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Felicitation on 43rd anniversary of Imam's return to Iran

Report **T** Israeli President welcomed to the UAE with Yemeni missiles

Yemen's Armed Forces spokesman, Brigadier General Yahya Saree, has announced that the Yemeni armed forces have carried out a wide-scale military operation dubbed "Yemen Storm-3" hitting targets deep inside the United Arab Emirates.

The retaliatory operation is the third of its kind over the last weeks and comes as the Israeli President, Isaac Herzog, is on his first official visit to the Emirates.

Saree says "qualitative and important targets were hit in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi with a number of "Zulfiqar" ballistic missiles" and "sensitive targets were hit in the Emirate of Dubai with a number of Samad 3 drones."

He warned that "the state of the Emirati enemy will remain unsafe as long as the tools of the Israeli enemy continue to attack us," calling on foreign citizens, companies and residents to stay away from vital installations, as they are vulnerable to being struck during the coming period. ▶ Page 5

Interview **T**

Ice climber Safdarian proud of doing a great job

By Farrokh Hesabi

TEHRAN - Iran's Ice climber, Mohamadreza Korouyeh Safdarian, says breaking the dominance of Russia in the world's Ice climbing has been a great job done with his and his countryman Mohsen Beheshti Rad.

Safdarian snatched Iran's second gold medal at International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation (UIAA) Ice Climbing World Championships in Saas-Fee. Beheshti Rad claimed the country's first gold medal in the men's speed final.

"We did a great job in terms of what we achieved in Switzerland," said Safdarian in his interview with Tehran Times.

"The demanding level of the tournament made it difficult for every ice climber to top the podium. The Russian climbers always are among the best, but Mohsen and I could break their dominance and end their reign in the competitions," he added.

Having finished fifth in the men's speed contest, Safdarian managed to ▶ Page 3

National plan to empower border residents launched

TEHRAN - A national plan aiming to improve business and livelihoods for those residing in border areas and create sustainable employment for them has come into force, IRNA reported on Monday.

Approved on January 23, the plan aims at improving the livelihood of border residents in accordance with the local capacities of the region, through using employment facilitator models with the cooperation of responsible bodies.

The most important results of the implementation of the national program are to increase national production in border areas and create export opportunities, to change procedures in creating employment in border areas, he stated.

The development of trade in goods and services in border areas, increasing public participation, and endogenous development, increasing empowerment and resilience, and improving the infrastructure related to the national program, are among the strategies and policies of the program, he further noted.

In order to encourage domestic and foreign investment in the opportunities under the national program, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, in cooperation with the Ministry of Labor and the Interior Ministry, is required to develop an investment incentive package in border areas, he emphasized.

UAE Intercepts Missile During Israeli President's Trip

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Loading, unloading of goods in ports up 20% in 10 months on year

TEHRAN - Loading and unloading of goods in the ports of Iran rose 20 percent during the first ten months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21, 2021-January 20, 2022), as compared to the same period in the previous year.

As announced in a report by Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO), loading and unloading of goods in the country's ports reached 127.631 million tons in the mentioned period, while the figure stood at 106.453 million tons in the past year's same time span.

During the said ten months, unloading and loading operations in the container sector reached 1.78 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), 18 percent

more than 1.503 million TEUs in the first ten months of the previous year, the report said.

While Iran is combating the U.S. unilateral sanctions on its economy, the country's ports as the major gates of exports and imports play some significant role in this battle. This role makes all-out support to ports and more development of them serious and vital. Such necessity has led the government to define projects for more development of the ports and also take some measures to encourage investment making in ports, in addition, to facilitate loading and unloading of goods, especially basic commodities, there.

It is worth mentioning that PMO has defined a high number of projects to develop and improve the country's ports, as the country aims to double the capacity of its ports in a course of five years.

According to the Ports and Maritime Organization, the capacity of the country's ports has increased from 180 million tons in the Iranian calendar year 1392 (ended in March 2014) to 250 million tons in the previous calendar year (ended in March 2021).

The total capacity of the country's ports is expected to reach 280 million tons by the end of the current fiscal year.

Lt-Gen Soleimani's birthplace named touristic village

TEHRAN - Qanat Malek, the birthplace of Iranian popular commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani has recently been chosen as a tourist village, ISNA reported on Monday.

Located in southern Kerman province, the village has been selected as a destination for "resistance tourism", Kerman's governor Ali Zeinivand announced.

"The city of Kerman is also planned to be promoted as the capital of Islamic Resistance," the official added.

Martyr Soliemani is nationally famed as an epitome of Iranian resistance against the modern imperialism, Zionist regime, and the arrogant powers.

Lieutenant General Soleimani was assassinated in a U.S. drone strike on January 3, 2020, near Baghdad's international airport along with his longtime comrade Abu Mahdi al-Mohandes, the former deputy head of Iraq's Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF). ▶ Page 6



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Leader honors memory of Islamic Revolution martyrs

TEHRAN— Leader of the Islamic Revolution paid homage to the martyrs of the 1979 Islamic Revolution by visiting the martyrs' graveyard in Behesht Zahra cemetery on Monday.

On the eve of the 43rd anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei honored the memory of martyrs such as Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti, the former Judiciary chief.

Isfahan pavilion thrills visitors with free tours of untold stories

By Afshin Majlesi

TEHRAN - In a different approach, visitors to the Isfahan pavilion at the 15th Tehran International Tourism Exhibition are offered free-of-charge virtual tours with the help of skilled guides who put the spotlight on the untold stories of the ancient Iranian city.

The Leaning Tower of Isfahan, newly-dis-

covered historical places, golden room, European consulate, pre-Edison street lighting, Room of the Queen of England in Iran, European neighborhood in Iran, 400-year-old 'peacock', a German heritage in Iran, secrets behind geometrical patterns, missing clock tower, a model of Amsterdam, a Guinness-assessed mosque, and the mystery of 33 are amongst the tales you can discover

there to name a few.

Each story is originally narrated within a one-minute video clip in various languages to make culture lovers and avid travelers familiar with the off-the-beaten tracks, lesser-known destinations, souvenirs, foods, traditions, rituals, cultural heritage, handicrafts, and above all the hospitable people of Isfahan, which has long been nicknamed as "half the world". ▶ Page 6

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Interview **T**

If JCPOA is revived, it will help end conflicts in West Asia: American expert

By M.A. Saki

TEHRAN - Barbara Slavin, director of the Future of Iran Initiative at the Atlantic Council, believes if the 2015 nuclear deal is revitalized, it will serve as a motivation to help "end other conflicts" in West Asia.

Negotiations are underway in Vienna to restore the nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

"I certainly hope the JCPOA can be restored as it was a huge success for the U.S., Iran and multilateral diplomacy. If it is revived, that will help encourage other efforts to end conflicts in the Middle East," Slavin tells the Tehran Times.

The talks which started in April has reached a critical stage and negotiators from Iran, the U.S., the European trio (Germany, France and Britain), China and Russia have returned to their capitals for consultations. The European Union's Enrique Mora, who acts as a coordinator in the Vienna talks, has said now is the time for the sides to take "political decisions".

Slavin says, "Realistically, we probably only have until March to get this done. So I hope Iran shows the necessary flexibility to help achieve this."

One year after the Trump administration left the nuclear deal and returned the sanctions on Iran that had been lifted under agreement, ▶ Page 5

Report **T**

Goalkeeper Beiranvand biopic opens Fajr Film Festival

By Seyed Mostafa Mousavi Sabet

TEHRAN - The 40th edition of the Fajr Film Festival opened on Monday at Tehran's Milad Tower with screening "Beyro", a sports drama on the life story of Iranian goalkeeper Alireza Beiranvand.

Directed by Morteza Aliabbas-Mirzai, the film focuses on the odyssey teenager Beiranvand embarks on from his birthplace Sarab-e Yas, a small village in the Lorestan region, to Tehran in 2011 when he made his debut in Naft Tehran.

In his recent interview published by the Persian service of Honaronline, Aliabbas-Mirzai talked about his strong desire to make a sports movie in praise of hope and social responsibility. ▶ Page 8

Ex-White House official urges Biden to rejoin JCPOA 'step-by-step'



TEHRAN - A former White House official has said President Joe Biden's administration should take a "step-by-step" approach to rejoin the 2015 nuclear deal as the U.S. maximum pressure campaign against Iran has failed and the Vienna talks could collapse if some significant progress was not made.

Frank von Hippel, former assistant director for national security in the White House Office of Science and Technology, made the comment in a phone interview with Press TV on Friday as the eighth round of talks on lifting the illegal U.S. sanctions on Iran paused in the Austrian capital.

Von Hippel, now a professor of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, fully agreed with U.S. State Department spokesman Ned Price who told a news briefing last Tuesday that the previous U.S. administration had left behind a "terrible set of options," including its escalations toward the Islamic Republic and that the maximum pressure campaign had been an "abject failure."

"I agree completely with what Ned Price said," Von Hippel told Press TV. "I hope that it reflects that the Biden administration is now together in this view, and I hope that Iran's government is similarly focused on getting both countries back into compliance."

Former U.S. president Donald Trump left

the nuclear deal, officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), in May 2018 under his "maximum pressure" campaign against Iran. At the time his secretary of state Mike Pompeo acknowledged that U.S. will slap "the strongest sanctions in history" against Iran.

The professor from Princeton University said the Biden administration had to make sure that it does not lose any JCPOA supporters in Congress before rejoining the landmark deal as "only a small minority in Congress are eager to start a war with Iran," and that the U.S. can make it, "but perhaps most easily in a step-by-step process."

"Some significant progress must be made soon, or the negotiations will collapse," Hippel said in reference to the Vienna talks.

There should be a "step-by-step process in returning both sides to full compliance with the JCPOA" as well as pursuing the nuclear disarmament of nuclear-armed states and fulfilling their commitments under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the theoretical physicist added.

Iran and the remaining participants to the JCPOA have been holding talks in Vienna since April last year with the aim of reviving the deal by bringing the U.S. into full compliance.

The eighth round of talks between Tehran and the remaining signatories to the nuclear pact is primarily focused on lifting anti-Tehran sanctions.

The Vienna talks began on a promise by Trump's successor, Joe Biden, to rejoin the deal and repeal the so-called maximum pressure campaign against Iran.

In a Friday phone call with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian described the talks in Vienna as positive.

Expressing Tehran's deep distrust of U.S. rulers, Amir Abdollahian underscored the need for Washington and its European allies to take practical and tangible measures in order to reach a sustainable and reliable agreement.

Foreign Ministry: Iran's water rights from Helmand not fulfilled

TEHRAN— Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Monday that Iran's water right is a "definite" issue that the acting Taliban administration must fulfill.

In response to the Tehran Times correspondent, Saeed Khatibzadeh said that Iran's water right from Helmand is definite.

"The governing body of Afghanistan has said that it has opened the dam but the water has not reached the borders of Iran. It is not important for us if they have opened the dam. It is important to receive the water right. The Taliban governing body must remove all the obstacles, and this is an important criterion for which this body is responsible and must adhere to bilateral agreements and international treaties. The Foreign Ministry has used all its means to secure the water right," the spokesman said.

He added that Iran's water right from Helmand River is 820 million cubic meters.

Israel is an apartheid regime that seeks to dominate one minority group

The diplomat also responded to a question about the Israeli president's visit to the UAE.

According to Khatibzadeh, creating crises is in the essence of the fake regime of Israel and its survival is merely dependent on crisis, terror, violence, and bloodshed.

He further noted, "The clear example that we have in the international system as an apartheid regime is this fake occupier regime of Israel. It continues to pursue the same apartheid policies that it has been seeking over the last decades. First, it seeks the domination of one race and minority ethnic group in the occupied territories, and it pursues systematic atrocities against the main inhabitants of Palestine and the racial superiority of a particular ethnic group. In 2018, the racist law of the Jewish nation-state confirmed this racist behavior," he clarified.

Khatibzadeh said Israel, as a clear example of apartheid regime, is really a disgrace to human society, and it tries to create crises in other regions.

"Countries that help normalize these crises must recognize the aggressive, expansionist, and crisis-ridden nature of this regime and bear in mind that the first victims are those on the path to normalize relations with the Zionists," the diplomat noted.

He said that Iran not only condemns the actions

of some countries that are taking the path of normalization, but also recommends that they hear the awakening voices of their nations as soon as possible and put an end to these divisions in the Arab and the larger Islamic world.

