jobs and eliminate unemployment."

Pointing out that the 1401 budget has been predicted and planned for 8% economic growth, Ayatollah Raisi added, "The difference between this year's budget and previous years is that governors-general do not refer to the central government officials for budget and credit, and each province is given credit to play its part in order to achieve 8% growth."

The president emphasized, "Economic growth will not happen without the presence of all institutions and the granting of shares to each of them, so accordingly, to create 8% growth of all institutions, provinces and governors-general must play a serious role."

Emphasizing the need to use efficient and

revolutionary human resources at different levels of management, Ayatollah Raisi said, "We all have a responsibility to meet the expectations of the people by working around the clock to address their concerns and gain public trust."

On Saturday, the president held a meeting with the head of the Judiciary and the parliament in which he underlined the need to solve the problems of the people.

The weekly meeting of the heads of the three branches of the government was held this Saturday evening, hosted by Ayatollah Raisi and attended by Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf and Judiciary Chief Hojatoleslam val-Moslemin Mohseni Eje'i at the office of the president.

In the meeting, the most important issues of the country, especially economic issues and people's livelihood were discussed and exchanged.

The heads of the branches called the focus on improving the economic situation and solving the livelihood problems as the priorities of the meeting and stressed the need for more cooperation in this field.

In his recent visit to Semnan province, the president said he believes that problems can be solved. "I see a very bright future, and despite all the threats, we believe that problems can be overcome with effort and empathy," the president said.

He noted, "Some seek their own benefits in serving the people, another one is humanistic service; and the third type is solving people's problems for God, which solves the problems of society and brings with it God's pleasure."

prosperity of their country.

Following the attempt on the life of al-Kadhimi, Amir Abdollahian held a phone call with his Iraqi counterpart Fuad Husain.

During the phone call, Amir Abdollahian sent the greetings of the Iranian president to the Iraqi premier and asked about his health and expressed delight that he is unhurt.

The Iranian foreign minister also said such incidents, which go against the stability and security of Iraq, as a friendly country, are carried out by ill-wishers of the country in a bid to undermine its tranquility.

During the talks, the Iraqi foreign minister also thanked the Iranian president and foreign minister for their concern and briefed his Iranian counterpart on the latest developments on the incident, and thanked the Iranian president on behalf of the Iraqi prime minister.

Foreign Minister Husain reiterated that no one was hurt in the attack and that relevant Iraqi authorities are investigating the related developments.

Iraqi tranquility must not be disrupted by foreigners: Iran

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh touched on the developments in neighboring Iraq during his weekly presser on Monday, saying that Iraq's calm must not be disrupted by foreigners.

Responding to a question on the failed assassination attempt on the Iraqi prime minister's life, Khatibzadeh said investigations into the incident should proceed and reiterated Iran's position that Iraq's stability must be preserved.

"We must allow the relevant legal institutions in Iraq to complete their investigations. In a phone call yesterday between [Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein] Amir Abdollahian and Fouad Hussein, it was discussed that we should all help identify the perpetrators," Khatibzadeh said.

The spokesman underlined the need to maintain Iraq's stability, saying that the Arab country's calm should not be thrown into disarray by foreigners.

Tensions in Iraq took a new, dangerous turn on Sunday as the country's government announced that Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi

came under attack while resting in his own residence in the fortified Green Zone of Baghdad, where most of Iraq's high-ranking government institutions and foreign embassies, including the United States', are situated.

The Iraqi media reported that three exploding drones carried out the attack, two of which were intercepted and downed by Iraqi security forces while the third drone crashed into the prime minister's house. Images published by Iraqi media outlets showed remarkable damage to the house. Rubble could be seen everywhere in the backyard and inside the house. Explosives ripped through the doors and windows, throwing them afiel.

Al-Kadhimi survived the assassination attempt while some members of his security detail sustained minor injuries. "I was and still am a redemption project for Iraq and the people of Iraq. The missiles of treachery will not discourage the believers and will shake a hair of the stability and determination of our heroic security forces to preserve people's security, achieve justice, and

set the law in place. Thank God, I am fine and among my people. I call for calmness and restraint from all for the sake of Iraq," the prime minister said on Twitter hours after the attack.

On Sunday, Khatibzadeh issued a statement condemning the attack on al-Kadhimi. Khatibzadeh stressed the Islamic Republic of Iran's firm and consistent position in support of stability, security and tranquility in Iraq.

The spokesman called for vigilance by all sides against "plots that target the security and development of Iraq."

"Such incidents are in line with the interests of parties that have violated the stability, security, independence and territorial integrity of Iraq over the past 18 years, and through creation of terrorist and secessionist groups, seek to achieve their sinister objectives in the region," he said.

Khatibzadeh voiced relief that al-Kadhimi was not hurt in the incident. The spokesman expressed hope that the Iraqi people, government and political currents remain united and pave the way for the development and



ICCIMA Head Gholam-Hossein Shafeie (R) and Head of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry Redha bin Juma Al Saleh

Iran, Oman chambers of commerce discuss expansion of ties

From page 1 ► “One of our goals is to increase trade between the two countries. [in this regard] joint investment is an effective factor for the dynamism and stability of economic relations between the two countries and it requires the necessary coordination and support from the governments of Iran and Oman,” the ICCIMA head said.

He further stated that a meeting of the two countries’ joint economic committee is to be held in Muscat in the near future.

Elsewhere in the meeting, Al Saleh spoke about the strong and historical relations between Iran and Oman, saying: “A lot of work must be done to achieve the set goals

in the field of trade. We lost two golden years due to the coronavirus outbreak and must work to compensate for them and increase the volume of trade between the two countries and remove obstacles.”

“Logistical measures must be taken to be able to benefit from the free trade agreement between the two countries. Undoubtedly, there are many obstacles for Iranian investors in Oman, but we are negotiating with the relevant officials in this regard,” he said.

The official further noted that barter trade between the two sides is one of the important strategies that is being pursued in developing trade exchanges.

Goudarzi appointed new head of TSE

TEHRAN- Board of directors at Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE) appointed Mahmoud Goudarzi as the new head of the exchange.

Goudarzi became the official head of TSE two months after he took office as the acting head of the entity replacing Ali Sahraei, IRIB reported.

The Tehran Stock Exchange is Iran’s largest stock exchange, which first opened in 1967. TSE is a founding member of the Federation of Euro-Asian Stock Exchanges.



New managing director outlines NITC’s goals, priorities

TEHRAN – Hossein Shiva, who was appointed as the new head of the National Iranian Tanker Company (NITC) recently, has outlined the major programs, goals, and priorities of the company during his tenure.

As reported by the NITC’s Office of Public Relations, Shiva has underlined preparing a guideline for the company’s scientific development, updating the strategic roadmap of the company’s general development, increasing the entity’s global competitiveness and sustainable wealth creation as NITC’s most important priorities during his tenure.

Improving welfare and the quality of life of the employees is another priority of the company, according to the official.

He further mentioned the renovation

and upgrading of the country’s tanker fleet, saying: “In addition to renovating and modernizing the fleet, which will be based on scientific, technical and economic studies, maintaining and, if necessary, developing the capacity of the oil, gas and chemical fleet will be pursued by conducting strategic studies in technical, economic and marketing fields.”

“Increasing sustainable productivity, creativity, and innovation as well as improving the quality of life of employees are three general goals of the National Iranian Oil Company which are set to increase the company’s competitiveness and wealth in order to build a better, more competitive, and more dynamic future,” he stressed.

Steel Complex, and Arian Chimia Tech Industrial Group were the most widely followed ones.

Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Ehsan Khandouzi hosted a meeting with the representatives of over 30 major companies active in the capital market on Monday to exchange ideas for resolving issues and developing the economy.

Speaking in the meeting, Khandouzi said his ministry plans to make the economy more predictable and eliminate pricing systems that are harmful to the capital market and the stock exchange industry, Mehr News Agency reported.

The official noted that the government will follow new strategies to compensate for the budget deficit by making government assets

CBI, SEO to form joint committee to manage capital market

TEHRAN – Central Bank of Iran (CBI) and the Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO) have agreed to form a joint committee to coordinate policies and decisions in the money and capital markets, the CBI Office of Public Relations announced on Monday.

