

Report **T**
**Retaliation in
Tel Aviv is natural
response to Israeli
aggression**

The Tel Aviv shooting by a Palestinian on Thursday night that left at least three Israelis dead and about a dozen others injured comes in response to the regime's oppressive measures in the occupied territories.

In less than three weeks similar retaliatory attacks have taken place that have left at least 11 Israelis dead.

The latest tide of such operations have been mostly lone wolf attacks. No group has claimed responsibility which makes it harder for the regime forces to retaliate against a resistance movement.

What the regime's military has done instead is storm-occupied towns which often spark protests that are met with open fire resulting in a high number of Palestinian casualties.

These wide-scale military offensives similar to the latest in the occupied West Bank refugee camp of Jenin go unreported in the mainstream media despite the casualty numbers.

On Saturday, the occupation forces stormed the Jenin refugee camp and demanded that families leave their homes so the Israeli military can inspect houses there one by one for any arms.

This type of collective military punishment is not seen anywhere else in the world, only the Palestinians on their own land are suffering from this.

The occupation forces then attacked the youth who came out to protest in the Jenin camp. At least 14 Palestinian casualties have been reported by the Palestinian health ministry as a result of the Israeli military intrusion. The Health Ministry also says at least one civilian has been killed by an Israeli regime sniper.

Judging from similar Israeli military offensives in the past, the casualty numbers are more than likely expected to rise. ▶ Page 5

**Iran renews list
of former and
current U.S. officials
involved in terror
acts and rights
violations**

TEHRAN — In a statement issued on Saturday, Iran's Foreign Ministry updated the list of former and current U.S. officials involved in terrorism and serious human rights violations.

Among those names are Joseph Votel, former CENTCOM commander; Dorothy Shea, U.S. ambassador to Lebanon; and Rudy Giuliani, Donald Trump's personal lawyer.

The following is the full text of the Foreign Ministry statement:

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in conformity with the "Act on Countering Violations of Human Rights and Adventurist and Terrorist Actions of the United States of America in the Region", particularly, Articles 4 and 5, identifies and imposes sanctions as set forth in the abovementioned Act on the following persons in connection with their involvement in terrorist acts, glorification and supporting terrorism and gross violations of human rights. The designated persons, as indicated, have played role in supporting, organizing, imposing and also intensifying the imposition of the United States' unilateral coercive measures against the people and government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and also in financing and supporting terrorist groups and terrorist acts against the latter and in supporting repressive acts of the Zionist regime of Israel in the region, in particular, against the Palestinian people.

The unilateral coercive measures imposed against the people and government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States' deliberate infliction of hard conditions of life on the Iranian people including ▶ Page 2

**Iran Marks Nuclear
Day With Nine
Achievements** ▶ Page 3



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Iran, EAEU stress the need to ink free trade agreement by yearend

TEHRAN – Iran and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) are going to upgrade the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) already reached between the two sides to a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) by the end of 2022.

The issue was stressed during a meeting between Head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Alireza Peyman-Pak and the minister in charge of economy of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) in Moscow, the

TPO portal reported.

Iran-EAEU annual trade rises 66%

The value of trade between Iran and the EAEU members reached \$5.643 billion during the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20), registering a 66-percent rise compared to the figure for the preceding year.

According to Spokesman of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRI-

CA) Ruhollah Latifi, the weight of Iran-EAEU trade in the mentioned year stood at over 13.127 million tons which was also 51 percent more than the previous year.

Iran exported 2.77 million tons of commodities worth over \$1.170 billion to the mentioned union to register a 3.5 percent increase in terms of weight and 12 percent growth in terms of value. ▶ Page 4

**Ayatollah Khamenei
makes donation to
help free inmates**

TEHRAN – Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei has donated 10 billion rials (about \$40,000 to help free prisoners of unintentional crimes, IRIB reported on Saturday.

Each year in the holy month of Ramadan, the Blood Money Organization holds public events in cooperation with philanthropists in different parts of the country to raise funds for releasing prisoners.

Freeing prisoners of involuntary crimes is done in three ways. The first way is granting prisoners leave and the second way is providing a number of them with loans to be paid inside the prison.

The third way of assistance is the release of unintentional convicts by paying their debt.

A total of 7,956 prisoners of unintentional crimes have been released over the past [Iranian calendar] year (March 2021-March 2022), according to the head of the Blood Money Organization. ▶ Page 7

Discover awe-inspiring cave in Delijan's wilderness

By Afshin Majlesi

TEHRAN – Some 15km northeast of Delijan in central Iran lies a vast cave known for its charming popcorn-like appearance inside.

Apart from those dolomite sediments, the cave dazzle viewers with its unique corridors, and profound basins that reflect the walls and floor. In fact, another amazing feature of the cave is an intriguing possibility of a lake for boating.

The cave is named Chal Nakhjir after its loca-

tion. Narratives say the area was formerly used as a hunting ground, and hunters lead their prey to this area for the hunt. Chal means down, and Nakhjir means hunting ground so Chal Nakhjir means below the hunting ground.

Over millions of years, severe geological faults have caused the creation of corridors and some fabulous ponds in the cave.

The cave has an artificial entrance to make a round trip across the route where visitors

can find crystalline and spongy ornamentation on the floor, walls, and ceiling as well as many bizarre forms such as pigeons, eagles, humans, turtles, and deer to name a few.

Some say it is a dynamic cave meaning if some part of this cave destroys, it will be restored over the years. Over 2000 meters of dry spaces have been identified on the inside of this cave which these spaces have generally crystallized. ▶ Page 6

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Interview **T**

**Asymmetrical
guerrilla war against
S. Arabia have been
successful: ex-
Senate candidate**

By Zahra Samimi

TEHRAN – A former U.S. Senate candidate says that asymmetrical warfare waged by a movement that persists in defending its country showed the competence of its architects.

"The war in Yemen illustrates that asymmetrical warfare waged by an ideologically committed and indigenous movement dedicated to defending a country and homeland from foreign predators with superior military assets but an incompetent military and political leadership is destined to be successful," Mark Dankof tells the Tehran Times.

"Whoever directed operations in the Aramco attack understands the significance of destroying assets of premier economic and logistical significance as a prelude to sapping military and political will and strength," Dankof adds.

The following is the text of the interview:

How do you read the recent Yemeni attacks on Aramco? Saudi Arabia is armed with American weapons and missiles. How could a poor nation like Yemen with the lowest level of military power penetrate deeply inside the country?

The war in Yemen illustrates that asymmetrical warfare waged by an ideologically committed and indigenous movement dedicated to defending a country and homeland from foreign predators with superior military assets but an incompetent military and political leadership, ▶ Page 5

**Islamic Revolution
Art Week kicks off
nationwide**

TEHRAN – The Islamic Revolution Art Week opened on Saturday in the capitals of 30 provinces across the country.

The art week is organized by the Art Bureau of the Islamic Ideology Dissemination Organization every year to commemorate the martyrdom anniversary of documentarian Morteza Avini.

He was killed by a landmine in 1993 during his last trip to the former Iran-Iraq war zone in southwestern Iran while making a documentary about soldiers who were still listed as missing in action.

Art exhibitions and workshops, and theatrical musical performances will be organized during this week.

One of the exhibitions, now underway at one of the galleries of the Art Bureau in Tehran, is dedicated to posters created by a group of graphic designers based on Avini's discourses and writings. ▶ Page 8



Amir Abdollahian discusses Yemen with Emirati counterpart

TEHRAN — In a telephone conversation on Saturday, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian and his Emirati counterpart Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan discussed bilateral, regional and international issues.

The conversation focused on issues such as the situation in Syria, and the developments in the occupied Palestinian territories.

During the conversation, the Iranian foreign minister congratulated the people and government of the United Arab Emirates on the arrival of the holy month of Ramadan and described ties between Tehran and Abu Dhabi as growing.

Amir Abdollahian also said good meetings and consultations have been held between the officials of the two countries.

He added that the formation of committees regarding bilateral ties and also the exchange of delegations have an effective role in strengthening and expanding relations.

Iran's top diplomat added that there are no limits to expansion of relations.

The two foreign ministers underlined the significance of expanding ties between the private sectors of Iran and the UAE.

Elsewhere in the talks, Amir Abdollahian spoke of the Yemen crisis.

He welcomed the establishment of a temporary ceasefire in Yemen and expressed hope that Yemen's humanitarian siege will be lifted and all Yemeni factions will engage in political dialogue.

The Iranian foreign minister referred to the commonalities between Iran and the UAE, saying, "We do not wish anything other than good, security and progress for our neighbors, the region and the Emirates (in particular), but the Zionists have been and are still the root-cause of insecurity in the region."

He said that the presence of the Zionist regime in the region poses a threat to all regional nations. Amir Abdollahian then underscored the need to make an effort to prevent those who cause crises to gain a foothold in the region.

For his part, Al Nahyan also congratulated Iran on the arrival of the blessed month of Ramadan and expressed hope that the deep-rooted ties between his country and Iran will expand in the new year.

The Emirati foreign minister also referred to the role of the common interests of Iran and the UAE in expanding ties in various areas, calling for a look into opportunities for cooperation.

The top UAE diplomat spoke about the new conditions in the region. He said the situation has improved regionally in recent weeks and that Syrian president's visit to the UAE and the ceasefire in Yemen have provided an opportunity for all sides to develop and progress and also avoid fueling tensions.

The UAE's top diplomat also underlined that his country will not allow any party to use its soil for sabotage or provocative acts against neighbors.

From page 1 ▶ by deprivation of access to medicine and medical equipment and services, especially, in the situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and by depriving them of their fundamental rights has endangered lives of millions of Iranians and has had serious negative impacts on enjoyment of their economic and social rights. Such unlawful measures constitute flagrant violations of the fundamental principles of international law and fundamental human rights and are a clear example of crime against humanity. In addition, supporting, organizing and conducting terrorist acts as well as organizing, financing and providing material support including weapon, intelligence and training to terrorist groups are in violation of international law and contravene international obligations undertaken in fighting terrorism.

The United States by conducting such unlawful acts which have been carried out, facilitated or operationalized by the following persons, has breached its international obligations in respecting, protecting and fulfilling human rights and in desisting and refraining from organizing terrorist acts and financing terrorism as well as the obligation to refrain from applying unilateral coercive measures which as internationally wrongful acts entail the international reasonability of the United States.

In view of the above, the Islamic Republic of Iran in conformity with its human rights obligations and obligations in combating terrorism and countering terrorism financing, in particular, terrorism

Tehran renews list of former and current U.S. officials involved in terror acts and rights violations



perpetrated by the United States, imposes the sanctions on the said persons. The Islamic Republic of Iran reiterates that the promulgations and application of unilateral coercive measures is a stark violation of the fundamental principles of international law set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and a blatant transgression of international law and impede enjoyment of human rights. Accordingly, and taking into account the internationally wrongful acts of the United States, the sanctions delineated in the Act are imposed in compliance with the obligations of the Islamic republic of Iran in countering unilateral coercive measures and on a reciprocal basis.

In the light of the above and considering the provisions of the "Act on Countering Violations of

Human Rights and Adventurist and Terrorist Actions of the United States of America in the Region", all relevant national authorities will take appropriate measures for effective implementation of the sanctions stipulated in the Act."