Iran backs expansion of ties in the region

Responding to a question on the Iraq-Saudi Arabia relations, the spokesman said that Iran supports expansion of relations in the region.

"We support the expansion of relations between the countries of the region, including Iraq and Saudi Arabia. We see regional efforts for greater convergence in the interest of the region. Iran considers itself one of the proponents and designers of regional convergences, and we think that the more convergences there are, the more opportunities there are, and there is enough space for convergence, and there is no need for unwarranted competition. Iraq also needs support and cooperation in various dimensions," he reiterated.

Regarding the relations between Tehran and Riyadh and whether trade between the two countries can be restored, he said that there has been no significant change between the two countries.

"As much as we can move from the atmosphere of confrontation to logical interaction, it is in the interest of the two countries as well as the region," he asserted.

Endless cycle of violence against the Yemeni people

The spokesman also spoke about the Saudi-led coalition's attacks on Yemen and its impact on the Iran-Saudi talks in Baghdad, saying that the "self-proclaimed coalition" has targeted the Yemeni people with blind attacks these days.

"Some places were attacked dozens of times out of desperation and anger. The Yemeni people have been the victims of this aggression for the past few years," he noted.

Khatibzadeh said that Iran has always tried to be the voice of the oppressed people of Yemen and at the same time tried to use international mechanisms to end the suffering of the Yemeni people through political frameworks and Yemeni-Yemeni dialogue.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Iran: We are waiting for U.S.-E3 response in Vienna

TEHRAN— The Iranian foreign ministry spokesman on Monday reiterated that the 2015 nuclear agreement can be revived soon if the other sides come up with a response to Iran's initiatives.

"If the day after the delegations return to Vienna, they respond correctly to what has been said to them as the natural rights of Iran and to the texts that Iran has given them, and if they keep their demands within the framework of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), we can reach a lasting, good and reliable agreement the next day, and there is no need for artificial deadlines," Saeed Khatibzadeh told reporters during his weekly presser.

He added that the other sides are aware of the differences and must make political decisions, especially in Washington.

Khatibzadeh said that Iran is waiting for the political decisions in Washington which may be announced when the U.S. delegation will return to Vienna.

He then noted that there are significant differences among Iran and P4+1.

"In the field of sanctions removal, there are still important and significant issues that have not made the agreement possible to date. In the realm of verification and guarantees that can assure Iran that the United States will not ridicule international law and won't target the international companies with extraterritorial sanctions, and that our citizens will not be held hostage again under the false pretext of circumventing sanctions, there are still unsolved



issues," he reiterated.

The spokesman stressed that the progress should be made in a completely acceptable manner by Iran so that Tehran can close the case in terms of obtaining guarantees.

Khatibzadeh continued, "The history we have of the implementation of the JCPOA by the United States and some European countries is not a good record. Problems have been identified and in the area of verification all ideas have been clearly written... The Iranian delegation has written creatively, especially during the last three weeks, and today we are waiting for the response of the other parties, and we hope to achieve a good result in the shortest possible time in the field of lifting sanctions."

He added that the government has made significant progress in neutralizing sanctions and it won't tie everything to the Vienna talks.

Regarding remarks by a British foreign office official, Khatibzadeh said that the British negotiators

the coming days," he reiterated.

Regarding the Qatari foreign minister's visit to Iran, the spokesman said that the visit followed phone consultations, and some consultations needed to be held on bilateral, regional and international issues.

He added, "Just as we do not discuss regional issues with trans-regional countries, we move forward with the P4+1 issues within its own legal and international framework. What is happening in Vienna is on a professional path and some speculations must be neglected," he noted.

Khatibzadeh added that in the last three weeks, the negotiations have made significant progress in all four key points of lifting sanctions, nuclear commitments, verification and obtaining guarantees, although in some areas they have been more significant and faster, and in others due to the inaction of the other side and lack of necessary decisions or lack of initiative and creativity by the other side, there have been delays.

"We recommend that after returning from their capitals, the delegations return with the necessary decisions so that we can quickly summarize what we have drafted," he stated.

The spokesman concluded by saying that if the other parties, especially the United States, have made their own decisions and do not demand anything more than the JCPOA, a stable, reliable and good agreement can be reached quickly.

need to get their officials out of confusion about what is happening in Vienna.

The diplomat stated, "What is the definitive right of Iran in the field of peaceful nuclear technologies, will remain unchanged, and beyond that, what is guaranteed in the JCPOA has been the minimum of Iran's will. We consider the 2015 nuclear deal to be the framework of the other side's commitments. If their statements have domestic use, I will not enter into that area."

He noted that Britain has made very shrill statements these days that should be questioned.

Regarding the phone call between the Iranian president and his French counterpart, Khatibzadeh said that Iran and France, as two important countries in the P4+1 group, have held talks both in Vienna and at the level of president.

"The two presidents had telephone conversations on several other occasions. Iran's positions were well explained and some points were exchanged, which we hope to see the result in

Iran, Pakistan reiterate formation of inclusive government in Afghanistan

TEHRAN — Pakistan's Ambassador to Tehran, Rahim Hayat Qureshi, met on Sunday with Vahid Jalalzadeh, Chairman of the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee of the Iranian parliament.

Jalalzadeh said religious, historical and cultural commonalities between the two nations and good neighborliness are important factors in deepening relations between the two neighbors in various areas.

The senior legislator stressed the importance of parliamentary diplomacy to help remove obstacles to development of economic and trade relations and said, "Continuous consultation and positive and growing dialogue between government officials, military officials, and parliamentarians are a sign of the depth of friendship and brotherhood of the two nations."

These will help "strengthen and consolidate cooperation between each other in various fields, especially in the field of economics," he remarked.

He added that Iranian businessmen are looking to increase the level of their economic relations with Pakistan.

"We know this is a reciprocal feeling. We expect the officials of the relevant departments to try to pave this way."

In another part of his remarks, the MP reiterated the important of security cooperation in border areas to counter the actions of terrorist groups, saying the terrorist groups are not aware of the very strong relations between the officials of the



two countries.

Jalalzadeh added, "In the Islamic Republic of Iran, there is a strong consensus among the country's top officials to increase interactions with neighbors, especially the friendly and brotherly country of Pakistan."

Elsewhere in his remarks, the legislator emphasized the establishment of peace and stability in the region, especially in Afghanistan, and said that the Afghan people have been suffering from occupation and war for four decades.

"There should be lasting stability and security, as well as formation of an inclusive government in Afghanistan. Iran and Pakistan, as two key players in Afghanistan, can work together to alleviate the suffering of the people of this country," Jalalzadeh pointed out.

In conclusion, Jalalzadeh emphasized the peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear activities and added that in the last two years, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has visited Iran's nuclear sites 15 times and confirmed the peaceful nature of nuclear

activities, yet Iran is under unilateral pressure from the United States.

The U.S. and the Zionist regime continue to claim that they are concerned over Iran's nuclear activities, he noted.

For his part, Ambassador Qureshi referred to the 70th anniversary of Pakistan's independence and said Iran was the first country to recognize Pakistan's independence.

He also considered religious, historical and cultural affinities as important in strengthening relations between Pakistan and Iran.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Qureshi said relevant Pakistani officials are moving to establish border markets with Iran.

Pointing to the high economic potential of the two countries to develop cooperation, he said, "Agreements have been signed between the officials of the two sides, which we hope will be able to increase and strengthen the level of economic and trade exchanges more than before."

The Pakistani envoy also stressed the important and effective position and role of Iran in resolving the crisis in Afghanistan, saying the difficult situation in Afghanistan is a matter of concern for Pakistan.

"Establishing lasting peace and stability in Afghanistan is important for the region and neighboring countries. We hope that this will be achieved with the help of the Islamic Republic of Iran in forming an inclusive government," he concluded.

Iran FM wishes Indian counterpart health

TEHRAN— In a phone call on Monday, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian wished health for his Indian counterpart Subrahmanyam Jaishankar who has been diagnosed with coronavirus.

Iran's top diplomat underlined that he will travel to New Delhi at the earliest convenience.

He expressed satisfaction over the good ties between Iran and India, saying he will discuss important issues of mutual interest including the



issue of Afghanistan, regional developments and the Vienna talks in his face-to-face meeting with Indian officials.

For his part, Jaishankar also thanked Amir Abdollahian for the phone call and welcomed the planned visit of the Iranian foreign



minister to New Delhi.

On Friday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh told reporters that Jaishankar has contracted coronavirus, and the visit of the top Iranian diplomat to India has been postponed.

Amir Abdollahian told reporters on the sidelines of a national conference on Iran and neighbors last week that he planned to travel to India and Sri Lanka soon.

"In this trip, we will pursue several goals. First, my counterpart has traveled to Iran twice in the last four months, and we have political and economic relations with India, and various political, economic and technological cooperation issues are underway between the two countries," he stated.

UAE intercepts missile during Israeli president's trip

TEHRAN – The United Arab Emirates announced in the early hours of the morning that it intercepted a missile launched by Yemen's Ansarullah movement, the third attack in less than two weeks.

"There were no casualties resulting from the attack and the fragments of the ballistic missile fell outside of populated areas," The UAE's Ministry of Defense said in a statement, adding, "The UAE air defense forces and the Coalition Command had succeeded in destroying the missile launcher in Yemen after identifying locations of the sites."

The Monday attack marked the third time the UAE comes under missile attacks from Yemen. Over the last few weeks, the UAE has been in the crosshairs of the Sanaa-based forces for its involvement in the recent fighting in Shabwa and Marib governorates that resulted in a UAE-backed militant group, known as the Giants Brigades, capturing a number of counties in the two Yemeni governorates.

The escalation of military tensions between Abu Dhabi and Sanaa came to the surface in the waning weeks of last year when the UAE brought about a shift in its Yemen war strategy by moving the Brigades from their base in areas along Yemen's western



coasts to Shabwa. The UAE-trained Brigades launched a massive ground offensive against Sanaa forces with aerial support from the Saudi-led coalition. After weeks of heavy fighting, the Brigades retook several districts in Shabwa that were under the control of Sanaa. After Shabwa, they pushed northward into the Harib district of Marib.

Meanwhile, Sanaa forces launched two missile-and-drone attacks at the UAE in a bid to dissuade it from moving ahead with its renewed war strategy in Yemen. And they somehow succeeded in bringing the UAE-orchestrated offensive to a halt.

On Friday, the Brigades announced that they had begun withdrawing from a key area of the conflict and

repositioning their fighters and equipment after achieving their goals.

"After the great success achieved by the southern Giants Brigades in Operation Southern Storm, it began transferring its brigades to the main headquarters," the Brigades said in a statement. "The Brigades repositioned its forces in Shabwa governorate after liberating the districts of Bihan and Harib and securing them completely from the Houthi militias."

The announcement was cautiously received in Sanaa. However, it led to a decrease in fighting.

Then came the visit of Israeli President Isaac Herzog to the UAE, which took place in a tense moment.

Leading an Israeli delegation, Herzog arrived in Abu Dhabi on Sunday morning in a visit hailed by Israel as "historic."

The Israeli president was received at the airport by UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan and then was accorded an official reception at the stately Al Watan Palace. He held a meeting with Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Commending Israel on its sympathy with the UAE over the recent Yemeni attacks, Sheikh Mohammad told Herzog, "Your position embodies our common vision towards the necessity of addressing the sources of threats to regional stability and peace, foremost of which are the militia and terrorist forces and the importance of adopting a firm international stance against them."

The visit was overshadowed by the attacks from Yemen, which were seen by some observers as a double warning to the UAE intended to convey a message that the UAE needs to withdraw from the Yemen war and stop the normalization process with Israel.

So far, the UAE showed no willingness to heed the warning message, a move that, observers say, could lead to a further escalation.

Iran senior diplomat discusses Yemen with UN envoy

TEHRAN – Ali Asghar Khaji, senior advisor to the Iranian foreign minister, has held talks via a video conference with Hans Grundberg, the UN secretary general's special envoy for Yemen.

The Iranian foreign ministry said the talks were part of consultations by the Islamic Republic of Iran in order to end the humanitarian catastrophe in Yemen.

During the video conference, the senior advisor to the foreign minister expressed grave concern over an escalation of tensions and a surge in recent airstrikes by the Saudi-led coalition against residential and civilian areas in Yemen. Khaji demanded that the UN and the international community intervene in Yemen to end the Saudi-led war against the country and the inhumane siege on the Yemeni people. He underlined that Iran will continue efforts to help establish a fair peace in Yemen.