The decision was made during a meeting between the CBI Governor Ali Saleh-Abadi, the Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Ehsan Khandouzi, and the SEO Head Majid Eshqi.

Speaking at the meeting, Saleh-Abadi said that the formation of a joint committee will help develop joint cooperation in money and capital markets and stabilize them while creating new capacities for growth because money and stock markets are not competitors but complementary.

He also pointed to the need to establish a financial stability council and said: “By establishing



CBI governor Ali Saleh-Abadi (2nd R), Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Ehsan Khandouzi (3rd L), and SEO Head Majid Eshqi (2nd L)

this council, coordination between various components of the financial market, especially the money and stock markets in the country can be improved; The current situation is a very good time to establish this council and to promote such cooperation.”

Stating that the capital market is a specialized market, Saleh-Abadi stressed that the capital market should continue its growth path away

from politicization and in a predictable environment based on specialized approaches.

Further in the meeting, Khandouzi stated that having dialogue among economic policy-making institutions is very promising, saying: “This can lead to good results and, if it continues, will have a very clear meaning for traders and the market.”

He also welcomed the establishment of a joint

committee with the CBI and noted that the cooperation with the central bank in such joint committees, will help to clarify the key variables that traders will look at to make decisions in the market.

“If the Joint Committee meets regularly on a weekly basis, small issues can be resolved quickly and serve as a basis for dialogue, increased understanding and cooperation with other productive sectors of the economy, as well as other ministries,” Khandouzi stressed.

Eshqi for his turn underlined stability as the most important component in the capital market and said: “The most important factor that raises concerns in the capital market is instability, even though the macro variables of the capital market are desirable. Nevertheless, I hope that with the efforts made by the CBI, the common language between the two markets will improve.”

Export from Kermanshah province rises 20% in 7 months on year

TEHRAN- The value of export from Kermanshah province in the west of Iran rose 20 percent during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-October 22), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, according to a provincial official.

Ali Sa’ddedin, the director-general of the province’s customs department, said that commodities worth \$1.734 billion have been exported from the province in the seven-month period.

The official also stated that the exported products show a 33-percent rise in terms of weight as compared to the same time span of the previous year.

He named mineral and plastic products, as well as foodstuff as the main exported items and Iraq as the major export destination of the province’s exports during the first seven months of the present year.

The official further announced that 5,460 tons of products worth \$8.682 million have been imported to the province in the said seven-month period, and named metals, machinery and mechanical tools, as well as chemicals and vegetable products as the main imported items.

As announced by the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), the value of Iran’s non-oil trade rose 43 percent during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year, as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

Mehdi Mir-Ashrafi said that Iran has traded over 98 million tons of non-oil products worth \$54.8 billion with other countries in the mentioned period.

Over 330,000 tons of basic goods imported via northern ports since late March

TEHRAN- Over 330,000 tons of basic goods (wheat and edible oils) have been imported to Iran via the northern ports of the country since the beginning of current Iranian calendar year (March 21), according to a provincial official.

Abbas-Ali Vafaei-Nejad, the director-general of Cereals

and Commercial Services Department of the northern Mazandaran province, announced that over 242,000 tons of wheat and 90,000 tons of edible oils have been imported via Amir-Abad and Noshahr ports during the mentioned period.

He said that more than 217,000

tons of wheat and 75,000 tons of edible oils have been imported through Amir-Abad port, while 25,000 tons of wheat and 15,000 tons of edible oils have been imported via Noshahr port since the year start.

The consignments are loaded as soon as they are unloaded and sent to the storage centers

of the province, the official noted.

Back in September, Mehرداد Jamal Orounagi, the deputy head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) for technical affairs, had said that the clearance of basic commodities from the customs has been expedited.



According to the IRICA head, the volume of trade in the mentioned period also grew by 16.5 percent in comparison to the figure for the previous fiscal year.

The official put the seven-month non-oil exports at 75.2 million tons valued at \$27.1 billion, with a 47-percent rise in value and 15-percent growth in weight.

Mir-Ashrafi mentioned natural gas, methanol, polyethylene, semi-finished iron products, liquid propane, iron ingots, iron rods, urea, copper, and bitumen as the main exported products in the said time span.

He said major export destinations of the Iranian non-oil goods were China with about 16.9 million tons worth \$7.7 billion, Iraq with 19.7 million tons worth \$5.5 billion, Turkey with 11 million tons worth \$7.4 billion, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with 6.6 million tons worth \$2.6 billion, and Afghanistan with 2.8 million tons worth \$1.1 billion.

The official further announced that Iran has imported 23.5 million tons of non-oil commodities worth \$27.7 billion in the first seven months of the present year, with a 38-percent growth in value and a 21-percent rise in weight year on year.

Mir-Ashrafi named basic goods, machinery,

TEDPIX climbs 3,400 points to Monday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), gained 3,499 points to 1,434 million on Monday.

As reported, over 9,907 billion securities worth 58.537 trillion rials (about \$1.393 billion) were traded at the TSE.

The first market’s index gained 3,347 points, and the second market’s index rose 4,587 points.

TEDPIX gained 5,000 points (less than three percent) to 1.398 million in the past Iranian calendar week (ended on Friday).

During the past week, the indices of Isfahan Refining Company, National Iranian Copper Industries Company, Mobarak Steel Company, Bandar Abbas Refining Company, Sabzevar Pars



more productive and also by selling surplus properties.

“The task of the Economy Ministry and the Securities and Exchange Organization is to develop tools and institutions in order to create a transparent, efficient, and predictable

market,” Khandouzi stated.

Capital market analyst, Soheil Kolahchi, believes the stock market is going to be able to compete with other parallel markets for bringing positive returns to investors in the second half of the current Iranian calendar year (September 22, 2021-March 20, 2022), IRNA reported.

Stating that the stock market can be one of the suitable markets for investment in the second half of the year, Kolahchi said: “The capital market can provide an acceptable return to shareholders and experience good growth compared to other parallel markets by the end of the year.”

“The stock market can grow by the end of

the year as the prevailing environment for investing in other parallel markets (including the forex, gold, and housing markets) is calm and nothing special is going to happen in any of them,” he explained.

Emphasizing the sharp decline in the number of deals in the housing market in recent months, Kolahchi noted: “The foreign currency exchange market is also experiencing slight fluctuations.”

The capital market expert continued: “Due to the existence of such conditions, the capital market takes the same path as other markets and takes a slow path to ascend. This market will be accompanied by many ups and downs in its path but eventually, it moves upward.”

Ethiopians denounce U.S. at pro-government rally

From page 1 ► Ethiopian officials have accused the international community of ignoring abuses and crimes committed by the militia group.

There are now fears of further bloodshed after reports emerged of Ethiopian opposition factions forming a new alliance with the stated goal of bringing down Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed by force or negotiation before forming its own transitional government.

The government, already engaged in a year-long conflict with the rebel fighters in the north has dismissed the alliance as a stunt and accused some members of violence against ethnic groups in the past.

Despite calls from African countries for a nationwide ceasefire, the alliance was announced by faction leaders, as federal troops battle the northern-based Tigray People's Liberation Front and its allies.

In a sign of the seriousness of the matter, on Friday state media said the Ethiopian army had called on former personnel to rejoin the military and fight the rebels reportedly threatening to move on the capital Addis Ababa. Under a state of emergency declared on Tuesday, the government can also call up people of military age to undergo training and accept military duties.

The United States has advised its nationals to leave the country as soon as possible. In a statement the U.S. embassy said "The security environment in Ethiopia is very fluid"

The UN Security Council, the African Union, Kenya and Uganda have also called for a ceasefire in the conflict that has killed thousands of people.

However, Abiy's government, which has pledged to keep fighting, said it had a responsibility to secure the country and urged foreign powers to stand with Ethiopia's democracy. On Sunday, the government-appointed Ethiopian Human Rights Commission said the authorities appeared to be using a state of emergency declared on Tuesday to detain people "based on ethnic identity."

Nobel Peace Prize winner Abiy Ahmed's government acknowledges it has detained a small number of high-level Tigrayan military officials.

