EU Resumes Push to Revive JCPOA with Last-Ditch Attempt

Report **P**

Sinn Féin stuns Ireland as UK elections show divided country

The latest results from the UK local elections show the ruling Conservative party has lost hundreds of council seats while the nationalist Sinn Féin party (which advocates for the reunification of Ireland) made political history in Northern Ireland.

According to British media projections, if the local election results are replicated at a general election, the Conservatives would lose their parliamentary majority.

The analysis suggests it would be a hung parliament with Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Tories remaining the largest party in Westminster but falling some 50 seats short of an overall majority.

According to one media projection, the Conservatives would have 278 seats, just seven more than Labour on 271, after the Tories lost key local councils in London to La-

Some local Conservative leaders were blaming the Prime Minister for the shock losses; while the "partygate" scandal and the cost of living dominated the headlines.

One Tory MP told the media "It's pretty grim. The PM is to blame, no one else, and there are now 19 Tory London MPs who will be baying for blood. The PM is killing our traditional vote." ▶ Page **5**

Report



Iran have no concrete plan for 2022 World Cup

TEHRAN - While Asian teams Japan and South Korea will play Brazil in preparation for this year's FIFA World Cup in Qatar, Iran are weighing up some friendly matches in June.

Iran are drawn in Group B along with England, the U.S. and one of Wales, Scotland or Ukraine.

The Persians have not qualified for the World Cup next stage so far and are hopeful that they can book their place in the next round for the first

However, the Iranian football federation has failed to confirm a warm-up match so far.

Former Iran coach Afshin Ghotbi said Iran football team need to urgently set up appropriate fixtures in the build-up to the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

There are concerns in Iran that Asia's topranked team have been slow off the mark with their preparations.

Iran are in Group B with England and the U.S. at the World Cup, which kicks off on Nov. 21 in Qatar. But while there have been reports of a June friendly with New Zealand and talk of a potential match with Canada, so far Iran hasn't confirmed the warm-up commitments.

"There appears to be no concrete plan," Ghotbi told AP. "Time is of the essence and preparation is vital to the success of Iran

"Most teams have already arranged matches and many good opponents are not available any more. Iran need to urgently set up appropriate fixtures in the build-up to the World Cup."

Iran cannot waste the time since advancing to the next stage would be a milestone for country's football.

Iran, Indonesia discuss ways to boost mutual trade

TEHRAN - Iranian Industry, Mining and Trade Minister Reza Fatemi-Amin received a high-ranking delegation from Indonesia headed by Deputy Chairman of the Indonesian House of Representatives Coordinator for Industry and Development (Korinbang) Rachmat Gobel on Saturday to explore ways of boosting mutual trade.

During the gathering, Fatemi-Amin stressed the need for forming a specialized working group to define a roadmap for pursuing expansion of economic exchanges between the two countries, Shata reported.

"By forming a working group, a roadmap for increasing trade and economic exchanges between the two countries should be devel-

travel to Tehran soon

TEHRAN — The Emir of Qatar will visit Iran

According to IRNA, during the Qatari

Emir's visit to Tehran the political and eco-

nomic agreements reached between the two

countries, which were approved during Irani-

an President Ebrahim Raisi's visit to Doha in

The Qatari leader will head a high-ranking

Tehran and Doha recently signed cooper-

In addition to following up on the agree-

ments, it is said that during the trip negoti-

ations will be held on the solutions for Iran's

frozen assets. Earlier, some heads of state

in the region had discussed the same issue

On April 13, a meeting was held between

Iranian authorities and a high-ranking Qatari

delegation to review the executive mech-

anism for releasing Iran's blocked assets

within the framework of a recent agreement,

The meeting was attended by officials

from the Iranian Foreign Ministry and gov-

ernment's economic bodies and the deputy

ation agreements in some areas related to

Emir of Qatar to

soon, IRNA reported on Saturday.

February, are to be followed up.

political and economic delegation.

hosting the 2022 World Cup.

Borna news agency reported.

foreign minister of Qatar.

with Iranian officials

oped to use mutual capacities and investments," Fatemi-Amin said addressing the meeting.

Referring to the previously set goal for the level of trade between the two countries, Fatemi-Amin said: "During the visit of the president of Indonesia to Iran in 2016, the two sides decided to increase trade exchanges to two billion dollars; But now the volume of trade between the two countries has only reached one billion dollars, and a roadmap must be drawn up to increase trade between the two countries."

The Iranian minister underlined the prominent position of the two countries in their respected regions, saying: "Iran and Indonesia are prestigious and large countries in their region and have deep cultural and political relations with each other."

The official expressed hope that the two sides will expand their economic relations in proportion to the political ties between the

"The economies of Iran and Indonesia are complementary and both countries need some of each other's products," he stressed.

Emphasizing the need for promoting joint ventures between the two sides, he said: "Making joint ventures will deepen and expand relations between the two countries." ▶ Page 4

How is seeing Iran on two wheels

brings you nearer to the land and its people than just about any other style of traveling; since you control the pace, you have a chance to feel the changing landscapes or stop at a friendly café or whenever you like.

Pedaling is an awe-inspiring way to experience Iran for all sorts of bikers whether you want to find an easy ride or puzzling routes to test your cardio. On your way, you may discover paddy fields, bustling streets, wild mountain landscapes, or rural villages to name a few. You may opt to stay in local homes and spend time with Iranian families, sharing their homes, their delicious meals, and their stories as well.

Such a biking holiday takes you right into a modern-meets-ancient world to discover astounding ruins, labyrinthine bazaars, barren deserts, seashores, and Persian gardens.

The majority of Iranians shower travelers with hospitality, considering them as honored guests and want their guests to feel welcomed. In particular, villagers and nomads are fairly welcoming and might farewell you with a pot of their own produced dairy or bread. Lonely Planet has named Iran the most rewarding destination on Earth because of this generous hospitality.

It is probable to bike Iran in any season. Thus preferred and safe options are spring

TEHRAN - Professional bikers say cycling and autumn to avoid extremes in temperature. Experts say the best time to cycle in central and southern Iran is from November to April. January and February are appropriate to discover the islands in the Persian Gulf. Besides, the cool mountain regions in the northwest call you for the most pleasant cycling during the summer.

The bad news is that the Iranian land is mostly raised, elevated, and hilly. So cyclists should be well prepared to be riding up and down hills most of the time! However, the good news is almost all roads across the country are sealed with asphalt with ridable shoulders on the bigger routes. Moreover, there is a comprehensive network of secondary paved roads that offer you alternatives to the main highways if you wish to escape the traffic and noise.

Many cyclists choose to take a route through central Iran from Tehran and head southward to Kashan, Isfahan, Shiraz then loop back to Yazd. Tehran and other metropolises are notorious for their heavy traffic iams and reckless drivers however there are many other destinations a little off the beaten track. Outside the big cities, cyclists will mostly have the roads to themselves. Here is a selection of cycling routes: ▶ Page 6

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ISIS wants to delegitimize Taliban via explosions: Singaporean researcher

By Mohammad Mazhari

TEHRAN- A Singaporean researcher says that the recent deadly explosions in Afghanistan were plotted by ISIS to undermine the Taliban's rule in Afghanistan.

"The recent explosions in Afghanistan are attempts by the extremist groups of discrediting and delegitimizing the Taliban, making it look weak on the domestic turf and creating challenges for it internationally," Asif Shuja tells the Tehran Times.

"Many of such explosions are claimed by the local offshoots of ISIS, known as the Islamic State in Khorasan Province (ISIS-K), from which the Taliban claimed to have secured its country," Shuja says.

The researcher believes that through these attacks ISIS-K is testing the grip of the power of the Taliban and trying to undermine its legitimacy.

Following is the text of the interview:

How do you assess the recent explosions in Afghanistan? What are the implications of such developments?

The recent explosions in Afghanistan are attempts by the extremist groups of discrediting and delegitimizing the Taliban, making it look weak on the domestic turf and creating challenges for it internationally. Many of such explosions are claimed by the local offshoots of ISIS, known as the Islamic State in Khorasan Province (ISIS-K), from which the Taliban claimed to have secured its country While nullifying such claims, through these attacks ISIS-K is testing the grip of the power of the Taliban and trying to undermine its legitimacy. ▶ Page **5**

527,000 foreign students educating in Iran

TEHRAN - Some 527,000 foreign students are studying in Iran, the majority are Afghans and the rest are from Bangladesh, Pakistan, Iraq, and other countries, the deputy minister of education for international affairs and schools abroad, has stated.

There are also 22 special schools for foreign nationals across the country, IRNA quoted Abolfazl Kamali as saying on Saturday.

Pointing out that 10,000 of the foreign students are studying in the special schools, he said that they study according to the Iranian education system.