The UN secretary general's special envoy for Yemen also underscored the Islamic Republic's role in helping establish peace in Yemen. Grundberg outlined the UN efforts to lift the Saudi-led blockade, establish a ceasefire and resume political talks in Yemen.

Earlier, Khaji sent a message to the UN envoy on the situation in Yemen. The Iranian diplomat, who often plays a pivotal role in implementing Iran's regional foreign policy, condemned the massive bombardment by the Saudi-led coalition of Yemeni cities, civilian areas and infrastructure.

"Certainly, as the experience of the past seven years has shown, sanctions, military conflicts and the killing of people cannot lead to a solution to the Yemeni crisis and a way to liberation, and the solution to end the siege of the oppressed people of Yemen is the cessation of military operations and respect for independence of Yemen," Khaji said.

According to the senior advisor, as in the past

Iran is ready to cooperate and work in this direction.

In April 2015, Iran presented a four-point plan to the UN in a bid to end the conflict in Yemen. The four-point called for cessation of hostilities and an immediate end to all foreign military attacks, directly deliver medical and humanitarian aid, broker political talks between warring sides and establish an inclusive unity government.

In his recent phone call with United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian lamented an escalation of attacks on civilian areas in Yemen and reiterated Iran's long-held approach in supporting a political solution to the Yemen war.

Referring to the UN's approach on terminating the blockade as well as bringing about a ceasefire and holding political talks in Yemen, Amir Abdollahian called on the secretary-general to play a more active role in efforts to lift the siege on Yemen and put an end to the large-scale bombardment of civilian regions.

In a meeting with his Qatari counterpart Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani on Thursday, Amir Abdollahian again lamented the recent increase in military attacks against Yemen. He warned such moves will "destroy the path to peace."

"In recent weeks, we have witnessed an increase in military moves regarding Yemen, and such moves will lead to outbreak of further wars in Yemen and the region, and destroy the path to peace," Press TV quoted the Iranian foreign minister as saying.

On January 25, Khaji met with Peter Semneby, Sweden's special envoy for Yemen. The two diplomats discussed latest developments in Yemen via a video conference.

During the video discussion, the two sides exchanged views over potential areas of cooperation between Iran and Sweden for the

purpose of helping resolve the Yemeni crisis and end the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in the country.

The conversation came against a backdrop of heightened tensions between Yemen and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The Sanaa-based government has launched three drone and missile attacks on the UAE in recent weeks.

In November last year, chief of the Iranian Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee Vahid Jalalzadeh and Khaji met with Grundberg in Tehran.

Jalalzadeh said Iran is ready to help end the war in Yemen, encourage political talks, and decrease the pains and sorrows of the oppressed and defenseless Yemeni people in collaboration with Yemen and regional countries, Iran's state news agency IRNA reported.

"Seven years have passed since the beginning of the crisis in Yemen, throughout which the world has on each day been witness to the massacring of the defenseless, innocent and civilian Yemeni women and children, which is a sample of crimes against mankind, amid the silence, and sometimes collaboration of some world powers," Jalalzadeh lamented.

He said that Iran's official stand, ever since the outbreak of the Yemen crisis, has been an insistence on the need for Yemeni-Yemeni negotiations, that is among the entire groups there, free from foreign interventions or military aggression.

The head of parliamentary committee said that the UN special envoy had better focus its entire efforts aimed at ending the inhumane siege of Yemen, brokering an immediate ceasefire and arrange for the beginning of political negotiations in Yemen, aimed at establishment of sustainable peace in Yemen.

Iran FM congratulates China on New Year, Spring Festival

TEHRAN – Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian has sent a congratulatory message to his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi congratulating him on the Chinese New Year and Spring Festival.

In his message, the Iranian foreign minister wished success and prosperity for China's government and heroic nation, the Iranian Foreign Ministry said.

"I am glad to have had the opportunity to hold a meeting and constructive talks with you, old friend, in the beautiful city of Wuxi ahead of the Spring Festival," The message read.

"I am certain that the agreements reached during the trip will pave the ground for the expansion of comprehensive strategic cooperation between Iran and China in the second 50 years of diplomatic relations," it added.

In his first visit to China since taking over as Iran's top diplomat, Amir Abdollahian visited China in mid-January, a move that was hailed as opening new horizons for deepening ties between Tehran and Beijing.

The Iranian foreign minister ushered in such a horizon in an article published in Chinese media ahead of his visit. Amir Abdollahian said the visit "will be a promising new horizon for our promotion and development of cooperation in various domains."

At the center of this horizon is a strategic comprehensive partnership signed last year between Iran and China. On March 27, 2021, then-Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi signed the plan, raising Tehran-Beijing relations in various fields to a new, strategic level.

The plan, officially known as the "Comprehensive Cooperation between

the Islamic Republic of Iran and the People's Republic of China," was extensively hailed by almost all Iranian officials as a "strategic" decision.

In his op-ed for Global Times, Amir Abdollahian said the various cultural and political commonalities between Iran and China have paved the way for the two countries to pursue the development of economic and trade cooperation and implementation of the Comprehensive Cooperation Plan.

"China has been playing a constructive and rational role in the Iran nuclear deal negotiations, especially in the recent talks in Vienna to lift sanctions against our country," Amir Abdollahian told the CGTN before wrapping up his visit to China.

He said, "During the visit, we reached a consensus on some significant issues, including the implementation of a comprehensive cooperation agreement between the two sides.

In order to implement this long-term vision proposed by our leaders for the development of Iran-China relations, both sides need a road map, so we've reached a 25-year, long-term strategic comprehensive cooperation agreement. My visit here is to discuss with my Chinese counterpart Mr. Wang Yi how to implement the plan. We also exchanged views on major international and regional issues. For instance, we still face severe crises in Afghanistan and Yemen."

He added, "Both sides will benefit from the agreement. It covers cooperation in a number of fields, including trade, agriculture, science and technology, as well as in cultural fields like tourism. It also includes cooperation on regional and international affairs. For instance, mutual support in international organizations. I believe the plan serves the common interests of both sides."

SPORTS

Ice climber Safdarian proud of doing a great job

From Page 1 ▶ stand first, achieving a gold medal in the overall results.

Safdarian won a bronze medal at the World Championships in the same city four years ago.

"It was three exciting and wonderful days for me as I was competing with some of the best climbers of the world. It was Iran's first gold medal in the combined category, in which I managed to win a bronze medal in 2019," said the 30-year-old athlete.

When asked about the issues and problems of ice climbing in Iran, Safdarian said: "The federation's support has been limited to sending us to the world championships and the Asian championships; otherwise we will participate in the rest of the competitions with the help of sponsors or by spending our own money.

"Of course, Mr. Reza Zarei, head of Iran's Mountaineering Federation, is doing his best to support us, and I understand the problems and the condition of the federation in terms of financial issues. In Iran, we have a shortage in terms of facilities and equipment for ice climbing, and also, there is a lack of standard ice walls in the country. It makes our job massively difficult to battle for the world titles," he concluded.

We want to finish Group A as leaders: Dragan Skocic

TEHRAN – Iran national football team coach Dragan Skocic says that they intend to finish the third round of 2022 FIFA World Cup qualification as the group leaders.

Iran booked their place in Qatar 2022 as the first Asian team with three games to play.

The 'Persian Leopards' will host the UAE on Tuesday in Tehran's Azadi Stadium and the Croatian coach is determined to win his 14th win out of 15th match with the Iranian football team.

"We want to make the Iranian people happy and will play the UAE with the aim of registering another win," Skocic said in the pre-match news conference.

"The UAE are a strong team and we know that we have a difficult task ahead but our players must know that they will represent Iran and we want to win the match," he added.

Amir Abedzadeh stole the show in the match against Alireza Beiranvand has tested positive for COVID-19.

"I am sure there is no concern about the goalkeeper in the 2022 FIFA World Cup since we have good goalkeepers," he said.

"I have a message for my players. They should not be careless and negligent in the match and must do their best. We start the match with the aim of making the Iranian people happy," Skocic concluded.

UAE national team head coach Bert van Marwijk also said they are going to win the match.

The Emirati football team must finish as the third -placed team to have a chance to qualify for the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

"We are in good condition after beating Syria and are ready to beat Iran in Tehran. I would also like to congratulate Iran for booking their place in the FIFA World Cup," the Dutchman said.

"We lost to Iran in our first match but are determined to win the match on Tuesday," Bert van Marwijk said.

Sardar Azmoun leaves Zenit

TEHRAN – Zenit and Bayer Leverkusen have reached an agreement for the transfer of Iranian forward Sardar Azmoun to the German club this winter transfer window.

Azmoun joined Zenit in February 2019 and in his three years with the club he scored 62 goals and made 17 assists in 104 matches. He finished the 2019/20 season as RPL top scorer and won the RFU Player of the Year for the 2020/21 season.

Azmoun won three RPL titles as well as the Russian Cup and two Russian Super Cups while in St. Petersburg.

Zenit football club thanked Azmoun for his incredible contribution and the success he helped bring to the team in his time there.

The Russian giants bid farewell to the Iranian on its Twitter account. Per BILD, Bayer have transferred just 2 million Euros to the Russian side to acquire Azmoun's services.

"We are pleased with the constructive agreement with Zenit and that we can now rely on Sardar's qualities at an early stage. He will enrich our offensive game and significantly enhance our very good squad once again," said Simon Rolfes, Sporting Director of the club.

Fenerbahçe welcome Marouf

TEHRAN – The Turkish men's club vice-champions Fenerbahçe announced the beginning of the collaboration with Saied Marouf, who was mentioned as their new reinforcement a few days back.

Thus, the now veteran ended his nearly 6-month break from playing volleyball.

Marouf, Best Setter of the 2014 FIVB World League, said goodbye to the Iran National Team, which he captained for years, at the end of the Tokyo Olympics last summer.

He briefly went to the United States for personal reasons but then reportedly signed for China's Beijing. Given that the beginning of the season there has constantly been postponed, Marouf decided that it was the better option for him to choose another destination, and the choice fell on Fenerbahçe.

Al-Kaf chosen to officiate Iran v UAE: 2022 WCQ

TEHRAN – Ahmed Abu Bakar Said Al-Kaf was chosen as referee of the Iran and UAE match in the 2022 World Cup qualifier.

The 39-year-old Omani referee will be assisted by his countrymen Rashid al Ghaithi and Abu Bakar Salim Mahad Al Amri in this match.

Al-Kaf has been a full international for FIFA since 2010.

The match is scheduled to be held on Tuesday in Tehran's Azadi Stadium.

Dragan Skocic's team booked their place in Tehran's Azadi Stadium on Thursday as the first Asian team.

The UAE have a chance to finish the Group A as the third-placed team.

The two third-placed teams will play a single match and the winner advance to the inter-confederation play-offs.

Iran fail to win a medal in 2022 Asian Handball Championship

TEHRAN – Iran lost to Saudi Arabia 26-23 in bronze medal match of the 2022 Asian Men's Handball Championship on Monday.

Iran have already qualified for the 2023 World Handball Championship, to be held jointly by Poland and Sweden, as one of top five teams.

Qatar won the tournament by defeating Bahrain in the final match.

Saudi Arabia was awarded the tournament after the Championship was moved in September by the Asian Handball Federation due to the spread of COVID-19 in the initial host country, Iran.

Industry minister set to visit UAE, Oman next week



Iranian Industry, Mining, and Trade Minister Reza Fatemi-Amin

TEHRAN – Heading a high-ranking trade delegation, Iranian Industry, Mining, and Trade Minister Reza Fatemi-Amin is going to travel to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Oman next week, the portal of Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) announced.

According to Farzad Piltan, the director-general of TPO's Office of Arabian and African Countries, Fatemi-Amin will be accompanied by TPO Head Alireza Peyman-Pak and the heads of some trade-related government entities.

The minister will travel to the UAE on February 6 to visit the EXPO Dubai and also attend a meeting with Iranian businessmen active in the UAE market, Piltan said.

During the three-day visit, Fatemi-Amin will also meet with the UAE government and private sector officials to discuss economic

and trade relations, he added.

The Iranian delegation will then visit Oman during February 8-11 to attend the 19th Iran-Oman Joint Economic Committee meeting.