A Police spokesperson has also denied that the arrests were ethnically motivated, saying those detained are "directly or indirectly" backing the Tigray People's Liberation Front, an outlawed party that was once part of Ethiopia's government.



The conflict has killed thousands of people, forced more than two million from their homes and left 400,000 people in the northern Tigray region, which has witnessed the brunt of the fighting, facing famine.

The United Nations' Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said on Sunday the UN aid Chief Martin Griffiths travelled to Mekelle and met women affected by the fighting as well as humanitarian partners.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said he "engaged with de facto authorities on the need for humanitarian access and protection of civilians through all areas under their control, and respect for humanitarian principles."

Many media outlets have been unable to independently confirm the extent of the Tigray People's Liberation

Front advance in the country. The Tigray People's Liberation Front and their allies told media outlets last week they were 325 km (200 miles) from the capital.

The government accuses the group of exaggerating its territorial gains. The government has also complained about foreign media coverage of the conflict and some people at the anti

U.S. rally held signs denouncing "fake news" in Ethiopia.

Writing on social media, Abiy's spokesperson said "orchestrated media propaganda against Ethiopia is escalating... Despite it all Ethiopia will overcome!"

It's not just Ethiopia that has been angered by America's interference in the conflict. In June Eritrea's foreign minister blamed U.S. administrations that supported the Tigray People's Liberation Movement for the last 20 years for the current war in northern Ethiopia's Tigray region, saying that America blaming Eritrea for the fighting was unfounded.

Osman Saleh, in a letter to the UN Security Council, accused President Joe Biden's administration of "stoking further conflict and destabilization" through interference and intimidation in the region. He said "The apparent objective of these acts is to resuscitate the remnants of the Tigray People's Liberation Movement regime."

The Eritrean foreign minister accused the Tigray People's Liberation Movement of conducting a disinformation campaign to camouflage its illicit schemes to arm itself and topple Abiy's government and he urged the Security Council "to take appropriate measures to redress the

injustice."

The Tigray People's Liberation Front led the coalition that ruled Ethiopia for nearly three decades until Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed rose to power in 2018. Abiy alienated the Tigray People's Liberation Front to make peace with the country's then archenemy and northern neighbor Eritrea.

The government forces are now allied with armed forces from neighboring Eritrea to help contain the violence.

Saleh also criticized the U.S. State Department's recent announcement on visa restrictions for current or former Eritrean and Ethiopian government and military officials, saying it was only the latest in a string of "unilateral acts of intimidation and interference." against two sovereign nations.

Earlier this year, the United States imposed restrictions on economic and security assistance to Ethiopia over alleged human rights abuses during the conflict in Tigray region. Washington will also bar current or former Ethiopian government officials it considers responsible for the crisis. However, Washington has not done the same or taken any action against the rebellious forces in the north.

Analysts have noted that the conflict in Ethiopia, which has spilt into neighboring countries, is another example of accusations against the U.S. that wherever there is instability in the world, Washington's finger prints can be found lying around somewhere.

One year in office: U.S. elections show letdown in Biden

By Ramin Mazaheri

In speaking with Iranian immigrants to the US, I always hear a couple of refrains repeatedly:

1) Why Democrats do not criticize their own politicians when they do the exact things they criticize Republicans for?

2) When Republicans get into office, at least, they actually do things they say they want to do; Democrats never do.

If an immigrant can pick up on this - why can't American voters?

An answer which is empathetic to the American voter was discussed in the very first column I wrote from America for Press TV just after the 2020 U.S. presidential election (back when the results were still allowed to be openly disputed - so just three days after the election), "Results are in: Duopoly wins, Trumpism wasn't a cult of personality":

"The biggest problem is something Press TV tried to address in our coverage of the election from the start: the refusal of the world's oldest and strongest duopoly to allow third-party, alternative voices to be heard, much less have some political or cultural power."

Americans cannot pick up on these two ideas which new arrivals can. And because they lack these two political insights, they foolishly expected Democrats to do something seriously different in 2021.

Many are surprised at how far to the right Biden and the Democratic Party have behaved since January 2021 because conservatism (fiscal, political, foreign policy) is the only policy allowed in what is truly a uniparty system, which is the direct result of the forced duopoly.

Indeed, politically-active Americans would rather rabidly shout at non-believers that the other side is on the side of Satan rather than honestly discuss the obvious pattern of overwhelming similarities in the actions of Republicans and Democrats. Political reporting is far more interesting in France, where at least there's a multiparty system and proportional (not first-past-the-post, winner-take-all) voting.

To avoid discussions of such realities, the U.S. media is paid to whip up the basest emotions over the most moral of public concerns and to treat elections like horse races for gambling. There is ruthless suppression of any sustained discussion of ideas, which threaten the uniparty - the U.S. government's seizure of pressstv.com domain last June (during the Biden administration, not Trump, please note) stands as proof of both this sentiment and the fact of duopoly.

We can't say that American's aren't somewhat aware - a slim majority of America does prefer to classify themselves apart as "independent," but they are powerless to stop the endless conservatism/reaction of the duopoly/uniparty.

It has been said for over a century - because all working and middle class people simply want morality in economic matters and fair justice in political matters - that the masses of the U.S. are far to the left of their workers. I've read the same thing from just as long ago about the French. The problem is clearly endemic in their political system, which is "Western Liberal Democracy," which remains a fundamentally aristocratic, elitist, anti-revolutionary, inequality-perpetuating system. Who can be surprised that Democrats haven't reduced inequality, much less tried?

The Democrats who claim to be progressive are sending disgruntled messages via text or on Facebook - they must either be new in the US, naive, hypocritical or simply playing a role for others. But just as Trump was a net positive because he revealed to even the most thick-headed, or simply jingoistic, people the glaring faults of Western Liberal Democracy, so too will the subsequent disappointment of the Democrats show many the light regarding the implacable reaction of the duopoly.

It's almost as if Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi wanted to fail - why did she wait so long to even bring to a vote an infrastructure package, which would have provided the campaign of Democrats with something tangible to show for one year of Bidenism? Much was made of the fact that campaigning Democrats were "begging" for this. Negotiations took too long? Couldn't corral her own party? Or is it entirely possible that she wanted to ensure that there was no progressive component, something which the duopoly has always opposed?

I refer to the laughable ideas - to those like myself who are surely quite cynical to the committed U.S. Democrat - that the U.S. 1% were

going to pay for universal community college, paid vacations (in France since 1936) and a host of other entirely sensible and moral ideas, which have been quantifiably improving other nations around the world for decades already.

The idea is that Pelosi wanted to delay, and then to fail, in order to have the minuscule progressive faction known as "the Squad" to blame, in order to - from this point forward - say that these progressive promises, which Biden made are simply not feasible from a political point of view, as it turns out; that the people actually don't want these things, per the losing votes.

Of course, the duopoly - run by the 1% - wants progressives to fail. They have wanted this decade after decade - they've wanted it so very long the U.S. is now one of just 7 countries (most of the others are islands) without one day of maternity leave.

Why did Democrats spend the last year pushing major educational reforms such as sex education classes for children, the false idea that U.S. was actually founded in 1619 (when the first African slave arrived) and other nonsense rather than do one-tenth of what they campaigned on? The same answer makes the most sense: Democrats wanted to lose because their real policy is "American duopoly ultra-conservatism."

My post-election column stressed how - whatever one thinks of Trump or Trumpism - the uniparty American system burned down whatever was necessary in order to get Trump out precisely because he threatened the duopoly. Indeed, the only thing the U.S. 1% wants as much as progressives to fail is to have gotten Trump out.

Trump, after all, changed his party affiliation five times and was rejected by the Republican establishment as late as May 2016. He's not a Republican, but Republicanism has - as that column also predicted - profited from him: "This will allow the Republican elite and establishment to eventually dilute and soften 'Trumpism', rather than giving America a truly new start and somewhat revolutionary clean break. This is how effective the duopoly is when confronted with any grassroots movement"

And this is also what has just happened: the victorious governor of Virginia was described by The New York Times as a fleece-wearing, dad-like "Trump in khakis."