The list of the individuals involved in terrorism and serious human rights violation is as follows:

George William Casey Jr., former Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army

Joseph Votel, former CENTCOM commander

Austin Scott Miller, former commander of Joint Special Operations Command

Joe Lieberman, former member of the Senate

Robert Toricelli, former member of the Senate

Rudolph William Louis Giuliani,

Donald Trump's personal lawyer and advisor

Dorothy Shea, U.S. ambassador to Lebanon

Jonathan Shrier, Deputy Chief of Mission in the Occupied Palestine

David Melech Friedman, former U.S. ambassador to the Occupied Palestine

Wilbur Louis Ross, former Secretary of Commerce

Jacob Joseph Lew, former Secretary of the Treasury

Sigal Pearl Mandelker, former Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence

Justin George Muzinich, former Deputy Secretary of the Treasury

Marshal Billingslea, former Assistant Secretary for Terrorist Financing at the Department of the Treasury.

Sarah Bloom Raskin, former Deputy Secretary of the Treasury

Kenneth A. Blanco, Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network

Michael Moiser, Deputy Director and Digital Innovation Officer of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network

Richard Allen Grenell, former U.S. ambassador to Germany

Matthew Epstein, CEO of Kharon company

Benjamin Schmidt, Chief Product Officer at Kharon company

Howard Mendelsohn, Chief Client Officer at Kharon company

Benjamin Davis, Chief Research Officer at Kharon company

Mark Nakhla, Executive Vice President at Kharon company

Janice Gardner, Executive Editor at Kharon company

Intelligence minister: Religious sites have become targets for Takfiri terrorists

TEHRAN — On Saturday, Seyyed Esmaeil Khatib, Iran's Minister of Intelligence, said religious places have become a target for the Takfiri groups to commit terrorist acts.

Speaking at a meeting in Fars province, Khatib said, "One of the centers of interest for Takfiris is religious places, and this example of recent terrorist act carried out in the courtyard of the holy shrine of Imam Reza (AS) in Mashhad shows the enmity of the Takfiri groups."

Khatib was referring to the Tuesday brutal knife attack in the shrine of Imam Reza which martyred two clergymen and injured another one.

The assailant was a 21-year-old Uzbek named Abdollatif Moradi, who was heavily influenced by the Takfiri teachings.

The minister said such malicious acts which create ethnic and religious conflict

between Shias and Sunnis and other ethnicities are primarily aimed to divert public opinion from the crimes of the Zionist regime.

Such acts are also intended to create new security problems in Iran by using media outlets, Khatib said.

"This requires that scholars, intellectuals, and the people would be wary against these seditions and neutralize them through intelligence and enlightenment," the intelligence minister noted.

Khatib went on to say that the Zionist regime is trying to play the role of the regional gendarme with the support of the arrogant countries and certain Arab countries, however these efforts are confronted and neutralized by the brave actions of the Palestinians.

Iran stresses resistance is only option for Palestinian independence

TEHRAN- Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Saeed Khatibzadeh said on Saturday that Palestinians' only option was to oppose occupation and adopt a democratic solution to free the Holy Quds.

Opposing the occupying Israeli regime is legitimate, clear, and natural right of the helpless Palestinian people, Khatibzadeh added.

He described struggle as a response to the Israeli regime's repeated violations of holy sites in the occupied city of al-Quds, as well as the regime's ongoing crimes against the Palestinian people, who are already subjected to violence and discrimination.

The Islamic Republic supports the Palestinian cause for freedom from the Israeli oppression and violence, the spokesman asserted.

In response to recent developments in the occupied territories, Khatibzadeh identified the root cause of the unrest as "racism, crackdown, bloodshed, imprisonment as well as the extensive deprivation, daily denigration, and naked terrorism that is enforced by the

apartheid Zionist regime" against the Palestinians.

The remarks come two days after a shooting in the center of Tel Aviv that left several people killed and wounded.

The incident was carried out when a Palestinian youngster, identified as Ra'ad Fathi Hazem, entered a pub on the city's bustling main street and began shooting.

The 28-year-old, a resident of the occupied West Bank's Jenin refugee camp, was targeted by Israeli troops in a pre-dawn fight outside a mosque on the first Friday of Ramadan.

The incident has been lauded as a "heroic action" by several Palestinian resistance organizations and the Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah.

Reiterating Iran's fundamental position, Khatibzadeh believes that the only way to resolve the Palestinian problem is for "all of its original inhabitants" to vote in a referendum.

Meanwhile, the official urged the international community to assist in ending the occupying regime's "savage violations and crimes" in the Palestinian territories.

Iran expresses concern over politicization of UNHRC

TEHRAN- The United Nations General Assembly's resolution on suspending Russia from the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is politically motivated, Iran's ambassador to the UN said in a statement on Thursday.

Majid Takht Ravanchi said the move undermines the UN body's neutrality.

The UN General Assembly suspended Russia from the UN Human Rights Council on Thursday in response to claims of "gross and systematic violations and abuses of human rights" by Russian soldiers in Ukraine.

Takht Ravanchi clarified Iran's position on the suspension prior to the assembly's eleventh emergency session on Ukraine.

The full text of the statement issued by the ambassador is as follows:

The Islamic Republic of Iran has, on some occasions, expressed its principled position with regard to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, including during the adoption of the two previous resolutions of the Eleventh Emergency Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

My delegation would like to reiterate, once again, its position regarding the need for peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with international law and underlines the need for full respect by all

parties for the well-established provisions of the United Nations Charter and international law including international humanitarian law. We emphasize that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states must be fully respected and the safety and security of all civilians must be guaranteed.

Iran remains deeply concerned about the continuous deterioration of the humanitarian situation in and around Ukraine, which has sparked significant alarm in the international community. We call for an immediate cessation of hostilities and emphasize the importance of complying with international humanitarian law by all parties. We repeat our call for unimpeded humanitarian access to all areas of the armed conflict in Ukraine. The humanitarian needs of the affected population must be addressed immediately and the delivery of food, medicine, and other essential services to the people in need must be facilitated.

The international community should encourage and support continued direct negotiations between Russia and Ukraine until peace is restored. The Islamic Republic of Iran once again calls for the de-escalation of tensions in the current conflict and an urgent and lasting solution to this crisis through dialogue.

We consider the text of the resolution

before the General Assembly (A/ES-11/L.3) as politically driven which undermines the impartiality of our organization. My government attaches great importance to the promotion and protection of human rights. However, we are against the exploitation of UN human rights machinery for political ends which contravenes the principles of universality, non-selectivity, and objectivity in addressing human rights issues.

We have always maintained that human rights should not be undermined by short-sighted political considerations. We stress that the work of the Human Rights Council should be performed in a non-confrontational and non-politicized manner and membership in this body should not be politicized.

We would like to reiterate our position on the centrality of the principles of objectivity, dialogue, and cooperation towards the protection and promotion of all human rights based on a non-selective and non-politicized approach. We are of the view that the exploitation of Paragraph 8 of the UN General Assembly Resolution 60/251 deepens confrontation and attenuates constructive dialogue between countries.

For the above-mentioned reasons, my delegation will vote against this draft resolution (A/ES-11/L.4).

Iran unveils new nuclear achievements

Raisi says Iran's nuclear expertise is irreversible



Iranian-made centrifuges.

The exhibition was held at the AEOL building.

During the visit, Raisi expressed confidence in the competence of young Iranian scientists in the field of nuclear technology, describing these progresses as a symbol of self-confidence and reliance on internal power. He suggested that this spirit should spread to other industries in the country.

While highlighting the right to peaceful nuclear energy, the president described Iran's nuclear expertise and technology as irreversible, saying, "Relying on young Iranian people, scientists, and hard work is a model that always works and should be adopted in other sectors as well."

"Fortunately, the research activity of experts in peaceful uses of nuclear energy is accelerating well, and the government will encourage this process," Raisi said, adding that Iran will continue research in peaceful nuclear domains regardless of the will or opinion of outsiders.

During the visit, Mohammad

Eslami, the AEOL chief, and Sorena Sattari, Vice-President for Science and Technology, briefed the president on the country's scientific and technological progresses in nuclear industry.

The exhibition presented three breakthroughs in radiopharmaceuticals, two in the field of plasma, and four successes in the disciplines of industry, lasers, control systems, and photography.

The AEOL also revealed three major plans during the exhibition: to generate 10,000 MW of nuclear power, to expand the use of radiation, and to develop an indigenous 360 MW power plant in Darkhovein.

Iran marks Nuclear Day with nine achievements

TEHRAN – Iran marked its National Nuclear Technology Day on Saturday by unveiling nine achievements that were hailed as ushering in a nuclear renaissance in Iran.

The unveiling took place during a ceremony attended by President Ebrahim Raisi and Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami as well as a number of other officials.

The achievements included three radiopharmaceuticals, two achievements in the fields of cold plasma technology (CPT) and plasma therapy for cancer patients, and another four in the areas of industry, lasers, control systems, and radiography.

During the ceremony, President Raisi was briefed by Eslami and Vice President for Science and Technology Sourena Sattari on the achievements.

Featured high among the achievements was a set of radio medicine, including Lutetium-177, that is used to treat a number of difficult-to-treat diseases like cancer. With a half-life of 7 days, Iranian-made LU-177 will have a stronger effect compared to LU-77 and is the indigenous version of the medicine. LU-177 works to destroy cancerous tumors by connecting to the receptors of the tumor and spreading rays in the affected area, according to Fars News.

Eslami said the AEOI made 77 new achievements during the past Iranian calendar year which ended on March 20.

In addition to the achievements unveiled on Saturday, President Raisi unveiled “the Comprehensive Strategic Document for Nuclear



Development,” which is to serve as the blueprint for Iran’s nuclear development in the coming years.

Earlier, Eslami, who is responsible for preparing the document, said it thoroughly addressed the status of the AEOI and the nuclear policy of the country.

“We tried to prepare a comprehensive document for the development of the organization by forming working groups consisting of all relevant and motivated people,” Eslami said of the document, according to Fars News.

The AEOI chief added, “This document has passed the legal approval process and fortunately, in the first working days of 1401 [the Iranian new calendar year], we have a comprehensive document for this organization.”

According to Eslami, the document includes all aspects of nuclear technology, the industrialization of Iran in various sectors, the Leader’s

recommendations, and the spheres that have not been addressed yet.

Eslami pointed out that, according to the document, qualitative and quantitative targets have been set for the processes of the nuclear fuel cycle. As regards nuclear power, the document sets the stage for the construction of power plants with a production capacity of up to 10,000 MW.

The unveiling ceremony was held at the Summit Hall in Tehran which also featured an exhibition on Iran’s nuclear achievements. During his visit to the exhibition, Ayatollah Raisi expressed pride over the progress of Iranian young scientists in the field of nuclear technology and described these developments as a symbol of self-confidence and reliance on internal power, and called for this spirit to spread to other industries and strategic areas in the country, according to the official website of the Iranian presidency.

While emphasizing the right to

use peaceful nuclear energy, the president called Iran’s nuclear knowledge and technology in the nuclear field irreversible and said, “Relying on Iranian young people and scientists and jihadist work is a model that always works and should be used in other areas as well.”

Underlining that Iran would continue research in peaceful nuclear fields regardless of the will or opinion of outsiders, President Raisi said, “Fortunately, the research work of scientists in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy is accelerating well and the government will support this process.”

Iran’s newest nuclear achievements are being hailed as a “nuclear renaissance.” Nour News, a news website close to Iran’s Supreme National Security Council, said the achievements put Iran on the cusp of a “nuclear renaissance.”

“Over the last years, our country’s nuclear industry, despite the enemies’ obstructions, has made upward progress by virtue of the youth and scientists. And that, today, Islamic Iran is on the cusp of a nuclear renaissance,” the website said.