During the event, Fatemi-Amin will meet with political, economic, and private sector officials from Oman.

The two sides are going to discuss expansion of cooperation in a variety of areas including investment, trade, industry, mining, aviation and maritime transport and transit, energy, technical and engineering services, tourism, culture, as well as judicial, consular, labor and health issues, during the two countries' joint economic committee meeting.

According to Piltan, these two trips have been organized in line with the government's plans for developing economic and trade diplomacy with countries in the region, especially Iran's southern neighbors.

He noted that considering the TPO's general policy in providing the necessary conditions for the activities of the Iranian private sector in neighboring countries, resolving the issues and problems of this sector are to be on the agenda of meetings and negotiations during the mentioned visits.

Piltan further expressed hope that with the increase of activities in the field of economic and trade diplomacy, in the future the country will witness the growth of economic and trade exchanges with other nations in the region, especially the neighboring countries.

Housing rental rises 54% in Tehran city in a month

TEHRAN- Central Bank of Iran (CBI) has announced that the rental price has increased 54 percent in Tehran city during the tenth Iranian calendar month Dey (ended on January 20), as compared to the same month in the past year.

The CBI has also announced that the average housing price has increased 1.1 percent in the capital Tehran during the tenth month.

Back in April, 2021, the head of Iran's Property Advisers Union said housing prices

in the country should decrease at least 25 percent in order for people to be able to afford to purchase.

Mostafa Gholi Khosravi stressed the need for establishing a market regulation headquarters for the housing sector to monitor the activities of dealers and real estate agencies in order to balance the prices.

Housing prices in Iran have been constantly rising over the past year due to various internal and external factors.

Oil, gas, condensate revenues expected to reach \$35b by late March

TEHRAN – Iran's oil exports have increased by 40 percent in recent months and the oil, gas, condensate and oil products export revenues are expected to reach \$35 billion by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20), Shana reported on Sunday.

According to Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Ehsan Khandouzi, the country has received the payment for all its crude oil sales since the new government administration and the Oil Ministry has no unsettled oil dues.

Based on official data, the Iranian crude oil export revenues amounted to \$18.677 billion in the first six months of the current

Iranian calendar year (March 21-September 22, 2021), while the figure was only \$8.855 billion in the previous year's same six months.

The country's crude oil exports in the first half of the current year increased by 118 percent compared to the figure for the same period in the previous year, while the non-oil exports also rose by 50 percent.

Back in December 2021, Iranian Oil Minister Javad Oji said the country's oil sales in the current Iranian calendar year have increased drastically compared to the previous year.

"The Oil Ministry has published a report on the oil sales as well



as the exports of natural gas and petrochemical products over the past 100 days, according to which the figures have increased drastically compared to last year," Oji said.

Later that month, Bloomberg reported that China increased imports of Iranian crude during November 2021 after independent refiners were granted additional import quotas for 2021.

Citing market intelligence firm Kpler, the report said China imported about 18 million barrels of Iranian crude oil in the mentioned month, equivalent to about 600,000 barrels a day.

In a meeting with the members of the Parliament Energy

Committee in mid-November 2021, Oji had said that new windows have been opened for the country's oil sales using the existing capacities and the ministry had achieved new successes in this regard.

Also in September 2021, the minister had said his ministry was determined to increase the country's oil exports despite the U.S. sanctions, adding that the use of oil sanctions as a "political tool" would harm the market.

"There is a strong will in Iran to increase oil exports despite the unjust and illegal U.S. sanctions; I promise that good things will happen regarding Iran's oil sales in the coming months," Oji told the national TV.

Germany eager for expanding economic ties with Iran: envoy

TEHRAN – German Ambassador to Iran Hans-Udo Muzel said on Sunday that his country is interested in the expansion of economic ties with Iran in various areas, the portal of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) reported.

Speaking in a meeting with Head of Iran Small Industries and Industrial Parks Organization (ISIPO) Ali Rasoulia for extending a previously signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) on economic cooperation, Muzel said: "I believe that the two countries should cooperate not only in the political and macro sectors, but also in operational fields, and Iran Small Industries and Industrial Parks Organization is a key organization for such cooperation."

Germany has one of the largest joint chambers of commerce with 1,800 active members in Iran and this shows the depth of economic cooperation between the two countries in various industries, he stressed.

Expressing hope that the existing challenges will be resolved and that good results will be achieved in the Vienna talks, the official continued: "An agreement is expected to be reached in the very near future, and because



ISIPO Head Ali Rasoulia (L) and German Ambassador to Tehran Hans-Udo Muzel exchange renewed MOU documents in Tehran on Sunday

opportunities are very limited, we should be ready to conclude business cooperation processes as soon as possible."

Muzel further stressed the need to prepare for the formation of a new business environment between the two countries, and said: "It does not matter what governments do; We want to act with strong faith and with the intention of creating opportunities from challenges."

He mentioned Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) as a prominent feature and the backbone of the German economy and added: "In other European countries, small

and medium enterprises are also considered important, while in France there is an SME association that covers the field of services, but in Iran and Germany the activities are more focused on the industry."

"There are many fields of industrial production in Iran and in this respect, it is very different from the other Persian Gulf countries; Because they are more active in the logistics and finance sectors, but are weak in the manufacturing sector," he added.

Further in the meeting, Rasoulia, for his part, mentioned the history of cooperation between his organization and various German entities and said: "Over the past five years, in addition to working with the German Ministry of Economy and the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), ISIPO has also signed memorandums of understanding with the Leipzig University and the German Association of Small and Medium-sized Businesses."

Referring to the positive contribution of the German government in the technology transfer and industrial development of the Islamic Republic, Rasoulia expressed the willingness of Iranian small and medium-sized enterprises to cooperate with German counterparts.

IME's 10-month value of trades increases 93% yr/yr

TEHRAN- The value of trades at Iran Mercantile Exchange (IME) rose 93 percent during the first ten months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21, 2021-January 20, 2022), as compared to the same period of time in the past year.

In terms of monthly trade, over 7.297 million tons of commodities worth over \$2 billion were traded at the IME in the tenth Iranian calendar month Dey (ended on January 20).

The exchange sold on both domestic and export pits of its oil



and petrochemical trading floor more than 1.529 million tons of commodities worth over \$856 million.

Next was the metals and minerals trading floor with trades of 5.724 million tons of commodities valued at more than

\$1 billion.

On its agricultural trading floor the exchange saw offering of 50 kg of saffron strands.

It's worth noting that the IME also played host to trade of 43,899 tons of commodities on its side market.

The value of trades at Iran Mercantile Exchange in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20, 2021) rose 108 percent compared to the preceding year.

During the past year, about 3.5 quadrillion rials (about \$835

billion) worth of commodities were traded at the mentioned market.

In the past year, several new records were achieved in terms of the volume and value of transactions in the mentioned market's various floors including the industrial, petroleum, and petrochemical floors.

IME is one of the four major stock markets of Iran, the other three markets are Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), Iran's over-the-counter (OTC) market known also as Iran Fara Bourse (IFB), and Iran Energy Exchange (IRENEX).

Industry Ministry outlines details of roadmap for industrial development

TEHRAN – Iran's Deputy Industry, Mining and Trade Minister Mehdi Niazi has outlined the details of his ministry's roadmap for the development of the country's trade and strategic industries, the portal of the Industry Ministry reported on Monday.

According to Niazi, the strategic roadmap of the country's industry will have an international and foreign trade dimension as well as a domestic aspect which is concerned with industrial activities inside the country, especially strategic industries such as the automotive sector.

There should also be a regional and spatial planning-based approach involved in the development of this roadmap, the official said.

He further stated that several such roadmaps and comprehensive programs have been defined in his ministry over time but none of them have been successful in implementation.

"[In drafting the new strategic roadmap]



we were supposed to have a comprehensive and strategic view of all aspects of the industry so that we would not face any obstacles in implementation," he added.

Niazi said the Industry Ministry also plans to use the views and opinions of the private sector representatives in the preparation of the mentioned roadmap.

"Some provisions may require a law or government decree, but we will try to prepare the initial draft and documentation of this strategic roadmap as scheduled," he

stated.

Back in September 2021, Deputy Industry, Mining, and Trade Minister Mehdi Sadeqi Niaraki said his ministry has defined 36 new programs for improving the productivity of the country's major strategic industries.

Niaraki said the Industry Ministry's programs for supporting the productive sector focus on three major axes including the facilitation of supplying raw materials required by industries including equipment, machinery, components, and parts as well as planning to provide the working capital needed by the production units.

Mentioning the preparation of the roadmap for strategic industries as another major axis of the Industry Ministry's planning, the official said: "36 programs have been defined in the industry, mining, and trade sectors for supporting strategic industries such as automotive, home appliances, textiles, and clothing, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and medical equipment."

TEDPIX gains 10,000 points on Monday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), gained 10,022 points to 1.294 million on Monday.

As reported, over 7.072 billion securities worth 46.366 trillion rials (about \$159.8 million) were traded at the TSE.

The first market's index rose 10,069 points, and the second market's index climbed 11,745 points.

TEDPIX lost 50,000 points (four percent) to 1.229 million in the past Iranian calendar week (ended on Friday).

During the past week, the indices of Mobarakeh Steel Company, Bandar Abbas Oil Refining Company, Isfahan Oil Refinery, Iran Khodro Company, Saipa Company, and National Iranian Copper Company were the most widely followed ones.

On January 22, Head of Iran's Capital Market Development and Stabilization Fund Amir-Mahdi Sabaei said that part of the allocations by the National Development Fund (NDF) has been deposited into the stabilization fund to support the stock market.

Sabaei had previously announced the allocation of 120 trillion rials (about \$430 million) of NDF



resources for the Capital Market Development and Stabilization Fund.

The official said the rest of the funding will also be paid based on a mutually agreed schedule, adding: "We hope that the rest of the deposits, like the deposits made yesterday, will be made regularly according to the agreed schedule."

Sabaei noted that in addition to the resources received from the NDF, the fund can also be financed through the money and capital markets.

The allocation of financial resources from NDF to the Capital Market Stabilization Fund is one of the measures that the government has been taking since the stock market started a downward trend.

Following the 13th government's new strategies to improve the stock market, the Government Economic Coordination Headquarters convened a meeting on November 2, 2021, chaired

by President Ebrahim Raisi, during which a decision was made to inject new resources from NDF into the Capital Market Development and Stabilization Fund.

Based on the statute of Capital Market Development and Stabilization Fund, the resources of this fund can be provided from three main sources, the first is the government investment which should be foreseen in the national budget bill, the second is the allocation of one percent of the NDF resources for this fund, and the third source would be the allocation of a part of the trades commission received by the Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO).

According to Sabaei, currently, 30 percent of the SEO commissions are deposited directly to the account of this fund on a daily basis.

The Capital Market Development and Stabilization Fund's mission is to support the Iranian stock market. The money loaned from NDF should be repaid over a specified period and the maturity can be extended. The Capital Market Stabilization Fund is responsible for paying the principal amount plus interest.

Israeli President welcomed to the UAE with Yemeni missiles



From page 1 ▶ Saree also stressed that “the armed forces will not stand idly by as they see the great people of Yemen suffering from the scourge of siege and aggression” adding “we will continue to legitimately defend dear Yemen, until the aggression stops and the siege is lifted”.

Air Traffic had reportedly stopped and flights were grounded at Abu Dhabi international airport, in the capital of the Emirates.

Flight Radar applications show a brief halt to commercial flights over Abu Dhabi Airport.

Reports also suggest movement in Abu Dhabi had been paralyzed as a result of a strong Yemeni operation.

The UAE's Ministry of Defense claims the attack launched by Yemen's Ansarallah movement did not result in any losses alleging its defense systems intercepted and destroyed a ballistic missile.

The Ministry added that remnants of a ballistic missile fell outside populated areas. It also says “we confirm that we are ready and ready to deal with any threats” and that “we are taking all necessary measures to protect the country from attacks”.

The Yemeni attacks represent a major challenge for the Emirates, which has long advertised itself to international businesses and tourists as a safe place to visit.

However, reporting on the latest attacks has made it difficult for journalists after the country's top prosecutor threatened people, including Emirati nationals, who film or post footage of the latest Yemeni attacks would face criminal charges.

Last week, state media said prosecutors in Abu Dhabi summoned people who shared videos on social media of the aftermath of a similar strike on Abu Dhabi International Airport. The UAE's Attorney General Hamad al-Shamsi was quoted as warning

against both “publishing and circulating such material on social media websites.”