Republicans were always going to profit from the undeniable success of Trumpism; Republicans were always going to profit from the guaranteed U-turn of a Democratic Party, which held both the White House and Congress; the duopoly was always going to continue cooperating among each other to enact law after law to make the rise of a third party harder and harder; the duopoly was always going to suppress media like Press TV and force their media to inflame the moral sensibilities of many over nonsensical and needless issues like 1619, transgender bathrooms, etc.

Iran had a particular interest in the U.S. election: Trump initiated the total blockade of "\$0 in oil sales" and waged a travel ban, so there was a fair amount of relief in Iran when Biden ultimately replaced him.

There has been no change in Iran policy recently, I note, and we all note this exact same thing.

I didn't mean since January 2021 - I mean since 1979.

The sub-human policies of the U.S. towards Iranians were easy to try and pin on the seemingly sub-human Trump, but it's a fact, which requires no special political insight to note that they were the same policies of Obama, Clinton and Carter. Those Democrats' policies were the same as Reagan, Bush and Bush II. It's a uniparty system, masquerading as fair and balanced duopoly.

The uniparty's policy abroad is to crush progressive countries, reduce them to chaos and force upon them a slavish dependency towards an elite US. Americans should learn that their politicians - either Democrat or Republican - extend the same policy to their own lower and middle classes: crush any progressive political ideas out of them, reduce them to chaos and create unwanted dependency towards the U.S. elite.

Many people are not as naive as they were one year ago, but at quite a cost. Some others are actually excited to hear the Democratic plan to "win" the mid-term elections of 2022, and all the hopeful changes that are surely coming.

Ramin Mazaheri is the chief correspondent in Paris for Press TV.

Yemeni forces penetrate Saudi-backed militants' last defense lines in Ma'rib

The Yemeni army and allied fighters from popular committees have achieved a "key military breakthrough" in Ma'rib, penetrating "the last defense lines" of Saudi-backed militants in the northern part of the province.

Lebanon's al-Akhbar news website cited informed sources as saying that the Yemeni troops launched a surprise attack from eastern al-Jawf Province, reaching the desert areas in northern Ma'rib Province.

According to the report, the Yemeni forces penetrated the last defensive lines of militants loyal to former president Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi in the vast desert front, approaching the border between the provinces of Ma'rib and Hadhramaut.

The sources said the operation, which was launched from al-Khanjar camp in al-Jawf, resulted in the recapture of vast areas in al-Rowaik, which lies 15 kilometers away from the border between Ma'rib and Hadhramaut, east of the oil region of Safer.

The sources stressed that the Yemeni forces "achieved a significant military breakthrough that would enable them to cut the last supply lines" of the pro-Hadi militants who are present

in northern Ma'rib City.

Ma'rib has turned into a focus of the Yemeni army's liberation operations since last year.

The province's recapture, towards which many advancements have been made so far, is expected to pave the way for further military victories for Yemen's forces.

Saudi Arabia on Saturday intensified its airstrikes on the strategic province of Ma'rib in a bid to undermine the Yemeni troops' achievements.

Last month, Yemen's Defense Minister Mohammad al-Atefi said the capture of Ma'rib City is "a matter of time". He also stated that the Saudi-led aggression on Yemen has already been defeated and that the aggressors have no choice but to admit defeat.

Saudi Arabia, backed by the US and regional allies, launched the war on Yemen in March 2015, with the goal of bringing the government of former president Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi back to power and crushing the Ansarullah movement.

The Saudi war has left hundreds of thousands of Yemenis dead, and displaced millions more. It has also destroyed Yemen's infrastructure and spread famine and infectious diseases.



In the meantime, Yemeni armed forces and the popular committees have grown steadily in strength against the Saudi-led invaders and left Riyadh and its allies bogged down in the country.

Eco-lodges under construction in Ardabil

TEHRAN – A total of six eco-lodge units are currently under construction across the northwestern province of Ardabil, the provincial tourism chief announced on Monday.

An investment value of 238 billion rials (about \$5.7 million at the official exchange rate of 42,000 rials per dollar) has been channeled into the projects, Nader Fallahi said.

An initiative for the prosperity of the tourism industry in the province is to boost the number of eco-lodges, the official added.

The mentioned eco-lodges will add 44 rooms and 127 beds to the hospitality sector of the rural areas of the province, he noted.

The projects are expected to generate over 50 job opportunities upon their completion, he explained.

By promoting eco-tourism, rural areas can attract more tourists, and reverse migration could be triggered in the region, he mentioned.

Back in January, the official announced that more than 150 tourism-related projects are underway across the northwestern province. The mentioned projects will prepare the province's tourism sector for the post-coronavirus era when the number of tourists and travelers is expected to rise magnificently, the official added.

In July, a local tourism official announced that some 835 jobs are expected to be created in Ardabil by several investments in tourism-related projects, which are estimated to get off the ground by the end of the current Iranian year 1400 (ends in March 2022).

In April, tourism authorities of the province announced that they have developed extensive plans to draw more tourists during the winter season to the



province and make it the winter tourism hub of the country.

In December 2019, Fallahi announced that seventeen tourism projects, worth 1,500 billion rials (some \$35 million) would be inaugurated in the province in near future. He said that the objective to launch tourism projects in the province is to provide tourists from all over the world and domestic tourists as well with the opportunity to use these facilities and select Ardabil as their prime destination.

Last year, former Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Minister Ali-Asghar Mounesan said that investment in the tourism sector and boosting tourism infrastructure has not stopped despite the outbreak of the coronavirus in the country.

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

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

Police arrest illegal diggers in Golestan



TEHRAN – Iranian police have recently arrested three illegal excavators and antique smugglers in the historical texture of Gorgan, the capital of northern Golestan province, previously known as Astarabad, CHTN reported on Monday.

The accused people were traced and finally arrested after police received reports from cultural heritage aficionados about their misdeeds, said Seyyed Faramarz Mir, a senior police official in charge of protecting cultural heritage.

The culprits were handed over to the judicial system for further investigation, the official added.

Astarabad is situated along a small

tributary of the Qareh River, 37 kilometers from the Caspian Sea. The city, which was prosperous during the Achaemenid era (c. 550 – 330 BC), for long suffered from inroads of the Turkmen tribes who occupied the plain north of the Qareh River and were subjected to incessant Qajar-Turkmen tribal conflicts in the 19th century according to the Encyclopedia Britannica.

It was renamed Gorgan in the 1930s after being devastated by a massive earthquake. In modern times the plain around Gorgan has become a flourishing granary.

Golestan is reportedly embracing some 2,500 historical and natural sites, with UNESCO-registered Gonbad-e Qabus – a one-millennium-old brick tower – amongst its most famous.

Narratives say the tower has influenced various subsequent designers of tomb towers and other cylindrical commemorative structures both in the region and beyond. The UNESCO comments that the tower bears testimony to the cultural exchange between Central Asian nomads and the ancient civilization of Iran.

western wings, each having two small rooms, while the south side of the building has a hall, the official added.

The historical structure was inscribed on the national heritage list in 2003.

In July 2017, the historical structure of the city of Yazd was named a UNESCO World Heritage. Wedged between the northern Dasht-e Kavir and the southern Dasht-e Lut on a flat plain, the oasis city enjoys a very harmonious public-religious



architecture that dates from different eras.

Yazd is usually referred to as

Restoration work begins on Semnan's Shah Abbasi caravanserai

From page 1 ► Back in February, the historical inn was finally handed over to Semnan's municipality after being used as a prison for over 40 years.

The Shah-Abbasi caravanserai, which was inscribed on the National Heritage list in 1973, is planned to be repurposed to a cultural center after being fully restored.

The monument was set free after the demolition of the surrounding fences and high walls, which was took place after obtaining the necessary permits and transferring inmates to a new prison.

The mud-brick structure is named after Shah Abbas the Great (r. 1588 – 1629), who ordered the construction of such roadside inns across the country.

In August, former Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Minister Ali-Asghar Mounesan announced that Semnan municipality was ready to purchase the

historical monument and turn it into a tourist complex.

“Using a historical structure as a prison is not that interesting and turning it into a cultural center could boost tourism in the region and attract more travelers.”