Nuclear achievements come at a time that Iran is under growing pressure from the West over its nuclear program. Iran insists it needs its program for peaceful purposes while the West has leveled accusations against Iran in the nuclear realm.

Iran and the West, along with other world powers, have been negotiating in Vienna since last April in a bid to find a common ground to settle differences.

He added, “Iran has fulfilled all its obligations in good faith, and you who did not abide by your signature, and you did not act according to your signature, everything that was specified in the nuclear agreement must be implemented, so there is no new understanding. The purpose of these negotiations taking place today is to return to the understanding that was reached in the previous period, so all that was pledged must be adhered to. The Agency has repeatedly stressed that there are no deviations in Iran’s nuclear program and that it exercises the utmost oversight throughout its history and does not have inspectors in any country like Iran, so everything must return to normal and stop harassing Iran. This is the basic principle of dialogue and understanding, which must be achieved.”

Well-informed sources have revealed to Al-Alam that the United States’ obstruction of the Vienna talks was caused by several positions. The first is that Washington refuses to lift sanctions on the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC), despite the assertion of many Iranian officials that lifting these sanctions is a priority for Iran.

The sources also revealed that the United States asked Iran to abandon the demand for revenge for the crime of the assassination of General Soleimani. Washington also demanded that the issue of the Iranian role in the region be raised at the negotiating table, which was totally rejected by Iran.

Amir Abdollahian has said that Iran will never acquiesce to U.S. excessive demands. “If there’s a pause in the Vienna negotiations, that’s because of excessive demands by the U.S. side,” he said.

“We will never give in to excessive demands of the U.S. If the White House acts realistically, a deal is at hand,” Amir Abdollahian said on Twitter.

Saeed Khatibzadeh, spokesman for Iranian Foreign Ministry, has said that the U.S. must make a decision if it wants to reach an agreement in Vienna.

“Iran and Iranians cannot be patient forever. If the United States wants to reach an agreement, it must make a political decision as soon as possible,” Saeed Khatibzadeh asserted.



individuals on board the boat.”

The provincial chief justice underlined that the fight against smuggling, especially fuel smuggling, is one of the important priorities that the judiciary in the province is constantly following up in order to support the growth and prosperity of the country’s economy.

“This will be followed up through the establishment of an operational base to combat fuel smuggling and the strengthening of monitoring and resolute action against smugglers,” he said, according to Al-Alam.

SPORTS

Iran to play New Zealand in friendly match

TEHRAN – Iran national football team will play New Zealand in a friendly match in June in Doha, Qatar.

The game will be one of four warm-up matches in the Persian Gulf country.

Director of Iran national football team Hamid Estili had already said they will hold a two-week training camp in Doha in June.

Iran have been drawn in Group B along with England, the U.S. and the winners of the European play-offs between Scotland, Ukraine and Wales.



New Zealand are scheduled to play Costa Rica in the inter-continental playoff on June 14.

The 2022 FIFA World Cup is scheduled to be the 22nd running of the FIFA World Cup competition, the quadrennial international men’s football championship contested by the national teams of the member associations of FIFA. It is scheduled to take place in Qatar from 21 Nov. to 18 Dec. 2022.

Iran’s Hazfi Cup final date revealed

TEHRAN – Iran’s Hazfi Cup final match will be held on April 27.

Persepolis, who were scheduled to play Aluminum the quarter-final round on Saturday, will play the Arak based football team Sunday night due to air pollution.

Esteghlal will also host Nassaji Monday night in Tehran’s Azadi Stadium.

Amirhossein Roshanak, Hazfi Cup’s chief executive, has announced that the final match of Hazfi Cup will be held on April 27.

The Hazfi Cup was founded in 1975 and Esteghlal are the most successful club with seven titles, followed by Persepolis who have won six titles.

Two foreign volleyball coaches added to Iran staff

TEHRAN – Tomaso Totolo and Janusz Ignaczak have been added to the Iran national volleyball team coaching staff.

Italian Totolo, 56, will work as Iran assistant for the second stint. He Was Vladimir Alekno’s assistant in the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo.

Ignaczak is a 67-year-old Polish coach, who has already worked in the Polish clubs.

The foreign coaches will assist Iran head coach Behrouz Ataei in the 2022 FIVB Volleyball Men’s Nations League (VNL).

Iran are scheduled to play the Netherlands, Australia and Japan in Week 1 to be held in Brazil.

The 2022 FIVB Volleyball Men’s Nations League will be the fourth edition of the FIVB Volleyball Men’s Nations League, an annual men’s international volleyball tournament.

The preliminary round was scheduled to be held during five weeks between June 7 and July 10, 2022. The final round was scheduled for July 20 and 24.

Iran to play Maldives in 2022 AFC Futsal Asian Cup Qualification opener

TEHRAN – Iran will start the 2022 AFC Futsal Asian Cup qualification on Sunday with match against the Maldives.

Team Melli, headed by Vahid Shamsaei, will play Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan in Group A in the following days.

The competition is the qualification process organized by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) to determine the participating teams for the 2022 AFC Futsal Asian Cup, the 17th edition of the international men’s futsal championship of Asia.

A total of 15 teams will qualify to play in the final tournament, excluding Kuwait – who automatically qualified as a host.

The qualifiers take place between April 1 to 15 in centralized venues. In the West Zone, the United Arab Emirates will be a host. Top two teams from each group and the winner of the play-off match between the third placed teams will qualify.

In the Central and South Zone, the matches will be played in the Kyrgyz Republic where top two teams from each group advance to the main tournament. The host for the East Zone will be announced soon. The group winners and the play-off winner between the runners-up will qualify for the tournament.

Hashem Eskandari remains ACBS vice president

TEHRAN – Hashem Eskandari from Iran remained as vice president of the Asian Confederation of Billiard Sports (ACBS).

In the 36th Annual General Meeting of ACBS held in Doha, Qatar, Eskandari retained his post until 2026.

This is for the third time the president of Bowling, Billiard and Boules Federation of Iran has been chosen for the post.

Iran U23 to play Gol Gohar: friendly

TEHRAN – Iran U23 football team will meet Gol Gohar in a friendly match.

The Mehdi Mahdavia’s side will play Gol Gohar on April 14 in Tehran, capital of Iran.

The friendly will be held as part of the preparation for the 2022 AFC U-23 Asian Cup.

The 2022 AFC U-23 Asian Cup will be the 5th edition of the competition and will be held in Uzbekistan from June 1 to 19.

Iran have been drawn into Group A along with host Uzbekistan, Qatar, and Turkmenistan.

The U23 team have defeated Iranian clubs Nassaji 5-2 and Persepolis 3-1 in two friendlies in late March.

Persepolis, Aluminum match postponed due to air pollution

TEHRAN – A football match between Persepolis and Aluminum football teams in Iran’s Hazfi Cup quarter-final was postponed due to air pollution.

The match was scheduled for Saturday in Tehran’s Azadi Stadium but will be held Sunday night due to unsuitable weather conditions in the Iranian capital.

The health and meteorological officials have asked people to remain indoors amid the severe air pollution.

The company’s real-time air quality index (AQI) for Tehran was 206 on Friday, putting the Iranian capital on top of the list followed by Beijing and Lahore with AQIs of 182 and 173, respectively.

China calls on U.S. to make political decisions on Vienna talks

TEHRAN – China on Friday underlined the need for the United States to make political decisions and understands Iran’s concerns regarding the talks over the 2015 nuclear deal.

China’s Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said the U.S. should make political decisions as soon as possible and actively respond to the legitimate concerns of the Iranian side if it wants to get the nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), revived.

Speaking at a press briefing, Zhao said negotiations on reviving the JCPOA have entered the final stage, with all parties having reached a consensus on most of the issues while only a few remain to be resolved, Press TV reported.

He said China believes that there is no better alternative to the JCPOA.

“At this final phase, it is ever more important that all parties boost confidence, step up diplomatic efforts, facilitate a smooth conclusion of the negotiations and avoid letting previous efforts come to naught,” the Chinese diplomat said.

“As the culprit of the Iranian nuclear crisis, the U.S. should make political decisions as soon as possible and actively respond to the legitimate concerns of the Iranian side,” he added.

Zhao also said that China will continue to “participate in the negotiations constructively, help bring the JCPOA back to the normal track at an early date, uphold the international non-proliferation system and promote peace and stability in the Middle East.”

The remarks came days after U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said he was not “overly optimistic” at the prospects of concluding the Vienna talks.

In an interview with MSNBC on Wednesday, Blinken warned that “time is getting extremely short to restore the JCPOA” but added that a successful conclusion of the talks would be in the interest of the United States, according to Press TV.

The talks in Vienna over the JCPOA have come to a standstill due to lack of political decisions on the part of the U.S.

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian has recently blamed the United States

statement.

He added, “During the inspection of this ship, more than 220,000 liters of smuggled fuel were seized and 11 members of the foreign crew were arrested.”

Qahramani said the arrest of the smugglers will help complete the “investigation and legal procedures.”

Qahramani continued, “The Guards Navy also arrested an Iranian boat carrying 20,000 liters of smuggled diesel with the aim of supplying this foreign ship with fuel in Iranian territorial waters, and arrested 3

IRGC detains foreign ship carrying smuggled fuel

TEHRAN – The chief justice of Hormozgan Province announced on Saturday the detention by the IRGC Navy of a foreign ship carrying 220,000 liters of smuggled fuel in the Persian Gulf.

“In coordination with the judicial authorities, the Zulfikar Naval Brigade of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) monitored and arrested a foreign ship carrying smuggled fuel in the waters of the Persian Gulf,” Mojtaba Qahramani, head of Hormozgan province’s justice department, said in a press

Iran, EAEU stress the need to ink free trade agreement by yearend

From page 1 ► After several years of negotiations, Iran and EAEU finally reached a PTA in 2018 based on which about 862 commodity items are subject to preferential tariffs. The PTA came into effect on October 27, 2019.

As the agreement was designed to be in effect for three years, it is to expire in October this year. For this reason, the parties have recently begun technical and expert negotiations to upgrade the PTA to an FTA.

In this regard, Iran and the EAEU held their first round of negotiations on the matter in Tehran on July 19, 2021. According to Hamid Zadboum, the former TPO head, the two sides have agreed upon most terms related to the outlines of the PTA; the partner countries have reached an agreement to gradually remove tariffs and duties on most imports and exports in the near future to expand business opportunities.

Iran is a very important market in the region and the development



of ties with this country is of high significance for the EAEU members (Russia, Belarus, Armenia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan).

The preferential trade agreement between Iran and this union has laid the ground for the expansion of trade ties between the two sides.

The agreement with the bloc has increased Iran's exports to the EAEU member states significantly, which is a turning point for the Islamic Republic's plans for boosting non-oil exports during the U.S. sanctions.

Nearly 31m tons of basic commodities imported in a year



TEHRAN- Iran imported 30.9 million tons of basic goods in the past Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20), an official with the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) told ISNA.

Foroud Asgari, the deputy head of IRICA for customs affairs, said that the imported goods were in 25 commodity groups.

Putting the value of the imported basic commodities at \$19.6 billion in the past year, the official said that the imports show a 60-percent rise in worth and 32-percent growth in weight, as compared to the Iranian calendar year 1399.

Trade of mining companies' shares at stock market up 71%

TEHRAN – The total sales of the shares of Iran's major mining companies through the stock market reached 5.538 quadrillion rials (about \$20.67 billion) in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20), to register a 71-percent rise year on year, IRNA reported.