By building special schools for foreign citizens, we intend to make education easier to achieve and not a single student to drop out of school, he further noted.

The Ministry of Education pays special attention to the construction of schools for Afghan nationals residing in Iran and has taken a rapid approach in this regard, he stated.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has placed special emphasis on "covering the education of foreign nationals" and this enabled these students to enjoy educational facilities and services just like Iranian students, he said. ▶ Page 7

Italian gallery identifies "Manipulated Genes" influencing Iranian new media artists

TEHRAN – Italian gallery Weber & Weber in Turin put works by Iranian new media artists on view in an exhibition named "Manipulated Genes" from March 24 to May 7.

The art project is part of a series of three parallel exhibitions in France, Italy and Germany, the organizers announced.

The exhibition was organized in two parts, the first of which was dedicated to 26 video-art programs by 19 Iranian artists, including Nikzad Arabshahi, Omid Hashemi, Samad Qorbanzadeh, Mehrnush Rushanai, Nastaran Safai, Mandana Mogaddam and Hamed Sahi-

This part also showcased works by Behnam Kamrani, Morteza Ahmadvand, Shirin Abedinirad, Soheil Kheirabadi, Alireza Khosroabadi, Farhideh Shahsavarani, Nima Nikakhlaq, Elmira Abolhassani, Rosita Taheri and Avazeh Almasi. ▶ Page 8



Tehran Times celebrates 43rd year

TEHRAN - On Saturday, May 7, the Tehran Times celebrated its 43rd year of its publication. The newspaper's managing director Mohammad Shojaeian greeted the staff for their professional work. He also said the daily is looking forward to reach

POLITICS

Straight Truth TEHRAN TIMES



Foreign Ministry: Quds occupiers on verge of decline

TEHRAN— Iran's Foreign Ministry has strongly condemned the frequent aggressions of the Israeli regime's forces on Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, saying that the occupiers of Quds are on the verge of decline.

Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh condemned the Zionists forces' repeated attacks on the mosque and the brutal attacks by Israeli forces on worshippers and defenders of Palestinian holy sites,

The occupation and the occupiers are on decline, and the struggle against the usurpers of Quds and Palestine is a natural, legitimate and legal right of the Palestinian people, Khatibzadeh added.

Referring to the escalating aggression and brutal actions of the Israeli apartheid regime in the occupied territories, the spokesman called on nations, governments and regional as well as international organizations to help the Palestinians defend themselves against the Zionist occupiers.

Khatibzadeh concluded his statement by emphasizing the need for the unity of the Islamic world to defend Palestine and save Al-Agsa Mosque, and described the normalization of relations with the Israeli apartheid regime as one of the factors that encourage and intensify violence by Zionists in the occupied territories.

On Friday, Israeli forces looked for those who conducted an axe and knife attack in Tel Aviv that killed three Israelis before fleeing in a vehicle, according to Al Jazeera.

Police said they were looking for two individuals, aged 19 and 20, from the occupied West Bank town of Jenin. Some behind the recent attacks have come from in or around Jenin, and Israeli soldiers have launched raids that have caused gun fights there.

"We will get our hands on the terrorists and their supportive environment, and they will pay the price," said Mr. "Everything Is Calm", otherwise known as Naftali Bennett after meeting senior officials late Thursday.

TEHRAN- Hojjatoleslam Seyed Mohammad

Hassan Aboutorabifard, Tehran's Friday

Prayers leader, slammed the Israeli regime for

its continued brutality against Palestinians

and sacrilege of Al-Aqsa Mosque, saying

the Zionists are peppered with the Islamic

"The occupying regime of Israel has been

besieged by the Islamic Resistance forces,"

Hojjatoleslam Aboutorabifard remarked to

a crowd of worshippers at Tehran's Imam

Slamming the Zionist regime's cruelty

against Palestinians at Al-Aqsa Mosque, the

cleric said, "Today, Palestine is the first and

number one issue of the Islamic world and

despite inhumane behavior and brutalities of

Zionist regime forces against Palestinians in

the occupied lands, this issue is very hopeful for

the Islamic world while it is a sign of despair for

enemies of Islamic countries," Aboutorabifard

He said that Zionists are currently under

Resistance Movement.

Khomeini Grand Mosalla.

pointed out.

Israeli regime under siege by

Islamic resistance: top cleric

The stabbing on Thursday, which happened on the so-called Israel's Independence Day, was the latest in a string of lethal retaliatory attacks inside the country in recent weeks.

Israeli assaults into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound have heightened the unrest in Quds.

The Palestinian resistance group Hamas praised Thursday's retaliatory attack, saying it was in response to the violence at Jerusalem's holy site.

"The storming of the Al-Aqsa Mosque will not go unpunished," declared Hamas spokesperson Hazem Qassem. "The valiant operation in Tel Aviv is a practical manifestation of what the

On Thursday, Israeli police invaded the Al-Agsa Mosque compound in occupied East Jerusalem, wounding at least 16 Palestinians and detaining scores.

According to the Sama al-Quds field medical center, 14 people were injured, including 14 with fractures from rubber-coated bullets and tear gas asphyxia.

According to the Red Crescent, two persons were beaten and transferred to a hospital for

Around 50 Palestinian individuals, including the elderly and children, were arrested and transported out of the Bab al-Silsila compound

Between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Thursday, at least 600 settlers stormed the compound through the Moroccan Gate.

Settler incursions into the Al-Agsa Mosque compound under police protection resumed after a 10-day break during the final days of Ramadan, when tensions were high.

In a statement on Thursday, Hamas said settler incursions are "a serious escalation and direct provocation, threatening a comprehensive explosion, for which the occupation government bears full responsibility."

siege in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, as

well as by the Lebanese Resistance Movement,

Irag's Hash al-Shaabi forces, and courageous

The top cleric went on to say that the

situation in the occupied territories is entirely

different, favoring Palestinians and that this

course will continue until the Tel Aviv regime is

Aboutorabifard also noted that millions

International Ouds Day is a yearly event

against Israel's occupation of Beit-ul-

Mugaddas. On the last Friday of Ramadan, anti-

Zionist rallies are organized in Muslim and Arab

nations, particularly in Iran. Rallies are also held

The late founder of the Islamic Republic,

Imam Khomeini, proposed International Ouds

Day in 1979 as a show of solidarity with the

Palestinians with an emphasis on the value of

in some non-Muslim countries.

the holy Quds to Muslims.

of people throughout the world marched in

support of Quds Day, which fell on April 29.

Yemeni soldiers.

fully destroyed

Iran FM to UN chief: U.S. must take 'brave and realistic' decision

TEHRAN— Iran's Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian has criticized the U.S. Senate bill against Iran, saying that the U.S. must make a "brave and realistic" decision in order to correct its past mistakes in efforts to revive the JCPOA, the official name for the 2015 nuclear agreement.

Amir Abdollahian made the remarks in a phone conversation with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres late on Friday during which some regional and developments international including the Vienna talks intended to lift sanctions on Iran, as well as the situation in Yemen, Afghanistan and Ukraine were discussed.

Amir Abdollahian told Gutters that the European Union is exchanging messages between Iran and the U.S. in attempts to resurrect the JCPOA.

He then went on to blame the U.S.'s "maximum pressure" campaign for the current situation.

Amir Abdollahian reiterated Iran's policy that reaching a lasting. robust and fair agreement in Vienna entails adopting a realistic and brave decision by the U.S. government to redress its past mistakes.

A bipartisan substantial portion of senators voted late on Wednesday to endorse a Republican-led measure stating that any nuclear agreement with Tehran must confront what they called Iran's support for terrorism in the region, and that the U.S. should not lift sanctions on the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps



with classified acquainted Hill briefings on the subject, lawmakers from both parties said it was a preemptive strike to Biden's negotiating team, who have all but admitted in private that an agreement that goes beyond restricting Iran's nuclear program is no longer possible.

Continuation of ceasefire in Yemen is necessary

Elsewhere in the conversation, Amir Abdollahian referred to the temporary ceasefire in Yemen and said the continuation of the truce is necessary and called for the fulfillment of obligations in accordance with the ceasefire to remove the inhumane siege on Yemen.

Afghanistan situation "very concerning"

In continuation of his talks Guterres, Iran's top diplomat also called the security and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan "very concerning" and underlined the need for formation

According to multiple people of an inclusive government with

the participation of all ethnic groups in the country.

He also referred to the Afghan refugee influx to Iran and demanded that the UN fulfill its obligations regarding the refugees.

Amir Abdollahian further spoke about the surge in terrorist attacks in Afghanistan and also the problems stemming from poverty in the country. He then underscored the necessity to release frozen Afghan assets by the United States.

While pointing to logical expectations from the UN, the top Iranian diplomat thanked the world body's chief for his efforts to establish peace and security.

