

Insecurity Shadow Over Vienna Talks: Place of Iran Talks Changed Amid Protests Fears

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Report

Disturbing discovery, native dead American kids identified

TEHRAN - The Nebraska Commission in Indian Affairs says researchers have identified more than 100 Indigenous children who died at a notorious government-run boarding school in the Midwestern U.S. state of Nebraska. The search for the remains of the children is ongoing.

Ever since the arrival and colonization of the Americas by Christopher Columbus, white colonists made multiple attempts to eradicate the natives and their culture in the United States and elsewhere. In the U.S., this included a number of wars waged and more recently it has been revealed that for decades, U.S. administrations operated Christian boarding schools with the goal of eradicating indigenous children of their languages and culture, an operation that is strikingly (but perhaps not surprisingly) similar to Canada's residential school system. Ten million natives lived in the U.S. when Columbus arrived and that number today stands in the hundreds of thousands today, instead of what should have been hundreds of millions.

In Canada, abuse, neglect and even rape were rampant at these so-called schools, and the Genoa U.S. Indian Industrial School in Genoa, Nebraska was implementing similar strategies. By using government records, school documents and old newspaper archives the researchers have learned that at least 102 children died there between 1884, the year it first opened, and 1934, when it was shut down. Many of the kids died from diseases such tuberculosis, pneumonia, the flu and heart failure was another common cause of death - all down to medical negligence. ► Page 5

Interview

Regional models of dialogue more helpful for peace: Italian expert

By M. A. Saki

TEHRAN - The director of the online newspaper l'AntiDiplomatico says that regional models of dialogue are more effective.

"I say that regional models of dialogue are the main way to go to achieve peace and stability," Fabrizio Verde tells the Tehran Times.

"The interventions of Western powers, on the contrary, are always harbingers of instability, chaos and war."

Verde believes the Western powers, headed by the U.S., "pursue exclusively their own strategic and geopolitical interests."

U.S. Secretary of Defense, Lloyd J. Austin, visited Bahrain on Friday to participate in the Manama Dialogue hosted by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

The three-day conference brought military and political leaders from the GCC and other countries together to discuss issues relevant to the Persian Gulf region.

Following is the text of the interview

U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin said Saturday at the Manama Dialogue in Bahrain that "America's commitment to security in the Middle East (West Asia) is strong and sure." What does he mean when he says "security"?

As we know, the United States cares little about the security of the Middle East (West Asia). If they really cared about the security of the region, they would not have brought war and destabilization there. ► Page 5



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TEHRAN — After intensive meetings with the Iranian officials, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) director general Raffaele Grossi faced some candid truths, as the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (EEOI) chief Mohammad Eslami said that a pin was

put to all the misunderstandings raised by the IAEA. Eslami noted that the Iran-IAEA case is a technical one.

"The whole issue between Iran and the Agency (IAEA) is a technical one, and the Agency will not take into account or be influ-

enced by the political issues and conspiracy theories of Iran's enemies in Iran's advancing nuclear program." Eslami said in a joint press conference with Grossi who visited Tehran on Monday night. ► Page 2

Iran, Belarus discuss expansion of agricultural ties

TEHRAN- During a meeting between Iranian Agriculture Minister Javad Sadati-Nejad and Belarusian Ambassador to Tehran Dmitry Koltsov on Sunday evening, the two sides explored the ways for the expansion of agricultural cooperation. In the meeting, the Iranian minister stressed that through their joint capabilities, Iran and Belarus can cooperate and work together in the Eurasian region.

Mentioning the impacts of the sanctions,

Sadati-Nejad said, "Iran can use the capacity of fisheries, agriculture, agricultural inputs and agricultural equipment and machinery of Belarus; Iranian farmers were satisfied with the quality of Belarusian potash fertilizer, but under the conditions of sanctions, the import of this fertilizer to Iran was stopped."

The minister stated that the sanctions made it impossible for Iran to meet its needs

in the field of heavy tractors, and expressed hope that these problems would be resolved by developing relations.

The Belarusian ambassador for his part said that Belarus welcomes the development of relations with Iran in the field of agriculture, and the important task of the embassy is to develop economic relations between the two countries. ► Page 4

Iran outpaces Europe in first-dose COVID-19 vaccination

TEHRAN - The national average for the first dose vaccination of people over the age of 12 was 82 percent in Iran, while it was 64 percent in Europe, Mohammad Mehdi Gooya, head of the diseases management center of the Ministry of Health, said.

The national average of the second dose of COVID-19 vaccination for the people aged 12 years and above was 65 percent in Iran; the national average of the first dose of vaccination for 12 to 18 year-olds was 83 percent, he said.

He went on to note that the national average of the second jab for children aged 12-18 years was 54 percent, IRNA reported on Tuesday.

Mobile vaccination clinics should be more active in high-risk areas for high-risk age groups, Gooya stated, adding, ► Page 7



COVIRAN begins clinical trial on children aged 12-18
TEHRAN - COVIRAN Barekat vaccine started phase one and two of the clinical trial on children aged 12-18, IRIB reported on Tuesday.
Made by researchers at the Headquarters for Executing the Order of the Imam, COVIRAN Barekat was unveiled on December 29, 2020, and received the license for public use on June 14. ► Page 7

Hunter-gatherers settled in southern Iranian island, new evidence suggests

TEHRAN - An archaeological investigation on Hormuz Island has found evidence that suggests a community of hunter-gatherers settled in the southern soil in the Middle Paleolithic era.

"A significant amount of stone tools that can be attributed to the Middle Paleolithic period, according to archaeological examinations, have recently been discovered during

a documentation project conducted off the Chand-Derakht("Several-Trees") Beach on Hormuz Island," CHTN quoted Iranian archaeologist Sepehr Zarei as saying on Saturday.

Some of the discovered stone tools, which have been shaped using special techniques, are estimated to date back to the Middle Paleolithic period, said Zarei who led the survey.

"These new findings confirm the presence of Paleolithic hunter-gatherer groups on the island and indicate the importance of the Strait of Hormuz in Paleolithic archeology of the Persian Gulf and other southern coasts of Iran."

Elsewhere in his remarks, the archaeologist said that further research on the site is a priority. ► Page 6

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Interview

Volleyball needs infrastructure to shine in the world: expert

By Farrokh Hesabi

TEHRAN - Former Iran volleyball team opposite Behnam Mahmoudi reacted to the talks of the president of the Iran's Volleyball Federation Mohammadreza Davarzani.

Davarzani has recently revealed the short-term and long-term plans of the federation till the 2024 Summer Olympics. In the second four-year period of his presidency, Davarzani unveiled his ideals and goals, including placing Iran among the top four volleyball teams globally.

"In Iran, the infrastructure suitable for sports is almost half of the developed countries," said Mahmoudi in his interview with Tehran Times. "However, in terms of talent and human resource, I can say that Iran is among the best in the world."

"But, the main problem is the management in the Iranian sport and the people who are selected or elected as the head of federations or sports organizations," he added.

"After more than 40 years, we are in a stage of the time that we have to go to young and professional managers in sports and use their expertise. The volleyball also needs the same approach," h the 41-year-old expert added.

Mahmoudi, who capped for more than eight years in the Iran National Volleyball Team as a player, referred to Davarzani's claims and said: "Everyone has a plan for his job or for what he does in his life. I had a goal when I was a player. My ideal goal was to play for Iran national team and play in the Italian league with the best players in the world. ► Page 3

"Rustam and Sohrab" makes debut in Bosnian language

TEHRAN- The Iranian cultural attaché office in Bosnia and Herzegovina in cooperation with a local publisher has released the book of "Rustam and Sohrab" from Shahnameh, the epic magnum opus of Persian poet Ferdowsi, for the first time in Bosnian language.

The book includes an introduction to Abolqasem Ferdowsi and the complete story of Rustam and Sohrab (the most exhilarating tragedy of the Shahnameh), Mehr reported on Tuesday.

It has been translated by Elvir Musić and is an amazing and enduring work of poetry in a format similar to Masnavi and meter of eleven syllables and sometimes fourteen syllables (the main meter and format of the Shahnameh) constituting 23 sections and a total of 1214 verses.

Alain Kalajdzija, the president of the Language Institute of the University of Sarajevo, has edited the book and a comparative ► Page 8



Grossi faces candid truth in Iran

From page **1** ► “Grossi has repeatedly stated in today’s meeting that he has not seen any deviations in Iran’s nuclear program, and Iran is pursuing its nuclear activities in accordance with treaties and regulations,” he added.

Eslami also noted that Grossi’s questions about the documents provided to the IAEA by the Westerners as evidence were answered.

“The case of some of these documents has been closed and some cases remain, so we agreed to terminate [further discussions on] all the cases.”

The nuclear chief indicated that the important thing is that Iran is determined to continue its nuclear program. “Another important issue is that Iran is determined in its nuclear program. This issue is on our agenda and the International Atomic Energy Agency will help Iran in this regard.”

He added, “We agreed that the Agency would assist Iran in [nuclear] matters relating to the lives of the people.”

For his part, Grossi said that he is looking to “deepen dialogue” with Iran.

“Couple of months ago, when I was here, we agreed with Dr. Eslami that we would be returning to continue in our joint work in clarifying a number of issues..., and also to continue and deepen our dialogue with the government of Iran,” the Argentinian diplomat noted.

During the press conference, Grossi also said, “He will have intensive talks, and hopes to end the day on a positive note.”

He added, “Our work has been intense in the course of morning, and we are continuing at this point our negotiations with a view to finding common ground. There are a number of issues that we are working and as the president (Eslami) just said it is very important that we put this in the perspective of the peaceful nuclear program of Iran at a time where climate change demands we work together, that we add clean nuclear energy to the matrices around the world, and as was discussed just a few days ago in Glasgow. So we will now multiply our efforts with a view to concluding our exchanges today in a positive note.”

Iranian president: Common things between Abrahamic religions bring unity

TEHRAN – President Ebrahim Raisi of Iran said on Tuesday that common things between Abrahamic religions bring unity between followers of divine faiths.

“Based on Quranic teachings, our shared commons which are Abrahamic religions, bring unity and integrity between us,” Raisi said while receiving the credentials of the new Vatican ambassador to Iran, Andrzej Yuzovich.

The Abrahamic religions refer to three sister monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Prophet Abraham is the common forefather of these three monotheistic religions. These religions account for more than half of the world’s total population today.

Grossi meets Iranian FM for first time

Later on Tuesday, Grossi met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian. It was his first meeting with Iran’s chief diplomat.