As reported, the mentioned companies accounted for 21 percent of the total shares sold at the stock market in the mentioned year.

Mobarakeh Steel Company, National Iranian Copper Industry Company (NICIC), Khuzestan Steel, Gol Gohar Company, Esfahan Steel Company, Chadormalu

Mining and Industrial Company, Hormozgan Steel Company, South Kaveh Steel Company, Khorasan Steel and Iran Aluminum were the top companies in this regard, respectively.

Having 68 different types of minerals, Iran is one of the top 10 mineral-rich countries across the globe. In this regard, the Iranian government has been seriously pursuing several programs for promoting the mining sector as a major contributor to the country's economic growth.

Iran's proven iron ore reserves are 2.7 billion tons, while the country's copper



reserves are 2.6 billion tons. The country also has 11 million tons of zinc reserves.

The total proven reserves of Iran's mines are estimated at about 60 billion tons, which is expected to reach more than 100 billion tons with the implementation of the Industry, Mining, and Trade Ministry's exploration

Pakistan issues order to put barter trade with Iran in effect

TEHRAN – Pakistani Ministry of Commerce has issued a statutory regulatory order (SRO) to put into effect a barter trade agreement reached with Iran back in November 2021.

“Barter trade has tremendous importance to increase regional trade to overcome foreign exchange and other challenges,” the ministry said in a statement.

Pakistani Ambassador to Iran Rahim Hayat Qureshi has also pointed to the decision as a welcoming development, saying: “It will provide a boost in our exports to Iran, especially of rice.”

Qureshi urged the two countries' private sectors to step forward and take

advantage of the given opportunity.

He stated that the embassy would stand ready to provide all possible assistance to the private sector in this regard. “The embassy looks forward to hosting different chambers, especially Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan (REAP) in Tehran to give further impetus to our exports to Iran.”

Iran and Pakistan reached an agreement to use barter trade in order to boost bilateral trade in the face of U.S. sanctions during the two countries' ninth Joint Economic Committee meeting which was held in Tehran back in November 2021.

Co-chaired by Iranian



Industry, Mining, and Trade Minister Reza Fatemi-Amin and Pakistan's Adviser to Prime Minister on Commerce and Investment Abdul Razak Dawood, the meeting was attended by high-ranking Iranian and Pakistani officials as well as traders and businessmen from the two countries.

Banking relations, customs cooperation, border markets, barter trade, and coronavirus pandemic issues were among the subjects discussed at the meeting, after which the businessmen from the two sides held B2B meetings to explore avenues of mutual cooperation.

Speaking in the meeting, Fatemi-Amin expressed

Iran's readiness for removing barriers in the way of the activities of Pakistani companies in Iran, saying: “With the measures taken, the existing barriers will be removed within the next three months and the trade processes will be facilitated. Hopefully, the Pakistani government will also provide Iranian companies with the same facilities.”

“By removing the existing problems and obstacles to the development of economic and trade cooperation between Iran and Pakistan the volume of trade between the two countries will increase to five billion dollars in the next two years,” he added.

Tehran, Moscow reach agreement to cooperate in exhibition industry

TEHRAN – Iran International Exhibition Company (IIEC) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Russia's major international exhibitions and conventions center Expocentre to cooperate in holding joint exhibitions, IRNA reported on Saturday.

The MOU was signed during a meeting between IIEC Managing Director Houman Razdar and Head of Expocenter Alexey Vyalkin on the sidelines of the visit of a high-ranking Iranian delegation to Moscow.

After the signing of the MOU, Razdar underlined the importance of this MOU as the first such memorandum between the International Exhibitions Company of Iran and the Moscow Exhibition Center and emphasized: “Exposcenter and the International Exhibitions Company of the Islamic Republic of Iran are the most important exhibition sponsors in the region.”

Referring to the significant role of international exhibitions between the two



countries in introducing mutual capacities and capabilities, Razdar added: “Exchanging and mutual allocation of exhibition space and cohesive collaborations are the most important issues covered in this MOU that will be implemented soon.”

Vyalkin for his part welcomed the agreement, saying: “following this memorandum, from now on we will witness a strong presence of Iranian companies in the Expocenter Complex.”

Manufacturing of home appliances up 7.6% in 11 months yr/yr

TEHRAN- The manufacturing of home appliances rose 7.6 percent in the 11-month period from March 21, 2021 to February 19, 2022, as compared to the same period of time in the preceding year, according to the data released by Industry, Mining and Trade Ministry.

The ministry data show that 5,194,400 sets of home appliances were manufactured in the mentioned 11-month period, while the figure was 4,588,300 in the same time span of the preceding year.

Back in April 2021, Deputy Industry, Mining and Trade Minister Mehdi Sadeqi Niaraki had said that considering the Iranian home appliance industry's infrastructure and capacities, the country will be able to become an exporter of such products in the near future because most of the raw materials needed by the mentioned sector are produced

domestically.

Stating that the Industry, Mining, and Trade Ministry will definitely support domestic manufacturers and national brands, the official added: “Today we have the necessary manpower, knowledge, and infrastructure in the field, so there is no reason to look for foreign sources to meet the country's demands.”

Over the past few years, the Iranian government has been following a new strategy for supporting domestic production to neutralize the impacts of the U.S. sanctions while reducing the reliance of the economy on oil revenues.

The home appliances sector has been one of the pioneers in this regard and like many other areas, the production of home appliances has witnessed a significant rise in the past three years.

Monthly non-oil export increases 37% year on year

TEHRAN- The value of Iran's non-oil export increased 37 percent during the last month of the past Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20), as compared to the last month of its preceding year, the spokesman of Islamic Republic of Iran's Customs Administration (IRICA) announced.

Ruhollah Latifi said that 10.117 million tons of commodities worth \$5.102 billion were exported in the last month of the past year, indicating a two-percent decline in terms of weight.

The official further put Iran's non-oil trade at 14.539 million tons valued at \$11.538 billion in the said month, of which 4.422 million worth \$6.436 billion was import.

As previously announced by the IRICA head, the value of Iran's non-oil trade rose

38 percent in the past Iranian calendar year 1400, as compared to its previous year.

Alireza Moqadasi put the country's non-oil trade at 162 million tons worth \$100 billion in the past year.

He said that Iran exported 122 million tons of non-oil products worth \$48 billion in the previous year, which was \$14 billion (41 percent) more than the figure for its preceding year.

The country's non-oil trade record in 1400 was reached while the toughest sanctions were imposed on Iran, but thanks to God and the efforts of entrepreneurs, producers and the cooperation of foreign trade-related organizations, a historical record was achieved in the past year which was unprecedented in recent decades, the official underlined.

TEDPIX loses 5,000 points on Saturday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), lost 5,099 points to 1,458 million on Saturday.

As reported, over 9.334 billion securities worth 50.471 trillion rials (about \$198 million) were traded at the TSE.

The first market's index lost 5,798 points, and the second market's index dropped 3,891 points.

TEDPIX rose 31,637 points (2.2 percent) to 1.463 million in the past Iranian calendar week (ended on Friday).

The index is expected to follow a mild upward trend in the current Iranian calendar year 1401 (started on March 21), a market analyst told IRNA on April 3.



“The capital market index experienced a significant decline in [the Iranian calendar year] 1399 (ended on March 21, 2021) and the transactions at this market also undergone some correction in the previous year. Therefore, it seems that given the relative stability of macroeconomic variables, we will see a slight growth in the market index during the current year,” Ali Teymouri said.

According to Teymouri, the main risks threatening the capital market in the current year are budget-related issues, as well as government and central bank exchange rate policies following a possible nuclear agreement.

Transparency in the economic policies of the new government, as well as the resolution of issues related to the nuclear deal, can create stable conditions for the country's economy, which can in return ensure a good outlook for the capital market, the analyst added.

In the last few months of last year, the capital market experienced some turbulence due to the ambiguities about the

outcomes of the Vienna talks.

As stated by the head of Iran's Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO), the monthly sales of the shares of companies listed on the Tehran Stock Exchange has been very good in the past Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20), and it is predicted that the growing trend of the exchanges will continue in the present year as well.

“Considering the general provisions approved in this year's budget bill we expect that companies will have good capital increase and take positive development measures, and it will be easier for investors to make decisions,” Majid Eshqi told the press on March 12.

Asymmetrical guerrilla war against S. Arabia have been successful: ex-Senate candidate

From page 1 ► is destined to be successful. In this context, the French and American failures in South Vietnam and the more recent American catastrophe in Afghanistan are additional classic examples.

Whoever directed operations in the Aramco attack understands the significance of destroying assets of premier economic and logistical significance as a prelude to sapping military and political will and strength.

In their temporarily successful military attack on the American Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor in December of 1941, Japan destroyed many American battleships of outdated vintage. It left the American dry docks and oil storage tanks intact. Historians and military tacticians now recognize that to have been a colossal and ultimately fatal blunder.

Yet, by comparison, the architects of Yemen's asymmetrical guerrilla war of defense against Saudi Arabia have been infinitely more successful than the Japan of 1941 with its awesome air, sea, and aerial forces of that time. This fact, and the refusal of the people of Yemen to surrender despite horrendous losses, is the difference.

Why do the Western mainstream media classify the Yemeni response to the Saudi raids as aggression while consider Ukraine's response to Russia's military operation legitimate self-defense? Isn't it a double standard?

Certainly it is a double standard. In the first place, Western mainstream media is comprised of what Paul Craig Roberts terms the "presstitutes." These people will report whatever the Zionist-Globalist monolith controlling Western governments wants reporting, regardless of how absurd, unfair, or outrageous it is. The notion that Yemen is the aggressor in the war with Saudi Arabia is absolutely unsustainable.

And in the case of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, it is Russia that had no choice but to invade in order to protect itself from the ongoing attempt to utilize NATO to encircle it since 1997, followed by the American/EU coup d'état in Kyiv in February of 2014. The West says it wants "democracy" in Ukraine, which it defines as overthrowing the legitimate and elected government in Kyiv 8 years ago, followed by the actions of the subsequent Western puppet regime there which took 14,000 lives in the Donbass over that period of time while completely ignored the Minsk accords it had agreed to with Moscow.

I have a close American friend with Press TV connections who is absolutely confused about this. He wrote me recently to express his "disappointment" that I was backing "evil Putin" in this conflict. He sent me a Washington Post article on Orthodox priests expressing an anti-Putin viewpoint and taking issue with the Russian Orthodox Patriarch Karill in Moscow failing to condemn his country's President. I responded:



(<https://www.washington-post.com/religion/2022/03/09/eastern-orthodox-priests-russia-denounce-invasion-ukraine-their-own-peril/>)

Dear-----

Jim Jatras could tell you all about the CIA-NED payoff of \$25 million to Bartholomew II of Istanbul/Ukraine:

<https://www.chroniclesmagazine.org/article/whats-really-behind-the-state-departments-meddling-in-ukraine/>

I believe the Washington Post story you send along must be evaluated in light of what Jatras explains about the way this works, where the Orthodox primate in Istanbul began interfering for the CIA in something he had and has no ecclesiastical jurisdiction over in Ukraine.

The ultimate irony is that this primate, the Clinton-Pyatt-Nuland-Biden cabal, George Soros, the Pompeo State Department, CNN, the Washington Post, the Financial Times, MSNBC, the Jewish Drag

Queen presently pretending to be the legitimate President of Ukraine, and the Queer organizations like Kyiv Pride and QUA—LGBTQ Americans in Ukraine, are all on the same team in wanting to destroy "evil Putin."