Al-Shamsi did not disclose how many people were summoned nor provide any details on what consequences they might face.

The move indicates the destabilizing potential of continued attacks on the Emirates, even if the missiles are alleged to have been intercepted by Abu Dhabi. The UAE relies on millions of foreigners for its economic survival, a perception of instability would put foreign investors and tourists away and the Emirati business model would be under threat.

In early morning trading, the main Persian Arab Gulf stock markets were falling, with the Dubai market index losing the most as a result of the third “Yemen Storm” operation.

While the Yemeni armed spokesman did not mention the Israeli President's trip in his briefing; this was not lost on Israeli media who highlighted the Yemeni operation, in the heart of Abu Dhabi coinciding with Herzog's visit, as representing an attempt to sabotage the trip. Israeli media reports say that “Herzog was in a hotel when the attack happened.”

One Israeli media outlet reportedly cited the regime's intelligence agency had informed the Israeli President to immediately return back to the occupied Palestinian Territories, something that Reuters later denied, citing Israeli sources.

The Israeli President's visit has drawn widespread outrage in West Asia, particularly in occupied Palestine.

The Hamas movement issued a statement that said: “we deplore the UAE's reception of the president of the Zionist entity on its soil and affirm our rejection of all forms of normalization with the Zionist enemy and the leaders of its alleged entity”.

The statement added “normalization visits with the occupation would encourage

it to continue to escalate its aggression against our people and its denial of its rights, which is what happened since the start of the normalization process”

“It is unfortunate that the visit of the president of the Zionist entity to the Emirates comes in light of the escalation of the occupation attack on our people with killing and arrests until this morning, and an increase in the policy of ethnic cleansing as is happening to our people in al-Quds, and the continuation of the settlement policy in the West Bank, the siege of the Gaza Strip and the continued abuse of prisoners”

The Gaza based Palestinian Islamic Jihad movement also strongly condemned the UAE's “reception of the head of the Israeli occupation entity, Isaac Herzog”

The movement says “receiving the heads of terrorism and extremism is a desecration of the Arab land and an attempt to impose and accept the false occupation in the Arab region. No matter what level of shame alliance with the enemy brings, belief in its inevitable demise will remain stronger and truer than the mirage of those alliances and false relations with it”.

Elsewhere, a senior leader of the Political Bureau of the Ansarallah movement Muhammad al-Bukhaiti has told the Lebanese based Al-Mayadeen news channel “we will counter escalation with escalation”, saying that the UAE's calculations are wrong and greed in the southern governorates of Yemen is what pushed Abu Dhabi to the latest escalation.

He says “Saudi Arabia and the UAE are blackmailing Arab countries to participate in the aggression against Yemen”

He noted Ansarullah is ready for intra-Yemeni talks, that this has been the movement's position “since the start of the aggression” and “we want the other Yemeni parties to be partners with us in restoring

Yemen's independence. We have no problem in holding the Yemeni-Yemeni dialogue in any neutral country”.

Referring to the latest developments on the ground in the strategic energy rich city of Marib, al-Bukhaiti noted that so far, most of the 10 districts of Marib have been liberated, and two districts that contain gas fields remain.

This comes as the chairman of the Board of Directors of the popular Yemeni newspaper al-Thawra (the uprising) Abdul Rahman al-Ahnoumi has been cited as saying the Yemeni army possesses weapons that have not been announced until today and it can reach the Zionist entity.

In other developments, according to a Yemeni military spokesperson a large number of UAE backed mercenaries and Daesh members have also been killed and wounded, while five vehicles have been destroyed after a large gathering of the militants was targeted with a ballistic missile in Shabwa province.

In recent weeks, the Yemeni military has slammed the UAE saying Abu Dhabi “has deployed mercenaries and members of takfir groups to fight the Yemeni armed forces and the popular committees in Shabwa province”

Following the latest retaliatory attack on the UAE, the Saudi-led coalition pounded different regions across Yemen with airstrikes.

For hours, Saudi warplanes hovered above the Yemeni's capital, with numerous air raids on several residential neighborhoods and reports of homes flattened.

Reports say the Yemeni city of Marib was hit 17 times, al-Jawf, Taiz, al-Bayda and Amran among other areas also witnessed heavy bombardment while an airstrike on Sa'ada killed at least one civilian and injured another.

With the fresh attacks, Yemen has pledged to retaliate and says the era of hit and run by the Saudi-led, American backed coalition is over.

If JCPOA is revived, it will help end conflicts in West Asia: American expert

“Pompeo wants to be president and thinks Iran is a winning issue for him”

From page 1 ▶ Tehran started to gradually lift bans on its nuclear activities. Iran also accelerated its nuclear activities after the parliament approved a legislation obliging the government to increase the level of enrichment and install advanced centrifuges.

The parliament said the ratification is intended to lift the illegal sanctions on Iran. After a sabotage attack on the Natanz nuclear site in April 2021, which Israel is considered responsible for, Iran started to enrich uranium to a purity of 60 percent. However, Iran has been insisting that it has no intention to build nuclear weapons and that it considers weapons of mass destruction, especially nuclear arms, as haram (religiously banned).

On whether the Vienna talks are promising, Slavin says she does not use the word “promising” but she feels “a greater urgency on the part of the negotiators to get to an agreement soon.”

Iran has been saying that it has put forward initiatives to advance the talks and been complaining that the European troika and the U.S. have failed to put forward proposals.

Slavin says she has not seen “the specifics” but adds, “My impression is that there are still some important gaps on the nature of ‘guarantees’ that Iran will see prolonged sanctions relief and the schedule for Iran to scale back nuclear advances that violate the JCPOA.”

Iran is seeking guarantees that the U.S. would not leave the nuclear deal again. However, the current U.S. administration says it cannot decide for the next president and this is one of the main stumbling blocks.

Slavin says there are “variety of creative solutions” that can allay Iran's concerns.

“I think there are a variety of creative solutions, including so-called ‘letters of comfort’ from the U.S. Treasury department to foreign banks and importers of Iranian oil.”

She adds, “We have also seen a number of political statements – from President Biden and Secretary Blinken among others – that the U.S. will remain faithful to the JCPOA as long as Iran does. Ultimately, however, it is Iran's decision whether it is worth it to get access to some \$100 billion in frozen hard currency and be able to sell oil freely for at least several years at rather high prices.”

Some analysts say the U.S. should show more flexibility in returning to the JCPOA because as it was the first party that quit the nuclear agreement in violation of UN Security Council Resolution 2231 and slapped the harshest sanctions in history against Iran.

Slavin is of the opinion that Joe Biden's government should have done more flexibility last year, especially as Iran was struggling with the Coronavirus pandemic, but now Iran should act more flexibly.

“I wish the Biden administration had done more last year in the way of goodwill gestures, particularly regarding Covid vaccines. At present, however, I think Iran should show more flexibility,” notes Slavin, who is also a lecturer in international affairs at George Washington University.

“Restoring JCPOA is best defense against hawks”

Some Iran hawks, like former secretary of state Mike Pompeo and Congresspersons, are urging the Biden administration to cease the talks.

When asked doesn't she think that such persons are inherently seeking a war against Iran, Slavin answers, “Pompeo wants to be president and thinks Iran is a winning issue for him. However, the policies he pursued have led us to the situation



we are now in. Also, Americans are in no mood for a war with anyone and Pompeo's hawkishness puts him out of step even with the Republican Party.”

The Iranians were energized when the nuclear deal was signed in July 2015. However, Trump quit the agreement under his “maximum pressure” campaign against Iran. This led the Iranians, both the people and reformist politicians and activists, to lose their hope. The move also vindicated the conservatives who were saying the U.S. cannot be trusted. Even now that serious efforts are being made to put the JCPOA on the right track some Iran hawks, like senator Ted Cruz, are even threatening that a Republican president will abandon the deal even if it is revived?

But, Slavin argues, “If we can revive the JCPOA, that will be the best defense against hawks in both countries.”

Former Israeli prime minister played a key role in provoking Trump to abrogate the nuclear deal. The current establishment in Israel is also against reviving the agreement. Saudi Arabia was also an opponent of the deal. But the Saudi Kingdom has softened its stance.

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian has said his country is informing neighbors, especially the Arab states on the southern shores of the Persian Gulf, about the process of the Vienna nuclear talks.

Amir Abdollahian has also announced that Iran and Saudi Arabia can reopen their embassies.

Iran and the UAE are also healing their rifts. Iranian Industry and Trade Minister Reza Fatemi-Amin is going to travel to the UAE and Oman next week. He will be accompanied by a high-ranking trade delegation.

The UAE's top national security adviser Sheikh Tahnoon bin Zayed Al Nahyan also visited Tehran for high-level talks in December 2021.

Analysts see Iran's new regional policies, like moves to restore ties with Saudi Arabia, effective in bringing the nuclear deal talks to a result.

Slavin also believes that “talks with Saudi Arabia are helpful but the recent lethal attacks by the Houthis” which she alleges are carried out with “Iranian drones only increased tension and made negotiations in Vienna more difficult.”

She adds it is important for Tehran to “understand that the recent Houthi attacks on the UAE are very damaging to both the Houthis and Iran.”

The senior analyst also says, “There is pressure in Washington now to designate the Houthis as terrorists which would set back chances for a cease-fire as well as humanitarian aid.”

Iran has been calling for an end to the Yemen conflict. In April 2015, Iran presented a four-point plan to then UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon in which it suggested an immediate ceasefire and end of all foreign military attacks, humanitarian assistance, a resumption of broad national dialogue and establishment of an inclusive national unity government.

UK's Johnson says ordered armed forces to prepare for deployment next week amid Ukraine tensions

The United Kingdom is preparing for a potential major deployment of troops across Europe next week as tensions continue to rise over the threat of a potential Russian invasion of Ukraine, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said in a statement on Saturday.

The offer the UK is considering making to other NATO members would double the number of British troops deployed in Eastern Europe and send defensive weapons to Estonia in an effort to strengthen borders in eastern Europe, according to a statement Johnson put out on Saturday, Reuters reported.

“I have ordered our Armed Forces to prepare to deploy across Europe next week, ensuring we are able to support our NATO allies,” the prime minister said in the statement, per the wire service.

“This package would send a clear message to the Kremlin - we will not tolerate their destabilizing activity, and we



will always stand with our NATO allies in the face of Russian hostility,” the statement continued.

British officials were to meet on Monday to discuss military options and finalize the decision next week, according to Reuters.

The White House has warned of an imminent threat of a Russian invasion of Ukraine as Moscow has amassed more than 100,000 troops on the Ukrainian border. The UK's Foreign, Commonwealth

and Development Office last week said it had obtained information indicating that the Russian government is planning to install a pro-Russian leader in Ukraine.

Russia has denied having any plan to invade Ukraine.

President Biden said on Friday that he plans to send a small number of U.S. troops to Eastern Europe in the “near term,” indicating that some of the 8,500 troops the Pentagon has put on heightened alert for potential deployment to NATO countries in Eastern Europe could deploy soon.

On Friday, Johnson's administration said the prime minister was planning to visit Russia and talk to Putin over the phone in an effort to prevent an invasion.

Johnson, who has previously said any Russian incursion into Ukraine would be a “disaster for the world,” also plans to meet with NATO allies early next month, Reuters reported.

Lt-Gen Soleimani's birthplace named touristic village



From page 1 ▶ As the commander of the Revolutionary Guards' Quds Force, Soleimani was considered one of the most powerful Iranian figures as he played a prominent role in the country's foreign policy in West Asia for years. He was internationally recognized as a legendary commander in the fight against terrorist groups.

The martyrdom of General Soleimani and al-Mohandes generated new momentum in the region among resistance groups to achieve the

goal of getting rid of America's military presence. This was partly generated due to the two men's sacrifices during the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

The two commanders enjoyed enormous popularity not just in Iran and Iraq but in entire West Asia and beyond for the major role they played in the successful battles that ultimately put an end to the territorial rule of Daesh, the world's most notorious terror group.

The big and sprawling province of Kerman is something of a cultural melting pot, blending various regional cultures over time. It is also home to rich tourist spots and historical sites including bazaars, mosques, caravanserais, and ruins of ancient urban areas.