Tehran supports political solution for Ukraine crisis

Amir Abdollahian also reaffirmed Iran's opposition to the war in Ukraine and pointed to Tehran's efforts to stay away from the war and focus on finding a political solution to the Ukraine crisis.

He added it is necessary to pay attention to humanitarian aspects of the crisis in Ukraine.

Iran's chief diplomat added the Ukraine war must not prevent attention of the international community to the humanitarian catastrophe in Afghanistan.

During the conversation, the UN chief also thanked and welcomed Iran for its constructive efforts and stance in supporting the Yemen

Guterres expressed hope that with the removal of all obstacles "we will witness the resumption of flights from Sanaa Airport and the reestablishment of link between Yemeni provinces and also the continuation of the ceasefire."

The UN secretary general also welcomed steps toward normalization of ties between Tehran and Riyadh.

The UN chief also underlined the significance of forming an inclusive government in Afghanistan and thanked Iran for accepting Afghan refugees and providing them with humanitarian aid.

In response to the Iranian foreign minister's demand that the UN fulfill its responsibility regarding the refugees, Guterres expressed hope that the UN fund would be able to give more assistance to Iran in support of the refugees.

The UN secretary general also pointed to the importance of political initiatives to remove sanctions on Iran within the framework of the Vienna negotiations. He then expressed hope that the talks will continue and produce the desired results.

Family of jailed Iranian in Sweden harassed by MKO members

TEHRAN— The family of an Iranian citizen on trial in Sweden has released shocking allegations of mistreatment as they continue to fight a lengthy legal battle for his release, Press TV reported on Thursday.

Hamid Nouri, who was arrested at Stockholm Airport in 2019, faces charges brought against him including human rights abuses against prisoners dating back to 1988.

After his arrest, Nouri's wife told Press TV that he'd been held in solidarity confinement, physically assaulted by prison staff and subjected to mental torture. Nouri and his family deny all allegations. His detention has been branded illegal by Tehran.

Not only has the trial itself been condemned by Iranian authorities as "unlawful" but also the treatment of the family of the accused.

Shocking footage of Nouri's family being harassed by anti-Iran dissidents has deepened Iranian outrage at Sweden for handling the

Nouri's family has been in and out of court all week. Every time they arrive supporters of a notorious terror group, the Peoples Mujahideen of Iran, or MKO, harass and threaten them. The Swedish authorities are slow to respond.

The accusation again Nouri are mostly taken from members of this same group. The MKO has been accused of fabricating atrocities multiple

Meanwhile, Swedish prosecutors have requested the maximum penalty of life imprisonment for Nouri, accusing the former Iranian judiciary official of prisoner abuse in

Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian has demanded the immediate release of Nouri, saying Tehran regards his detention and trial as "illegal".

"The Islamic Republic of Iran considers the detention and trial of Hamid Nouri, an Iranian citizen, illegal and demands his immediate release," Amir Abdollahian said in a phone conversation with his Swedish counterpart Ann Linde on Wednesday.

The trial of Nouri has become an excuse for some to ignore a historical fact in the history of the MEK terrorist group.

During the arrest and the 90 trials held by the MEK and the Swedish judicial system, the MEK members who testify as witnesses against Nouri have repeatedly claimed that they carried out independent actions and at no time cooperated with the Baathist army under Saddam Hussein's command, and has not fought against the Iranian people.

Kenneth Lewis, a lawyer for the MEK terrorist group who appears in court as a witness and plaintiff in the case, disagreed with part of the Swedish prosecutor's indictment, saying, "There was no 'armed conflict between Iran and Iraq', and the MEK's armed conflict with the Iranian government was a "non-international armed conflict."

He also acknowledged that there was cooperation between former MEK leader Massoud Rajavi and Saddam Hussein, but stressed that there was no evidence that the

A look at UN special rapporteur's visit to Iran



MEK was part of the Iraqi army.

The allegation comes as there are hundreds of documents, written, oral testimonies and video evidence that Rajavi met frequently with Saddam and other Baathist officials and asked them for financial and military assistance for terrorist acts against Iranians.

The culmination of this assistance was manifested in Operation Forough Javidan.

"As you know, I was in Paris from 1981 to 1986," Rajavi said in a meeting with General Tahir Jalil, head of the Iraqi General Intelligence Agency in 1999, referring to previous relations of the MEK group with the U.S. and France.

"In those years ... we were not called terrorists, even though they knew who blew up the Republican Party's Headquarters in Iran ... they knew who and what destroyed the president and prime minister of the regime. Both the White House and the Elysee Palace, with which we were in contact, knew well, but they did not call us terrorists at all," he said.

MEK not only fought against Iran along with Saddam's army, they were also used as a tool by the Saddam regime to suppress Shia opponents in the south and the Kurds in north.

Polish foreign minister to visit Iran

TEHRAN- The spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry announced on Friday that Poland's Foreign Minister Zbigniew Rau will pay a two-day visit to Tehran.

During his two-day trip in Tehran, Saeed Khatibzadeh said, the top Polish diplomat will meet with a number of high-ranking Iranian officials, including Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian.

It is worth saying that the spokesman failed to mention the exact date of the trip.

A wide variety of bilateral, regional, and international issues will be considered during the forthcoming ministerial conference, according to Khatibzadeh.

He also mentioned that the Polish foreign

minister's visit will include participation in a ceremony commemorating the 80th anniversary of the immigration of Polish refugees into Iran.

Approximately 120,000 Polish refugees landed in Iran during World War II in 1942. The evacuees were part of a broader migration of 320,000 to a million Poles pushed out of Poland by the Soviet Union.

The Poles arrived in Iran via the port city of Anzali on the Caspian Sea's southern shore.

The Polish refugees created a radio station and produced publications in their original language in Iran. They penetrated Iran's creative scene, and their food appeared on the menus of their host towns.

Venezuela, Cuba, and so on.

Alena Douhan, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on The United Nations Human the Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights, plans to start her 11-day trip to the Iranian capital Tehran on Saturday, IRNA reported. According to Deputy Head

of the Iranian Judiciary and Secretary of Iran's High Council for Human Rights Kazem Gharibabadi, the special rapporteur demanded for the visit, which has been accepted by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Western powers, especially the U.S., impose coercive measures or sanctions on countries like Iran,

Rights Council (UNHRC) is the most important international entity involved in human rights issues, which is affiliated to the UN General Assembly. The UNHRC has created different mechanism to upgrade and support human rights throughout the globe, including the special rapporteurs.

There are 58 special rapporteurs involved in thematic or countryspecific perspective. The West pushed the UNHRC to appoint a special rapporteur on Iran named Javid Rehman, a British-Pakistani legal scholar.

Iran labored hard in 2016 to

create coordination among the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) members in a bid to promote Special Rapporteur on the Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights.

Douhan, a Belarussian professor of international law, started her job as the UNHRC special rapporteur in 2020. She has traveled to Venezuela, Qatar, and Zimbabwe since March 2020.

The main mission of special rapporteurs of sanctions is that they review negative impacts of embargo on enjoyment of human rights.

Tehran invited UNHCR special

rapporteurs in 2003. The last trip by special rapporteurs to Iran happened in 2005. In the last 15 years, none of the UNHCR rapporteurs had visited Iran, so Douhan's trip can open a new chapter in the country's cooperation with human rights bodies.

The reports prepared by UNHCR special rapporteurs are not binding, but they can attract attention to a particular issue at international level.

However, Douhan's mission is merely related to the negative impacts of sanctions on human rights in Iran, so she is not

expected to exceed that limit.

EU resumes push to revive JCPOA with last-ditch attempt

talks is over. The European Union has decided to dispatch its coordinator with the hope of breaking the ice amid a pause in the talks which have been put on hold nearly two months ago.

The talks came to a standstill in March after the U.S. refused to make political decisions regarding some terrorism-related sanctions that Iran believes were imposed in the first place to make the revival of the 2015 nuclear deal, formally called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), ever more difficult.

In the last round of talks, Iran demanded that the Biden administration remove the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) from the U.S. State Department Foreign Terrorist Organizations. The U.S. rejected the demand and blamed Iran for the delay in concluding the talks. Iran, however, said it has done its part and is waiting for the U.S. to make up its mind. Also, Iran said the IRGC designation is not the only issue standing in the way of reviving the JCPOA. But there also other issues that the U.S. has not yet addressed.

Over the last few weeks, the Vienna talks have not been in the limelight, with the United States occasionally blaming Iran for the delay without openly addressing the points of contention that are impeding the deal.