The proof on Magic Mike Pompeo from the official U. S. Embassy in Kyiv web page: <https://ua.usembassy.gov/lgbti-pride-month/>

Here's the complete text of my interview with Sputnik International on the Bucha atrocity video, an obvious false flag on the order of 9-11, the Bush/Powell bunk on Saddam's WMDs, the lies about Iran's weaponized nuclear program, and the transparently phony stories about Assad's use of chemical weapons in Syria, when the perpetrators were clearly the Al-Qaeda and ISIS affiliates the U.S., Israel, and Saudi Arabia were using there.

<https://mark1marti2.wordpress.com/2022/04/05/mark-dankof-sergei-boatsman-korotkik-and-the-bucha-atrocity-video-for-american-freedom-news/>

Putin had no choice but to invade Ukraine. The Bio-Labs exposés since the invasion, Zelensky's stated desire publicly to introduce nuclear weapons into Ukraine (which sealed the decision of Russia to invade on February 24th), what Buchanan,

Stockman, and Ron Paul underscore historically about the NATO expansions 600 miles Eastward in 1997 and 2004 breaking the promises to Gorbachev by Bush I and James Baker, the 1999 NATO/Clinton bombing of Serbia, the coup d'état of February 2014 in Kyiv, the Bartholomew II playoffs, the killing of 14,000 Russian ethnics in the Donbass over 8 years that followed, and now this Bucha False Flag video operation prove it. In this most recent incident, the Neo-Nazi forces working with Zelensky and his Western backers are the clear culprits here, in a replay of the White Helmets-Al Qaeda-ISIS operations in Syria commissioned by the Zio-Cons.

Russian forces were deployed near places like Kyiv and Chernigov initially to pin down the Ukrainian Armed Forces otherwise deployed in Donbass. Operations in Donbass have reached a stage where Russia can finish the job there in the coming days and weeks with the re-deployment of forces from Kyiv and elsewhere in Western Ukraine. Then Zelensky will receive a final ultimatum to reach a settlement. Or else.

The Kyiv re-deployment set the stage for the desperate facilitation of the Bucha False Flag incident to ignite Western media

to justify more Western armaments and mercenaries committed to the Zelensky regime, and to create the hysterical climate for more sanctions on Russia.

You're right: Against these forces with these motives, I'm backing "evil Putin."

What can we conclude when comparing the situations in Yemen and Ukraine? Discrimination or double standard because the Yemeni people are not white?

I have to say that in my view, the predominantly Jewish power structure in the United States and Europe couldn't care less about innocent life in Yemen, Ukraine, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Serbia, or anywhere else. The spin the Jewish-dominated media puts on who is "right" and who is "wrong" who is the "victim" and who is the "aggressor" depends on their agenda of world government and absolute political, cultural, and economic hegemony in ruling everyone else. The way the wars in Yemen and Ukraine are being "spun" must be seen in

this context. The most obvious examples of Palestine and Israel's war of "defense" there, in Gaza, and in ongoing "defensive" acts against Assad's Syria, and Iran, illustrates the problem for your readers.

In my "Open Letter to the Russian People: Growing Older but Wiser in the Mythologies of the American Empire," it is not an accident that I list a history of incidents involving wars, false flags, and deliberate media "spins" on these episodes involving deliberate falsehoods. Some of them involve Iran. (<https://mark1marti2.wordpress.com/2022/03/05/mark-dankofs-open-letter-to-the-russian-people-growing-older-but-wiser-in-the-mythologies-of-the-american-empire/>). It is my hope that this letter which has been translated into Russian, will also be properly translated into Farsi for your domestic population.

How can Western powers justify their military aid to Saudi Arabia after seven years of futile war?

There is absolutely no moral justification for what is clearly genocidal. It is all rooted in money, power, and geopolitical considerations of a most Machiavellian character. But the blowback has already begun: Saudi Arabia is losing this conflict militarily and politically. And now the Saudis are talking to China about doing oil business in Renmimbi instead of Dollars. The Biden Administration has been caught flat-footed on this.

My ongoing prediction: The China-Russia-Iran trio is the instrument of the forthcoming demise of the Zio-New World Order. Good riddance to it.

Biden had pledged in his election campaigns to put pressure on Saudi Arabia to end the war on Yemen. But Washington is continuing its military support to the Saudis under the pretext of defense aid. How do you assess Biden's policies when it comes to Yemen?

I don't think Biden has his own policies in Yemen or anywhere else. He is simply selling the policies of the American Deep State and the Zio-Globalist New World Order. Whatever their wish is, is Biden's command. David Stockman's "The Warfare State's Infinitely Men-dacious Echo Chamber" provides all one needs to know about Joe Biden and his Administration in terms of its absolute servitude to the American War Party, the Deep State, and the budgets it demands. (<https://www.lewrockwell.com/2022/04/david-stockman/the-warfare-states-infinitely-men-dacious-echo-chamber/>)

And compare what Stockman says about the Bucha atrocity video and the war with what I have told Sputnik International and the American Freedom News. (<https://mark1marti2.wordpress.com/2022/04/05/mark-dankof-sergei-boatsman-korotkik-and-the-bucha-atrocity-video-for-american-freedom-news/>)

Hint for your fine readers: Stockman's views and mine absolutely match.

used to be due to these Russian actions," the official said.

Alexander Stubb, who served as Finland's Prime Minister in 2014-2015, echoed this sentiment, telling CNN there had long been a tension in the country between idealism -- wanting to be able to work with Russia, with whom it shares a border -- and realism, which required Finland to maintain a strong standing army in the event that Russia ever invaded.

That idealism has now largely evaporated in the wake of Russia's attack.

"The Finns think that if Putin can slaughter his sisters, brothers and cousins in Ukraine, as he is doing now, then there is nothing stopping him from doing it in Finland. We simply don't want to be left alone again," Stubb said, recalling the Soviet-Finnish Winter War, which lasted from November 1939 to March 1940.

The Kremlin said Thursday it would have to "re-balance the situation" if Sweden and Finland were to join NATO. "We'll have to make our western flank more sophisticated in terms of ensuring our security," Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov told Sky News.

Finland was hit with two cyberattacks and an air-space violation by a Russian state-owned plane on Friday. Both Stubb and the Finnish official said Helsinki expects such types of attacks, and they downplayed the potential of a severe response from Moscow should Finland -- which shares a more than 800-mile border with Russia -- join NATO.

Retaliation in Tel Aviv is natural response to Israeli aggression

From page 1 ► The nature of these Israeli military offensives; the storming of an entire village or town and using lethal force against Palestinians who come out in protest against their basic human rights is a regular occurrence across the occupied territories. However it has increased over the past weeks.

The only difference this time in Jenin is that it comes on the backdrop of the retaliatory attack in Tel Aviv, where the gunman (later shot dead) is said to have been from the same camp.

However, the offensives have received little to zero media coverage, in particular since tensions escalated again over the past few weeks, despite the destruction and the killing of Palestinians and even despite Israel this time announcing the start of a military operation in the vicinity of Jenin camp, inside the camp as well as the nearby Burqin village.

Experts have always argued that the regime is not making itself any more secure with these types of offensives as Palestinian anger mounts at the rising death toll over the past few weeks among Palestinian civilians.

As the leader of the Islamic Jihad Movement, Khader Adnan, put it "the regime, by storming the Jenin camp, is only trying to restore its image after the Tel Aviv operation."

Over the past couple of weeks, there has been hundreds of Palestinian casualties as a result of the Israeli regime forces storming Palestinian towns in the occupied territories and attacking its residents who come out in protest.

The Palestinian retaliatory attacks come as regime forces also intensify their crackdown on Palestinian worshippers during the holy Islamic month of Ramadan.

In occupied Jerusalem (al-Quds), the regime has attacked people trying to reach the holy area for prayer and it has also restricted the age of Muslims who want to pray at the al-Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third holiest site to 45 years or older.

This is in addition to the growing military checkpoints and other crimes and oppressive measures one can expect from an apartheid regime to practice.

Because of Israeli restrictions, there are Palestinians who live in the occupied territories and the besieged Gaza Strip under the age of 25 that have never been to the al-Aqsa mosque in their entire life.

This is while every other week settlements (illegal under international law) have expanded; thereby stealing more Palestinian land and handing it over to Israeli settlers.

Israeli settlers themselves have increased their violent and vicious attacks against Palestinians in the occupied territories with the occupation forces looking on. This is another well-documented regime policy tactic with the aim of intimidating Palestinians to leave their indigenous land.

Israel's brutal discriminatory policies of ethnic cleansing through different methods and dimensions never ended against the Palestinians.

Hamas says the latest incident in Tel Aviv shows the ability of the Palestinians to carry out attacks in the heart of the occupied territories while other resistance groups and activists say the attacks are a natural response to intensified Israeli crimes.

Hamas's political bureau said, "that is why the resistance is growing in Palestine today,



the resistance is also sending a revolutionary message to the enemy that we will drive you out of our territory, and that your acts of aggression in the West Bank, the occupied al-Quds, Gaza, and everywhere on Palestinian soil will be met with a natural response."

In a statement, the Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah praised what it described as the "heroic Palestinian operation."

The movement said, "once again, the Palestinian resistance proves its ability to confront the Israeli occupation, respond to its perpetual crimes, and deal humiliating blows to it where it is not expected, and in the depth of its usurping entity."

The Popular Resistance Committees, a coalition consisting of a number of armed Palestinian resistance movements, hailed the "heroic operation," saying it "confused the Zionist enemy and proved its fragility and weakness."

The operation "showed the ability of our Palestinian people and their resistant youth to take the battle to the depths of the enemy's entity, It proved that the spirit of challenge and resistance in our people exceeds the power of the Zionist enemy." It said.

One aspect has changed from this Ramadan in the occupied Palestinian territories in comparison to last Ramadan, the regime has been slightly more cautious in the sensitive holy city of Jerusalem (al-Quds) following warnings from the Palestinian resistance.

It has limited the number of attacks on worshippers and avoided raiding the vicinity of the holy mosque in a similar fashion to this time last year.

The Palestinian resistance has declared al-Aqsa mosque as their red line and Tel Aviv is still feeling the effect of the Palestinian missile barrages in the 11-day conflict last year that rained down on Tel Aviv and other Israeli targets across the occupied Palestinian territories.

The regime is perhaps cautious, that as it deals with a new nature of lone-wolf attacks that have hit Tel Aviv and elsewhere in the occupied territories, it can not afford to face another front from the besieged Gaza Strip with Palestinian missiles evading its so-called Iron Dome system.

A few Arab monarchies have normalized ties with the regime which has emboldened Israel to intensify its crackdown against the Palestinian people. This is despite the fact that Palestinians have never relied on these Arab states for any aid but on their own resistance which has grown and is expected to continue growing in nature against a colonialist, racist, apartheid entity.

Which is another reason why the few Persian Gulf Monarchies normalizing ties with the regime in order to safeguard their security should review their calculations.

The Israeli regime is struggling to safeguard its own security in the face of the most oppressed people on the planet, let alone the security of others.

Macron scolds Polish PM, defends his talks with Putin

French President Emmanuel Macron has called Polish PM Mateusz Morawiecki "a far-right anti-Semite", after being criticized for his talks with Russia's Vladimir Putin.

Morawiecki compared Macron's efforts to negotiating with Hitler.