After the meeting, the two issued statements. Amir Abdollahian said that the IAEA must continue its technical job within the framework of the duties assigned to it and stop taking political stances.

He emphasized Iran’s will is to have “constructive interaction” with the IAEA in the framework of safeguards. He also expressed hope that the Iran-IAEA interaction would develop further after this meeting.

For his part, Grossi said that he is ready to continue his close cooperation with Iran with goodwill and resolve the remaining technical issues between Iran and the IAEA in the coming months.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh underlined the need for the IAEA to remain solely technical and avoid being used as a tool by some parties to advance their interests.

Speaking at a weekly press conference on Monday, Khatibzadeh commented on Grossi’s visit and hoped for the IAEA to remain professional.

“We hope this trip would be as constructive as previous trips. We have always advised the Agency to stay on the path of technical cooperation and not allow some countries to advance their political intentions in the name of the Agency. We make our decision within the framework of developments and circumstances,” Khatibzadeh said.

The IAEA has politicized the Iran nuclear file for quite a long time. The way the UN atomic watchdog is now dealing with Iran’s nuclear issue has been heavily criticized by the Iranian officials.

There is the issue of the director-general’s ingratitude toward Iran’s remarkable cooperation with the IAEA in the past. Over the past few weeks, Grossi has been pressing for a meeting with Iranian officials. Now that he has got his chance, the world is curious to know how this “constructive” trip is reflected in the IAEA Board of Governors meeting on November 24.

Raisi also said today it is necessary to pay due attention to God and spirituality.

The cleric president went on to say, “If those who commit injustice in the world pay attention to the ‘teachings of Christ,’ they did not commit injustice.”

The Iranian president said the Vatican can play an effective role in ending injustice in the world.

He also called for dialogue between Christian and Muslim scholars to bring ideas “closer together.”

Ambassador Yuzovich also presented a copy of his credentials to Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian on Monday.

TEHRAN — In an article published on Tuesday, Iranian Ambassador to Ankara Mohammad Farazmand said that Iran welcomes Turkey’s proposed 3+3 format to solve conflicts in the South Caucasus.

“Tehran supports the proposal of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in November 2020 to establish a regional cooperation mechanism in the South Caucasus with the participation of Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia as three countries in the region and also with the presence of Turkey, Iran and Russia in the form of 3+3.”

In the article, the diplomat noted that Iran welcomed this idea with enthusiasm and made the first diplomatic move to recognize this idea at the level of foreign minister.

“In February 2021, the foreign minister went on a tour of Baku, Yerevan, Moscow, Tbilisi and Ankara, the former Iranian foreign minister stressed the importance of forming this initiative as soon as possible. Yet, except for one country, other countries have agreed in principle to this initiative.”

Farazmand continued, “The ‘3+3 format’ is exactly in line with the principles and foundations of the foreign policy of Iran which is solving the problems of the region by the regional countries, minimizing tensions and developing cooperation and creating a strong region through synergy.”

“President Raisi’s administration, by announcing that the neighbors are the foreign policy priority of Iran, has confirmed these principles and has time and again agreed to the 3+3 initiative (or 2+3 until Georgia is ready to join this group),” the diplomat wrote.

The Iranian ambassador to Turkey reminded, “It is worth mentioning that even during the war between Iran’s two northern neighbors in 2020, the then deputy foreign minister of Iran traveled to Baku and Yerevan, as well as Moscow and Ankara to make a

Ambassador: Iran welcomes Erdogan’s 3+3 format



similar proposal to establish a mechanism to control tensions in the Caucasus region and resolving disputes fairly through peaceful means to end the occupation of Azerbaijani territories and establish lasting peace.”

He further noted, “What is important is to maintain the collective will, and the continuous perseverance to bring constructive ideas to bear fruit. Fortunately, for the realization of the 3+3 or (2+3) format, there is a collective will, as well as common interests and a high mutual understanding between the interested parties.”

Undoubtedly, Farazmand noted, establishing peace and stability, ending the nearly 30-year tension in the strategic region of the South Caucasus and the creating opportunities for development, trade, investment and transport will benefit all the nations in the region.

He also stressed that “the

Islamic Republic of Iran, as a country that has good relations with all countries (party to the 3+2/3) format is very hopeful and eager to achieve this mechanism and believes that in this framework, this initiative will broaden political, security, trade, economic and transit horizons, as well as opportunities for cooperation between the nations of the region. The great advantage of this initiative is that none of the eligible parties have been left out. It is worth noting that these three neighbors of the Caucasus, namely Iran, Turkey and Russia, have already gained successful experience in reducing tensions and controlling bloodshed in Syria.”

The article comes at a time when Tehran-Baku tensions have cooled down.

Speaking at his weekly press briefing on November 22, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said tensions between

Iran and Azerbaijan are “unwanted,” adding that these have been mainly stirred by the media.

He went on to say that both sides are now past these unwanted tensions.

“Good news is on the way regarding Iran-Azerbaijan,” the Foreign Ministry official added.

When asked about a possible meeting between Iranian President Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi and his Azeri counterpart, Ilham Aliyev, in Turkmenistan, Khatibzadeh did not rule out the possibility.

“Bilateral visits on the sidelines of the ECO summit are common, and there could be a meeting, but you should ask the President’s office about that,” the spokesman elaborated.

The 15th ECO summit is set to be held on November 28 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.

Khatibzadeh’s comments were made a day after Azerbaijan’s Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Mostafayev visited Tehran for talks with the Iranian Foreign Minister, Oil Minister, and Transport Minister.

Mostafayev’s visit was described as “remarkable and constructive,” as he had reportedly reached agreements with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian.

Following the visit by the Azeri Deputy Prime Minister, the two sides announced the signing of several cooperation projects, including development of oil and gas fields in the Caspian Sea.

Tehran and Baku also agreed to expand cooperation in several transport projects, including construction of a bridge crossing the river that separates the two countries, the construction of the Rasht-Astara railway, the completion of the terminal building in Astara by the Republic of Azerbaijan, the activation of the Nakhchivan-Mashhad passenger train, and finally the increase in freight traffic between the two countries.

VP: If Yemenis stand on own feet, devil can’t do anything

TEHRAN — Seyyed Mohammad Hosseini Iranian, the Iranian vice president for parliamentary affairs, said on Tuesday that the war against the Yemenis has ended in failure.

The remarks were made in the second session of the “World Assembly of the Oppressed” in Tehran.

Hosseini said that the reactionary Arab countries imagined they could suppress popular uprisings in Yemen in a month, but the Yemeni people have been standing up to the “ominous coalition” for seven years.

He drew a parallel between the Islamic Revolution in Iran and resistance against invaders by the Yemenis.

“Today the world has come to believe that they can do nothing against the Islamic Revolution. They can’t do anything against the popular resistance in Yemen either,” the vice president reiterated.

He then went on to say, “There are many economic opportunities and mineral resources in Yemen, so we hope that with the victory of Ansarallah, many economic problems will be resolved and miseries of the people of this country will come to an end.”

Saudi Arabia invaded Yemen in March 2015 to reinstate the puppet regime of Mansour al-Hadi. The Saudi kingdom was backed by certain

Arab states including the United Arab Emirates.

The Western countries have been supplying advanced weapons to the Saudi-led coalition against the Yemenis.

During these 7 years that the “devils” of the world have been pursuing many conspiracies, including the attempt to divide Yemen, Hosseini lamented.

“They know that their action will not go anywhere because the Yemeni people know that if they stand on their own feet, the evil powers cannot counter them,” he noted.

“War of wills”

Hosseini, a former culture minister and parliamentarian, added, “The next war is a war of wills, so in this war, those who follow patience and perseverance will achieve the final victory.”

The Yemeni armed forces are closing in on the strategic city of Marib, a strategic city rich with oil and gas.

The liberation of Marib is a key point in advantage of the Ansarallah movement.

Several local tribes in Marib province have agreed to surrender and allow the liberation of the oil-rich province, which is considered the last base of the Saudi-led coalition.

On November 19, according to the Armed



Forces spokesman, Brigadier General Yahya Saree, 14 drone strikes were carried out deep inside Saudi territory against a military base in the vicinity of King Khalid airport in Riyadh, as well as military targets in Jeddah’s King Abdulaziz International Airport and in Abha International Airport.

“In response to the escalation of aggression and the continuation of its crimes and siege, our armed forces carried out the eighth Operation Balance of Deterrence by bombing a number of military and vital targets belonging to the Saudi enemy,” Saree announced via Twitter.

He also shared aerial images of military sites in Riyadh targeted during the operation.

The brigadier general added that the army will face “escalation with escalation” until the Saudi-led siege of Yemen is finally lifted.

Illicit small arms trade fuels terrorism: Iran

TEHRAN – Iran’s permanent ambassador to the United Nations said on Monday that illicit trade in small arms and light weapons not only exacerbates violence in all its forms, but also fuels crime and terrorism across the world.

“We share the concerns about humanitarian, socio-economic and security consequences of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and their diversion to unauthorized recipients,” Majid Takht-Ravanchi told a General Assembly meeting convened to assess the UN global plan to act against “trafficking in persons”.

Takht-Ravanchi said the “Program of Action (PoA) to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects” is the only universal framework to address these multifaceted challenges.

“As a victim of foreign-backed terrorists, and faced with the threat of organized crime and trafficking in drugs linked to the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, the Islamic Republic of Iran highly

values the Program of Action and calls for ensuring its balanced, effective and full implementation including through identifying and addressing its implementation challenges,” Takht-Ravanchi said, according to Press TV.

Iran’s senior ambassador to the UN added that according to the Program of Action, “the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects sustains conflicts, exacerbates violence, contributes to the displacement of civilians, undermines respect for international humanitarian law, impedes the provision of humanitarian assistance to victims of armed conflict and fuels crime and terrorism.”

The ambassador, however, warned that in all efforts to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, the right of each country to manufacture, export, import and retain such weapons must be fully respected.

“Additionally, the scope of such efforts by the [Security] Council must be limited to those aspects that are related to serious adverse impacts of



diversion of, and illicit trade in, small arms and light weapons on the conflict concerned,” he remarked.

According to Arms Control Association, the illicit proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons ranks among today’s most pressing security threats.

It said tens of thousands of people are killed or wounded each year in conflicts that are fought primarily with these weapons and in crime-ridden areas outside of conflict zones. They are also the

weapons of choice for many terrorists.

Approximately half of the international terrorist incidents documented in the 2003 Department of State report on global terrorism were perpetrated with small arms and light weapons, the association said.