With the EU coordinator of the talks, Enrique Mora, travelling to Iran



the guards is lifted, but kept in place

Nour News, a website close to Iran's

Supreme National Security Council,

confirmed that Mora will be heading

to Iran. It said the visit will take place

on Tuesday and "can be a new step

for constructive consultations on the

few, but important, remaining issues."

making a deal. "Reaching a strong,

lasting, and reliable agreement

is possible but requires realism

on the part of Washington and

learning lessons from the mistakes

that created today's complicated

The visit of Mora could be an

opportunity for both the U.S. and

Europe to break with the policies

that prevented the conclusion of the

talks. But it is unlikely to lead to a

circumstances," the website said.

It said there is still a possibility for

on other parts of the organization.

this week, the Vienna talks has come to the fore again. But it remains to be seen whether the European official will be able to break the deadlock which now threaten to scuttle a year of intensive negotiations.

EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell was keen to highlight the gravity of the situation and used words that might convey a veiled warning. He told the Financial Times Saturday that he was seeking a "middle way" to end the impasse over the IRGC designation.

Borrell said he had wanted Mora to visit Tehran to discuss the issue, but added that Iran "was very much reluctant." He described the diplomatic push as "the last bullet."

According to the British newspaper, Borrell is considering a scenario whereby the designation on breakthrough if Mora fails to present what Iran demands.

Nour News said the U.S. is to blame for the prolongation of the talks and is seeking to extract concessions through political pressures which will not produce change in Iran's principled positions.

Iran is waiting for the U.S. to make political decisions regarding the talks. But if Iran comes to a conclusion that waiting is not helpful it will withdraw from the talks, according to an Iranian lawmaker sitting on the parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy

The lawmaker, Mehdi Saadati, said that Iran does not intend at present to withdraw from the talks in Vienna.

He told the Arabic-language Iran News Agency website that "as for the negotiations, we are still waiting for a decision from the United States to revive the agreement, and we do not intend to withdraw from the negotiating table unless we reach a definitive conclusion that waiting will

He noted, "In recent weeks, Washington has not presented anything new and insisted on direct negotiations with Tehran."

He concluded, "If the Americans want to negotiate directly with us, they must first of all show their goodwill, and this is what we have repeatedly told them."

IRAN IN FOCUS

Straight Truth TEHRAN TIMES

Armaghani shortlisted for Iran basketball hotseat

TEHRAN - Saeid Armaghani has been reportedly shortlisted for Iran national basketball team hotseat.

The 60-year-old coach, who currently lives in Hungary, is a candidate to replace Mostafa

Armaghani headed Iran in 2001/2 and has also worked in Hungarian clubs Vasas SC and Óbudai

Iran are second in Group D of the 2023 FIBA Basketball World Cup qualification.

The Persians are scheduled to meet Kazakhstan and Syria on July 1 and 4 respectively.

Iran to meet Uzbekistan in **2022 CAFA U16 Championship**

TEHRAN - Iran will play Uzbekistan in the opening match of the 2022 CAFA U16 Championship.

Hossein Abdi's boys are scheduled to play Uzbekistan on May 13.

The eight-day competition will bring Tajikistan, Iran, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan

The 2022 CAFA U16 Championship will be held in Dushanbe's Republic Central Stadium in

The CAFA Championship is an international football competition in Central Asia for the member nations of the Central Asian Football Association (CAFA)

The inaugural edition of the tournament was planned to be hosted by Tashkent in October 2018.

Alireza Mojarad to miss 2022 VNL

TEHRAN - Iran's Aliasghar Mojarad will miss the 2022 FIVB Volleyball Men's Nations League.

The 24-year-old middle blocker suffered a torn right achilles tendon in October.

Moiarad needs two months more to complete

Iran have been drawn in Pool A and will start the

campaign with a match against China on June 7.

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 will be held during five weeks between 7 June and 10 July 2022. The final round will be held from 20 to 24 July 2022.

Shoia Khalilzadeh linked with Qatar's Al Ahli

TEHRAN - Iran international defender Shoia Khalilzadeh has been reportedly linked with a move to Qatar's Al Ahli.

The 32-year-old defender joined Al Rayyan on a two-year deal in 2020.

Khalilzadeh will be a free agent player in the

Iranian football club Persepolis had been also linked with Khalilzadeh.

He will represent Iran in the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar.

Iranian volleyball club Shahdab eye Simon

TEHRAN - Cuban international middle blocker Robertlandy Simón Aties has caught the eye of

The 34-year-old player currently plays in Italian club Cucine Lube Civitanova.

Robertlandy Simón Aties is a silver medalist of the 2010 World Championship and double South Korean Champion (2015, 2016).

John Gordon "Gord" Perrin, who plays for Russian club Ural Ufa, has already reached an agreement with Shahdab.

Shahdab are going to take part at the 2022 Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship.

The tournament will be held in Tehran, Iran, from May 14 to 20.

Al Rayyan of Qatar, Kazakhstan's Taraz, Nakhon Ratchasima QminC from Thailand, Japanese Suntory Sunbirds, Iraqi team Al Bahri, Uzbek Telecom from Uzbekistan, and Iranian teams Paykan and Shahdabi will compete for the title.

The winner of the Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship will qualify for the FIVB Volleyball Men's Club World Championship.

World University Games postponed over COVID Concerns

TEHRAN - The 2022 World University Games have been postponed, the organizers said Friday.

The competition was scheduled for June 26 to July 7 in Chengdu, China.

The 2022 Asian Games in China also are being postponed because of concerns about the spreading omicron variant of COVID-19. The decision comes less than three months after the country hosted the Winter Olympics and Paralympics.

The World University Games were scheduled for last year but were postponed until 2022. The Switzerland-based International University Sports Federation, which runs the games, said they would be rescheduled for 2023 but gave no date or details.

"Continued uncertainty over conditions has made rescheduling the sensible choice," FISU president Leonz Eder said in a statement. "A number of National University Sports Federations had already changed their plans."

Iran football beat **Brazil in Deaflympics**

TEHRAN - Iran football team defeated Brazil 1-0 in the 24th edition of the Deaflympics.

Abdolmehdi Hamouri scored Team Melli's only goal in the match.

Iran had already defeated Italy and the Netherlands in Group B.

Iran are scheduled to meet Cameroon on Sunday.

The Deaflympics had initially been scheduled to take place from December 5 to 21 in 2021, but was postponed due to COVID-19 complications.

There are 209 events in 17 sports on the Deaflympics program.

Athletics, badminton, cycling, golf, judo, karate, orienteering, shooting, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo, tennis, wrestling, basketball, football, handball and volleyball are the 17 sports.

The last summer Deaflympics took place in 2017 in the Turkish city of Samsun.

Khodabandeh wins gold in Deaflympics in Brazil

TEHRAN - Female Iranian Poomsae practitioner Maryam Khodabandeh won a gold medal at the Brazilian Deaflympics.

Khodabandeh, a female Iranian Poomsae practitioner won a gold medal in the individual and team Poomsae competitions in the 24th Summer Deaflympics underway in Caxias do Sul, Brazil.

The competitions began on Sunday, May 01, 2022, and will run through until Sunday, May 15, 2022.

As many as nine teams participated in individual taekwondo competitions while eight other teams from all over the world are participating in team competitions.

Iran has sent male and female practitioners in both team and individual sections to Brazil.

No plans to withdraw from Vienna talks now: MP from the United States to revive the agreement, and

TEHRAN – A lawmaker has said that Iran does not intend at present to withdraw from the talks in Vienna over reviving the 2015 Iran nuclear deal officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

The lawmaker, Mehdi Saadati, who is member of the Iranian parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, told the Arabic-language Iran News Agency website that Tehran will continue to cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) even of the Vienna talks fail. "The IAEA acknowledges Iran's credibility in dealing with it regarding its nuclear program and the peacefulness of this program, especially since Leader Khamenei issued a fatwa prohibiting the manufacture, possession and use of nuclear weapons."

He added, "Iran will remain committed to all its basic commitments with the IAEA and will not even leave the NPT if negotiations fail, but it will never give up developing its nuclear program."

Saadati said Iran is waiting for a decision by the United States regarding the Vienna talks. "As for the negotiations, we are still waiting for a decision we do not intend to withdraw from the negotiating table unless we reach a definitive conclusion that waiting will never help."

He noted, "In recent weeks, Washington has not presented anything new and insisted on direct negotiations with Tehran."

The MP concluded, "If the Americans want to negotiate directly with us, they must first of all show their goodwill, and this is what we have repeatedly told them."

Of note, in the last round of talks, Iran demanded that the Biden administration delist the IRGC among other things. The U.S. refused the demand and the talks ground to a halt. The Biden administration did nothing to break the deadlock and kept kicking the can down the road. Biden officials even spoke of their readiness for a scenario where the talks fail.

In a blow to the Biden administration's stated goal of returning to the 2015 nuclear deal, the U.S. Senate approved two motions drafted by Republican senators who vehemently oppose the 2015 nuclear deal.