The French president has held regular conversations with Putin since the beginning of the conflict in Ukraine.

On Friday, Poland summoned the French ambassador over Macron's comments, made to a French newspaper.

"How many times have you negotiated with Putin and what have you achieved?" Morawiecki said on Monday, BBC reported.

"It's my duty to speak with him, we need it. I won't stop doing it, that's what allows us to take part in the negotiation," he said.



"By talking to him and to [Ukraine's] President Zelensky, we can help in the negotiation. At some point, there will be a ceasefire and peace will have to be built. It cannot be done without a guarantor, France is committed to be one of these guarantors."

Macron also said Morawiecki wanted to help his rival Marine Le Pen in the French presidential election on Sunday.

Finland and Sweden could soon join NATO

Finland and Sweden could soon join NATO, moves that would likely infuriate Moscow.

NATO officials told CNN that discussions about Sweden and Finland joining the bloc have gotten extremely serious since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and U.S. senior State Department officials said the matter came up at this week's NATO foreign ministerial meeting, which was attended by the foreign ministers from Stockholm and Helsinki.

Officials said the discussions underline the extent to which Vladimir Putin's invasion has only served to reinvigorate and unify the NATO alliance -- the exact opposite of Putin's stated goals before the war began. The Russian President had demanded that NATO cease expanding east and admitting new members, accusing the bloc of threatening Russian security. Instead, NATO has increased its support to Ukraine and is preparing to welcome new members.

Public opinion in both countries about joining the defensive alliance has shifted significantly as Russia's war in Ukraine wages on, with one former Finnish Prime Minister telling CNN the move to join "was pretty much a done deal on the 24th of February, when Russia invaded."

"If you look at public opinion in Finland and Sweden, and how their views have changed dramatically over the past six weeks, I think it's another example of how this has been a strategic failure," one senior U.S. State Department official said this week.

Finnish Prime Minister Sanna Marin said Friday that her country's Parliament is set to discuss possible NATO membership "within the coming weeks," adding that she hopes these discussions will wrap up "before midsummer."

"I think we will have very careful discussions, but we are also not taking any more time than we have to in this process, because the situation is, of course, very severe," she said.

Swedish Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson did not rule out the possibility of membership in an interview with SVT at the end of March. Sweden is undertaking an analysis of security policy that's due to be completed by the end of May, and the government is expected to announce its position following that report, a Swedish official told CNN. They said their nation could make its position public sooner, depending on when neighboring Finland does.

Finland's ambassador to the U.S., Mikko Hautala, told CNN the two nations are in close coordination with each other but that each country would make its own independent decision.

A Finnish official said Friday that their country would not be seeking to join NATO out of "desperation" for defense from the 30-member alliance. Rather, Moscow's actions in Ukraine have forced Finland "to rethink the fundamentals."

"And we do understand that our relations with this Russia that now exists, they can't be the same as they

Folios of rare Quran manuscripts on view at Niavaran complex

TEHRAN – Folios of nine rare Quran manuscripts have been put on show in an exhibition at the Niavaran Cultural Historical Complex in northern Tehran.

The exhibit presents a variety of Quranic calligraphy in addition to the other related arts of illumination and bookbinding that were highly practiced between the 10th to 13th centuries AH (16th to 19th centuries CE).

The show will be running until the end of the holy month of Ramadan which falls on May 1, CHTN reported.

According to Iranica, the writing system in use in Persia since early Islamic times grew out of the Arabic alphabet.

“Comparison of some of the scripts developed on Persian soil, particularly Persian-style Kufic with the Pahlavi and Avestan scripts, reveals a number of similarities between them, and this has led certain modern researchers to surmise that when the Persians adopted the Arabic writing system, they may have made changes in the letter shapes and style of writing under the influence of their old national scripts and inherited tastes.”



“Distinctive Persian features appear mainly in the taliq, shekasteh-taliq, nastaliq and shekasteh-nastaliq scripts,” the encyclopedia mentions.

The Niavaran Cultural-Historical Complex, covering an area of about eleven hectares, is composed of several landmark buildings, museums, and monuments constructed in the 19th and 20th centuries during the Pahlavi and late Qajar eras.

The history of the palace complex stretches back to about 280 years ago when Fath-Ali Shah of the Qajar Dynasty ordered a summer residence to be built over the then countryside area of the capital. The two-story Ahmad Shahi Pavilion is one of the highlights of the complex.

Intl. conference on UNESCO-registered Uramanat to be held in Kermanshah



TEHRAN –An international conference focusing on the culture and sustainable development of the UNESCO-designated Uramanat is scheduled to be held in western province of Kermanshah, the director of the World Heritage site has said.

The conference is planned to explore the region's history, archaeology, handicrafts and cultural heritage, literature, local languages, geography, environment, tourism, art and culture, urban planning, economics, architecture, employment and sustainable development, Pouya Talebnia explained on Friday.

The event aims to introduce and identify the capacities of the World Heritage site to the global community, he added.

Organized by province's Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Department in collaboration with Kermanshah's Razi University, the seminar will be held on July 16 and 17, he noted.

Over the past couple of years, western Iranian provinces have held several meetings to discuss ways to expand tourism, bringing together local officials, hoteliers, travel agents, and tour operators from provinces of Lorestan, Ilam, Chaharmahal-Bakhtiari, Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad, Kermanshah, Kordestan, Hamedan, Zanjan and East Azarbaijan, amongst others.

One of the potentially-significant travel destinations in the west wing is the

Uramanat cultural landscape, which was registered on the UNESCO World Heritage list last year.

Stretched on the slopes of Sarvabad county at the heart of the Zagros Mountains, and shared between the provinces of Kordestan and Kermanshah in western Iran, the scenic landscape embraces hundreds of villages, 106,000 hectares of land, and 303,000 hectares of surrounding properties.

It boasts dense and step-like rows of houses in a way that the roof of each house forms the yard of the upper one, a feature that adds to its charm and attractiveness.

Archaeological findings dating back about 40,000 years, caves and rock shelters, ancient paths and ways along the valleys, motifs and inscriptions, cemeteries, mounds, castles, settlements, and other historical evidence attest to the continuity of life in the Uramanat region from the Paleolithic to the present time.

According to the UN body, Uramanat is an exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition of the semi-nomadic agropastoral way of life of the Hawrami people, a Kurdish tribe that has resided in the Zagros Mountains for millennia. This outstanding cultural tradition is manifested in the ancestral practices of transhumance, the mode of seasonal living in Havars, steep-slope terraced agriculture, soil and water management, traditional knowledge for planning and constructing steeply terraced villages, and rich diversity of intangible heritage, all reflecting a harmonious co-existence with nature.

The Islamic Republic expects to reap a bonanza from its numerous tourist spots such as bazaars, museums, mosques, bridges, bathhouses, madrasas, mausoleums, churches, towers, and mansions, of which 26 are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

time. It is also home to rich tourist spots and historical sites including bazaars, mosques, caravanserais, and ruins of ancient urban areas.

The southern 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 awe-inspiring cave in Delijan's wilderness

From page 1 ► Wondrously, the cave enjoys natural ventilation as visitors may feel comfortable temperature throughout the year. In addition, there are also several small ponds of water in different sections of the cave that add to its beauty and refreshment.

This way, visitors never feel the lack of oxygen in the cave. However, it is said such an expedition may be risky for people with high blood pressure and asthma.

The cave was discovered accidentally during an investigation for water resources in 1989 when workers carved a well, with the help of explosives.

There have been plans to develop and extend the size of the tourist part. It was projected to make another artificial entrance to the cave, a tunnel which would be the exit



for the tour allowing through trips.

The three-floor cave has a main branch and a few assistant branches with halls called the names Chehel Sotoun, Aroos, Zibayeih, Bagh-e Vahsh (Zoo), Barzakh, Chehel Cheragh, Golkalami, Farsang, Hayula, and Abshar. So far, two floors have been

prepared for visitors

The first level includes aquifers and a lake situated below the cave level. The lowest and maximum depth of this lake is 10 to 70 meters.

The second level is a path that starts from the entrance of the cave and continues for some 900 meters.

The third level starts at 900 meters from the main path and continues for some 300 meters.

The length of the cave is estimated to run between 8 to 12 kilometers, which is only 1.2km for public visitation. The air temperature inside the cave, similar to the other caves in all seasons is between 7 ° C and 14 ° C.

There are two different tours offered, both are about 1.3 km long. For the first 600 m, both use the same trail, then they split up. One follows a passage toward the northeast and the other a passage toward the northwest. Both tours are so-called in-and-out tours.

Situated between Naraq and Delijan on the hillside of Takht-koo, the cave is one of the amazing attractions of Markazi province. This rare geological phenomenon is said to date back to the third geologic period!

U.S. exhibit explores bonds between ancient Iran, rival powers of the time

TEHRAN – An exhibition, featuring parts of ancient Iran's history, has recently opened at the Getty Villa Museum in Los Angeles.

The exhibit focuses on the artistic and cultural ties between the rival powers of Iran, Greece, and Rome in ancient times by displaying royal sculptures, spectacular luxury objects, religious images, and historical documents assembled from major museums in the United States, Europe, and West Asia.

Entitled “Persia: Ancient Iran and the Classical World”, the event is a part of the museum's program “The Classical World in Context”.

“The many spectacular objects on view are extraordinary expressions of Persian political and cultural identity, many of them among the most famous masterpieces of Persian art,” reads part of the announcement of the director of the museum, Timothy Potts, carried on the museum's official website.

“As we ponder the most significant turning points in Eurasian history, there was perhaps no more momentous encounter than that between Persia and the Classical World,” he added.

“I hope this exhibition will convey how fruitful the intermingling of very different artistic and other cultural traditions was for both cultures, as can still be seen in aspects of our visual arts today.”

Many remarkable objects from Ancient Iran spanning approximately 1,200 years are on display for the first time in the U.S.

The primary segment of the exhibition examines the establishment of the Achaemenid Empire in the mid-6th century BC when Cyrus the Great captured western Asia Minor (in present-day Turkey) and conquered the



Greek settlements there. Achaemenid sculpture, silver vessels, and jewelry are on display alongside Greek depictions of the Persian wars (490–79 BC). The Greek cities were long-established on the western coast of Asia Minor and the native people in nearby Lydia, Caria, and Lycia at first resisted Persian demands for submission but eventually came to terms with living in a great empire. These regions produced works both in Greek and Persian style, reflecting the complex cultural influences around them.

The second section of the exhibition begins around 330 BC, following Alexander the Great's conquest of the Achaemenid Empire. The victorious Greeks inherited rule over Iran and much of West Asia for some time, but in the 3rd century BC another Persian dynasty, the Parthians, emerged and soon became the dominant state of the Near East, remaining in power for nearly five hundred years. It was also the primary rival of Rome, which replaced the Greeks as the new superpower of the Mediterranean, with the borderlands of Mesopotamia being a frequent battleground. The Parthian art on view

in the exhibition, including luxury silver drinking vessels made for the Parthian aristocracy, is highly eclectic, displaying a mixture of Greek, Mesopotamian, Achaemenid, and nomadic Iranian influences.

The final section is devoted to the Sasanian Empire, which, beginning in 224, created a new Iranian self-image with distinctive trappings of kingship and splendid royal art, a more centralized administration, and the founding of many cities, and an aggressive military policy. Despite near-constant warfare, the Romans and Sasanians recognized the advantages of maintaining a balance of power and were often allied in fighting mutual enemies until the Arab conquest in 651. On display are palace decorations and Sasanian silver plates and vessels ornamented with depictions of royal court life, along with Late Roman and Byzantine silver that served similar purposes.