The main population centers of Semnan province lie along the ancient Silk Road (and modern-day Imam Reza Expressway), linking Rey (Tehran) with Khorasan (Mashhad). While few visitors spend much time in the area, driving through you can easily seek out several well-preserved caravanserais (notably Dehnamak and Ahowan), cisterns (the Cafe Abenbar in Garmsar is a special treat), and ruined mud citadels (Padeh is lumpy but fascinating). The large, bustling cities of Semnan, Damghan, and Shahrud (Bastam) all have a small selection of historic buildings and Semnan has a fine old covered bazaar.

UNESCO tag

Iran has put forward a selection



of 56 caravansaries as a candidate for a collective inclusion in UNESCO's cultural heritage list.

Last year, the tourism ministry announced that Iran is developing a dossier for a selection of its historical caravanserais for a possible inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage list. In this regard, cultural heritage experts are assessing such monuments that are scattered across the country to make a shortlist in terms of their architecture, historical and cultural values.

Caravansary (also Caravanserai or Caravansaray) is a building that served as the inn of the Orient, providing accommodation for commercial, pilgrim, postal, and especially official travelers.

According to Encyclopedia Iranica, from the number of surviving caravansaries and their sizes, it is clear that in Safavid and Qajar times there was a state architectural department that was specifically concerned with the construction of caravansaries and stations on

the overland routes. Furthermore, in the cities, several caravansaries were erected as lodging houses, depots, and commercial offices in the vicinity of the bazaars.

A typical caravansary consists of a square or rectangular plan centered around a courtyard with only one entrance and arrangements for defense if necessary. Whether fortified or not, it at least provided security against beasts of prey and attacks by brigands.

Iran's earliest caravanserais were built during the Achaemenid era (550 –330 BC). Centuries later, when Shah Abbas I assumed power from 1588 – to 1629, he ordered the construction of network caravanserais across the country.

Such roadside inns were originally built during various epochs along ancient caravan routes in the Muslim world to shelter people, their goods, and animals. The former Silk Roads may be the most famous example dotted by caravanserais.

Traditional craft of coppersmithing to be revived in Hamedan

TEHRAN – Traditional handicraft field of coppersmithing, which had been almost fallen into oblivion, is planned to be revived in the west-central Hamedan province, the deputy provincial tourism chief has announced.

With support for local workshops and training new crafters in this field, the forgotten handicraft field will be brought back to life, Hashem Mazaheri said on Monday.

Copper was originally used to make decorative pins, beads, headbands, mirrors, and defensive tools like swords, daggers, and knives, all of which have been discovered at the ancient Hegmataneh Hill in Hamedan, the official added.

Known in classical times as Ecbatana, Hamedan was one of the ancient world's greatest cities. Pitifully little remains from antiquity, but significant parts of the city center are given over to excavations. Ecbatana was the capital of Media and subsequently a summer residence of the Achaemenian kings who ruled Persia from 553 to 330 BC.

Hamadan has had many names: it was possibly the Bit Daiukki of the Assyrians, Hangmatana, or Agbatana, to the Medes, and Ecbatana to the Greeks. One of the Median capitals, under Cyrus II (the Great; died 529 BC) and later Achaemenian rulers, it was the site of a royal summer palace.

About 1220 Hamedan was destroyed by the Mongols. In 1386 it was sacked by Timur (Tamerlane), a Turkic conqueror, and the inhabitants were massacred. It was partly restored in the 17th century and subsequently changed hands often between Iranian ruling houses and the Ottomans.

Sitting on a high plain, Hamedan is gracefully cool in August but snow prone and freezing from December to March. In summer the air is often hazy.

Ali Sadr cave, Ganjnameh inscriptions, Avicenna Mausoleum, Hegmataneh hill, Alaviyan dome, Jameh mosque, and St. Stephanos Gregorian Church are amongst Hamedan's



attractions to name a few.

Glimpse of coppersmithing in Iran

Coppersmithing is one of the ancient handicrafts in Iran, which was practiced between the 6th and 7th millennium BC, however, the culmination of the art dates back to the Safavid era (1501-1736), when using copper dishes and objects has been popular among people.

The archeological evidence discovered at Tepe Sialk and other mining localities such as Talmesi and Anarak, and Tall-e Eblis indicates that several of the earliest sites of copper extraction were located in Iran.

During the 5th and 4th millennia BC in Iran, craftsmen were able to create enough heat to reach temperatures required for the melting of most of the then known raw materials, and thus extract metals.

On top of that copper-smelting techniques became well known in various parts of Iran in this period. With the advancement of the knowledge of metallurgy in the Achaemenid era, finely crafted copper and bronze objects were created, continuing through ancient times.

Although copper is mentioned in geographical texts much less often than precious metals, it appears to have been mined over wide areas of Persia in early Islamic times.

Objects apparently made of unalloyed copper survive in very small quantities from

early Islamic times. The general rarity of early Islamic copper objects is probably because they were normally purely utilitarian, beaten out of sheet copper, and left undecorated for town or village use; they would have been melted down and reworked when old.

In the 15th century, however, decorated objects made of tinned copper became common. The reasons for this change are unclear but may have been related to the gradual dwindling of interest in inlaid base metals and the return to precious metals for luxury objects.

Under the Safavids, tinned copper seems to have been common throughout Persia, whence the taste spread to Mughal India. The designs on most Safavid tinned-copper objects seem to have been derived from the Timurid tradition, rather than that of the Turkman dynasties, though some are related in style to Safavid painting. For example, a group of objects with figural decoration has been linked to western Persia in the second quarter of the 17th century.

Wide-ranging handicrafts

With 14 entries, Iran ranks first globally for the number of cities and villages registered by the World Crafts Council, as China with seven entries, Chile with four, and India with three ones come next.

The Islamic Republic exported \$427 million worth of handicrafts during the first eleven months of the calendar year 1398. Of the figure, some \$190 million was earned via suitcase trade (allowed for customs-free and tax-free transfer) through 20 provinces, according to data compiled by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts.

Ceramics, pottery vessels, handwoven cloths as well as personal ornamentations with precious and semi-precious gemstones are traditionally exported to Iraq, Afghanistan, Germany, the U.S., the UK, and other countries.

Restoration work completed on Qajar mansion in Yazd

TEHRAN – A restoration project has recently been completed on the Qajar-era (1789-1925) Pakdel Mansion in the central province of Yazd, the provincial tourism chief has announced.

The project involved repairing worn-out plasterworks as well as strengthening the walls and rooftop, Mohammadreza Falahati said on Sunday.

Located in the historical texture of Yazd, the mansion has a central courtyard and two eastern and

western wings, each having two small rooms, while the south side of the building has a hall, the official added.

The historical structure was inscribed on the national heritage list in 2003.

In July 2017, the historical structure of the city of Yazd was named a UNESCO World Heritage. Wedged between the northern Dasht-e Kavir and the southern Dasht-e Lut on a flat plain, the oasis city enjoys a very harmonious public-religious



architecture that dates from different eras.

Yazd is usually referred to as

a delightful place to stay, or a “don't miss” destination by almost all of its visitors. The city is full of mudbrick houses that are equipped with innovative badgirs (wind catchers), atmospheric alleyways, and many Islamic and Iranian monuments that shape its eye-catching city landscape.

It is a living testimony to the intelligent use of limited available resources in the desert for survival. Water is brought to the city by the qanat system. Each district of

the city is built on a qanat and has a communal center.

The use of earth in buildings includes walls and roofs by the construction of vaults and domes. Houses are built with courtyards below ground level, serving underground areas. Wind-catchers, courtyards, and thick earthen walls create a pleasant microclimate.

Partially covered alleyways together with streets, public squares and courtyards contribute to a

pleasant urban quality. The city escaped the modernization trends that destroyed many traditional earthen cities.

The oasis city survives today with its traditional districts, the qanat system, traditional houses, bazaars, hammams, water cisterns, mosques, synagogues, Zoroastrian temples, and the historic garden of Dolat-Abad. The city enjoys the peaceful coexistence of three religions: Islam, Judaism, and Zoroastrianism.

55% of Iranians don't get enough exercise: study

TEHRAN – Results of a national study have revealed that some 55 percent of people are not engaging in the recommended physical activity, and more than 90 percent are sedentary.