Robin Geiss, the Director of the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), told the Security Council on Monday during a ministerial debate that small arms trafficking is a “defining factor in undermining peace and security”.

Geiss said that that diversion and trafficking of arms “destabilizes communities and exacerbates situations of insecurity, including by committing serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, as well as violence against women and children in various contexts”, according to news.un.org.

The United States, the United Kingdom and some other Western governments have for years been involved in the provision of arms and weaponry to

conflict zones across the world, particularly West Asia.

Earlier in the month, the U.S. State Department approved the sale of \$650 million worth of air-to-air missiles to Saudi Arabia to help Riyadh press ahead with its protracted military aggression against Yemen.

The package would include 280 AIM-120C-7/C-8 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM), 596 LAU-128 Missile Rail Launchers (MRL) as well as support equipment and spare parts.

In April 2019, the U.S. Congress voted for the first time to invoke the War Powers Resolution to try and stop U.S. involvement in a foreign conflict. The Congress resolution directed then President Donald Trump to end support for the Saudi-led war against Yemen. But Trump vetoed the measure, with Congress lacking the votes to override him. In July 2019, Trump vetoed three congressional resolutions barring billions of dollars in weapons sales to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Insecurity shadow over Vienna talks: place of Iran talks changed amid protests fears

TEHRAN – Angry protests in Austria over the re-imposition of new restrictions due to a rising wave of new COVID-19 infections have cast doubt on the European country's ability to play host for the next rounds of Iran talks.

An unexpected surge in Covid-19 infections in Europe has sparked angry protests in a handful of European cities, with the angst descending into violent clashes with police in a number of nations. The surge sent several senior European officials, including the prime ministers of France and Belgium, into quarantine.

A Belgium government statement said the country's Prime Minister, Alexander De Croo, and four of his ministers went into quarantine on Monday after French Prime Minister Jean Castex tested positive for Covid-19. The announcement came after the Belgian officials attended a meeting with Castex and other French officials.

The increase in the Coronavirus infections forced Austria to impose a full nationwide coronavirus lockdown on Monday – the first EU country to reinstitute the drastic measure amid fears of a deadly fourth wave.

In addition, the Austrian government announced a vaccine mandate under which all Austrians over the age of 18 will have to be vaccinated against Covid-19, by law.



The measures sparked massive protests across the country, resulting in about 50,000 people coming out to protest against the country's 4th coronavirus lockdown and the vaccine mandate. Some 40,000 demonstrators gathered for a rally, organized by the far-right Freedom Party, in the capital city of Vienna alone, according to CBS NEWS.

The protests erupted at a time when Vienna is bracing for an all-important round of international talks between Iran and major world powers later this month.

The much-awaited talks, scheduled to be held on November 29, will center around discussing ways to lift U.S. sanctions on Iran. The last round of talks was concluded on

June 20 and it was held at Vienna's five-star luxury Grand Hotel. Ever since the talks have been put on hold due to the transition of power in the wake of Iran's June presidential election which resulted in the victory of Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi.

Over the past five months, there have been mounting pressure from the West on Iran to return to Vienna. After completing the transition process, Iran finally announced November 29 as the date for resuming the Vienna talks.

But as Iran and the P4+1 group of countries – Russia, China, France, and the UK plus Germany – prepare for a consequential round of talks, there are growing signs that Vienna may not be the perfect venue.

The first sign is the change of

the hotel that will host the talks. All the past six rounds were held at the Grand Hotel. But the next round would be held at Palais Coburg, a five-star luxury hotel in central Vienna that played host to the 2015 nuclear negotiations leading up to the landmark nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Stephanie Liechtenstein, a Vienna-based journalist covering foreign policy, confirmed on Twitter the movement of talks. "SCOOP: I understand Iran nuclear talks will be moved (back) to Palais Coburg. Just went to check for myself. Media tent is already being set up," she said on Tuesday.

The eruption of protests in Vienna has cast doubt on the Austrian government's ability to safely host the Iran talks, with some diplomatic circles even considering moving the talks from Austria to another country.

The decision to change the place of talks in Vienna was made due to concerns that the Coronavirus-related protests would disrupt or at least impinge on the talks, according to these circles.

There have been initial thoughts on where to move the place of talks, but no decision made yet. The continuation of protests, particularly if they descend into violent clashes, will probably turn the thoughts into serious plans.

Iran crowned CAFA U15 champions

TEHRAN – Iran won the title of the 2021 CAFA U15 Championship in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on Tuesday.

The Persians defeated Kyrgyzstan 8-0 in their third match.

Esmail Gholizadeh (two goals), Kasra Taheri (two goals), Samir Hobobati, Erfan Darvish, Reza Ghandipour and Ali Rahmamehjad were on target for Iran.

Iran had defeated Uzbekistan 3-2 and were held to a 1-1 draw by Tajikistan in their previous two matches.



Iran won the title with seven points thanks to a better goal difference than Tajikistan. The tournament was held from Nov. 19 to 23 in a round-robin format. Iran had also won the 2nd edition in 2018 which was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The CAFA Championship is an international football competition in Central Asia for the member nations of the Central Asian Football Association (CAFA).

Late Razieh Shirmohammadi's bust unveiled

TEHRAN – Bust of late Para archer Razieh Shirmohammadi was unveiled on Tuesday at the Hall of Fame in Tehran.

The Para archer died in June 2019 at the age of 42 due to a heart attack. Shirmohammadi claimed a bronze medal in the women's team recurve open at the London 2012 Paralympic Games – competing alongside Zahra Javanmard and Zahra Nemat. The Para archer was supposed to compete at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games in Tokyo. Born in Mashhad, Iran, Shirmohammadi also represented her country at the Rio 2016 Paralympics.

Among other important results, she won two medals in Asian Para Games – a gold at Guangzhou 2010 and a silver at Indonesia 2018 – and two World Championships medals – a gold at Beijing 2017 and a bronze at Torino 2011.

Russian wrestler Naifonov joins Iran's Sahand Aras

TEHRAN – Russian freestyle wrestler Artur Naifonov joined Iranian wrestling team Sahand Aras on Tuesday.

He will compete in the Iranian wrestling league in the current season. Naifonov won a bronze medal in the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Tasnimnews.com wrote. The 86kg wrestler lost to Hassan Yazdani in the Games' semifinals. Naifonov will probably meet Yazdani, who is a member of Fooladin Zob Amol on December 9 in Tehran's Azadi Hall.

FFIRI files complaint against Jordan's FA

TEHRAN – The Football Federation of the Islamic Republic of Iran (FFIRI) has filed a complaint to Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Disciplinary and Ethics Committee against Jordan Football Association.

Jordan's FA has accused Iran's women's goalkeeper Zohreh Koudaei of being a man in the 2022 AFC Women's Championship qualification, where Iran defeated Jordan 4-2 on penalties.

Koudaei saved two penalties during a crucial penalty shoot-out in Amman, capital of Jordan. Jordan called on the AFC to launch an investigation to determine the sex of Zohreh Koudaei. The president of the Jordan's FA, Prince Ali Bin Al-Hussein, tweeted a letter 'requesting a gender verification check' on Koudaei.

Iran team's coach, Maryam Irandoost, dismissed the allegation and said the accusation was being used to cover up for Jordan's loss. Jordan also alleged that the Iranian women's team 'has a history with gender and doping issues', and called for 'due process' to be followed.

Now the Iranian federation has filed a complaint against Jordan's FA to the AFC's Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

Mohammad Mousavi breaks leg

TEHRAN – Iran international middle blocker Mohammad Mousavi has suffered a broken leg in the Turkey's volleyball league.

The Fenerbahce player suffered the right foot fracture in the match against Yeni K?z?ltepespor on Sunday. The Turkish media reports suggest that Mousavi has started the therapy. The 35-year-old player joined the Turkish giants in May. Mousavi represented Iran at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo.

Volleyball needs infrastructure to shine in the world: expert

From Page 1 ▶ "But when you talk about your ideals, you must have a strategy and an exact plan to fulfill your promises or your objectives. Moreover, as a sports official or president of a federation, you must be accountable for how you respond to public opinion if you fail to achieve your goals. It is not just about talking, but it is about acting and getting results.

"Mr. Davarzani has achieved part of his goals, but he, unfortunately, didn't meet them all. For being among the top four in the world, we need to have a good league, invest in coaching education, discover talents all over the country, and many other factors.

"We must also use the thoughts and experiences of volleyball professionals and experts in our country, and avoid individual decision-making," concluded Mahmoudi.

Iran FM, president receive credentials of new ambassadors

TEHRAN – Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian and Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi have received a copy of credentials of a number of new ambassadors.

Arsen Avakian, the new Ambassador of Armenia to Iran, on Monday met with the Iranian foreign minister at the beginning of his diplomatic mission in the Islamic Republic and presented a copy of his credentials to him.

Also on Monday, Avang Haji Esmaeil, the new Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam to Iran, met with Amir Abdollahian and presented a copy of his credentials to him.

The Iranian foreign minister's meetings with the new ambassadors were held after Amir Abdollahian recovered from Covid-19.

Ayatollah Raisi received the credentials of the new ambassadors of Spain and the Netherlands.

Speaking while receiving the credentials of the new Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain to Tehran on Tuesday, Ayatollah Raisi said, "The current level of economic relations between Iran and Spain is not acceptable and efforts should be made to further develop these relations."

The President emphasised, "We are determined to develop economic, political, cultural and sports relations with Spain, and there are good capacities in the two countries



to improve relations," according to the official website of the Iranian presidency.

At the same meeting, the new Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain to Tehran conveyed the greetings of the King of Spain to President Raisi, and said, "I will do my best to enhance diplomatic and economic ties between Iran and Spain."

Speaking on Tuesday in a meeting with the new Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Tehran, while emphasising the development of bilateral relations, Ayatollah Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi said, "There are long-standing and historical relations between Iran and the Netherlands in trade, economic and cultural fields".

The president stressed, "Deep-rooted countries

such as the Netherlands should be independent and should not be influenced by the views of the current of domination."

Referring to the existence of hundreds of mosques in the Netherlands, Ayatollah Raisi said that respect for the rights of Muslims strengthens culture and civilisation in Europe.

Welcoming the Netherlands' readiness for trade and investment cooperation, the president called for strengthening cooperation in the field of technology, especially environmental and water issues.

"Today, the system of human rights has become a pretext for pressure on developing countries, while we, based on religious and revolutionary teachings, have a duty to respect human rights, such as hosting 4 million Afghans in Iran," he said.