Late on Wednesday, the Senate approved two so-called Motions to Instruct Conferees put forward by Senator James Lankford (R-OK) and Senator Ted Cruz (R-Texas).

The Lankford motion centers around a demand long sought by Iran hawks in Washington which is to urge the Biden administration to include non-nuclear issues such as Iran's influence in the West Asia region and its ballistic missiles in any possible nuclear deal with Tehran. The motion also calls on the Biden administration to refrain from revoking the designation of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO).

The Cruz motion highlighted the need to maintain the "necessary Iran terrorism sanctions" which have been at the heart of the demands pushed by Iran hawks ever since the talks in Vienna over reviving the JCPOA began in April of last year.

It called for keeping the sanctions imposed under terrorism-related authorities on the Central Bank of Iran the continuation of which will almost certainly

impede the revival of the JCPOA.

Parliament denounces Israeli sacrilege of al-Aqsa Mosque

TEHRAN – A committee of the organizations, Fars News reported. Iranian parliament has condemned Israel's desecration of the al-Aqsa Mosque and called on the free people of the world to follow suit.

Iranian Parliament's Permanent Secretariat of International Conference in Support of Intifada (Uprising) in Palestine said in a statement on Thursday that the dire situation in the occupied lands and territories requires all nations and freedom-seekers of the world to condemn this sinister conspiracy orchestrated by Zionists against the Islamic and Christian sanctities which is being carried out amid silence and passivity of the international community and human rights

"The desperate Zionist regime must know that the Resistance movement and Palestinian youth and people in the occupied territories are ready to defend al-Aqsa Mosque and liberate the occupied territories with all might more than ever," it added.

While strongly warning of dire consequences of Zionists' brutal aggression against Palestinians in the occupied lands, the Permanent Secretariat of the International Conference in Support of the Intifada of Palestine of Parliament once again called on all parliaments in Islamic countries and nonorganizations

continue condemning the aggression and crimes of the occupying regime referred to the escalating aggression of Israel in the occupied lands and prevent continuation of desecration of al-Aqsa Mosque by the Israeli regime which can cause tensions and challenges in the region.

Also, the Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman has condemned the Zionists' repeated attacks on al-Agsa Mosque and the brutal attacks by Israeli forces on worshipers and defenders of Palestinian holy sites, saying occupation and the occupiers are on the decline, and the struggle against the usurpers of al-Ouds and Palestine is a natural, legitimate and legal right of the Palestinian people.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman and brutal actions of the Israeli apartheid regime in the occupied Palestinian territories, calling on nations, governments and regional as well as international organizations to help the Palestinians defend themselves against the Zionist occupiers.

Khatibzadeh concluded statement by emphasizing the need for the unity of the Islamic world to defend Palestine and save al-Agsa Mosque, and described the normalization of relations with the Israeli apartheid regime as one of the factors that encourage and intensify violence by Zionists in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Iran drones non-negotiable: MP

TEHRAN - An Iranian lawmaker has said that Iran is a regional power in the field of drones, and the United States must know that these capabilities are not subject to discussion or stopping.

The lawmaker, Mohammad Hasan Asafari, said in remarks that the Iranian drones have the ability to fly long, carry ammunition, photograph and take pictures, and are also able to hide from the radar detectors of stealth planes, according to IRNA.

He continued, "The Iranian drones are capable of breaching the Zionist missile dome system, and they cannot be intercepted, and this worries the Zionists, and they have a high ability to depict Iran's military preparations in the Persian Gulf."

Iran begins procedures to build a fully domestic nuclear reactor

of Iran (AEOI) has said that Iran is planning to build a nuclear plant by using domestic knowledge. Pejman Jamshidi, deputy head

TEHRAN - An Iranian official with

the Atomic Energy Organization

of the AEOI, announced that Iran is cycle has been fully localized from the

nuclear reactor and that planning for the project is underway.

seeking to build a fully Iranian-made

Jamshidi said in an interview with Fars that Iran possesses the full cycle of nuclear fuel production, and this

Jamshidi pointed out that Iran is currently producing 20 types of radioactive drugs and supplies

the treatment of nuclear waste. Jamshidi also revealed that Iran plans to build a large facility for the production of radioactive drugs to meet the domestic need and them to treatment centers at increase exports until the end of home, and is one of the main the next Iranian year.

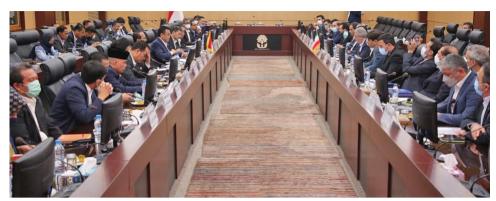
stage of raw materials discovery to countries exporting such drugs.

Iranian volleyball club Shahdab.

ECONOMY



Iran, Indonesia discuss ways to boost mutual trade



From page 1 > The minister further pointed to Indonesia's capabilities in locomotive manufacturing and continued: "Indonesia can invest in this area in our country to meet domestic needs and exports to neighboring countries."

Elsewhere in his remarks, Fatemi-Amin said Indonesia has good capacities in producing rubber, palm oil and paper and can use Chabahar port as a regional hub for exporting such products.

Gobel for his part noted that the aim of his trip is to follow up on previous agreements between the two countries for increasing trade relations.

He mentioned the determination of the presidents of the two countries in this regard and said: "We are ready to deepen economic relations."

Referring to Iran's capabilities and progress in the field of knowledge-based, technology and nanotechnology, the official said: "Of course, these developments do not belong only to Iran, but to the entire Islamic world, and it is commendable that Iran has been able to upgrade its technology in these

He further expressed Indonesia's interest in using Iran's experiences in the field of nanotechnology and knowledge-based products and added: "By working together in these fields, especially in the field of health technologies, we can do very valuable work for both countries and the Muslim community."

Monthly production by major automakers exceeds 45,000

Iranian carmakers, namely Iran Khodro Company (IKCO), SAIPA Group, and Pars Khodro, manufactured 45,396 vehicles during the first month of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-April 20), the data released by the Codal website showed.

According to the data, the production by the mentioned companies has fallen 29.3 percent compared to the previous year's same month in which the output stood at 64,279, IRNA reported.

During the said month, IKCO manufactured 25,041 vehicles, which was 25.9 percent less than the output in the same period of the previous year.

During this period, this industrial group was able to produce 17,368 vehicles in the Peugeot group, 3,188 vehicles in the Samand group, 1,698 Dena vehicles, 722 Rana vehicles, 534 Haima vehicles, and 477 Tara vehicles.

SAIPA manufactured 15,443 vehicles in the mentioned period. Production by this automaker fell 27.8 percent in comparison to the previous



Khodro Pars also manufactured 4,912 vehicles in the period under review, 45.8 percent less than the output in the first month of the past

Iran's major carmakers had manufactured 867,363 vehicles in the previous Iranian calendar year 1400(ended on March 20), which was 3.7 percent less than the figure of the preceding year.

According to Codal data, During the previous year, IKCO manufactured 451,121 vehicles, which was six percent less than the output in the Iranian

calendar year 1399.

SAIPA manufactured 304,533 vehicles in the mentioned year, registering a 3.4 percent decline in comparison to the figure for the preceding year. And Pars Khodro manufactured 109,838 vehicles in the past year, showing a 6.4-percent rise from the output of its previous year.

Back in January, Industry, Mining, and Trade Minister Reza Fatemi-Amin announced the implementation of a twoyear plan for the auto industry based on which this industry

will undergo serious changes and improve significantly.

Stating that transformation projects have been prepared for the automobile industry, Fatemi-Amin said: "The general plan is that in [the Iranian calendar year] 1401 (started on March 21) the structure of the automobile industry and the relations between parts manufacturers and automakers will be reformed and the overall promised production target will be achieved in [the Iranian calendar year] 1404 (begins in March 2025)."

Iranian Industry, Mining, and Trade Ministry's programs for the current Iranian calendar year show that the manufacturing of 1.2 million cars has been put on the

Iran currently stands in 20th place among the world's top automobile manufacturers producing 821,060 vehicles by the end of 2019, according the Organisation Internationale Constructeurs d'Automobiles

Annual tea exports rise 77%

TEHRAN – Iran exported over 27,272 tons of tea leaves valued at \$28 million in the previous Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20), registering a 77 percent rise in value and a 68 percent increase in weight, the spokesman of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) said

According to Ruhollah Latifi, Iranian tea was exported to 25 countries in the previous year, IRNA

The United Arab Emirate (UAE) was the top importer of Iranian tea in the mentioned year, buying 8,304 tons of tea worth over \$8.774 million.