The study conducted on more than 30,000 adults aged 18 to 70 across the country for examining their level of physical activity showed that 90 percent of the population of Iran are “sedentary” and their physical activity is at a low level.

The article entitled “Physical activity profile of the Iranian population: STEPS survey” was published in BMC Public Health journal in 2019.

Low physical activity is 150 minutes of moderate physical activity or 75 minutes of intense physical activity per week, which is seen in 96 percent of women and 84 percent of men in Iran.

The physical activity below the “low” level (less than 150 minutes of moderate physical activity or 75 minutes of intense physical activity per week) is considered “insufficient” physical activity. Fifty-five percent



of Iran's population is inadequately physically active.

The prevalence of insufficient physical activity (IPA) in women is 62 percent, which is significantly higher than men (45 percent).

Being a woman, being a housewife, being young, living in urban areas are significantly associated with “higher levels of IPA.”

Moreover, low consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables, using private cars and developing diabetes is also significantly associated with

insufficient physical activity.

IPA is one of the leading causes of premature mortality through the increased burden of non-communicable diseases. From 1990 to 2017, the percentage of low physical activity attributable disability-adjusted life years (DALY) increased globally by 1.5 times and 2-fold in Iran, causing more than 12 million deaths worldwide and 18,000 deaths in Iran in 2017.

Reports suggest that Iran, a developing middle-income country, suffers from a high level of IPA. Socioeco-

nomie and cultural alterations along with the country's developments expose the population to IPA risk.

According to the World Health Organization, insufficient physical activity is one of the leading risk factors for global mortality, which is on the rise in many countries, adding to the burden of NCDs and affecting general health worldwide. People who are insufficiently active have a 20 percent to 30 percent increased risk of death compared to people who are sufficiently active.

The prevalence of insufficient physical activity (IPA) in women is 62 percent, which is significantly higher than men (45 percent).

“Mother of Iran's environment” dies at 104

TEHRAN – Mahlaqa Mallah, known as the “mother of Iran's environment” for dedicating her life to protecting the environment, passed away at the age of 104 on Monday.

Mallah was born on September 21, 1917, in a caravanserai close to Now Kandeh, whilst her parents were traveling to Mashhad on a pilgrimage. Her mother and her grandmother were both women's rights activists in Iran. Her father, Aqabozorg Mallah, worked for the government and lived in several cities.

After studying philosophy, social sciences, and sociology at the University of Tehran, Mallah was awarded an MA in Social Sciences in 1958. In 1966, she moved to Paris to study for a Ph.D. at the University of the Sorbonne, which she graduated from in 1968. During her time in Paris, she also studied librarianship at the National Library of France.

After graduation, Mallah returned to Iran and began work as a librarian at the Psychology Research



Institute Library at Tehran University.

Mallah's interest in environmental activism was fostered growing up, as her mother, Khadijeh Afzal Vaziri, was an environmentalist too. However, her interest grew when she was working as a librarian and, in 1973, read a book on pollution in order to understand how to catalog it.

After Mallah retired in 1977, she began work re-

searching pollution in Tehran and started by visiting houses to talk to people about pollution and other environmental issues.

She founded the organization of the Women's Society Against Environmental Pollution, which was the first non-governmental environmental organization in Iran.

It has branches in 14 Iranian cities and has enabled over 25,000 families to recycle. In 2011 it was reputedly the most popular environmental group in the country.

In 2009 the Society published a report entitled “Water Rights” and stressed the urgent need for the conservation of wetland habitats in Iran.

In 2015 the documentary All My Trees featured Mallah's life story and was directed by Rakhshan Banietemad. As a result of her activities, Mallah has become known as the “Mother of Iran's Environment”.

Swedish envoy, UNDP rep visit rural women businesses

TEHRAN –Swedish Ambassador to Iran, Mattias Lentz, and UNDP Representative in Tehran, Claudio Providas, visited the employment projects launched for female heads of households in villages of Boroujerd city, western Iran.

On Monday, the officials visited workshops on sewing, producing pickles, dried fruits, jams, and bakeries for rural women heads of households set up with the support of the United Nations, IRNA reported.

The United Nations Development Program provides employment for rural women in the agricultural sector, and purchases some of the items needed by the sector, and provides them to rural women heads of households.

In Iran, there are 3 million women-headed households, out of a total of 22 million families,

and most of the women breadwinners can be found in less developed areas of the country, according to the UNDP office in Iran.

Budget for women breadwinners up 50%

The budget for women and family affairs in the national budget bill for the current calendar year (starting on March 20), is equivalent to 37 trillion rials (nearly \$880 million at the official rate of 42,000 rials).

Female-headed households' share of the national budget accounts for 23 percent of the total credits for women and the family.

Supporting women heads of households in the form of insurance, services, and social support is another important issue, which accounts for 25 percent of the budget, which has grown by about 50 percent.

Health Ministry to promote Iranian traditional medicine

From page 1 ► Pointing out that over 100 clinical trials have been conducted and the results have been extracted, she stated that some researchers sought to obtain licenses for natural products to treat COVID-19; At present, 17 natural products have been licensed and 9 have been produced and entered the pharmaceutical market.

Earlier in September, Hosseini Yekta said that the instructions for the use of Iranian traditional medicine to treat COVID-19 have been prepared.

Simple instructions that help patients along with the treatments available in conventional medicine. Many of the contents of this guideline were also subjected to clinical trials, which clearly had a positive effect on the symptoms and duration of hospitalization of patients compared to the control group.

Scientists are trying to play a role in the production of effective medicine in the treatment of various diseases, including COVID-19, despite sanctions and global pressures.

Alireza Abbassian the health ministry's director of the traditional medicine department, said in March that Iranian traditional medicine can play an effective role in strengthening the immune system to resist the novel coronavirus infection.

Moreover, a center offering traditional medicine services to coronavirus patients was inaugurated in Tehran's Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences in November 2020.

Iranian traditional medicine is one of the most ancient forms of traditional medicine. It is grounded in the concept of four senses of humor: phlegm (Balgham), blood (Dam), yellow bile (Safra), and black bile (Saada). The concept of four senses of



humor is based on the teachings of Rhazes and Avicenna into an elaborate medical system.

Iranian traditional medicine strongly focuses on prioritizing health maintenance and disease prevention over treatment.

8,000 herbal species grow in Iran

So far, about 30,000 plant species are identified in the world, with Iran's share of about 8,000 species that its plant diversity is more than the whole of Europe.

Currently, about 2,300 species of medicinal plants have been identified in the country; while medicinal plants account for one-third of the medicines used in human societies, the share of world trade in these products is about \$124 billion and Iran's share is \$570 million, which is only 0.5 percent of the total.

The per capita consumption of medicinal plants in Iran is about one kilogram of dried plants, in other words, 83,000 tons of medicinal plants worth 1.2 trillion rials (around \$29 million at the official rate of 42,000 rials) are consumed in the country, while in Europe this amount is 900 grams and in the United States is 2.5 kilograms.

Few willing to change lifestyle to save the planet, climate survey finds

Citizens are alarmed by the climate crisis, but most believe they are already doing more to preserve the planet than anyone else, including their government, and few are willing to make significant lifestyle changes, an international survey has found.

“The widespread awareness of the importance of the climate crisis illustrated in this study has yet to be coupled with a proportionate willingness to act,” the survey of 10 countries including the US, UK, France and Germany, observed.

Emmanuel Riviere, director of international polling at Kantar Public, said the survey, carried out in late September and published to coincide with the Cop26 climate conference in Glasgow, contained “a double lesson for governments”.

They have, first, “to measure up to people's expectations,” Riviere said. “But they also have to persuade people not of the reality of the climate crisis – that's done – but of what the solutions are, and of how we can fairly share responsibility for them.”

The survey found that 62% of people surveyed saw the climate crisis as the main environmental challenge the world was now facing, ahead of air pollution (39%), the impact of waste (38%) and new diseases (36%).

But when asked to rate their individual action against others' such as governments, business

and the media, people generally saw themselves as much more committed to the environment than others in their local community, or any institution.

About 36% rated themselves “highly committed” to preserving the planet, while only 21% felt the same was true of the media and 19% of local government. A mere 18% felt their local community was equally committed, with national governments (17%) and big corporations (13%) seen as even less engaged.