At the same meeting, the new Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Tehran, while conveying the greetings the King of the Netherlands to Ayatollah Raisi, said, "Iran-Netherlands relations are 400 years old and Iran has always been an important trade destination for us".

The new ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands noted, "Iran is a powerful country in the region and there are many good opportunities in trade and investment between the two countries".

Referring to the situation in Afghanistan, he said, "We appreciate the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting a large number of Afghan refugees".



to their homeland.

"Some of these people might worry that they would face problems upon arriving at airports in Iran. In that vein, a system is being uploaded on the Iranian Foreign Ministry's website which will give them guidelines

and make it clear that the Iranian expatriates will have no problem travelling to and returning from Iran. The system tells the Iranian nationals abroad that the Foreign Ministry will be responsible for any problem and we give guarantees in this regard."

The administration of the new Iranian president, Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi has placed the issue of facilitating the return of Iranians living abroad to their home country high on its agenda, with Raisi officials constantly reiterating the need for paving the way for the expatriates to return.

FM Amir Abdollahian urges return of Iranian expatriates

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian has called on Iranians living abroad to travel and live in Iran without any concern.

In an Instagram post on Instagram, the Iranian foreign minister said he had a meeting the relevant officials in order to solve the issue of Iranians with dual citizenship.

He wrote, "At a meeting with the heads of the Working Groups of the Supreme Council of Iranian Expatriates, I reiterated that the issue of Iranians with dual citizenship must be resolved once and for all and its legal routine

must run in Parliament. I demanded all heads of the Working Groups of the Supreme Council of Iranian Expatriates to focus on the necessity of drawing up a comprehensive law for Iran."

He added, "Hostile and Iranophobic media outlets have focused on spreading false reports among Iranian expatriates. Iranian expatriates can travel to Iran without worrying and then return to the countries where they are living now."

The Iranian foreign minister also sought to alley the fears and concerns of the Iranian expatriates about the implications of their return

He added, "I hope that with His Excellency's measures, the efforts of the Lebanese officials and the efforts of the Lebanese people, we will see a stable, secure and growing country, and that the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue to make bilateral efforts to expand bilateral relations in line with mutual interests. I wish Your Excellency health and success, and the dear people of the Republic of Lebanon prosperity and felicity."



Iran president felicitates Lebanon on independence anniversary

TEHRAN – In a message to his Lebanese counterpart Michel Aoun, Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi congratulated him and the people of Lebanon on the anniversary of the country's independence.

"I would like to offer my sincerest congratulations to Your Excellency and the people of your country on the anniversary of independence of the Republic of Lebanon," the Iranian president said in the message.

Iran, Belarus discuss expansion of agricultural ties



Iranian Agriculture Minister Javad Sadati-Nejad (2nd L) and Belarusian Ambassador to Tehran Dmitry Koltsov (2nd R)

From page 1 ► Belarus has good agricultural products and one of our key tasks in the field of agriculture is joint projects with Iranian investors, which has also been successful, the envoy underlined.

"We are ready to import fruits, nuts and vegetables from Iran. Also, Iranian tomato paste and sauces are very good", he added.

"There are good capacities in Belarus in the field of meat, eggs, and dairy products, and we are ready to offer all the facilities that exist in the field of agriculture and trade in Belarus to Iran", the envoy further reiterated.

Noting that the relations between the two countries will not be limited to the field

of agricultural products, Koltsov said: "In the past years, four shipments of potash fertilizer were exported to Iran and we are ready to export again in this field."

"One of Belarus' fields of activity is agricultural equipment such as tractors, combine harvesters and attached equipment for agricultural machinery, and we need to cooperate with Iranian companies in this field", the ambassador stated.

At the end, the envoy expressed hope that next year an interim agreement to establish a free trade zone in the Eurasian region between Iran and Belarus would become permanent.

Over 136,000 tons of alumina powder produced in 7 months

TEHRAN- Iran has produced 136,640 tons of alumina powder during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-October 22).

As reported, the figure shows two percent decline as compared to the output in the seven-month period of the previous year, which was 139,307 tons.

Aluminum oxide, which is commonly called alumina, is an inert, odorless, white amorphous material often used in industrial ceramics.

Alumina is an important ceramic material for industrial applications. The numerous fields of application range from construction materials, to filling materials, as well as abrasives and catalysts.

In plants and mechanical engineering, alumina ceramics are mainly used for wear and corrosion protection.

The particle size distribution largely determines the application range and the quality of an alumina powder. Reliably identifying the differences in particle size is therefore an essential requirement of the measuring instrument.

TEHRAN- The value of export from Mazandaran province in the north of Iran rose 43 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 Yousefi-Manesh, an official with the customs department of Mazandaran, said 514,018 tons of products worth \$157.815 million were exported from the province in the past seven months, indicating also 22 percent rise in terms of weight.

The official named cement, minerals, kerosene and crude oil, dairy products, wood and wooden objects, plastics, food products, and paper as the main exported items, and Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Iraq and Afghanistan as the main export destinations.

He further announced that 1.502 million tons of products worth \$652.98 million were imported to the province in the seven-month period, with 28 percent rise in terms of value and four percent growth in terms of weight, as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

Barley and livestock corn, animal and vegetable oils, wheat, petroleum coke, wood, base oils, machinery and chemical products were the main imported items, and Russia, United Arab Emirates, Kazakhstan, Turkey, and Turkmenistan were the main sources of imports.

As announced by the head of 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, livestock feed inputs,

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

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Power grid stable, no problem in electricity supply



TEHRAN- Managing Director of Iran Grid Management Company Mostafa Rajabi Mashhadi announced the stability of the country's electricity network and the lack of problems in supplying electricity to subscribers.

"At present, we do not have any generation restrictions or restrictions that are due to fuel shortages in the power plant and lead to blackouts in the country", the official reiterated.

Regarding partial and

scattered blackouts across the country, Rajabi Mashhadi said: "Although partial incidents may lead to partial and scattered blackouts in some parts of the country, our colleagues are taking immediate action to resolve such cases."

Earlier this month, Energy Minister Ali-Akbar Mehrabian said his ministry plans to construct and put into operation 21 new power plant units by the next summer's peak consumption period

(Iranian calendar's summer begins on June 22).

According to Mehrabian, his ministry is following a comprehensive program for adding 30,000 megawatts (MW) to the country's power generation capacity by the end of the current government incumbency.

Speaking in a meeting with the members of the Parliament Energy Committee on Tuesday evening, the minister said: "According to the plan

submitted to the parliament, the Ministry of Energy will increase the capacity of the country's power plants by 30,000 megawatts."

"Currently, for the next year's summer peak [consumption period], we are taking the necessary measures to bring 21 new [power plant] units on stream; Of course, the exact schedule for the operation of these units is prepared and will be provided in the form of weekly reports," he added.

Inflation rate down 1%



month in the previous year.

The point-to-point inflation rate has also dropped by 3.5 percent in comparison to the figure for the preceding month.

The point-to-point inflation rate for urban households was reported to be 35.3 percent, which is 3.1 percent less than the figure for the previous month. The figure was 37.4 percent for the rural households, with 6.5 percent drop from the figure for the previous month.

The Statistical Center of Iran had put the inflation rate in the twelve-month period ended on March 20 (the end of the previous Iranian calendar year) at 36.4 percent, rising 2.2 percent from the figure for the twelve-month period ended on the last day of the preceding year.

Export from Mazandaran province rises 43%



and raw materials for production units as the main imported commodities.

The United Arab Emirates with 6.9 million tons of goods worth \$8.6 billion was the top exporter to Iran in the said period, followed by China with 1.9 million tons of goods worth \$6.1 billion, Turkey with 2.5 million tons worth \$2.9 billion, and Germany with 512,000 tons worth \$1 billion, the official stated.

According to the IRICA head, out of the total non-oil goods imported into the country in the first seven months of this year, 16.6 million tons worth \$11 billion were basic goods.

Mir-Ashrafi has announced that the value of Iran's non-oil trade stood at \$73 billion in the past Iranian calendar year.

He has put the weight of non-oil trade at 146.4 million tons, and said that the figure shows a

25-million-ton annual decline, which is the result of sanctions and coronavirus pandemic.

Iran's non-oil export was 112 million tons valued at \$34.5 billion, and that of import was 34.4 million tons worth \$38.5 billion in the past year, the official added.

Among the country's non-oil export destinations, China was the first, with importing \$8.9 billion worth of products, Iraq was the second with importing \$7.3 billion, the United Arab Emirates the third with importing \$4.6 billion, Turkey the fourth with importing \$2.5 billion, and Afghanistan the fifth with importing \$2.2 billion, Mir-Ashrafi announced, and named gasoline, natural gas, polyethylene, propane, and pistachio as Iran's major exported products during the past year.

He further named Iran's top sources of non-oil imports in the said time, as China with exporting \$9.7 billion worth of products to the Islamic Republic, the UAE with \$9.6 billion, Turkey with \$4.3 billion, India with \$2.1 billion, and Germany with \$1.8 billion, respectively, and mentioned corn, cellphone, rice, oil meal and oil seeds, wheat, and raw oil as the major imported items.

TEDPIX loses 2,000 points on Tuesday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), lost 2,521 points to 1,404 million on Tuesday.

As reported, over 4.282 billion securities worth 40.121 trillion rials (about \$955.2 million) were traded at the TSE.

The first market's index lost 4,449 points, while the second market's index gained 3,115 points.

TEDPIX rose 58,000 points (4.1 percent) to 1,456 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, Mobarakeh Steel Company, Social Security Investment Company, Bandar Abbas Refining Company, Iran Khodro Group, and Saipa Company were the most widely followed ones.

Head of Iran's Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO) has said the government is

following new strategies to avoid pre-ordered pricing in the stock market in the long term.

"The government's policy, in the long run, is to avoid pre-ordered pricing. This policy has been repeatedly stressed by the president and the government's economic team and has been placed on the government's agenda," Majid Eshqi said on November 14.

According to the official, supply and demand should be the only determining factor for setting the price for a share.

"We need to move away from imperative policies so that companies can be profitable in the long-term," he said.

Over the past 15 months, continuous fluctuations in the Iranian stock market have led shareholders, experts, and scholars to believe that the government should not interfere in the stock market, saying the government's pre-ordered and unrealistic pricing of some state-owned shares is the main reason for the capital



market's current downward trend.