The exhibition is supported by a fully immersive film that transports visitors into the lavish palaces and audience halls of Persepolis during its height as the ceremonial capital of the Achaemenid Empire. The five-minute “Palace Experience” takes the audience along with the route ancient visitors would have taken through the capital, from the Gate of All Nations to the Apadana, and into other structures within the palaces and audience halls.

As a part of the exhibition, online visitors have the opportunity to explore a 3D re-creation of Persepolis and take an interactive tour through the palaces, terraces, audience halls, and chambers of the massive complex in southern Iran, enlivening the many relief sculptures and architecture with their original colors and textures.

The exhibition will run until August 8.

Passenger ferries to restart Iran-Kuwait route following two-year halt



sector investors along its vast southern coasts.

Prosperous maritime tourism could help the county to meet its ambitious target of attracting 20 million annual tourists by 2025. It also keeps an eye on tourism developments in the Caspian Sea in the north.

Last February, the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Transport and Urban Development

signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to develop maritime tourism and make the best use of its potential in the southern and northern coasts of the country. Promoting the culture of using the sea as a tool to increase social vitality, development of coastal activities in the form of environmentally-friendly plans and programs, and creating the necessary grounds for

cooperation and exchange of knowledge and information was also among the topics of the agreement.

Experts expect Iran to achieve a tourism boom after coronavirus contained, believing its impact would be temporary and short-lived for a country that ranked the third fastest-growing tourism destination in 2019.

The Islamic Republic expects to reap a bonanza from its numerous tourist spots such as bazaars, museums, mosques, bridges, bathhouses, madrasas, mausoleums, churches, towers, and mansions, of which 26 are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Under the 2025 Tourism Vision Plan, Iran aims to increase the number of tourist arrivals from 4.8 million in 2014 to 20 million in 2025.

Ancient earthenware donated to Kerman cultural heritage department

TEHRAN – Four Iranian nationals have donated five pieces of ancient earthenware to the cultural heritage department of Kerman province.

“The relics, which comprised a jar, bowl, cup, lid, and plate, date back to the (early) Islamic Era,” a local police commander in charge of protecting cultural heritage said on Saturday.

Kerman is something of a cultural melting pot, blending various regional cultures over

Six Iranian universities shine at QS rankings

TEHRAN – The Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2022 has listed 6 Iranian universities among the top 1,300 universities around the world.

QS is the world's leading provider of services, analytics, and insight to the global higher education sector, whose mission is to enable motivated people anywhere in the world to fulfill their potential through educational achievement, international mobility, and career development.

The QS World University Rankings portfolio, inaugurated in 2004, has grown to become the world's most popular source of comparative data about university performance.

Some 1,300 of the world's top universities are ranked using six different indicators to compile QS World University Rankings 2021. Universities are evaluated according to the following six metrics: academic reputation, employer reputation, faculty/student ratio, citations per faculty, international faculty ratio, and international student ratio.

As per the data published on QS World University Rankings official website, Sharif University of Technology, ranked 381, Amirkabir University of Technology, ranked 465, the University of Tehran, ranked between 521 to 530, Iran University of Science and Technology, ranked between 541 to 550, Shiraz University, ranked between 751 to



800, and Shahid Beheshti University with 1001 to 1200 rank, are the top 6 Iranian universities among world-class universities.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) tops the list for a record tenth consecutive year in QS ranking; followed by the University of Oxford and Stanford University. MIT is one of five American institutions in this year's top 10.

The QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022 was also released which cover a total of 51

disciplines, grouped into five broad subject areas.

Three Iranian universities advanced in three fields of engineering, natural sciences, and medical sciences; the University of Tehran was listed in all three subject areas.

Meanwhile, Tehran University of Medical Sciences was the only university from Iran that was listed in the field of medicine.

Academic quality

Most recently, the Webometrics Ranking of World Universities

Three Iranian universities advanced in three fields of engineering, natural sciences, and medical sciences.

2022 has ranked 694 Iranian institutions among 30,000 top universities across the world.

Also, 59 Iranian universities have been listed among the top 3,000 institutions in the world in terms of academic quality, according to the 2021-2022 report released by University Ranking by Academic Performance (URAP).

The Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Graduate Employability Rankings 2022 list has been released, which included three Iranian universities out of a total of 550 institutes worldwide that highlighted graduate employment processes.

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

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

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

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

IRCS granted prestigious international award

TEHRAN – The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) has been honored by The Henry Davison Award, a prestigious international prize intended to recognize outstanding service in improving the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) will present the award to the IRCS during the 23rd session of the General Assembly, which is to be held in Geneva in the month of June.

The IRCS had received the award in 2005 for its philanthropic activities to relieve survivors of a strong earthquake measuring 6.6 on the Richter scale that struck the southeastern city of Bam on December 26, 2003.

It is considered one of the deadliest and most tragic quakes that have jolted Iran as it claimed at least 26,000 lives. Some figures even suggest that the fatalities reach some 43,000.

President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Francesco Rocca, has appreciated the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) as one of the strongest communities in



the world.

At present, the Iranian Red Crescent Society provides medical services to people in 13 Asian, African, and Latin American countries.

Currently, some 14 medical facilities are offering humanitarian, relief, and health services to the deprived people in 13 countries, including Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, the United Arab Emirates, Bolivia, Ivory Coast, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Congo, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, Niger, and Ecuador.

Health tips for Ramadan

Part 7

Ramadan is a holy month of fasting, introspection and prayer for Muslims, the followers of Islam. Fasting is one of the five fundamental principles of Islam. Each day during Ramadan, Muslims do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset. They are also supposed to avoid impure thoughts and bad behavior.

Muslims break their daily fasts by sharing meals with family and friends, and the end of Ramadan is celebrated with a three-day festival known as Eid al-Fitr, one of Islam's major holidays.

For some years now the holy month of mercy is concurrent with long hot days in majority of Muslim countries and fasting during such long days appears to be much demanding.

However, following the Iranian traditional medicine advices for better fasting experiences would both ensure and enhance one's health during and after the month of Ramadan.

Fasting is a treatment process

Fasting is a treatment course more effective than any anti-obesity or weight loss medications for excreting excess humidity, losing

weight, and to achieve an even balance of four bodily fluids and correspondingly a balanced temperament.

One can spot signs of improvement upon their health by feeling lighter after fasting.

Fasting decreases humidity, increases warmth

Fasting decrease humidity and increases warmth in the body consequently those with wet, and wet and cold Mizaj would benefit fasting the most.

Do not overeat

Eating as much as one used to eat before Ramadan, from Iftar to Suhur, is a huge mistake as it both contradicts the true purpose of fasting- which is to practice abstinence- and cause harms to the body.

Consuming too much tea, water, watermelon increases thirst

Consuming too much tea, water, and watermelon at Suhur does not quench thirst, it rather leads to increased urination and inevitably increases thirst during the day.

To be continued

Earthquakes rattle Iran 8,630 times in a year

TEHRAN – A total of 8,630 earthquakes have been recorded across the country over the past calendar year, which ended on March 20, according to the Seismological networks of the Institute of Geophysics of the University of Tehran.

Of the total quakes, 167 were more than 4 on the Richter scale, the largest of which occurred on November 14, 2021, with a magnitude of 6.3 in southern Hormozgan province.

Statistically, at least one earthquake with a magnitude of more than 5 has occurred monthly in the country.

The northeastern province of Khorasan Raza-avi, the southeastern province of Kerman, and the central province of Isfahan registered the most earthquakes, while the northern province of Alborz, the southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan, and the northwestern province of Zanjan

recorded the least earthquakes.

The Iranian plateau is located in a very seismically active region of the world and is known not only for its major catastrophic earthquakes but also for the disasters relating to natural hazards, especially earthquakes.

About 2 percent of the earthquakes of the world occur in Iran but more than 6% of the victims of the world earthquakes during the 20th century are reported from Iranian earthquakes. This shows the high level of vulnerability in Iran, according to Mehdi Zare, a professor of engineering seismology.

Tehran is also one of the most hazardous metropolises in the world in terms of the risk of different natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, subsidence, drought, landslide, fire following an earthquake, etc.

COVIRAN vaccine article published in medical journal

TEHRAN – An article on the first two clinical trial phases of COVIRAN – the first homegrown vaccine for coronavirus – was published in “BMJ Open”, a leading multidisciplinary medical journal.

The article, entitled “Safety and immunogenicity of an inactivated virus particle vaccine for SARS-CoV-2, BIV1-Coviran: findings from double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, phase I and II clinical trials among healthy adults”, is compiled by Minoo Mohraz, Mohammadreza Salehi, and Payam Tabarsi.

The study presents the results of phase I and II randomized placebo-controlled clinical trials of the BIV1-Coviran vaccine to assess its safety and immunogenicity.

In this study, it was stated that the use of two doses of five micrograms of COVIRAN at intervals of 28 days is safe and makes the body immune to the coronavirus. It was also found that the severity of all complications was mild to moderate and transient. This article suggests that evaluation of the safety and efficacy of this vaccine is essential in the third phase clinical trial.

Made by researchers at the Headquarters



for Executing the Order of the Imam, COVIRAN Barkat was unveiled on December 29, 2020, and received the license for public use on June 14.

In October 2021, an article on the pre-clinical and technical knowledge of COVIRAN Barkat was published in the prestigious international Journal of Medical Virology.

The process for global registration of the vaccine started in January by holding a virtual meeting with the World Health Organization officials.

Global vaccine registration is a complex process, and COVIRAN is the first vaccine in the West Asian region that is in the process of global registration, which will be ready for

export and inclusion in the COVAX facility.

Iran is the sixth country in the world and the first country in West Asia to gain the ability to produce the Coronavirus vaccine.

More effective than world-known vaccines

According to a new study, the effectiveness of the Iranian-made COVIRAN vaccine in fighting the coronavirus has been more than foreign rivals, namely Sinopharm, AstraZeneca, and Sputnik.

The study was performed on 1.8 million people in Fars province from the beginning of the vaccination process till October 2021, which considered four vaccines of Sinopharm, AstraZeneca, COVIRAN, and Sputnik, Younes Panahi, the deputy minister of health for research and technology, said in March.

COVIRAN vaccine was 87 percent effective in protecting against coronavirus infection and 86 percent effective against Covid-related hospitalization, compared with 84 percent and 82 percent, respectively for AstraZeneca. Sinopharm came in third with 80 percent and 72 percent, respectively.

Ayatollah Khamenei makes donation to help free inmates

From page 1 ► Of the total released prisoners, 345 were female convicts and the rest were male debtors who were incarcerated due to inability to pay financial debts or inability to pay dues (workshop accidents and traffic accidents), Asadollah Joulaei said.

The prisoners had a sum of 34 trillion rials (nearly \$130 million) in debt, and 45 percent of this amount has been forgiven by the plaintiffs, he said.

Isfahan's benefactors released the highest number of inmates amounting to 725 convicts.

Since 1990, more than 150,000 unintentional crime doers who had debts have been freed. Currently, there are 10,680 prisoners of unintentional crimes in the country, of whom 4,673 are eligible for assistance.



ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

“Noora” vaccine successfully passing first phase of clinical trial

“Noora” coronavirus vaccine, domestically made by Baqiyyatallah University of Medical Sciences affiliated to the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC), is successfully passing the first phase of the clinical trial.