Kerman province is bounded by the provinces of Fars on the west, Yazd on the north, South Khorasan on the northeast, Sistan-Baluchestan on the east, and Hormozgan on the south. It includes the southern part of the central Iranian desert, the Dasht-e Lut.

Discover gigantic natural mirror adjacent to Iranian desert

TEHRAN – Natural sceneries in Iran change dramatically from region to region; snow-capped mountains, barren plains and deserts, green valleys, coastal lands, and various-sized islands to name a few.

Traversing along with the sun-scorched deserts, you may run into salt lakes, which have their charms. The enigmatic Hoz-e Sultan, is one of those, which resemble a gigantic natural mirror when a shallow layer of water covers its salt deposits.

Situated some 40 kilometers northward of the city of Qom and adjacent to the Qom –

Tehran highway, Hoz-e Sultan assumes different characteristics, sizes, and shapes in various seasons of the year so that its attractiveness varies from time to time.

It is composed of two main interconnected segments. The western part is named after the lake itself and the eastern one is called Hoz-e Moreh. Both become chockfull of water in the rainy season.

Covering 37,075 hectares with an altitude of about 720 meters above sea level, the lake is considered one of the lowest parts of the Iranian plateau.

Zoroastrians celebrate ancient mid-winter festival

TEHRAN – Clusters of Zoroastrians on Sunday celebrated their mid-winter festival that is passed down from generation to generation for millennia.

The festivity, which usually falls on January 30, is nowadays more popular among Iranian Zoroastrians in Tehran, Yazd, Shiraz, and Kerman.

Legend says the feast is to remember the mythical discovery of fire. That's why they set fire to a big pile of wood when the event reaches its climax.

In May 2020, Jashn-e Sadeh was registered on Iran's National Intangible Cultural Heritage list in a bid to preserve the time-honored festival.

"Any measure that helps this heritage be safeguarded and preserved is supported," part of a decree issued by the ministry of tourism and cultural heritage reads.

Named after the number one hundred (Sad in Farsi), the event marks 50 days and 50 nights before Noruz (the beginning of the Iranian calendar



year on March 21). The common belief emphasizes that it is a mid-winter ritual to celebrate the date when the earth starts warming up.

Experts say the origins of the festival are somewhat ambiguous and there is no trace of this ceremony in the Zoroastrian holy texts. However, some historians suggest the ceremony existed even before Zoroastrianism, the world's oldest monotheistic religion.

Some believe Sadeh is a festivity to honor fire and to defeat the forces of darkness, frost, and cold. Several mythological accounts, however,

connect the festival to the origins of human beings. According to Persian mythology, Houshang, the second king of the world, discovered the fire when he tried to hit a dragon with a stone. He reportedly threw a flintstone that struck against another flint stone causing a spark and generating fire.

Moreover, before lighting the huge open fire, some Zoroastrian priests (Moobeds) recite verses from Avesta, the holy book of Zoroastrians. The priests are always dressed in white cotton robes, trousers, and hats as a sign of purity and neatness. Additionally, Moobeds along with Zoroastrian girls and boys, all clad in white and holding torches walk around the pile of shrubs. They light the fire as the crowd's cheers grow louder.

Noruz, the Yalda Night that takes place on the longest night of the year, and Chaharshanbeh Souri that is in praise of the spring, are other examples of ancient Iranian ceremonies.

Police arrest illegal diggers in Soltanieh

TEHRAN – Iranian police have recently arrested eight illegal excavators and antique smugglers in Soltanieh, which is home to a UNESCO-designated monument of the same name, a senior police official in charge of protecting cultural heritage has announced.

The accused people were detained in a quick and surprising action while they were digging into a private house in search of antiquities, CHTN quoted Hossein-Ali Fazli as saying on Monday.

The culprits, who were traced following reports by local people and cultural heritage aficionados, were surrendered to the



judicial system for further investigation, the official added.

Furthermore, a metal detector and some excavation tools have been seized from the culprits, he noted.

Meaning "Town of the Sultans", Soltanieh was briefly the capital of Persia's Ilkhanid dynasty (a branch of the Mongol dynasty) during the 14th century. It is situated in Zanjan province, northwest Iran.

The UNESCO-registered Dome of Soltanieh, ("Soltanieh Cupola") is the highlight of the city's tourist attractions. The very large dome is the earliest extant example of its type and became an important reference for the later development of the Islamic dome. Similarly, the extremely rich interior of the mausoleum, which includes glazed tiles, brickwork, marquetry, or designs in

inlaid materials, stucco, and frescoes, illustrates an important movement towards more elaborate materials and themes.

According to UNESCO, the Mausoleum of Oljaytu is an essential link and key monument in the development of Islamic architecture in central and western Asia. Here, the Ilkhanids further developed ideas that had been advanced during the classical Seljuk phase (11th to early 13th centuries), during which the arts of Iran gained distinction in the Islamic world, thereby setting the stage for the Timurid period (late 14th to 15th centuries), one of the most brilliant periods in Islamic art.

Isfahan pavilion thrills visitors with free tours of untold stories

From page 1 ▶ In his visit to the pavilion, the deputy tourism minister Ali-Asghar Shalbafian on Saturday expressed his satisfaction with the way Isfahan is represented to visitors, adding "All provinces must follow Isfahan as a role model for its the precise method of content production."

The ancient city was once a crossroad of international trade and diplomacy in Iran and now it is a top tourist destination for good reasons. It is filled with many architectural wonders such as unmatched Islamic buildings, bazaars, museums, Persian gardens, and tree-lined boulevards. It's a city for walking, getting lost in its mazing bazaars, dozing in beautiful gardens, and meeting people.

Isfahan, the capital of a province of the same name, is nicknamed "Nesf-e-Jahan" which is translated into "half



Deputy tourism minister Ali-Asghar Shalbafian, who is encircled by exhibitors, visitors, and reporters, tours the Isfahan pavilion at the 15th Tehran International Tourism Exhibition, January 29, 2022.

of the world", meaning it contains fully half of the world's wonders. In its heyday, it was also one of the largest cities in the region with a population

of nearly one million. The cool blue tiles of Isfahan's Islamic buildings, and the city's majestic bridges, contrast perfectly with the encircling hot, dry

Iranian countryside. Furthermore, the city is renowned not only for the abundance of great historical bridges but also for its 'life-giving river', the Zayandeh-Rood, which has long bestowed the city an original beauty and fertility.

Furthermore, the city is renowned not only for the abundance of great historical bridges but also for its 'life-giving river', the Zayandeh-Rood, which has long bestowed the city an original beauty and fertility.

On its outskirts, modern Isfahan is now home to some heavy industries, including steel factories and a uranium processing center, however, its inner core has somehow been preserved as a priceless gem. Also, Isfahan is a destination for medical tourism as it embraces an all-inclusive professional healthcare city.

Tehran fair big opportunity for avid crafters

TEHRAN – Tehran international tourism and handicrafts exhibitions give the national cities and villages of handicrafts an ample opportunity to showcase their products and talents, the deputy tourism minister has announced.

A chance to showcase the handicrafts abilities of villages and cities is offered by the 35th national handicrafts exhibition currently taking place simultaneously with the 15th Tehran International Tourism Exhibition in the Tehran Permanent International Fairgrounds, IRNA quoted Pouya Mahmoudian as saying on Sunday.

It is a good sign that tourism and handicrafts exhibitions are held simultaneously as they are the two branches of the tourism ministry, the official added.

It is hoped to increase cooperation between these two sectors following the simultaneous holding of these two exhibitions, she noted.

This year's exhibitions have been very well received and activists from the tourism

industry as well as the handicraft industry are present, she mentioned.

Along with learning about the potential of the tourism industry of different provinces, visitors will be able to see the products made by artists from 31 provinces of the country, which are the main souvenirs in each province and can be purchased, she said.

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 value of Iran's handicrafts exports stood at \$120 million during the first eleven months of the past Iranian calendar year 1399 (March 20, 2020 – February 18, 2021), Mehr reported. The country's handicrafts exports slumped during the mentioned months in comparison to the same period last year earlier due to the damage the coronavirus pandemic has inflicted on global trade.

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 ornaments with precious and semi-precious gemstones are traditionally exported to Iraq, Afghanistan, Germany, the U.S., the UK, and other countries.

Second Announcement



Khouzestan Steel Company

EXTENSION OF INVITATION TO INTERNATIONAL TENDER IN TWO STEPS

No. 444896

KHOUZESTAN STEEL COMPANY INTENDS TO PURCHASE
3,000 MT UHP Grade Graphite Electrode 450 mm with respective nipples

WITH THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATIONS:

Description: UHP Grade Graphite Electrode with respective nipples as per following specification

Bulk Density:	1.65 – 1.75 g/cm ³
Real Density:	2.22 – 2.25 g/cm ³
Porosity:	21 – 27 %
Ash Content:	0.2 % Max.
Specific Resistance:	4.5– 6.5 μΩm
Bending Strength:	110 -140 Kgf/Cm ²
Young's Modules:	7.8 – 11.8 GPa
Co-efficient Of Thermal expansion:	0.3 – 1 10 ⁻⁶ /°C

Graphite Electrode Dimensions:

Electrode Diameter:	450 mm
Electrode Length:	1800 mm

Nipple Specification:

Nipple Diameter:	317.50 mm
Nipple Length:	457.20 mm
Socket Depth:	234.60 mm
Number of Thread:	4 Thread per Inch
Thread Type:	Tapered Thread

INTERESTED BIDDERS MAY OBTAIN SET OF DOCUMENTS, CONTAINING THE RELEVANT TERMS AND CONDITIONS BY SUBMISSION OF A WRITTEN APPLICATION AND PAYMENT OF A NON-REFUNDABLE FEE OF:

EUR 20 "TWENTY EURO" TO THE ONE OF BELOW ACCOUNT No.:

- 1) ACCOUNT No.0100013543943 AT "EXPORT DEVELOPMENT BANK OF IRAN AHVAZ CENTRAL BRANCH"
- 2) ACCOUNT No.1902-750-4019644-1 AT "EGHTESAD NOVIN BANK- OF IRAN AHVAZ SHARIATI BRANCH" OR Rials 6,000,000, "SIXMILION RIALS" TO THE ONE OF BELOW ACCOUNT No.:

- 1) ACCOUNT No.0102513186002 AT "MELLI BANK OF IRAN AHVAZ KSC BRANCH"
- 2) ACCOUNT No.0100304453001 AT "SADERAT BANK OF IRAN AHVAZ KSC BRANCH"

AND PRESENT THE PAYMENT RECEIPT TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

Consumption Material & General Goods Purchasing Department
KHOUZESTAN STEEL COMPANY (KSC)
KM 10 AHWAZ – BANDAR IMAM KHOMEINI ROAD
P.O.BOX: 1378
POST CODE: 61397-31398
AHWAZ- IRAN

Note1: BIDDER SHALL SUBMIT WITH TENDER A BID BOND ISSUED BY AN IRANIAN BANK OR BY A EUROPEAN FIRST CLASS BANK, IN THE AMOUNT OF 58,800,000,000 Rial OR 210,000 EUR FOR 3,000 MT GRAPHITE ELECTRODE Dia.600mm AND MAY REDUCED IN PROPORTION WITH THE QUANTITY OF BIDDERS OFFER

Note2: ALL BIDS MUST BE INFORMED US WHICH PARTICIPATE IN OUR TENDER UP TO 8th Feb, 2022. WHEN YOUR COMPANY IS CONFIRMED AND THE TENDER DOCUMENT IS SENT TO YOU, YOU MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE AFORSAID ADDRESS ON OR BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE 26th Feb, 2022. THE OPENING DATE OF ENVELOPES WILL BE AT 10:30 AM ON THE 27th Feb, 2022 IN THE BUYER'S CONFERENCE ROOM LOCATED AT THE HEAD OFFICE OF KSC AHWAZ-IRAN AND THE BIDDERS OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES CAN ATTEND THE MEETING OF THE TENDER.

Note 3: FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT WITH FOLLOWING DETAILS:

Tel No. : +98 61 3213 6195 / 3213 6190

Fax No. : +98 61 32908130

Mr.H.Faramarzi EMAIL: Ha.Faramarzi@ksc.ir OR VISIT: http://WWW.KSC.IR

National cancer campaign to compensate for treatment deficiencies

TEHRAN – The National Cancer Campaign is being held from January 28-February 4 with the theme of “filling the gaps” to compensate for deficiencies in care and treatment services.