The government has been claiming that the decisions made for this market are not aimed at interfering in stock exchange transactions or directing the market, but are efforts for reducing the bubble created in the market and to prevent further decline of the stock market index.

Despite the skepticism, after the supportive measures taken by the government, the stock market has been gradually getting back on

track and experts believe that the market is regaining people's trust.

In early July, Market Expert Reza Alavi said that the inflow of liquidity into the market and the increase in the value of transactions indicate that people are once again trusting the capital market.

"At present, other markets such as gold, foreign currency, and cars are not attractive enough for investors, and the stock market is still a good place for people's investments," Alavi said.

"After the [presidential] election debates, people have come to the conclusion that the stock market is one of the priorities of the new government, and for this reason, they have re-trusted this market, and as a result, the inflow of new capital into the market has increased," he noted.

Also, in a meeting with the representatives of over 30 major companies active in the capital

market, on November 1, to exchange ideas for resolving issues and developing the economy, Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Ehsan 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.

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

Meanwhile on Monday, The SEO head said facilitation of the activities of stock market institutions like brokers will lead to the development of the capital market.

Regional models of dialogue more helpful for peace: Italian expert

‘We are faced with autocratic states that need U.S. cover to conceal atrocities and human rights violations’



violations (which the U.S. and the West fill their mouths with) they commit.

What are the implications of the Iranian navy's exercise in the Sea of Oman as the Revolutionary Guards thwarted an attempt by the United States to protect a tanker that was stealing the Iranian oil?

The United States is now afraid. Perhaps for the first time, they have seen their supremacy over the seas affected. In Washington, they consider it fundamental because controlling the sea routes ensures the absolute monopoly of world trade, and therefore the ability to influence global politics. Already in the nineteenth century, Alfred Thayer Mahan, founder and creator of the American sea power theory, had indicated a fundamental fact: the United States would become hegemonic on earth only if it controlled the maritime

communication routes, starting from the so-called choke points. Dominating these necessary passages between the seas allows, according to Mahan, the control of power. And it is on this route that not only a large part of the U.S. Navy was formed but above all its strategists and politicians.

Don't you think that regional models of dialogue like the Astana format are more helpful in bringing peace and stability than bringing Western powers to intervene in the region?

I say that regional models of dialogue are the main way to go to achieve peace and stability. The interventions of Western powers, on the contrary, are always harbingers of instability, chaos and war. This is because the Western powers, headed by the decadent U.S. Empire, pursue exclusively their own strategic and geopolitical interests. Instead, Astana itself represents the format of dialogue that has proved to be the right one to achieve peace and stability in a complicated scenario like the Syrian one. An important result also given imperialist maneuvers certainly not aimed at bringing peace and stabilization. However, the dialogue model seen in Astana showed how it is possible to find solutions even in complex scenarios where different visions and needs coexist. Being able to bring peace and stability where Westerners had intervened for their own strategic and geopolitical interests provides us with a further example of the change taking place, with the world entering the Eurasian-driven multipolar phase.

Autocratic states like Bahrain insist on keeping the United States in the region to counter Iran.

Russia warns US against sending military advisers, weapons to Ukraine

Russia has warned the United States against provoking tensions in Ukraine as Washington is reportedly considering sending military advisers and new weaponry to the Eastern European country.

According to a report published by the CNN on Monday, the administration of US President Joe Biden is considering sending military advisers and new equipment, including weaponry, to Ukraine as Kiev accuses Moscow of planning an attack on the country as soon as January.

The military equipment, according to the report, could include new Javelin anti-tank and anti-armor missiles as well as mortars.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov warned about the plan

on Tuesday, saying it would lead “to further escalation on the line of contact.”

“We are seriously concerned by Ukraine’s actions on the line of contact in eastern Ukraine and the possibility of a Ukrainian decision to use force there,” he said.

Peskov denied allegations that Russia was planning to invade Ukraine, describing them as “absurd.”

“Russia is not making any aggressive plans,” Peskov said, urging Kiev to return to a peace settlement plan agreed with Moscow.

He also warned on Monday against Kiev’s attempts to build up military forces and weaponry near the border with Russia.

Ukraine’s Defense Ministry, however, reiterated the

allegations on Tuesday, saying that Moscow was “increasing the combat readiness” of pro-Russia forces in eastern Ukraine. The ministry said in a statement that the pro-Russia forces had kicked off large-scale military exercises on Monday.

Meanwhile, Kiev received two refitted former US coast guard patrol boats at the Ukrainian Black Sea port of Odessa, according to the Ukrainian navy.

“We appreciate the contribution of the United States to deter the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine,” naval commander Oleksiy Neyizhpapa was quoted as saying.

The two new boats are part of a package of military assistance to Ukraine that

has been worth over \$2.5 billion since 2014.

Relations between Moscow and Kiev have been strained since a conflict erupted in Ukraine’s eastern region of the Donbass between Ukrainian government forces and ethnic Russians in 2014.

Major fighting ended with a ceasefire in 2015, but the conflict remains unresolved and clashes take place regularly.

The US, the European Union, and Ukraine claim that Russia has a hand in the conflict. Moscow strongly rejects the allegation. The Black Sea peninsula of Crimea voted in a referendum to fall under Russian sovereignty that year, with more than 90 percent of the participants in the plebiscite voting in favor of unification.

He preached self-empowerment to African Americans first for Elijah Muhammad’s “Nation of Islam” organization and then broadened his message to the empowerment of all oppressed peoples after turning to true Islam following his pilgrimage to Mecca.

Malcolm X was 39 when he was gunned down. Earlier this year, new evidence emerged suggesting that the New York Police Department and the FBI had been behind the assassination.

In May 2013, Malcolm Shabazz, the outspoken grandson of Malcolm X, was murdered in Mexico. He was 28.

While trying to catch his flight to Tehran, Malcolm was arrested by the FBI. No explanation for the arrest was ever provided.

Malcolm had converted to Shi’a Islam and become a spokesman for the “axis of resistance”, and for the world’s dispossessed.

(Source: Press TV)



Khalil Islam, who each spent more than 20 years in prison for allegations of being involved in the assassination of Malcolm X.

Malcolm X was a powerful voice for racial equality in the late 1950’s and early 1960’s — a beacon of light preaching equality and self-love for African Americans in a country plagued by racial segregation.

Disturbing discovery, native dead American kids identified



From page 1 ▶ Judi Gaiashkibos, the executive director of the Nebraska Commission in Indian Affairs and also a natural citizen of the Ponca Tribe, told a Canadian news host “some other strange, unusual incidents were reported as accidental shootings, drowning, spinal paralysis and a freight car accident — [not] typical happenings at most schools in the world. So, I suspect that wasn’t an accident in some cases, and some kids may have committed suicide and some were killed when they were running away from the school.”

The investigation was conducted by the Genoa Indian School Digital Reconciliation Project; this collaboration involved the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the Genoa U.S. Indian School Foundation, descendants of survivors, and representatives from five Indigenous tribes in Nebraska.

So far, the Genoa Indian School Digital Reconciliation Project researchers have found the names of 54 children who died at the Genoa school. As for the others, they have confirmed gender, tribal affiliation and, in many cases, cause of death.

Gaiashkibos said, “we’re kind of the reverse of you [in Canada]. We have the names, the records, but we don’t have the cemetery where the children are buried.” Nobody knows how many students died at this government Genoa U.S. Indian Industrial School, but fears are growing because thousands of students are believed to have passed through its gates. Government documents have proved elusive or have been obscured to reveal an accurate death toll. Graves have not been found on the grounds yet.

The researchers have begun scanning the former school lands with ground-penetrating radar. “We’re probably going to have to do more surveying, which could take a long time on a big, huge campus like this. [It’s] hundreds of acres,” Gaiashkibos added.

For that to be conducted successfully, they will need more money and calls are growing louder that the federal government provides that funding. In July the Federal Government announced plans to launch an investigation into the history of Native American church-run boarding schools; which it funded from 1819 through the 1960s. The probe announcement was only made after news emerged of the grisly discoveries of children’s remains at residential schools in Canada.

Gaiashkibos says the purpose of the government-run schools “was to assimilate us, to turn us into farmers and laborers and domestic servants, essentially. I think that’s maybe from the settler standpoint, but from our standpoint, it was, you know, to eradicate our way of life, to destroy our language and our culture and break apart our families.”

The U.S. schools were self-sufficient, so the children are said to have been expected to carry out unpaid labor to keep things running. The children were denied from going home for any holiday to visit their own family, while during the summer, Gaiashkibos says they were “farmed out to work in white families.” They were forbidden from speaking their

own language and if they were caught doing so they “were beaten, deprived of food, punished, made to kneel down on the ground for hours until your legs were numb. So, it was a real, sad, lonely place.” The executive director of the Nebraska Commission in Indian Affairs views those students as casualties of a war waged by the U.S. government against Native Americans to destroy their cultures and steal their lands. She added “They didn’t want the children to have their culture. And ... most of them, in many cases, wouldn’t be returning to their homelands... I see them as soldiers of the last Indian war in America, a war to steal our lands, and they used our little children. And in war, some children die. So sadly, these are those children, our soldiers that died. And we’re going to do like the American government and find those children and honor those children and bring our soldiers the honor they deserve.”

There is no official data on how many boarding schools were operating in the U.S., how many children were taken away from their family and how many never returned home. The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition has conducted its own investigation and estimates there were 367 boarding schools in the U.S., that is more than double the 139 residential schools in Canada. Because of that, experts suspect twice as many children were taken away from their homes in the U.S., and that twice as many may have died.

Between 1831 and 1996, Canada’s federal government took more than 150,000 indigenous First Nation children from their families and forced them to attend church-run, government funded residential schools. Conservative figures by experts say thousands of children died at the schools, and over the last year, First Nations across Canada have been using ground-penetrating radar to locate their remains. But the records that are needed to identify those remains are largely lost, scattered among different government agencies, or closely guarded by the Catholic Church.

A national inquiry revealed the extent of abuse and neglect the children faced in those schools. The Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) Commission of Canada has found evidence that 4,100 children died of disease, malnourishment, suicide and more, but says the true total is likely much higher. Many of the children remain unaccounted for.

The truth is now slowly unraveling that the story of indigenous children being deprived of their identity in such a brutal manner south of the border is pretty much the same. If the right time, energy and resources are exhausted, the U.S. administration’s investigation should reveal more details about the history of boarding schools. Washington should also, like Canada, conduct its own truth and reconciliation commission, something that will force Americans to reevaluate the country’s history. And finally current day students across the United States must be taught about those dark moments in their nation’s history, while public awareness on the matter should also be prioritized during the tenure of the Biden White House.