Respondents were also lukewarm about doing more themselves, citing a wide range of reasons. Most (76%) of those surveyed across the 10 countries said they would accept stricter environmental rules and regulations, but almost half (46%) felt that there was no real need for them to change their personal habits.

Only 51% said they would definitely take individual climate action, with 14% saying they would definitely not and 35% torn. People in Poland and Singapore (56%) were the most willing to act, and in Germany (44%) and the Netherlands (37%) the least.

The most common reasons given for not being willing to do more for the planet were “I feel proud of what I am currently doing” (74%), “There isn't agreement among experts on the best solutions” (72%), and “I need more resources and equipment from public authorities” (69%).

COVID-19 UPDATES ON NOVEMBER 8

New cases	8,341
New deaths	140
Total cases	5,996,155
Total deaths	127,439
New hospitalized patients	1,164
Patients in critical condition	3,669
Total recovered patients	5,515,460
Diagnostic tests conducted	36,391,778
Doses of vaccine injected	94,984,387

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Smugglers of fuel, livestock fined \$570m

Smugglers of fuel and livestock have been fined 24 trillion rials (about \$570 million at the official rate of 42,000 rials) since the beginning of the current [Iranian calendar] year (March 21).

The figure represents a 47 percent increase compared to the same period last [Iranian calendar] year. Out of a total of about 42,000 smuggling cases, about 28,000 are related to export smuggling, of which 20,000 are related to the smuggling of fuel and petroleum products, mostly to Pakistan and Afghanistan, and to a lesser extent to Turkey and Iraq.

A number of these cases are related to livestock trafficking. Most of the cattle are smuggled to Iraq, and then to the Persian Gulf countries.

جریمه ۲۴ هزار میلیارد ریالی قاچاقچیان سوخت و دام

متخلفان قاچاق کالا از ابتدای سال جاری ۲۴ هزار میلیارد ریال جریمه شده‌اند که بیانگر ۴۷ درصد افزایش نسبت به سال گذشته است.

به از مجموع حدود ۴۲ هزار پرونده ی قاچاق، حدود ۲۸ هزار پرونده مربوط به قاچاق خروجی است که ۲۰ هزار فقره آن به قاچاق سوخت و فراورده‌های نفتی مربوط می‌شود که بیشتر به پاکستان و افغانستان و کمی هم ترکیه و عراق انجام می‌شود.

تعدادی از این پرونده‌ها هم مربوط به قاچاق دام است. بیشتر قاچاق دام به عراق انجام می‌شود و البته این دام‌ها از عراق به کشورهای خلیج فارس هم می‌رود.

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NOVEMBER 9, 2021

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

A fool's mind is at the mercy of his tongue and a wise man's tongue is under the control of his mind.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon:11:48 Evening: 17:20 Dawn: 5:09 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:35 (tomorrow)

Persian music history: ca. 650 to 1370 CE

Part 7

Bukhara was known for a musical style of its own, including amazing songs (sorudha-ye ajib) about the mythical Kayanid prince Siavosh, and traditional dirges transformed into songs of art music.

Ebn Zayla distinguished between a Khorasanian style of dastan singing and another one from Esfahan and lists some (distorted) names of ravashin and dastanat. A verse of a dastan and of a tariqa could be followed by a special formula called naghma.

Sorud was a more general term, comparable to the Arabic sawt. The early taraneh was a light song. Later it became a part of the nawba.

The name of another musical form, ghazal, was borrowed from the poetical form bearing the same name. The musical ghazal was equated in the Qabusnameh with a 'song without meter' (taraneh bi-wazn). Later it was also included in the nawba.

A style of its own "unrivaled in the seven climates" with songs for all occasions "that pleased Iranians and Arabs" was attributed to Esfahan by the 11th-century Mofazzal ibn Sad Mafarrukhi.

Quatrains from Transoxania (do-baytiha-ye ma wara al-nahri) were regarded as martial songs by Onsor al-Maali Kaykavus. Virtuositic instrumental pieces, called ravashin, "which the human voice cannot imitate," were considered characteristic of the local style of Khorasan by Abu Nasr Farabi.

Ebn Zayla knew of both instrumental and vocal ravashin: The latter were mainly melismatic and not subjected to a strict musical meter.

Lullabies in Persian (lalai) and in Turkish (nenni, ninni) are alluded to in a satirical poem by Suzani Samarqandi (d. 1174). The musical form khosravani was transformed into a melodic mode in 11th century Egypt and in Muslim Spain, where it led to a scordatura of the lowest string of the lute (tanj).

The Egyptian musician Ebn al-Tahhan (d. after 1057) corrected this concept by explaining the original meaning of the term as he understood it: "Some [musicians] perform the khosravani in [the meter] ramal and [the melodic mode] moallaq with certain strings being lowered... But this is not khosravani.

The real khosravani is a Persian way (tariqa) with many periods (adwar) and beats (naqarat) that branch out from one species (nav) to another. Its [correct] metrical form can only be [mastered] on the Persian lutes (idan ajamiya) with their slim necks (daqiqat al-anaq) on which the thumb performs an unusual and admirable movement".

A few patterns of tariqa and sawt melodies were set down by Ormavi in a traditional notation by writing the pitch of the notes in letters and their length in numbers. His successor Qotb ad-Din Shirazi followed him by writing down a qawl composition by Ormavi in a much more elaborated, score-like way that he called "fixing of melodies".

Kaykavus's text about the metric system of Persian music describes the traditional "sequence of performing music" (nawbati-e motrebi) for an audience: It begins with "heavy" songs and ends with "light" songs to satisfy any listener belonging to the three above groups. This was first testified to in early Abbasid court music and later led to the four-part musical form called nawba or nawba-ye morattab (composite suite).

Comparable with the development of the metric and modal systems between ca. 1000 and 1200, the nawba-ye morattab was also a result of the Irano-Arab symbiosis and was fully developed in the 13th century at the latest.

The texts and musical indications of some nawba compositions by Safi ad-Din Ormavi and his contemporaries and students are recorded in the 10th volume of the Masalek

al-absar by Ebn Fazl-Allah Omari (d. 1349), which is devoted to music and musicians.

In its standard form the nawba consisted of four parts performed in the same melodic mode and meter, first a qawl, sung using Arabic verses, then a ghazal, using Persian verses, followed by a taraneh in the meter robai and by a final forudasht that returned to the form of the initial qawl.

The different parts of the nawba, which were also performed and transmitted independently, were analyzed in detail by Owen Wright (1992), based on later Irano-Turkish song text collections. Descriptions of the nawba in theoretical writings were collected and interpreted by Angelika Jung.

Dance

Among the different kinds of dance (raqs) mentioned in the sources, the name dastband that alludes to a Persian dance is mentioned by Abul Faraj Esfahani, in the Rasaal-e Ekhwan al-Safa, and by Ebn Zayla.

Ahmad ibn Mohammad Maydani (d. 1137) who, in his Persian-Arabic dictionary, lists also chup-bazi among the names of dances and games, explains the word dastband as "a kind of dance in which one holds the other by the hand," and he gives the word fanzaj (cf. the Spanish fandango) as its Arabic equivalent.

Mostly female dancers are depicted in the iconographic testimonies that have survived since Sassanid times, and dance is mentioned as an essential part of courtly and urban entertainment in many instances.

It was cultivated at the Abbasid court in Baghdad and certainly also at the local courts in Iran. Khorasan was well known for its dances. When Bukhara was taken by Genghis Khan he "sent for the female singers of the town to sing and to dance for him, whilst the Mongols raised their voices to the melodies of their own songs".

Sama

The dance of Sufi orders played an important part in the local dancing culture as did their inclination for singing and instrumental music (sama) in general.

The art of pirouette (charkhidan), which is cultivated in the traditional Persian gymnasiums (zurkhaneh) up to the present, may well have been part of the dance repertoire of Khorasan at the beginning of the 13th century when Jalal ad-Din Mohammad Rumi (d. 1273), who later founded the order of the Mawlawiya or "whirling dervishes" in Konya, grew up in Balkh.

From the 9th century on a particular genre of literature written in favor of or against musical activities accompanied the music history in Iran as in the other Muslim countries.