Afshin Ostovar, head of the non-communicable diseases management office of the Ministry of Health, made the remarks on Monday.

“The campaign aims to bridge the gap that currently exists with cancer services and care. There are four types of gaps, the first one is the coverage of the population receiving cancer care services.

This coverage is currently not equivalent to the population of the whole country and is not commensurate with the size of the cancer tissue and the cost that cancer imposes on family health, the health system economy, and the country's economy.

The second gap is the number and variety of services provided in the field of cancer and covered by the health system. Most of the costs we provide in the health system are related to treating cancer patients. While preventive costs are much more effective.

There is a need to expand cancer-related services to prevention and early detection services so that the survival rate of cancer patients increases.

Therefore, in the health system, we must provide services that are less costly and more effective, and especially integrate these services in the health care network system.

On the other hand, palliative care has been somewhat neglected. Cancer patients in the late stages of cancer should be supported to have a good



quality of life with minimal pain and suffering. These services are not sufficiently developed in the country.

The third gap is also related to the quality of service. The quality of health-related services and care, whether at the level of prevention, treatment, or palliative care, all needs to be improved.

Also, the necessary equipment for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer and the necessary drugs based on clinical guidelines approved by the Ministry of Health should be sufficiently and fairly available to patients throughout the country. Therefore, training physicians and medical staff to improve the quality of services should be on agenda.

Reducing out-of-pocket payments and financing services related to prevention, treatment, and palliative care is also very important as the fourth gap. If these four gaps are filled, universal health coverage will be provided.”

National cancer control program

The national cancer control pro-

gram was developed using the experiences of other countries, in particular, the World Health Organization's recommendations and the experts' opinions, which sets out the Ministry of Health's roadmap up to the Iranian calendar year 1404 (March 2025- March 2026).

The purpose of the program is to reduce cancer prevalence and mortality while improving the quality of patients' lives, which can serve as a model for other countries, especially in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

The cancer preparation program was designed to determine the infrastructure and manpower needed over the next 6 years, to determine the type of centers, equipment, and distribution throughout the country using a geographic information system (GIS).

The program includes two important documents, namely, “development of national cancer care network” and “development of cancer human resources”, which resulted in the establishment of the early diagnostic centers.

135,000 cases of cancer annually

About 135,000 Iranian develop cancer annually, which is facing an upward trend. The most common cancers in the country are prostate cancer in men and breast cancer in women, Ostovar said.

In terms of the current incidence of cancer in the world, Iran has a moderate situation, but for two reasons, the increasing trend of cancer in the country is higher than in the rest of the world. The first reason is that our population is aging rapidly. As the aging population grows, the incidence of cancer increases because cancer is a disease of old age.

On the other hand, cancer risk factors are increasing in the country. The main risk factors for cancer are air pollution, smoking, obesity lack of physical activity, and alcohol consumption.

We have a national cancer management program in the country, which is a comprehensive program in all areas, with 4 main and 7 support processes which cover all ages.

The program covers all areas of care, from prevention to palliative care. If implemented, the National Cancer Program can reduce the incidence of cancer in the country to a great extent and make Iran one of the leading countries in this field.

Referring to non-communicable diseases responsible for 82 percent of deaths in the country, he said that the leading cause of death is heart disease with 43 percent share and the second leading cause of death is cancer with 16 percent. Cancer is the first and most expensive disease in the world and in the country.

U.S. sanctions claim lives of 500 Iranian thalassemic patients

TEHRAN – The U.S. sanctions which prevent Iran's access to humanitarian items, including medical equipment and medicine, have killed over 500 thalassemic patients in the country, said Younes Arab, the managing director of the Iranian Thalassemia Society.

“Currently, there are 23,000 thalassemic patients in the country, most of whom need to use these drugs throughout their life,” Arab said on Monday.

He added that since the beginning of the U.S.-imposed sanctions, the restrictive measures have created many challenges for Iranian thalassemic patients and have had a direct impact on the treatment of such patients, the main part of which is related to the provision of their life-saving medicines, the portal of the High Council for Human Rights reported on Saturday.

Arab said that than 540 patients with thalassemia have fallen victim to the sanctions since May



2018, when the U.S. administration under former President Donald Trump withdrew from a 2015 landmark deal with Iran, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and re-imposed draconian sanctions against the country.

“Some European companies supplying raw materials for the production of pharmaceuticals have directly sanctioned Iran and we are also facing prob-

lems for the transfer of foreign currency. Therefore, we are dealing with serious problems for the production of (necessary) drugs,” he said.

He stressed that a main reason for the failure to provide necessary drugs for thalassemic patients is due to sanctions, and said, “Since the beginning of the current [Iranian] year, no medicine for thalassemic patients has been imported and the production of medicine in the main company producing drugs for thalassemia patients has stopped.”

World leaders have time and again called on Washington to exempt humanitarian and medicinal supplies from the list of its anti-Iran sanctions but to no avail.

Thalassemia is an inherited blood disorder caused when the body does not make enough of a protein called hemoglobin, an important part of red blood cells. The disorder results in large numbers of red blood cells being destroyed, which leads to anemia.

TIM 2022 to host 73 investors from 19 countries

TEHRAN – Some 73 investors from 19 countries will attend the 4th Technology Investment Meeting (TIM 2022) of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation.

The event will be held on February 21-22 in Tehran Pardis Technology Park.

Some 61 startups have been selected and introduced to the relevant investors, of which 12 are foreign startups and the rest are Iranian, Milad Sadrkhanlou, an official in charge of holding the meeting, stated.

So far, more than 120 B2B virtual meetings have been held between investors and these startups, he added.

So far, 73 domestic and foreign investors from 19 countries will participate in the meeting, which aims to address the investment potentials in Islamic developing countries in order to open up an opportunity for foreign and domestic investors, he explained.

D-8 includes major Muslim developing countries namely, Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Turkey.

Creating the capacity to use the pristine markets of the D8 countries for domestic investors is another important goal of this event.

The TIM 2022 focuses on raising cap-

ital from D8 member countries, during which foreign investors, along with domestic investors, will discuss cooperation and joint ventures on startups.

Good opportunities, such as abundant manpower alongside cheap knowledge-based and technological products, have attracted foreign investors, despite unilateral sanctions, to consider the Iranian knowledge-based ecosystem.

Iranian knowledge-based firms

The Innovation and Prosperity Fund affiliated with the Vice Presidency of Science and Technology has earmarked a sum of 170 trillion rials (nearly \$4 billion at the official rate of 42,000 rials)

to support knowledge-based companies over the past 4 years.

There are currently 6,263 knowledge-based companies operating in the country, offering advanced products and services in various fields of technology to domestic and foreign markets, and some of them have entered international markets, Siavash Maleki, deputy head of the Fund stated.

The fields of aircraft maintenance, steel, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment, oil, and gas are among the sectors that researchers in technology companies have engaged in, leading to import reduction.

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Special clinic to be launched to relieve bereaved coronavirus families

A special clinic will be opened for the first time in the country to provide free psychological services to families who have lost their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The clinic is called “Soog” (literally meaning mourn) will be inaugurated at Shahid Beheshti Educational and Medical Center in Zanjan province on Wednesday.

The outbreak of coronavirus has changed the lifestyle of many families, Ehsan Fakoor, head of the mental health department of Zanjan University of Medical Sciences said.

Sudden changes in life cause stress, while the coronavirus itself has doubled the stress due to its contagion and the number of lives it has claimed in the world to date, he regretted.

افتتاح کلینیک سوگ برای تسکین خانواده‌هایی که اعضای خود را بر اثر کرونا از دست داده‌اند

رئیس گروه بهداشت روان دانشگاه علوم پزشکی زنجان از افتتاح نخستین کلینیک سوگ در کشور برای ارائه خدمات رایگان روان‌شناختی به خانواده‌هایی که اعضای خانواده خود را به دلیل ابتلا به کرونا از دست داده‌اند خبر داد و اظهار کرد: این کلینیک ۲۳ مهرماه امسال در مرکز آموزشی درمانی شهید بهشتی زنجان کار خود را آغاز خواهد کرد.

فکوری با بیان اینکه شیوع ویروس کرونا باعث شده است تا سبک زندگی بسیاری از خانواده‌ها دچار تغییر شود، ادامه داد: ایجاد تغییرات ناگهانی در زندگی باعث ایجاد استرس می‌شود، این در حالی است که خود ویروس کرونا به دلیل واگیردار بودن و نیز آمار فوتی‌هایی که تا به امروز در دنیا به جا گذاشته، این استرس را دوچندان کرده است.

Intl. support for refugees in Iran should be strengthened: UN's Freijisen

TEHRAN – Ivo Freijisen, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Representative in Iran, said that international support for Iran should be strengthened given the presence of millions of refugees in the country.

He made the remarks in a meeting with deputy interior minister Seyed Majid Mirahmadi, which was held in Tehran on Monday.

“We seek to obtain international funding through various consultations,” he further stated, highlighting that we are aware of the hardships and problems of Iran in support of refugees despite the oppressive sanctions.

Despite the difficult path and the lack of funds, we must maintain our morale and motivation in this humanitarian field, however, the Islamic Republic has always shown that it supports refugees despite all the difficulties, he emphasized.

He further announced the formation of two working groups on the resettlement of refugees to third countries, as well as efforts to identify and register new refugees who do not have any identity documents in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran.

“We strive to provide the necessary assistance to the people who do not have facilities and those who do not have any identification certificates,” he added.

Mirahmadi for his part said called on the UNHCR to increase international funding for the millions of Afghans residing in the country, IRNA reported.

“We must keep in mind that the surest strategy for managing this challenge is the voluntary return of citizens to their country, which is done by the maintenance of peace and stability in the



home country, therefore all efforts at regional and global levels must be focused on peace and stability in Afghanistan,” he further suggested.

Iran is hosting the world's fourth-largest refugee community. The country has generously hosted approximately 1 million refugees for the past 30 years. The majority, which mainly came from Afghanistan and Iraq, live in urban areas. Approximately 31,000 of the most vulnerable refugees are living in 20 settlements located throughout the country.

Based on the latest statistics, over 3 million Afghans are living in Iran – some 780,000 Afghan refugees, over 2 million undocumented Afghans, and another 600,000 Afghan passport-holders with Iranian visas.

The recent fast-paced turn of events in Afghanistan has the potential to create additional population movements; displacing families internally and potentially driving them to seek refuge in neighboring countries.

It is estimated that up to 300,000 Afghan asylum-seekers have fled to Iran this year alone in search of safety, while UNHCR has only been able to screen some 24,000 newly arrived Afghans for protection needs.

West accused of ‘climate hypocrisy’ as emissions dwarf those of poor countries

In the first two days of January, the average Briton was already responsible for more carbon dioxide emissions than someone from the Democratic Republic of the Congo would produce in an entire year, according to analysis by the Center for Global Development (CGD).

The study, which highlights the “vast energy inequality” between rich and poor countries, found that each Briton produces 200 times the climate emissions of the average Congolese person, with people in the US producing 585 times as much. By the end of January, the carbon emitted by someone living in the UK will surpass the annual emissions of citizens of 30 low- and middle-income countries, it found.

Euan Ritchie, a policy analyst at CGD Europe, said his work was prompted by the “climate hypocrisy” of western countries, including the UK and the US, that have pledged to stop aid funding to fossil fuel projects in developing states, the Guardian reported.

“At Cop26 there was lots of hand-wringing by rich countries about the extent to which aid and other development finance should finance fossil fuels in poorer countries,” said Ritchie. “The

hypocrisy of this caught my attention.”

“Our analysis shows that in just a few days, the average person in the UK produces more climate emissions than people in many low-income countries do in an entire year. It would be a cruel irony if the countries that have least contributed to this problem won't be able to have access to energy infrastructure.”

Several countries, including some developing countries, and finance institutions have signed up to a pledge to end public support for international fossil fuel projects. The same countries will be able to continue to develop fossil fuels at home. The US has at least 24 pending fossil fuel projects representing more than 1.6 gigatons of potential greenhouse gas emissions, while the UK is licensing new oil and gas fields in the North Sea.

The CGD research used World Bank data of per capita carbon emissions for each country, spread out over a year, to calculate the point at which a British or US citizen's energy use surpassed that of someone living in a low- or middle-income country. About 940 million people, mainly in sub-Saharan Africa, do not have access to electricity.