Daughter of Malcolm X found dead in New York City

TEHRAN - A daughter of American civil rights icon Malcolm X was found dead in a Brooklyn home in New York City, according to police.

Malikah Shabazz, 56, was found dead at a Brooklyn home on Monday, police said, claiming they found no reason to suspect foul play.

Shabazz’s daughter found her unresponsive about 4:40 p.m., an NYPD official told Newsweek.

New York City’s medical examiner responded to the scene and said he did not suspect criminality.

Shabazz was one of six children parented by Malcolm X and his wife Betty Shabazz.

Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965. Last week, two men convicted of killing him were exonerated after decades of doubt about who was responsible for the civil rights icon’s death.

The Manhattan district attorney’s office acknowledged “the wrongful convictions” of Muhammad A. Aziz and

Hunter-gatherers settled in southern Iranian island, new evidence suggests



From page 1 ► “Preservation of this area and its ecological landscape and conducting more research in this part of the eastern coast of Hormuz Island is one of the priorities of the general directorate of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts of Hormozgan province.”

“Future research, including intensive surveying, systematic sampling, on-site excavations, and additional studies, will increase archaeologists’ knowledge of the development of Paleolithic groups and the Persian Gulf connection to southern Iran and the Arabian Peninsula during the Pleistocene era.”

In addition to Chand-Dera-kht beach, the same evidence of Paleolithic settlements has been spotted on Qeshm Island of the Persian Gulf, he added.

A 2019 study published in the Journal of Human Evolution, suggests that Neanderthals were roaming over the Iranian Zagros mountain range sometimes between 40 to 70 thousand years ago.

Until the late 20th century, Neanderthals were regarded as genetically, morphologically, and behaviorally distinct from living humans. However, more recent discoveries about this well-preserved fossil Eurasian population

have revealed an overlap between living and archaic humans.

Neanderthals lived before and during the last Ice Age of the Pleistocene in some of the most unforgiving environments ever inhabited by humans. They developed a successful culture, with a complex stone tool technology, that was based on hunting, with some scavenging and local plant collection. Their survival during tens of thousands of years of the last glaciation is a remarkable testament to human adaptation.

Zagros mountain range in southwestern Iran, extending northwest-southeast from the border areas of eastern Turkey and northern Iraq to the Strait of Hormuz, is about 990 miles (1,600 km) long and more than 150 miles (240 km) wide. It forms the extreme western boundary of the Iranian plateau, though its foothills to the north and west extend into adjacent countries.

According to Britannica, the oldest rocks in the Zagros range date to Precambrian time (that is, before 541 million years ago), and the Paleozoic Era rocks date to between 541 million and 252 million years ago are found at or near the highest peaks.

Most of the rocks in the mountain range, however, are limestone and shale from the Mesozoic Era (252 million to 66 million years ago) and the Paleogene Period (66 million to 23 million years ago). The range was primarily formed by orogenies (mountain-building episodes) driven by the movement of the Arabian Plate underneath the Eurasian Plate during the Miocene and Pliocene epochs (23 million to 2.6 million years ago).

Iranian handicrafts exhibited on sidelines of CISM Wrestling Championship

TEHRAN – An exhibition of Iranian handicrafts and traditional arts is currently underway on the sidelines of the 5th CISM World Military Wrestling Championship, which is being held in Tehran’s Azadi Hall, Tehran’s deputy tourism chief has announced.

“This exhibition is providing an opportunity for handicraft artisans to display their handmade products by using the capacity of international competitions,” Parvaneh Heidari said on Tuesday.

Artworks in the fields of cutting precious stones, traditional jewelry, leatherwork, pottery, and woodcarving are on the show at the exhibition, which will be running until Friday, the official added.

A total of 300 athletes from 22 countries are expected to take part in the CISM Wrestling Championship in two freestyle and Greco-Roman categories.

The International Military Sports Council or Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM), is an international sports association, established in 1948 and headquartered in Brussels.

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.

Offical suggests idea of buttressing food tourism

TEHRAN – Food accounts for one-third of tourist spending so it lays the ground to develop the food tourism market in Iran.

“Approximately one-third of tourists’ expenditure is paid on food, therefore, food is an essential part of tourism and a main source of revenue,” an official with the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts has said.

An important part of a trip can be experiencing the foods and beverages of any destination, IRNA quoted Mohammad Qasemi as saying on Tuesday.

In order to develop the field of food tourism, major measures such as developing tourism packages that focus on the experience of local food and incorporating local food from the provinces in the menu of accommodation facilities and restaurants are essential, the official explained.

Due to having a very significant capacity

for local food, the issue of food tourism development is on the agenda of the ministry, he noted.

Last year, Iran joined an online campaign launched by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) to promote gastronomy as an essential part of tourism.

Experts say that food is not merely an organic product with biochemical compositions. However, for members of each community, food is defined as a cultural element.

Iranian cuisine, usually dominated by fragrant herbs, varies from region to region. It principally accentuates freshness, deliciousness, and colorfulness.

Iranian cooking can be seen as a metaphor for the country itself: It’s tart, sweet, fragrant, and vastly complex. It’s one of the world’s oldest, yet largely obscure, culinary landscapes, with roots dating back to the ancient Persian Empire.

Iran visitors must be vaccinated or COVID-free, official says

TEHRAN – Inbound passengers must provide proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test to enter the Islamic Republic of Iran, the head of the safety and quality assurance department of Imam Khomeini International Airport City has announced.

In line with the latest instructions of the Ministry of Health, all non-Iranian travelers older than 12 years of age entering the country must show a negative coronavirus PCR test result, issued at most 96 hours before arrival, along with a complete vaccination certificate, Mohammad Qasemi said on Tuesday, Mehr reported.

Without a negative PCR test and a coronavirus vaccine certificate, a suspicious passenger will never be allowed to enter the country, the official emphasized.

Earlier this month, the Ministry of Transport and Urban Development announced that domestic travelers in Iran are required to show either proof of negative COVID-19 test or vaccination certificate.



A negative COVID-19 test or vaccination certificate is also required for travelers who want to stay in accommodation centers including hotels, motels, guest houses, and eco-lodge units, according to the head of the Association of Iranian Hoteliers Jamshid Hamzehadeh.

All employees of the mentioned facilities must also get vaccinated against the novel coronavirus and those who are unvaccinated may lose their jobs, he noted.

Back in October, the official

announced that Iranian hotels are ready to receive foreign tourists, observing strict health protocols.

To ease the travel process, individual foreign tourists could confirm the reservations of accommodation centers at the border, he noted.

The destinations of foreign tourists in Iran are too specific cities such as Mashhad, Qom, Tabriz, Shiraz, Yazd, and Isfahan, and to return to the figure of over eight million incoming tourists before the outbreak of the coronavirus, serious planning is required, he mentioned.

ning is required, he mentioned.

In early October, the official noted that Iranian hotels have lost 202 trillion rials (some \$4.8 billion at the official exchange rate of 42,000 rials per dollar) of potential revenues due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Two-thirds of the hotel staff have lost their jobs as well, he added.

Back in September, Hamzehadeh announced that all employees of accommodation centers across Iran are scheduled to be vaccinated against the coronavirus.

“To vaccinate staffs of all accommodation centers, including eco-lodges, apartment hotels, and guest houses, as well as hotels, more coordination with the Ministry of Health is needed,” he added.

The ancient land embraces hundreds of historical sites such as bazaars, museums, mosques, bridges, bathhouses, madrasas, mausoleums, churches, towers, and mansions, of which 26 are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

Serbian archaeologists join Iranian, Italian fellows in Burnt City

TEHRAN – A number of Serbian archaeologists and cultural heritage experts have joined their Iranian and Italian counterparts to resume digs in the UNESCO-registered Burnt City in southeast Iran.

Called “Shahr-e Sukhteh” or “Shahr-i Sokhta” in Persian, Burnt City is associated with four rounds of civilization, all burnt down by catastrophic sets of fire. The site is situated in Sistan-Baluchestan province, which was once a junction of Bronze-Age trade routes crossing the Iranian plateau.

“Shahr-e Sukhteh is the sole archeological site in Iran whose scientific archaeological excavations have continuously been carried out by Iranian and Italian archaeologists,” ISNA quoted Research Institute for Cultural Heritage and Tourism (RICHT) as saying on Monday.

In addition to the Italians, archaeologists from Serbia are also present this [archaeological] season. Moreover, researchers and archaeologists from other countries, such as Britain, France, and Germany, have been invited to take part in the excavations, the report said.

“So far, four to five percent of Burnt City has been excavated. . . and [conducting surveys on] unexplored areas require a lot of time and funds,” provincial tourism chief Alireza Jalalzadeh was quoted by ISNA as saying on Monday.

Led by the senior Iranian archaeologist Seyyed-Mansour Seyyed-Sajjadi, the 19th season of archaeology was commenced on November 19 on the magnificent site.

According to Jalalzadeh, in this season of excavation, residential areas in the central and eastern parts [of Shahr-e Sukhteh] are to be explored. “The excavation season is estimated to take 60 days, of which 45 days are for field activities and 15 days for summarizing field information, preparing reports and sending to the Research Institute [for Cultural Heritage and Tourism].”

The 18th archaeological season began in November 2019 in collaboration with Italy’s University of Salento to shed new light on a [formerly] residential area of the 5,000-year-old site. “The goal is to reach older urban sections because most of the excavations so far have been related to the second, third, and fourth periods and less information about the times before these eras,” Seyyed-Sajjadi said in 2019.

The expert also addresses some limitations that such a project faces in the country, adding “Given some limitations, [our] excavation is focused on studies of zoology, botany, and anthropology because these excavations could yield a lot of information about the animals, plantation and human life in Burnt City.”

Furthermore, archaeologists have already discovered the remains of a prehistoric monkey in Burnt City,



concluding that the animal was held in captivity in a cage when it died. Based on surveys and scientific studies on the monkey’s skeleton, the animal was dead in captivity in a cage and it was buried by its owner like a child within a beautiful container, according to Seyyed Sajjadi.

“Since the Burned City had lots of commercial relations with the eastern territories of Iran such as northern India and central Asia, and there is a lot of information in this regard, we found that the monkey came from there.”

“The other issue is that in the ancient world, monkeys were essentially regarded as a luxury and aristocratic belongings. And they were imported to be presented to people of certain social classes such as elites, merchants, governors, and religious authorities,” he explained.