Turkey with 2,904 tons worth \$3.537 million of imports, Russia with 2,598 tons worth over \$3.092 million, India with 2,538 tons worth \$2.371 million, and Iraq with the purchase of 2,195 tons worth \$1.998 million worth of tea, were the next four export destinations for the said

Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kenva,

Kazakhstan, and Afghanistan occupied the sixth to 11th places among Iran's top tea export destinations, followed by Germany, Ukraine, Lebanon, Georgia, United Kingdom, China, the Netherlands, Kuwait, Finland, Switzerland, Canada, Belgium, Azerbaijan, and Australia, according to Latifi.

Iran also imported some 75,379 tons of tea worth \$386,160,767 from 10 countries in 1400, among which India was the top supplier of tea for Iran exporting 34,285 tons of the product valued at \$168

Sri Lanka was the second biggest exporter of tea to Iran, selling 18,326 tons of the product worth \$107 million, followed by the UAE with 14,368 tons worth \$71.572 million, Turkey with 4,593 tons worth \$23.700 million, and Kenya with 1,471 tons worth

Iraq, Vietnam, Germany, China, and Afghanistan also started selling tea to Iran in the previous year, the official said.

New mineral reserves worth over \$28b discovered in Iran in 8 years

TEHRAN - Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO)'s data shows that new mineral reserves worth over \$28.7 billion have been discovered across the country over the past eight years.

According to IMIDRO's latest exploration data, over 977 million tons of new iron ore reserves, 496 million tons of new coal reserves and 182 tons of new gold reserves have been identified from the Iranian calendar year 1392 (started on March 21, 2013) up to the Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20, 2022).

Also, in the mentioned eight years, 14 million tons of new lead reserves and six million tons of new zinc reserves have been discovered.

Other mineral reserves including brine (363 million tons), barite (103 million tons), rare earth elements (85 million tons), bauxite (17 million tons) and antimony (six



tons) have also followed the same upward

Having 81 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 programs over 500,000 square kilometers of new mineral zones.

Despite the country's huge potential in this area, due to some issues like the lack of necessary machinery and equipment and the lack of access to financial resources and foreign investment because of the U.S. sanctions, the Iranian mining sector has been struggling to operate at its maximum capacity over the past few years.

So, the government programs for promoting this industry are mainly focused on relying on domestic sources for helping the mining sector overcome its current problems and hit its ideal targets.

Iran-Tajikistan annual non-oil trade stands at \$131m

TEHRAN- The value of non-oil trade between Iran and Tajikistan stood at \$131,038 million in the past Iranian calendar year 1400 (ended on March 20), the spokesman of Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) announced.

Ruhollah Latifi put the weight of commodities traded between the two countries at 139,249 tons.

Iran exported 124,737 tons of goods valued at \$91.6 million to Tajikistan and imported 14,512 tons of products worth \$39.437 million from the country in the previous year, the official added.

In a message wrote in mid-January by Mohammad Taghi Saberi, the Iranian ambassador to Dushanbe, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Iran and the Republic of Tajikistan, the envoy said that the relations between the two countries are based on ancient and inseparable cultural, religious, civilizational, historical and linguistic ties.

"No country has as close ties



and attachment to the Republic of Tajikistan as the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the reason is the racial, historical, cultural, religious and linguistic affinities of the two nations," Ambassador Saberi explained.

The ambassador stated that the Republic of Tajikistan has a high status in the Iranian foreign policy, saying that Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, the Iranian president, chose this country as his first foreign trip.

According to the diplomat, the presidents of Iran have visited Tajikistan 13 times since the establishment of political relations between the two countries, and the Tajik presidents has visited Iran 17 times. The speakers of the Iranian parliament have also visited the Republic of Tajikistan three times Iran five times.

'Meetings between the foreign ministers and other high-ranking officials of the two countries have also taken place for political consultations and the development of relations in various dimensions," he noted.

The ambassador said that in addition to fruitful meetings and talks between the two countries' officials, important cooperation documents in areas of hydroelectric power plants, transportation and road construction, tunneling, trade, television and radio have been signed.

"The implementation the construction project of Sangtoodeh-2 hydropower plant can be considered as one of the important areas of cooperation between the two countries," he added.

Saberi said that Iran took a pioneering step in helping develop infrastructure projects in

Iranian companies have been and the speakers of the Supreme active in developing projects such Councils of Tajikistan have visited as Esteghlal Tunnel, Dushanbe Water Treatment Plant and other projects, according to the Iranian diplomat.

> He noted that over the past 30 years, more than 170 important cooperation documents have been signed between Iran and the Republic of Tajikistan, which define the prospects of relations between the two friendly countries and play a decisive role in creating a legal framework for further development of bilateral

> The Iranian envoy in Tajikistan stated that the two countries have a high potential in supplying each other with required items.

Saberi said the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Tajikistan have good cooperation within the framework of regional organizations such as the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and support each other's positions in these organizations.

'Decline in housing prices to continue in next 2 years'

TEHRAN- "This year is the year of lower housing prices; this condition will continue in the country for the next two years, and we will see a continuous decrease in housing prices", the chairman of Real Estate Agencies Union told IRNA.

Mostafa Qoli Khosravi referred to the latest report released by Central Bank of Iran (CBI) in terms of housing price in the first Iranian calendar month Farvardin (ended on April 20), and said: "The government is trying to compensate the housing shortage in the country with the National Housing Movement plan, and this plan is being prepared and implemented in several urban and rural

He said that there is currently shortage of about 720,000 housing units in the country, adding: "Every year, dilapidated apartments are added to this number, therefore, the current government intends to compensate for the housing deficit by recognizing this shortage and implementation of National Housing Movement."

The market will react positively to the increase in supply, and the completion of the government plans including Mehr Housing and National Housing will control the uncontrolled growth of housing prices, he further predicted.



According to the CBI's latest report, the average housing price has fallen 2.4 percent in the capital Tehran during the first Iranian calendar month Farvardin, compared to its previous month.

Based on the CBI data, the average price for one square meter of a residential unit in Tehran stood at 342.7 million rials (about \$1,228) during the mentioned month.

The average housing price in the said month also increased 16.9 percent in comparison to the same month in the previous fiscal year.

As reported, the number of real estate deals stood at 3,400 in the capital city in the first month of this year, falling 49.9 percent from the previous month, while increasing 63.7 percent from the same month of the past

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

TEDPIX gains 14,000 points on Saturday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), rose 14,078 points to 1.543 million on Saturday (the first day of Iranian calendar week).

As reported, over 8.257 billion securities worth 54.682 trillion rials (about \$200 million) were traded at the TSE.

The first market's index rose 12,018 points, and the second market's index gained 23,074

TEDPIX rose 145,000 points (10.5 percent) in the past Iranian month Farvardin, the first month of the Iranian calendar year (March 21-April 20).

A capital market expert said that the Iranian economy is expected to experience significant growth in the next two years, adding: "This will be a good thing for the capital market and we will see a positive effect on the market as well."

In an interview with IRNA on April 25, Hamid Mir-Moeini pointed to the return of growth to the trend of stock exchange transactions and the factors affecting it, saying: "After the downward trend in the past [Iranian calendar] year (ended on March 20), the capital market finally returned to an uptrend in the last days of the year, paving

the way for some optimism in the market for the current year."

"The resumption of growth in the stock exchange transactions over the last week of Esfand (last month of the Iranian calendar year) was due to the optimism that was influenced by the nuclear talks and this event affected the whole market," he added.

ISIS wants to delegitimize Taliban via explosions: Singaporean researcher

From page 1 ▶ Although most of the recent attacks are on Shia Muslims, it appears to be primarily because of the ease of such targets rather than the Shia-Sunni factor. For instance, last Friday's attack on Kabul's Khalifa Sahib Mosque which killed 50 people, as well as the attack on the Kunduz Mosque a week before which killed 33 people, were both against the Sunni Muslims. Since the Taliban has promised the security of the Shia minority in Afghanistan under their rule, such attacks not just discredit its rule domestically, but also delegitimise it in the international arena.

Does the Taliban have the authority and power to run the country and maintain security?

After the withdrawal of the U.S., the Taliban has become the de facto ruler of Afghanistan, so it does have the authority to run the country. However, in its present political form, where Afghanistan remains largely unrecognized politically by the world, it happens to be in a unique position of having no external friends as well as no external enemies. This can be both liabilities as well as an opportunity. Taliban's stiff stance of declining the demand of the world community to form an inclusive government and its conservative socio-religious views are the two major stumbling blocks coming in the way of its international recognition. Effectively, it is in the Taliban's hands to turn the present adversity into an opportunity by accepting the world's demands and getting down to the reconstruction of the country. It is only by confirming the international demand that the Taliban can have international cooperation to run the country and maintain security.

How do you see the rivalry between ISIS and the Taliban? Would it be possible that a new wave of ISIS attacks sweep Afghanistan?