COVID-19 UPDATES ON JANUARY 31

New cases	28,995
New deaths	30
Total cases	6,373,174
Total deaths	132,454
New hospitalized patients	1,584
Patients in critical condition	1,512
Total recovered patients	6,106,442
Diagnostic tests conducted	44,789,471
Doses of vaccine injected	132,202,293



If matters get mixed up then scrutinize the cause and you will know what the effects will be.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon: 12:18 Evening: 17:49 Dawn: 5:39 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 7:05 (tomorrow)

Hafez and music

Part 6

Songs, lyrics, poems: The word ghazal, which occurs 26 times in various forms in the Divan, strongly suggests poetic texts in Persian set to music, as noted above.

Hafez uses the following forms of this lyrical word: ghazal 17 (16g, 1m), ghazal-ha (4g), ghazaliyat (1g), ghazal-khan (3g), and ghazal-sarai (1g).

As discussed above, ghazal is often paired with the word qawl 11 (10/15g, 1m), also the words of a song, though in a more specific sense, an Arabic poem set to music.

Other names for song, or styles of setting words to music, include pahlavi (1/2g), which apparently describes a kind of ghazal (477:3b), sorud 13 (8g, 5m; meaning lyric, song, music), taraneh 6 (5g, 1qe, meaning melody or a Persian robai that is sung), and zabur 1 (268:4, the psalms of David as love song/ghazal).

Modern musical versions of the poems: In the mode mahur, there is a gusha known as Saqi-nama, to which poems in a certain meter addressed to the saqi are frequently sung.

This musical form would appear to be an innovation of the Qajar era, unrelated to the Safavid era performance of the poem going by that name in the Divan of Hafez, though selected lines of the saqi-nama and moghanni-nama of Hafez have been recorded in this gusha (e.g., Rowshanravan).

It is, however, the ghazals of Hafez that have been especially important to the repertoire of traditional Persian music, and are probably more frequently sung, both in avaz and tasnif style, than the ghazals of any other poet.

In the 19th century, Forsat-al-Dawla specifies not only which modes are appropriate for particular poems, but also at what time of day and in what type of locations they should ideally be sung.

An early folk/ethnomusicological specimen of Persian music was collected on a visit to Tehran by Nina Rosen, who apparently included transcriptions (in German translation and romanized Persian script) of two Hafez poems set to an Indian and an Afghan melody in her "Sieben orientalische Weisen: aus dem Munde des Volkes in Teheran" (Cologne, 1890).

Recordings of Hafez's Persian poetry: The contemporary poet Ahmad Shamlu (d. 2001) made two notable recordings of selected ghazals of Hafez recited in his own voice and interspersed with music.

A comprehensive list of recordings of Hafez poems in the original does not exist, but Niknam gives a partial discography, identifying the specific poems sung.

In the 1960s and 70s, the Iranian radio programs Golha-ye rangarang and Golha-ye taza were responsible for many recordings of tasnif and avaz performances of poems of Hafez.

In the latter half of the 20th century, Hafez poems were recorded in a variety of traditional, folk and pop formats, and sung by performers including Ahdiya, Faramarz Aslani, Banan, Sima Bina, Delkash, Alireza Eftekhari, Golchin, Iraj, Mahmud Khansari, Mehrdad Kazemi, Kamran Lotfi, Marzieh, Shahram Nazeri, Parisa, Hossein Qavami, Hossein Sa'adatmand, Abdolvahhab Shahidi, and

Mohammadreza Shajarian.

Hafez in European music: Translations, adaptations and inspirations from Hafez have repeatedly been set to music in songs/lieder of the western classical music tradition. Many of these survive only as sheet music for voice and piano, never having been heard outside private parlors, while others have entered the repertoire, some of them having been recorded more than once.

Goethe's West-östlicher Divan provided the inspiration for the Zurich-based Othmar Schoeck (1886-1957) in both his Op. 19b (1906-15) and his twelve "Hafis Lieder," Op. 33 (1919-20, recorded in Lausanne, Gall, 2001).

Goethe's Hafez also inspired the "Symphonische Kantate nach Dichtungen aus Goethes West-östlicher Divan" of Waldemar von Bausnern (1866-1931), and the "Saki Nameh" (1970) of Hans Ludwig Schilling (b. 1927), who three years prior had published "Quintetto 67; Zeacis Hafis (on his beautiful daughter)."

Georg Friedrich Daumer's translations, Hafis: eine Sammlung persischer Gedichte (Hamburg, 1846), inspired many to compose song-settings, including the singer-composer Bettina von Arnim (Brentano, 1785-1859), followed first by Adolf Jensen (1837-79) in 1863 ("Sieben Gesänge am Pianoforte aus dem Persischen," op. 11), then by Johannes Brahms (1833-97) in 1864 (Liebeslieder, Op. 32, nos. 7-9) and again in 1868 (Fünf Lieder, Op. 47, nos. 1-2).

Daumer's Hafis continued to provide lyric text for Emil Mattiesen in 1900 ("Zwolf Liebeslieder des Hafis," op. 9), Erich Wolff (1874-1913), in several of his Lieder (nos. 18, 21, 25, 38, 54; recorded 1936), and Munich-based Rudolf Bode (1881-1970), for his "Hafis-Lieder" in 1939 (see also HAFEZ xi).

The text of Hans Bethge's Hafis (Leipzig: Insel, 1919) provided the lyrics for four songs by Richard Strauss (1864-1949) from the 1928 collection "Gesänge des Orients" (Op. 77), including Ihre Augen, Schwung, Die Allmachtige and Huldigung, and also for the Polish composer Karol Szymanowski (1882-1937), with his "Des Hafis Liebeslieder," Op. 24. Kaikhosru Shapurji Sorabji described this 1911 piece as "giving us in musical terms what we instinctively know and recognize as the essence of Persian art" (Sadie, 1995, s.v. "Szymanowski").

Szymanowski also wrote a symphonic setting for a poem of Rumi, as well as his posthumously published "Das Grab des Hafis" (1937). Ludwig Hess (1877-1944) did "Songs of Hafez," Op. 40, in German and English, featuring "Wenn einer massig trinket," which appeared in 1912, just as the temperance movement was picking up steam in America.

Hafez seems to have been such a staple of the Lieder genre that several composers began their career with him, including Frederic Louis Ritter (1834-91), who published his Opus 1 for piano and voice as "Hafis: ein Liederkreis aus dessen Gedichten" (German, with English version by Fanny Raymond Ritter, Leipzig, 1866), and the Swiss composer Paul-Müller-Zürich (b. 1898), who published his "Acht Lieder nach Gedichten von Hafis," Op. 1 (1920).

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica To be continued

Goalkeeper Beiranvand biopic opens Fajr Film Festival

From Page 1 ▶ In his massive study on several sports personalities, he came to the conclusion that Beiranvand is the most appropriate one.

"Because, he is a living sports personality... and in addition, he had neither money nor a friend at court, and he does not blame anyone else for his problems," he said.

The film is competing in the official section of the festival, which will end on February 11 with the announcement of winners.

The festival will open to the general public starting tomorrow as filmgoers will be required to wear masks and provide proof of vaccination.

However, the organizers have not put any limit on theater occupation despite reports from the health authorities warning about the increase of Omicron infections in the country.

A lineup of 22 films, most made by the new generation of Iranian filmmakers, will be competing in the festival for a Crystal Simorgh.

Veteran filmmaker Masud Kimiai withdrew himself from the competition for best director award last week as his noir "Killing the Traitor" is competing in other categories.

He made the decision following the announcement of the jury, which embraces actor Shahab Hossein,



"Beyro" directed by Morteza Aliabbas-Mirzai.

who criticized Kimiai at the 2020 Fajr festival after Kimiai withdrew his previous film from the event in sympathy for the victims of the Ukrainian airliner that was shot down shortly after taking off from Tehran's Imam Khomeini airport, killing all 167 passengers and 9 crew members.

Reza Mirkarimi is another big name competing with his "Night Watchman" starring Mohsen

Kiai and Vishka Asayesh. No information about the plot has been published as yet.

Celebrated director Kiumars Purahmad has made a cameo appearance in the movie.

Another big name is Ebrahim Hatamikia who will participate in the festival as a producer for his son Yusef's debut feature, "Golden

Night". No details have been revealed about the film.

Yusef worked with his father as an assistant director in "Che" about the guerrilla war commander Mostafa Chamran.

"The Loser Man" by Mohammad-Hossein Mahdavian and "The Situation of Mehdi" by Hadi Hejazifar are other highlights of the lineup.

Iranian musicians win medals at Global Music Awards



Cover of composer Farhad Harati's album "The Sacred Earth".

TEHRAN – Several Iranian musicians have won medals in different categories at the 2022 Global Music Awards.

Composer Farhad Harati won a gold medal for his cinematic choral music, "The Sacred Earth".

The album featuring eleven tracks has been recorded with Naamira, a choral ensemble of young musicians, at Zang Records.

"Sunless Shadows" creeping over movie theaters in France

TEHRAN – Acclaimed Iranian documentary "Sunless Shadows" directed by Mehrdad Oskui began its French premiere in France last week.

Theaters in Paris, Bordeaux, Strasbourg, Lille, Toulouse and several other cities are screening the movie, which brought Oskui the award for best director at the IDFA.

The documentary takes us into an Iranian juvenile detention center, where a group of adolescent girls are serving time for having murdered their father, husband or another male family member.

Oskui managed to build up a remarkable relationship with these inmates, whose frank conversations and playful interactions he observes, and who gradually open up about the consequences of, and sometimes the



A poster for "Sunless Shadows" by Mehrdad Oskui.

reasons for, their terrible act.

He occasionally leaves them alone with the camera, allowing it to become a means for them to address both their victims and their accomplices, three of the girls having killed their fathers with the help of their mothers. The mothers await

execution elsewhere.

Unlike their mothers' somber pall, the atmosphere in the girls' living quarters, shared cell with teen-bedroom feel, classroom and grass-lined courtyard where a brood of ducklings scamper about, seems almost carefree.

It gradually becomes apparent, however, that apart from being a prison, this closed, all-female environment is also a shelter from an aggressively male-dominated society.

The film has been screened at numerous international festivals and won several awards, including the best documentary prize at the 8th CinéDOC-Tbilisi in Georgia.

It was also selected as best documentary in the Spiritual Film Section of the 19th Dhaka International Film Festival in Bangladesh.

Oskui was honored with the Human Rights Award for "Sunless Shadows" at the Millenium International Documentary Film Festival in Brussels.

"Sad Tale of Innocent Eréndira" appears in Persian

TEHRAN – Saless publishing house in Tehran has recently published Colombian writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez' 1972 short story "The Incredible and Sad Tale of Innocent Eréndira and Her Heartless Grandmother" in Persian.

The book has been rendered into Persian by Bahman Farzaneh, the Iranian litterateur who is most famous for his fine translations of Marquez' books.

This is the story of Eréndira, a twelve-year-old girl who accidentally sets fire to the house where she lives with her grandmother.

The grandmother decides that Eréndira must pay her back for the loss, and sells her into prostitution in order to make money.

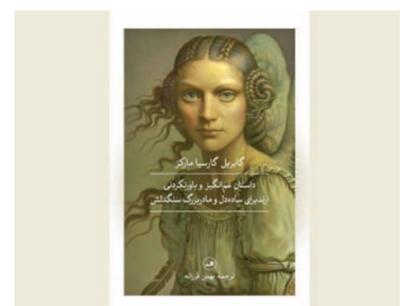
The story takes on the characteristics of a bizarre fairy tale, with the evil grandmother

forcing her Cinderella-like granddaughter to sell her body. They travel all over for several years, with men lining up for miles to enjoy her.

Meanwhile, Eréndira falls in love. Her lover tries to poison the grandmother with arsenic in a birthday cake and to blow her up with a homemade bomb, but she survives all this and continues to dominate, until Eréndira's lover finally stabs the grandmother to death. By the time he regains his composure, Eréndira has fled alone.

The short story was adapted to the 1983 art film "Eréndira", directed by Ruy Guerra. Irene Papas acted as the grandmother and Claudia Ohana as Eréndira.

Violeta Dinescu's opera "Eréndira", to a German-language libretto, premiered in 1992 in Stuttgart.



Front cover of the Persian translation of Gabriel Garcia Marquez' "The Incredible and Sad Tale of Innocent Eréndira and Her Heartless Grandmother".