Founded around 3200 BC, Burnt City was populated during four main periods up to 1800 BC. Previous rounds of excavations showed that its residents had great skills in weaving, creating fine arts such as decorative objects, stone carving, and pottery painting.



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COVIRAN begins clinical trial on children aged 12-18

From page 1 ► On November 11, a license has been issued for the vaccine to conduct clinical studies on children.

For the age group of 12 to 18 years, two stages of studies are considered, Hamed Hosseini, supervisor of COVIRAN vaccine trial said.

Referring to 60 volunteers in the first phase of the clinical trial, he noted that children between the ages of 12 and 18 will enter the study, and if the result is successful, children between the ages of 6 and 12 will also attend the study.

Fortunately, all the people who have participated in the vaccine trial so far did not have any special or dangerous side effects, so we decided to start the study for the age group of 12 to 18 years, he further added.

Currently, COVIRAN has produced over 10 million doses of vaccine.

An article on clinical and technical knowledge was published in the Journal of Medical Virology with an impact factor of 98.6 and in the Q1 category.

The vaccine proved effective against Indian strain, according to Hojjat Niki-Maleki, head of the information center of Headquarters for Executing the Order of



the Imam.

Eleven countries from Asia and South America, and a European country have asked for importing COVIRAN vaccine, Hassan Jalili, the vaccine's production manager, said in June.

Homegrown vaccines

According to the Food and Drug Administration, 14 vaccines are being domestically developed in the country which are in different study phases.

The second Iranian-made vaccine developed by the Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute (Razi Cov Pars) started the clinical trial on February 27.

Fakhra vaccine, the third domestically-developed COVID-19 vaccine, was unveiled and started the clinical trial on March 16.

Lately, the Food and Drug Administration issued an emergency use license for two other domestic vaccines of Razi Cov Pars and Fakhra.

Iran is one of the few countries that has all vaccine production platforms, Mohammad Reza Shanehsaz, former head of the Iranian Food and Drug Administration, said in June.

Meanwhile, World Health Organization (WHO) representative to Iran Jaffar Hussain said in September that the Organization was collecting the necessary information for the registration and certification of Iranian-made coronavirus vaccines.

Iran, Vietnam to expand technological cooperation



TEHRAN – Iran and Vietnam will enhance scientific and technological cooperation, IRNA reported on Tuesday.

Hossein Salar-Amoli, head of the international scientific cooperation center of the Ministry of Science in a meeting with Nguyen Hong Thach, Ambassador of Vietnam to Iran, discussed expanded cooperation in academic and scientific fields.

The Iranian official stated that a number

of Vietnamese universities, including the National University of Hanoi, Ton Duc Thang University, and several others, ranked in the world scientific rankings. While 40 Iranian universities have also been included. Therefore, the chancellors of the top universities are invited to attend a meeting to develop academic cooperation.

Hong Thach also for his part expressed readiness for enhanced cooperation and emphasized that we will convey and support all the issues raised in this meeting to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Education, Science, and Technology.

Iranian universities making progress

Most recently, fifteen universities from Iran have been listed among the best institutions worldwide, by the U.S. News and World Report Best Global Universities rankings 2022.

The Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Graduate Employability Rankings 2022 list has

been released, which included three Iranian universities out of a total of 550 institutes worldwide that highlighted graduate employment processes.

Some 41 Iranian universities in engineering sciences and 12 universities in computer sciences have made a place among the top 1,188 universities in the world with the announcement of Higher Education World University Rankings 2022 by subject.

It also has introduced 59 Iranian universities among the top institutions in World University Rankings 2022.

The THE Education Young University Rankings 2021 listed 26 Iranian institutions among the world's best universities that are 50 years old or younger.

Moreover, some 34 Iranian universities and institutions were listed among the top 1,000 in the world, according to Shanghai Ranking's Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) 2021.



Iran is one of the countries affected by the pandemic that has been able to widely implement vaccination programs in recent months and vaccinate refugees living in the country at the same time as Iranian nationals.

Iran outpaces Europe in first-dose COVID-19 vaccination

From page 1 ► However, vaccination of the non-Iranian population is about 30 percent, which is still far from expectations.

The number of COVID-19 vaccines injected in the country has exceeded 100 million doses, despite all barriers and difficulties caused by sanctions.

According to the latest statistics, so far, 56,944,774 people have received the first dose, 45,382,073 people the second dose, while 833,605 people are inoculated with

the third dose, so that, the total number of jabs in the country surpassed 103,160,452 doses.

The number of COVID-19 vaccines injected in the country has exceeded 103 million doses.

In the way to the vaccination of the whole population, many obstacles have shown up caused by U.S. sanctions, financial transactions, countries' reluctance to provide Iran with the vaccine, or even competition among the nations to vaccine their own population sooner.

However, Iran could make it and inoculate over 50 percent of the population, being among the first sixty countries with the highest number of vaccinated people.

SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 24, 2021

Straight Truth
TEHRAN TIMES

7

Caracal Desert: habitat of the world's fastest cat

From mountainous areas with scattered plains and hills to deserts with palm trees and sand dunes, all form part of Bafgh's protected nature. Let's get acquainted with Caracal and its wonders, one of the most famous deserts of Iran.

In the heart of the deserts of Iran, somewhere near the city of Bafgh in the province of Yazd, the Caracal Desert is situated. Bafgh is a city about 100 km south of Yazd, which has a temperate climate from the east due to the mountainous areas, while its western side leads to the desert with a dry climate. Caracal Desert or Sadeghabad Desert is located near a village of the same name.

Caracal, a frame displaying colors and wonders

At the same time, this desert shows an image of palm trees and desert hills. Caracal, like a painting, is formed from a combination of colors that dazzle the eyes of every viewer. Like all the central deserts of Iran, it has a great miracle in its heart. Watching the night sky and what is in it is one of the indescribable wonders of the desert.

The desert's black-ear habitat

This desert, which has a unique and beautiful nature, has borrowed its strange name from the famous wild cats that live in this area.

The Caracal or Lynx, an endangered wild cat also called the desert's black-ear, is one of the heaviest and fastest subfamilies of cats living in the Middle East and Africa. Predatory cats, known for their extraordinary speed, talent, and intelligence in hunting, have fascinated many hunters. In the past, in India and Iran, caracal was used to hunt birds, rabbits, or young gazelles.



Caracals providentially are present across most regions of eastern and central Iran, including Fars and northern Khuzestan but there are also some concerns over the status of populations not just in Iran but also in the Central Asian Republics and also in Pakistan.

Dry steppes and semi-deserts of Kavir National Park, Tooran National Park, Bahram-e Goor Protected Area, Saghand Yazd, Abbasabad Naeen, Naybandan Wildlife Refuge, Sistan-Baluchestan, Khorasan, Masjedsoleyman, and Kermanshah are all listed as Caracal habitats in the country.

Apart from this rare species, various other species of animals also live in this desert, which has been able to distinguish it from other deserts and has attracted the attention of many tourists.

A fascinating trip

Many tourists who plan to travel to the Caracal Desert know that they can enjoy a thrilling entertainment program after hours of walking on soft, silky sands and watching the starry night sky of the desert. Tourists can go to the heart of the desert on desert bikes, experience camel riding in the sand, and try a good safari. In this desert, traditional accommodations are also available to host guests.

How air pollution impacts different parts of the body

Depleting air quality has become a major environmental and health issue in recent times. Post-Diwali, owing to the crackers and stubble burning, pollution levels have only reached an alarming high, with AQI levels becoming more severe than ever in Delhi NCR.

While health officials continue to urge people to take all precautionary measures, due to the combined misery of harmful, unbreathable air and smog, people have been battling several health complications. Not only do air pollutants harm our lungs, but it also takes a severe toll on other parts of our bodies. That said, let us look at how air pollution can affect our health in different ways.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 90 percent of the global population is breathing in polluted air, which comprises harmful gases and particles that can be detrimental to our lung health.

When we breathe in air pollutants, we expose our respiratory tracts to tiny, harmful particles that can irritate our airways and cause shortness of breath, coughing, wheezing, asthma episodes and chest pain, accord-

ing to times of India website.

Over time, exposure to air pollution can develop other health issues, affecting our heart, brain, skin and other vital organs.

Heart conditions such as cardiac arrest and heart attacks are the leading cause of death, as per the WHO. Experts believe that there is a direct association between air pollution and plaque build up in the coronary arteries, which supply blood, oxygen and nutrients to your heart.

When you breathe in air pollutants, the particulate matter can get absorbed in the bloodstream, which then travels to various organs of the body.

As of now, neurological conditions such as strokes, dementia and impaired cognitive abilities have been linked to air pollution.

Recent studies have suggested that harmful, polluted air may in fact impact brain functions in the most rigorous ways. Some research has claimed that high levels of air pollution may damage children's cognitive abilities, increase adults' risk of cognitive decline and possibly even contribute to depression.

COVID-19 UPDATES ON NOVEMBER 23

New cases	5,144
New deaths	132
Total cases	6,088,009
Total deaths	129,177
New hospitalized patients	762
Patients in critical condition	3,386
Total recovered patients	5,807,089
Diagnostic tests conducted	37,996,904
Doses of vaccine injected	103,160,452

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Afghans life in Iran provided new model of migration

The friendly coexistence of Afghans with Iranians has set a new pattern in migration, secretary of human rights headquarters in Iran has stated.

The two nations of Iran and Afghanistan share similarities in religion, culture and civilization, Ali Bagherikani said on Thursday during a meeting with Afghan immigrants in Tehran.

The west is using all the capacities to turn the differences between the two nations of Iran and Afghanistan into a dispute and then a conflict in order to achieve their illegitimate interests, he lamented.

"The effort of the Human Rights Headquarters is to highly protect the right of immigrants living in Iran," he highlighted.

زندگی افغانستانی‌ها در ایران الگوی جدیدی از مهاجرت ارائه کرده است

دبیرستاد حقوق بشر جمهوری اسلامی ایران می‌گوید همزیستی ملاطفت‌آمیز افغانستانی‌ها با ایرانی‌ها، الگوی جدیدی را در مهاجرت ارائه کرده است.

به گزارش ایرنا، «علی باقری‌کنی» روز پنجشنبه در دیدار با مهاجران افغانستانی در تهران اظهار داشت: اشتراکات دینی، فرهنگی و تمدنی دو ملت ایران و افغانستان بسیار به هم نزدیک است.