The vaccine is well undergoing the first phase of human testing, he noted, adding, the first phase of human testing lasts 2 months, so far more than a month has passed, IRNA reported on Saturday.

He stressed the need to integrate the human testing phase of the Noora vaccine and said that “this must be done to make the vaccine available for the mass vaccination; while many vaccine producing countries have done the same.”

واکسن نورا مرحله پایانی فاز اول تست انسانی را طی می کند

رئیس دانشگاه علوم پزشکی بقیه الله گفت: تزریق دز اول واکسن نورا به تمام داوطلبان انجام شد و دز دوم هم به نیمه تزریق رسیده است.

دکتر حسن ابوالقاسمی روز شنبه در گفت و گو با ایرنا، روند فعالیت کارآزمایی بالینی واکسن نورا را مطلوب ارزیابی کرد و افزود: این واکسن به نحو مطلوبی در حال طی کردن فاز اول تست انسانی است.

وی با یادآوری اینکه طبق برنامه ریزی انجام شده طول دوره مرحله اول تست انسانی ۲ ماه است، ادامه داد: تاکنون بیش از یک ماه از این دوره سپری شده است.

وی بر لزوم ادغام مراحل تست انسانی واکسن نورا تاکید کرد و گفت: این کار باید صورت گیرد و بسیاری از کشورهای تولید کننده واکسن هم از این ظرفیت بهره بردند.

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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Overlook and forgive the weaknesses of the generous people because if they fall down, Allah will help them.
Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times» Noon:13:06 Evening: 19:52 Dawn: 5:10 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:37 (tomorrow)

Attar, composer of the Conference of the Birds

Part 1

Shaikh Farid ad-Din Attar Neyshaburi, Persian poet, Sufi, theoretician of mysticism, and hagiographer, born ca. 1145-46 at Neyshabur, and died there in 1221.

His name was Abu Hamed Mohammad ibb Abi Bakr Ebrahim or, according to Ebn al-Fowati, ibn Sad ibn Yusof. Attar and Farid ad-Din were his pennames.

Reliable information on Attar’s life is scarce. He is mentioned by only two contemporaries, Awfi (d. after 1223) and Khaja Nasir ad-Din Tusi (1200-1273); the latter’s statement is quoted in a work by his pupil Abd al-Razzaq ibn Fowati.

Tomb of Attar, Neyshabur.

The next notice of Attarr is in Hamdollah Mostawfi’s Tarikh-e gozida, which was completed in 1330. In all these sources Attar is described as a man of Neyshabur.

Tusi visited him there at some time, according to Foruzanfar’s reckoning, between 1215 and 1221. Attar was then an old man. This fits in with Awfi’s placing of Attar in his chapter on poets of the Seljuk period.

He must therefore have been in his prime during the second half of the 12th century. Foruzanfar calculates that he was born about 1145-46.

The only biographical date which Attar himself mentions in his writings, namely 1177 as the year of his completion of the Manteq al-tayr (The Conference of the Birds), is consistent with the foregoing but cannot be taken as conclusive evidence because the verse in question does not appear in all the manuscripts.

While Attar’s works say little else about his life, they tell us that he practiced the profession of pharmacy and personally attended to a very large number of customers.

He evidently started writing certain books—the Mosibat-nama and the Elahi-nama—while at work in the pharmacy. Anyway he was fortunate in not depending on his muse for his livelihood.

He could afford to spurn the art of the court eulogist. His placid existence as a pharmacist and a Sufi does not appear to have ever been interrupted by journeys.

In his later years he lived a very retired life. He reached an age well over seventy. The prolificacy sometimes laid to his charge was noticed by Tusi, who met him in his old age. He died a violent death in the massacre which the Mongols inflicted on Neyshabur in April 1221.

It seems that Attar was not well known as a poet in his own lifetime, except at Neysahbur. Awfi, who traveled widely, may have heard about him while staying there, or perhaps from Majd ad-Din Baghdadi if this Majd ad-Din was their common Sufi mentor, though Awfi appears to have only known about Attar’s lyric poetry.

Tusi likewise speaks mainly about Attar’s impressive divan and mentions only one of his narrative poems, the Manteq al-tayr. From the second half of the 13th century onward, Attar’s prose work, the Tazkerat al-awlia, came to be widely read, but his greatness as a mystic, a poet, and a master of narrative was not discovered until the 15th century.

It was then that Attar’s career became a matter of interest and was embroidered with fantastic myths, for instance in the biographical notices written by Jami and

Islamic Revolution Art Week kicks off nationwide

From Page 1 ▶ The bureau is also playing host to an exhibition of photos depicting Avini’s colleague Seyyed Ebrahim Asgharzadeh, when he was fighting as a teenage volunteer during the Iran-Iraq war.

These photos have never been showcased in any exhibition before. Asgharzadeh was killed in 2001 in a plane crash while making a documentary about the mothers of several Iranian soldiers killed during the war.

The exhibition also puts on view four huge photos of the 1979 Islamic Revolution by French photojournalist Michel Setboun.

The Art Bureau is also displaying a collection of paintings created by revolutionary artists in the early months of the revolution.

A collection of 65 posters on the

A poster for the Islamic Revolution Art Week.

revolution is on view at the Art Bureau and the Niavaran Cultural Center.

Over 40 artists are also holding workshops on painting, sculpture and calligraphy in the courtyard of the Niavaran Cultural Center during the weeklong festival.

The General Office for Dramatic Arts of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance has arranged a vast array of street theater performances in Tehran.

The Islamic Revolution Artist of the Year will also be announced during this festival.

Author Vahid Yaminpur was named the Islamic Revolution Artist of the Year in 2021.

He received the title for “Apostasy”, an alternate history novel about the Islamic Revolution, as well as for his travelogue of Japan “The Jinja Monk”.

Charity painting exhibition raises funds for children with cancer

TEHRAN – The 15th edition of a children’s painting exhibition, which is organized annually by the Mahak Charity Society, opened online on Friday.

This year’s exhibition has turned its spotlight on COVID-19 with the motto of “Corona, a Common Enemy”, the organizers announced.

Works by 56 young artists will be on view on the website of the Mahak Charity Society, a Tehran-based major medical center for children with cancer, for a week. The exhibition can be found <http://mhak.ir/onlinegallery>.

The artist children have been taught by Tara Behbahani, an art teacher who has been a major contributor to the charity exhibition over the past 15 years.

“56 children have come together in this exhibition to fight against cancer and COVID-19 by presenting their perceptions of the horrible coronavirus to raise

funds for children with cancer,” she said in a press release.

“Purchasing the artworks, which is carried out in a symbolic form, causes their love for humankind, and is institutionalized in their lives and encourages them to take their next steps firmly in this field,” she added.

“Fighting the crisis of COVID-19 and the quarantine are the experiences the majority of us have had over the past two years,” Behbahani noted.

“We suffered disability, weakness, desperation and answerless questions caused by the disease, however, by coronavirus we learned how an unknown illness can affect our lives. Fighting an unknown illness is always going on within those families that have a child with cancer. They always live all their days and nights with anxiety,” she added.

She called COVID-19 and cancer two common

A painting by Melina Esfandiari is on view at the 15th edition of a children’s painting exhibition, which is organized annually by the Mahak Charity Society.

enemies of people, and said, “Collaboration is an absolute necessity to defeat COVID as children with cancer can recover from the illness with help from benevolent people.”

Audiobook of Peter Ackroyd’s “Poe: A Life Cut Short” available for Persian listeners

TEHRAN – An audiobook of the Persian edition of Peter Ackroyd’s “Poe: A Life Cut Short” has been released by Avaye Chirok, a major Iranian institute that produces audiobooks.

Translated by Shahab Shokravi, the book has been narrated by Bahman Vakhshour, who has narrated several other audiobooks including Turkish writer Nazan Arisoy’s “Being Nazim in Piraye”.

The Persian translation of “Poe: A Life Cut Short” was published by Aftabkaran in 2020.

Edgar Allan Poe served as a soldier and began his literary career composing verses modeled on Byron; soon he was trying out his “prose-tales” – often horror melodramas such as “The Fall of the House of Usher”.

As editor of the Literary Messenger, he was influential among critics and

Cover of the audiobook of the Persian edition of Peter Ackroyd’s “Poe: A Life Cut Short”.

writers of the American South. His versatile writings – including, for example, “The Murders in the Rue Morgue” and “The Raven” – continue to resonate down through the centuries.

Peter Ackroyd’s biography of Poe opens with his end, his final

days – no one knows what happened between the time when friends saw him off on the steamboat to Baltimore and his discovery six days later dying in a tavern.

This mystery sets the scene for a short life packed with drama and tragedy (drink and poverty) combined

with extraordinary brilliance.

Poe has been acclaimed as the forerunner of modern fantasy, and credited with the invention of psychological dramas (long before Freud), science fiction (before H.G. Wells and Jules Verne) and the detective story (before Arthur Conan Doyle).

Tennyson described him as “the most original genius that America has produced.” He influenced European romanticism and was the harbinger of both Symbolism and Surrealism.

Peter Ackroyd, who places significance on Poe’s childhood (his traveling actor parents were miserably poor, his mother had TB and he was orphaned), claims that Poe found his family among writers – writers not only of his time but of the future generations who were influenced by the power of his imagination.

A story of peace between the two countries in “A House for Simorgh”

An interview with Muhammad Reza Arianfar

The book “A House for Simorgh,” written by Muhammad Reza Arianfar and published by Soore Mehr, is about two teenagers from Iran and Iraq. The story begins with Karoon, an albino boy who lives on Khark Island due to his father’s job. In the meantime, various events occur that cause Karoon to stay in a village near the Iranian-Iraqi border and develop a

deep friendship with a boy named Saher, who lives in the border village of Batran in Iraq.

One of the book’s advantages is the presence of magical elements in the story, such as Simorgh, healing leaves, and the mystery of forbidden areas.

*** You have a long history of writing stories about Iranian cultures; what is the source of your inspiration?**

I’ve always tried to look at things from a different perspective, and the culture that exists in Iran’s various ethnicities has always been significant to me because I am a part of it myself. I was born and raised in Kut-e Sheykh, and I’ve been there during the imposed war as well. Each of the books that you’ve read is based on my own memory of the war, and I wrote about twenty of them because everything about where I lived was magical, from groves to rivers, ships, and train stations. These memories gave my mostly Arabic-based stories a more coherent form.

*** What concept are you looking for in these cultures?**

Love and humanity are important to me in these studies. In the war-torn regions, my whole life was destroyed, and it was a devastating blow to my family and me. Each member of my family is buried in a different city. So, in this book, I emphasize peace

and friendship in the hopes of preventing war and family’s disintegration.

*** Tell us about your new book in greater detail.**

I chose a different theme for this book, expecting to receive a lot of criticism and acclaim. The truth, in my opinion, must be told about how the war affected both the Iranian and Iraqi peoples. My book is about two Iranian and Iraqi teens, both of whom have been affected by war in some way, but who still have their world free of hatred and animosity.

*** Why did you add magical elements and symbols in the novel, such as Simorgh?**

Because I wanted to show culture through magic and symbols in some way, which is why I chose Shahnameh, and I should mention that every symbol I used in the book was the result of hours of research, and the presence of Simorgh and Zal were one them. Simorgh is a symbol of immortality and peace who gets hit by a bullet at the end of the book and vanishes, but not for good.

*** With all these symbols, how should readers perceive them?**

I’m hoping that the readers will find them on their own. Our society is currently in a state of panic, confusion, and aggression, which literature might help to ease.