A positive landmark was the translation, made in 1223, of the moderate music chapter of Ehya olum al-din by Abu Hamed Mohammad Ghazali (d. 1111) into Persian, followed by the likewise moderate Awaref al-maaref by Shahab ad-Din Sohrevardi (b. 1145, d. 1234?) and its abbreviated Persian translation Mesbah al-hedaya by Ezz ad-Din Mahmud Kashani (d. 1335.

Military and ceremonial bands

From the 10th century onwards, court military and ceremonial bands (nawbat, mehtar) became one of the insignia of local rulers in Iran as in other parts of the Islamic world.

They played at the daily prayer times, at other official occasions, and during warfare (Farmer, Tabl Khaneh). The bands are depicted on miniatures, their employment was recorded by historians, and some of their instruments were later described by Ebn Ghaybi Maraghi.

The importance of the ruler's band was stressed by splendid craftsmanship. So the kettledrums in the nawbat of the powerful Kharazmshah Ala ad-Din Mohammad (r. 1200-20) were adorned with silver and gold.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica

Concluded

“Walnut Tree”, “Drown” win awards at Asian Film Festival Barcelona

TEHRAN – Iranian movies “Walnut Tree” and “Drown” have received awards at the Asian Film Festival Barcelona in Spain.

Both films were screened in the Special Section of the festival as the winners were honored on Sunday.

The award for best film in this category was given to “Walnut Tree”, which also brought Mohammad-Hossein Mahdavian the best director award.

The film is based on true events that took place in 1987. Sardasht, a Kurdish city on the Iran-Iraq border, along with several villages in the surrounding areas are attacked with chemical weapons by Iraqi forces. Qader, a villager from the area and his pregnant wife, as well as his three young children, are exposed to the chemicals and suffer injuries. The situation in the village and surrounding cities is chaotic. Qader must singlehandedly try to keep his family alive.

Co-written by director Mohammad Kart and Hossein Dumari and



A scene from “Walnut Tree” by Iranian director Mohammad-Hossein Mahdavian.

Pedram Puramiri, “Drown” won the award for best screenplay.

After leaking a video of her class in a women-only swimming pool, Parvaneh is brutally murdered by her husband, Hashem, who seeks

a way to redeem his reputation and dignity as the godfather in the

neighborhood. Hashem's brother, Hojat, embarks on a journey into the labyrinths of the underworld in Tehran to find out who is responsible for this dirty game. Once wrongfully accused of smuggling drugs, he returns to the world of crime to trace his brother's rivals.

Film editor Hayedeh Safiyari on panel of Tallinn Black Nights festival

TEHRAN – Iranian film editor Hayedeh Safiyari has been selected as a member of a jury that will judge debut features at the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival in Estonia.

She is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and is best known for her long-time collaborations with Iranian director Asghar Farhadi, whose “A Separation” and “The Salesman” have received the Oscar for the best foreign-language film.

She has edited over 90 feature fiction films and several documentaries in her career spanning thirty years.

Most of the editing she has done has been for world-renowned filmmakers such as Bahram Beizai, Reza Dormishian and Mani Haqiqi.

Guatemalan director and producer Jayro Bustamante is the president of the First Feature Competition jury at the Tallinn Black Nights, which will be running from November 12 to 28.

Icelander filmmaker Elfar Adalsteins, Bangladeshi director Mostofa Sarwar Farooki and producer and distributor Paul Thiltges from

Luxembourg are other members of the jury.

“Hit the Road” by Panah Panahi is the sole Iranian movie competing in the category.

It is about a chaotic, tender family, which is on a road trip across a rugged landscape, but to where? In the back seat, Dad has a broken leg, but is it really broken? Mom tries to laugh when she's not holding back tears. The kid keeps exploding into choreographed car karaoke. All of them are fussing over the sick dog and getting on each other's nerves. Only the mysterious older brother is quiet.

In addition, the Iranian drama “Killing the Eunuch Khan”, written and directed by Abed Abest, will be screened in the official competition.

In this film, set during the war between Iran and Iraq, a father lives with his two daughters in a big, strangely haunted house in an almost deserted city near the border.

One day, he leaves the girls at home alone in order to participate in a funeral ceremony. That same day, the city is struck by a bombing raid, and a bomb falls in his garden. From that point on, some sort of ghostly vibration unhinges his own reality,

Iranian Film Festival of Chantilly honors “Mehran”, “Old Men Never Die”, “African Violet”

TEHRAN – “Mehran”, “Old Men Never Die” and “African Violet” were the winners of the first edition of the Iranian Film Festival of Chantilly (IFFC).

The festival took place in the northern French town from November 4 to 7, while “Mehran” received the Sorbonne Prize during the closing ceremony at Elysée Cinema.

Directed by Roqieh Tavakkoli, the film follows a family from Mehran, a small town near the border of Iran and Iraq, which moves to Yazd after the 1980s Iran-Iraq war breaks out.

Director Reza Jamali's “Old Men Never Die” won the special jury prize.

“Thank God, it was a great honor to attend the festival along with the young members of my crew,” said Jamali after receiving his award.

The film is about 100-year-old Aslan, the head of a death squad in his youth, who lives with



Director Reza Jamali (C) accepts the special jury prize for his film “Old Men Never Die” during the 1st Iranian Film Festival of Chantilly in France on November 7, 2021. (IFFC)

his other single old fellows in a remote village. Since he came to the village 45 years ago, nobody has ever died there! Now, most of the population consists of old and disabled men. All being done with life, they believe the only way to bring death back to the village is to commit suicide!

“African Violet” by Mona Zandi-Haqiqi won the audience award.

“Winning an audience award is a great honor for every filmmaker,”

Zandi-Haqiqi said and added, “The movies I saw at this festival were really amazing and there was little difference in the number of audience votes for each film.”

“Organizing such a program based on cultural ties regardless of political considerations can help to foster relations among countries,” she noted.

“African Violet” tells the story of a middle-aged Shokuh who finds out that her ex-husband, Fereidun,

has been placed in a nursing home by their children.

She, and her second husband Reza, decide to take care of Fereidun themselves, but in their own home. In doing so, the relationship between Shokuh and Fereidun is significantly transformed. This new situation affects Reza and Shokuh's daily life and unexpected changes take place in the lives of all three characters.

A jury composed of French Cinémathèque Managing Director Frédéric Bonnaud, French Film Editor-in-Chief Sarah Drouhaud, French producer Marie Masmonteil, France Télévisions Group General Secretary Christophe Tardieu and Iranian director Abolfazl Jalili judged the films.

The festival is organized by the Municipality of Chantilly, in partnership with several institutes, including Fondation d'Aumale and the Franco-Iranian Center.

“The Sailor Who Fell from Grace with the Sea” published in Persian

TEHRAN – Japanese writer Yukio Mishima's 1963 novel “The Sailor Who Fell from Grace with the Sea” has been published in Persian.

Rendered into Persian by Maryam Rezai, the novel has been released by the Sang Publishing House.

“The Sailor Who Fell from Grace with the Sea” tells the tale of a band of savage thirteen-year-old boys who reject the adult world as illusory, hypocritical and sentimental, and train themselves in a brutal callousness they call “objectivity”.

When the mother of one of them begins an affair with a ship's officer, he and his friends idealize the man at first; but it is not long before they conclude that he is in fact soft and romantic. They regard their disappointment in him as an act of betrayal on his part and react violently.

Mishima was born in Tokyo in 1925. He graduated from Tokyo Imperial University's School

of Jurisprudence in 1947.

His first published book, “The Forest in Full Bloom”, appeared in 1944 and he established himself as a major author with “Confessions of a Mask” published in 1949.

From then until his death, he continued to publish novels, short stories and plays each year.

His crowning achievement, the Sea of Fertility tetralogy, which contains the novels “Spring Snow”, “Runaway Horses”, “The Temple of Dawn” and “The Decay of the Angel”, is considered one of the definitive works of twentieth-century Japanese fiction.

In 1970, at the age of forty-five and the day after completing the last novel in the Fertility series, Mishima committed seppuku (ritual suicide), a spectacular death that attracted worldwide attention.