وی افزود: غربی‌ها از همه ظرفیت‌ها استفاده می‌کنند تا تفاوت‌های دو ملت ایران و افغانستان را به اختلاف و سپس نزاع تبدیل کنند تا به منافع نامشروع خود برسند.

او گفت: تلاش ستاد حقوق بشر آن است که کوچکترین حقی از مهاجران مقیم ایران ضایع نشود.

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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Failures are often the results of timidity and fears;
disappointments are the results of bashfulness; hours
of leisure pass away like summer-clouds, therefore, do
not waste opportunity of doing good.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon:11:50 Evening: 17:13 Dawn: 5:20 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:48 (tomorrow)

Iran: Myths and legends

Part 13

In the Vd. Ahura Mazda tells the prophet he created it “the first and best of places.” Yt. 19 refers to the “xwarrah which belongs to Iran”.

In modern Iran, there are myths and legends associated with holy places, shrines, and fires. It is the abode of the secret race of Zoroastrian giants in the Parsi movement Ilm-i Khshnoom, started by Behramshah Shroff (q.v.) in the early twentieth century.

So the land of Iran is seen as a unique, sacralized space, where some of the great mythological and theological moments of history have been enacted.

Myth and society

It is natural that myths reflect the structure of the society in which they evolved. G. Dumézil propounded a theory which has ardent supporters, and virulent opponents.

Fundamentally, he argued that Indo-European mythology distinguished three strata of society representing three ‘functions’: religious and juridical sovereignty, warriors concerned with physical prowess, and the productive workers (herder-cultivators).

He argued that the deities of Indo-Europeans were ordered in this tripartite manner. Many scholars have disputed this theory, especially in explaining details of the gods and their activities—for example, Mit(h)ra. Many thought he saw parallels where none existed. But his broad point that patterns of mythology reflect social patterns has much to commend it.

It is inevitable that myths reflect the society which generates them; for example, the warrior imagery associated with Mithra reflects the martial practices of ancient Iran, as the mythical symbolism of the ox reflects their life as herdsman.

The Zoroastrian practice of praying before the divine creations, especially fire and water, rather than in temples similarly reflects their nomadic life.

The various roles of fire in Zoroastrian mythology reflect its diverse functions in ancient society—from life-protecting warmth to the judicial process. Myths are powerful precisely because they reflect the society and its values in which they are embedded.

It follows that the study of mythology is important for the understanding of a society, especially its ideals, fears, and motives.

Theology and Iranian mythology

A characteristic feature of Iranian mythology is the lack of narrative. Compared with Greek, Roman, or Indian myths there are few stories about divine or demonic beings.

The figure of Mithra is a good example. He rides in his chariot before the sun, he is depicted in warrior form, but his theological role is fundamentally abstract, as Contract or covenant.

The imagery illustrates key beliefs, but it does not involve a narrative. This is true of many figures considered in this article e.g., Haoma and xwarrah. There is a narrative concerning the conflict of good and evil, but little concerning the ‘players’ in that drama.

The Amesha Spentas are described in terms of their functions. Even in Pahlavi literature, where they are said to sit on thrones, they remain facets of the divine nature, and their abstract ‘names’ are different from the Judeo-Christian concept of the archangels, who have personal names.

Although abstract conceptions, they are also powerful spiritual forces ‘really’ present

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica
To be continued

“Rustam and Sohrab” makes debut in Bosnian language

From Page 1 ► evaluation and comparison of the translation of its extraordinary poems has been done by Muammar Mamishovich (Ph.D. in Persian Language and Literature from the University of Tehran).

Finally, Shimo Josic, one of the most famous contemporary Bosnian poets, has compiled articles in the book. Therefore, the present work is considered a unique and very valuable book in this field in various ways.

Mersad Konic, a professor at the University of Tuzla and the greatest contemporary professor of Bosnian oral literature, has written a valuable introduction in support of the book’s literary value

He went on to say: “The epic story

of Rustam and Sohrab, especially for us, the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to the highly advanced epic tradition of the people of Bosnia and its environs and the tradition of writing and singing in Persian during the Ottoman rule is interesting. Ferdowsi is Homer of the orient and belongs to the great Persian literature among other greats such as Nezami, Maulana Jalaluddin Rumi, Sa’adi, and Hafez.

This great nation has a long history and great literature. With this translation by Elvir Musić, which is like the verses of the oriental text, the tradition of translating and maintaining relations with Persian literature has received a

new impetus, and those interested in studying literature in our country have another opportunity to meet the great Persian literature and culture.”

In this book, the story of Rustam and Sohrab from the beginning of the story of Rustam’s acquaintance with Tahmineh to the moment of Rustam’s return to Zabolistan after Sohrab’s murder and when Tahmineh realizes that her son Sohrab was killed by his husband Rustam, has been written as beautifully as possible.

Ferdowsi Shahnameh is one of the best and most glorious works of human genius that Rustam and Sohrab is one of the most famous and exciting stories of Shahnameh and one of the most interesting mythological stories in the world.

Ferdowsi’s Shahnameh was translated into European languages from the late eighteenth century, and European scholars and literary and artistic critics became aware of the value and credibility of this great epic, and many thinkers took the theme of this story.

Books on “Islam, Unity, and Proximity” unveiled

TEHRAN- A collection of books translated and published in foreign languages on the subject of “Islam, Unity, and Proximity” was unveiled on Tuesday at the World Forum for Proximity of Islamic Schools of Thought.

“Revival of values, especially values that have a significant role in the fate of society, progress and excellence of the people in Islam is the greatest worship, especially values which are somehow forgotten in the society and their defense is not much considered by everyone,” said Hojatoleslam Seyyed Musa Mousavi, the vice-chairman of the Forum.

He also noted that sometimes there are values ??in the society that are neglected by scholars, and one of these values, which is at a high level in terms of importance and has been neglected, is the issue of proximity of Islamic sects, Mehr reported on Tuesday.

“It is a clear fact that if the most important religious mission for society is the protection and preservation of religious values, this important mission is in fact unity in Islamic society and we should know that without unity it is not possible to

protect these Islamic values.”

He went on to say that if one day the Islamic world witnessed dignity, it owes it to the coalition of the Islamic society, which was guarded by the Imams. Indeed, when we pay attention to the life of the Ahl al-Bayt, one of the most important points has been the connection between the sects and the Islamic Ummah. Therefore, if there was no Ahl al-Bayt in the society, the Islamic society would have been disintegrated.

“According to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, today the protection of Islamic unity in the conditions in which Islamic societies are is important and vital. In fact, we should know that the highest honor for the Islamic society is to strive for unity.”

Hojatolleslam Mousavi added: “Today, those who have this honor and have received this great divine grace, have taken new steps towards the insight of the Islamic society and are always striving for unity.”

About 70 books published annually

Mohammad Rasool Almasiyeh, the head of the Center for Organizing the Translation and Publication of Islamic Education and Humanities, also stated at the ceremony: “The aim of the center’s efforts is to indigenize translation and publishing, and in this regard, we publish about 70 books annually in different parts of the world, and we unveiled 9 books with the theme of unity.”

The official has noted that one of the most important books is “Mutual Services between Islam and Iran” written by Martyr Motahhari, which has been translated into four languages of Kyrgyz, Thai, Urdu, and Bengali. There has been a

commitment and responsibility in translating and publishing the books.

Elsewhere, Mehran Eskandarian, the cultural attaché of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Peshawar, Pakistan, stated: “Today, the Islamic world needs unity more than ever to be able to thwart the conspiracies of foreigners. Therefore, it is very necessary to address the concept of Islamic awakening.”

Mohammad Nasser, a professor of Persian language and literature at Lahore University of Oriental Studies in Pakistan, and translator of the book “Mohammad, a Messenger Forever”, referring to his biography, said: “This book by Hassan Pourazghadi, which I translated into Urdu, was very important and interesting for me.”

Samineh Arefeh, the translator of the book “Islamic Unity, Islamic Awakening” in Urdu, stated: “This book is a precious treasure.”

She said: “The question is why the Muslims of the world, despite having full faith, the need for Islamic unity and awakening has arisen? The answer is that the world of infidelity is aware of the fact that the unity of Islam is the cause of the defeat of the colonial powers, and this continues in the present age. Therefore, arrogance seeks to disrupt this unity.”

Alireza Sobhani-Nasab, director of Jamal Publishing House and publisher of the book of the Prophet and His Stories, for his part, highlighted: “We live in a world that is called the information age due to the diversity of information and we need deep content in this age. The most important content we need today is a monotheistic worldview.”

‘White Clad’ goes to four intl. film festivals

TEHRAN – Iranian short film ‘White Clad’ directed by Reza Fahimi will be screened at four international film festivals in Turkey, Sweden, Iraq and Australia.

‘White Clad’, a production of the Iranian Youth Cinema Society by Reza Fahimi, is scheduled to be screened at the 4th edition of the Turkish Red Crescent International Amity Short Film Festival, the 26th edition of the Canberra Short Film Festival in Australia, the 12th edition of the SAMA International

A scene from the “White Clad” short film, directed by Reza Fahimi

Film Festival in Sweden and the 5th Slemani International Film Festival in Kurdistan region of Iraq.

The short film shows an old woman bringing some sheep cheese to Ahmad, a ten-year-old boy so that he can give it to his father, who is a teacher. His father should intervene and stop them from hanging the woman’s son.

‘White Clad’ has received the grand prize in the international competition of the 37th Tehran International Short Film Festival (TISFF).

Religious, history books donated to Islamic School of Uganda

TEHRAN- The Iranian cultural attaché office in Uganda has donated more than 100 volumes of books in the fields of religion, culture, history, the Islamic Revolution, and Iranology to the library of the Amin al-Ruaya Islamic School in Jinghai, Uganda Mehr reported on Monday.

The books included 7 volumes of the Holy Quran in English, 20 volumes of Martyr Morteza Motahhari’s books in the native language of Luganda, 25 volumes of prayer books in the

language of Luganda.

Mohammad Reza Ghezelsoufa, the cultural attaché of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Uganda, spoke about the status and importance of science and knowledge in Islam, the need for families to cooperate with schools, dedicating hours to reading books, making the best use of days of education and preparing for the future responsibilities of the country.

In part of his remarks, referring to the

details of the book Tafsir Al-Mizan as the most prominent Qur’anic, religious and scientific work, he said: “Allameh Tabatabai is one of the greatest celebrities of the country, a great commentator of the Holy Quran, an Islamologist and jurist, as well as a prominent scholar and philosopher who was master in literature, theology, astronomy, and mathematics and has dozens of religious, scientific, social works.”