Both ISIS and the Taliban are Sunni Islamist groups. However, ISIS follows the ideology of the Caliphate, which implies transcending the political boundaries of states. This makes it an ideological opponent of the Taliban, which has established an Emirate of Afghanistan, confining itself to the territorial boundary. The



crisis, which is a major distraction

for the Taliban, making it unable to

fight ISIS alone. Now that the major

international powers have aban-

doned Afghanistan to its own fate,

it is only with the security coopera-

tion of its neighbors, especially Iran

and Pakistan that Afghanistan can

effectively meet its domestic chal-

lenges, including its fight with ISIS.

In terms of their opposition to ISIS,

all three countries - Pakistan, Iran,

and Afghanistan – are on the same

page. So, it appears obvious that the

three countries should come togeth-

er to prevent the emergence of ISIS.

However, the Afghanistan-Pakistan

border dispute and Taliban-Iran ideo-

logical differences may prevent them

Since the establishment of the Du-

rand Line in 1893, which separated

Pakistan and Afghanistan, rulers of

all ethnicities and politico-religious

ideologies of Afghanistan have op-

posed this demarcation. This may

compel one to deduce that a strong

government in Afghanistan may not

be in Pakistan's interests as that

might renew the demand for re-

drawing the Afghan-Pakistan bor-

der, causing Pakistan to lose large

swaths of land on its side of the

Durand Line. Such deep-rooted dif-

ferences are reflected in the events

such as Pakistan's airstrikes in Khost

and Kunar Provinces on 16th April

and subsequent warnings to Paki-

stan by Afghanistan's Acting Minister

Although the Taliban's Sunni ide-

ology brings it into conflict with Shia

from forging such cooperation.

two groups have been at odds since the beginning of ISIS's emergence in 2015. However, after the return of the Taliban to Afghanistan in August 2021, the conflict between ISIS and the Taliban has become that of between a non-state and state actor, injecting related dynamics. While the withdrawal of the U.S. and NATO forces from Afghanistan made the Taliban rulers of the country, the same factor is also considered by ISIS as an opportunity to regain its own lost grounds, making it resurgent in Afghanistan.

Since the deadly attack of ISIS-K at the Kabul airport during the time of the U.S. withdrawal and evacuation, its attacks within Afghanistan have continued. To stop this, a powerful opposing force is required. The Taliban, which is struggling to carry out its day-to-day functioning as a government due to financial constraints, is not in a position to acquire much-needed capabilities. As the Taliban shows flexibility, earns international legitimacy, and gets access to financial means, it can be better equipped to tackle ISIS, just as any other state handles its internal security issues. The absence of that scenario may imply that a new wave of ISIS attacks sweeping Afghanistan is more likely.

To what extent does the Taliban need security cooperation with its neighbors, especially Iran and Pakistan, to prevent rivals such as ISIS from emerging?

Afghanistan is currently facing an insurmountable humanitarian

Iran, the problems that the Taliban have with Tehran are easier to solve than what it has with Islamabad. In fact, Iran can be the most useful ally to Afghanistan - Iran hosts the largest number of Afghan refugees, and it has been an active participant in the two international platforms to help the Taliban resolve its challenges in ruling the country. These include the "Meeting of Foreign Ministers of Afghanistan's Neighboring Countries + Russia" which includes Pakistan, and the "Delhi Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan", which ex-Given the strict laws enforced by

Given the strict laws enforced by the Taliban in Afghanistan, can the group gain international legitimacy?

While faith and religion define the relationship between humans and God. relationships between nation-states are primarily determined by national interests, which are most material in nature. Be it a cursory look around, or a deep excavation into the history of international relations, what emerges is that regardless of the sufferings of the people of a particular country due to the nature of its domestic laws, its international relations are not solely determined by them. So, regardless of the sufferings of the Afghan people, the domestic laws of the Taliban are not the only reason coming in the way of its international recognition.

The United States and its allies did not invade Afghanistan because the Afghanis were suffering due to the strict laws of Mullah Omar; they ravaged the country because Mullah Omar gave refuge to Osama bin Laden. who was wanted by the Americans for his attacks on the U.S. soil. Although it is important for the Taliban to revisit its conservative views in the interests of the Afghan people, for the international legitimacy and support all it needs is to think about what Afghanistan can offer to the other countries. If Afghanistan has nothing else to offer, and the world is demanding from the Taliban only the revision of its domestic laws and inclusive government, then the Taliban has no other option but to offer these virtues to gain international legitimacy and support.

INTERNATIONAL

Straight Truth
TEHRAN TIMES

Putin to send 'doomsday' warning to West at Russia's WW2 victory parade

President Vladimir Putin will send a "doomsday" warning to the West when he leads celebrations on Monday marking the 77th anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory over Nazi Germany, brandishing Russia's vast firepower while its forces fight on in Ukraine.

Defiant in the face of deep Western isolation since he ordered the invasion of Russia's neighbor, Putin will speak on Red Square before a parade of troops, tanks, rockets and intercontinental ballistic missiles, Reuters reported.

A fly-past over St Basil's Cathedral will include supersonic fighters, Tu-160 strategic bombers and, for the first time since 2010, the Il-80 "doomsday" command plane, which would carry Russia's top brass in the event of a nuclear war, the Defense Ministry said.

In that scenario, the Il-80 is designed to become the roaming command center for the Russian president. It is packed with technology but specific details are Russian state secrets.

The 69-year-old Kremlin leader has repeatedly likened the war in Ukraine to the challenge the Soviet Union faced when Adolf Hitler's Nazis invaded in 1941.

"The attempt to appease the aggressor on the eve of the Great Patriotic War turned out to be a mistake that cost our people dearly," Putin said on Feb. 24 when he announced what he called a special military operation in Ukraine.

"We will not make such a mistake a second time, we have no right."

Putin casts the war in Ukraine as a battle to protect Russian speakers there from persecution by Nazis and to guard against what he terms the U.S. threat to Russia posed by NATO enlargement. Ukraine and the West dismiss the fascism claim as nonsense and say Putin is waging an unprovoked war of aggression.

The Soviet Union lost 27 million people in World War Two, more than any other country, and Putin has railed in recent years at what Moscow sees as attempts in the West to revise the history of the war to belittle the Soviet victory.

Beside the 1812 defeat of French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte, the defeat of Nazi Germany is the



Russians' most revered military triumph, though both catastrophic invasions from the west left Russia deeply sensitive about its borders.

Shadow of Ukraine

The war in Ukraine will cast a long shadow over this Victory Day.

Russia's invasion has killed thousands of people and displaced nearly 10 million. It has also left Russia in the grip of tough Western sanctions, and has raised fears of a wider confrontation between Russia and the United States - by far the world's biggest nuclear powers.

Less than two decades ago, U.S. President George W. Bush joined Putin for the May 9 celebrations in Moscow. This year no Western leader was invited, the Kremlin said.

Ahead of May 9, speculation swirled across Moscow and Western capitals that Putin was preparing some sort of special announcement on Ukraine, perhaps an outright declaration of war or even a national mobilisation.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov dismissed those suggestions on Wednesday, describing them as "nonsense".

The Kremlin did not respond to requests for comment on what Putin might say in his speech, to be delivered from the Red Square tribune in front of Vladimir Lenin's Mausoleum.

Last year, Putin jabbed at Western exceptionalism and what he said was the rise of neo-Nazism and Russophobia - trends he has returned to again and again when addressing the issue of Ukraine.

Sinn Féin stuns Ireland as UK elections show divided country

From page 1 Senior Conservative Roger Gale suggested Johnson may try and trigger a no-confidence vote in himself "to get that done, dusted and out of the way" but he added that it would be a "high-risk strategy".

This comes as Johnson's allies warn it is not the time to change the party's leader as they insist Labour's gains fell short of what was needed for the party to secure a general election victory.

Johnson admitted "we've had a tough night in some parts of the country, but on the other hand, in other parts of the country, you're still seeing Conservatives going forward,"

The other major concern for Johnson or his potential replacement is what looms ahead between now and the next general election, with a recession on the horizon and double-digit inflation; an economic outlook that could push even more voters away come 2024.

Labor members were jubilant especially after grabbing the Tories' seat in Wandsworth, the London borough which has been held by the Tories since 1978.

A spokesperson for Labour said, "the question every decent Conservative will be asking themselves is how much further they are willing to fall for a man who never fails to put his own interest above his councilors, his MPs, his party, and his country."

Labour Party leader Keir Starmer said the results "sent a message to the prime minister that Britain deserves better", he also believes that "this is a big turning point for [Labour],"

But his comments came as Police confirmed they are opening a formal investigation into claims the Labour leader broke Covid-19 lockdown rules.

Despite the gains in the British capital, the main opposition Labour party also had mixed results outside London.

In high profile places where Labour needed to make advances the party failed to win those local councils.

The Conservatives saw a substantial drop in support in the south of England but Labour has seen a larger drop in the north.

Both parties have a long way ahead to rebuild the trust of voters amid a low turnout.

As results in Scotland and Wales are yet to be fully published, the biggest winners appear to be the rise in support for the Liberal Democrats and the Green Party across England.

The Green Party has hailed what it described as "phenomenal" local election results, as it headed above 80 gains in areas, some of which were quite significant.

It follows a pattern of recent local elections, in which the Greens have both won more seats and extended the geographical representation by taking seats from both Labour and the Conservatives.

Adrian Ramsay, the Greens' co-leader, says the expectation was that further gains would come: "The phenomenal results for the Green party so far demonstrate that people up and down the country are looking for a credible alternative to the establishment parties, and finding it in us."

Greens are putting forward the practical solu-



tions to the cost of living crisis and the climate emergency that will make a difference to people's lives, from insulating homes to bringing down energy bills and creating jobs, to providing additional financial support for those on the lowest incomes."

Meanwhile, there have been dramatic results In Northern Ireland, where Sinn Féin (the former political wing of the militant Irish Republican Army) has came out on top as voters (unlike the rest of the UK that voted locally) elected the region's next assembly.

The Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) lost its superiority by slumping to 21.3% in the first preference vote. Tim Cairns, a former special adviser to the party said on social media that it was "a disaster for the DUP."

There was scenes of celebration at Sinn Fein camps with the party receiving 250,388 first pref-

erences votes and the DUP getting 184,002.

Unionist anger at the post-Brexit Northern Ireland protocol, which puts a trade border in the Irish Sea is believed to have dominated the focus of the election in Northern Ireland as well as the contest between Sinn Féin and the DUP for the first minister post.

The results now position Sinn Féin's deputy leader, Michelle O'Neill, to become the region's first minister, marking a seismic breakthrough for the political landscape in Northern Ireland.

Despite some obstacles ahead, the victory is significant as it would be the first time the nationalist party, which is committed to Irish reunification, has beaten unionists in the region.

The DUP has said it would block the formation of a new power-sharing executive until the Northern Ireland protocol was changed.

Scotland's First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, pointed out that Sinn Fein's performance has shown there are "big questions" around the future of the UK "as a political entity".

She says "If (Sinn Fein) emerges as the largest party today in Northern Ireland which looks very likely, that will be an extraordinary result and something that seemed impossible not that long ago."

"There's no doubt there are big fundamental questions being asked of the UK as a political entity right now.

They're being asked here in Scotland, they're being asked in Northern Ireland, they're being asked in Wales and I think we're going to see some fundamental changes to UK governance in the years to come and I am certain one of those changes is going to be Scottish independence."

Nationalist analyst Brian Feeney said "the shock of Sinn Féin's massive victory has confirmed the worst fears" of unionists from the Democratic Unionist Party and the Traditional Unionist Voice, that "the game is up for ethnic solidarity unionism".

Speaking in Belfast, Sinn Fein president Mary Lou McDonald

said the election results could potentially reflect a "historic moment of equality" and show that the nation was "only going forward".

She noted that the potential reunification process for Ireland was "all about the future" and about "building a new Ireland" together.

"It is the most exciting prospect for our nation and it's one that has to involve all of us," she pointed out

Trump proposed launching missiles into Mexico to 'destroy the drug labs,' Esper says

President Donald J. Trump in 2020 asked Mark T. Esper, his defense secretary, about the possibility of launching missiles into Mexico to "destroy the drug labs" and wipe out the cartels, maintaining that the United States' involvement in a strike against its southern neighbor could be kept secret, Esper recounts in his upcoming memoir.

Those remarkable discussions were among several moments that Esper described in the book, "A Sacred Oath," as leaving him all but speechless when he served the 45th president.

Esper, the last Senate-confirmed defense secretary under Trump, also had concerns about speculation that the president might misuse the military around Election Day by, for instance, having soldiers seize ballot boxes. He warned subordinates to be on alert for unusual calls from the White House in the lead-up to the election.

The book, to be published on Tuesday, offers a stunningly candid perspective from a former defense secretary, and it illuminates key episodes from the Trump presidency, including some that were unknown or underexplored, the

New York Times reported.

"I felt like I was writing for history and for the American people," said Esper, who underwent the standard Pentagon security clearance process to check for classified information. He also sent his writing to more than two dozen four-star generals, some cabinet members and others to weigh in on accuracy and fairness.

Pressed on his view of Mr. Trump, Esper — who strained throughout the book to be fair to the man who fired him while also calling out his increasingly erratic behavior af-

ter his first impeachment trial ended in February 2020 — said carefully but bluntly, "He is an unprincipled person who, given his self-interest, should not be in the position of public service."

The Times also said among Trump's desires was to put 10,000 active-duty troops on the streets of Washington on June 1, 2020, after large protests against police brutality erupted following the police killing of George Floyd. Trump asked Esper about the demonstrators, "Can't you just shoot them?"

TOURISM



Archaeologists to find more about what is called 'oldest' settlement in northwest Iran

TEHRAN - A team of archaeologists and cultural heritage experts has carved tens of trenches to find fresh evidence enabling them to find the chronology of life in what is called the "oldest" settlement in northwest Iran.

The team led by archaeologist Afrasyab Geravand is carving trenches in and around the Ahranjan hill, which is one of the oldest settlements in northwestern Iran, IRNA reported on Saturday.

Previous excavations suggest that Tepe Ahranjan, which is situated in Salmas county, West Azarbaijan province, is home to a 9,000-year-old human settlement.

The ditches are hoped to give clues about further cultural layers and human settlements in order to help develop a relative and absolute chronology of the hill.

In 2020, Geravand concluded that farming and animal breeding was practiced some 9,000 years ago around the historical Tepe Ahranjan. The discovery was made during a demarcation project aimed to protect the ruined archaeological site.

The archaeologist believes that the hill and its surroundings were one of the first and most important human settlements in the 7th millennium BC in northwestern Iran. "The region has long been a suitable place for settlement since ancient times due to the presence of permanent rivers, springs, animal and plant resources, fertile land, and pastures."

Experts say the presence of "mother rocks" and obsidian tools in seven different colors, sabers, mortars, and stone utensils are among objects found in the region.

Ardabil pushes to develop tourism infrastructure

TEHRAN – Ardabil tourism directorate seeks to develop tourism infrastructure across the northwestern province, an official with the tourism ministry has said.

It has been decided to allocate 800 billion rials (\$2.9 million) to the development of the tourism sector in the province, IRNA quoted Rasul Kord Falahat as saying on Saturday.

This amount of money will be spent on strengthening the tourism infrastructure and preserving, revitalizing, and restoring the province's ancient and historical monuments, the official added.

Developing and enhancing tourism infrastructure is a key to creating sustainable employment in the country, he explained.

In 2019, Ardabil along with Sari, the capital

of Mazandaran province, were selected as the cultural capitals for the Economic Cooperation Organization for 2022 and 2023 respectively.

Last April, the tourism authorities of the province announced that they have developed extensive plans to draw more tourists during the winter season to the province and make it the winter tourism hub of the country.

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

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

From page 1 Lar National Park How is seeing Iran Cycling in the Lar National Park at the foot of Damavand Mountain on two wheels equals a combination of excitement and rich nature. The best time to



best cycling routes in Iran.

You may spend the night in Maranjab caravanserai, which dates some 400 years.

Gisoom Beach

Sandwiched between the Caspian Sea and rugged mountains, Gisoom is one of the most beautiful and peaceful parks in Iran. The asphalt path of this forest passes in a spiral in the middle of the tall green trees, which have caused a lot of shade and often have foggy weather.

You may feel that you are the only one present in this forest, although you may also encounter some harmless animals.

Abr Forest

If you have always dreamed

of cycling or hiking in the clouds, you can live your dream in the Abr

Abr Forest is situated almost on the border of Semnan and Golestan provinces and is known by this name because most of the time the space of this forest is covered by an ocean of clouds. In this forest, the clouds are so close to the trees that you can walk through the clouds.

Kordestan province

The western Kordestan province is known for its captivating and stunning nature. Cycling on the Zagros mountain range will be interesting and memorable for any biker due to the pristine nature, the remote villages, and the hospitable people of Kurdestan, and their

Due to the rugged terrain and steep slopes in this part of Iran, more experience is recommended for cycling. We suggest starting from Uraman Takht, a village on a mountain slope, and pedaling to the south of the province.

extraordinary culture creates happy

Caspian Sea coast

moments for them.

It is a green route about 750 km long that starts from the coastal city of Astara moving along the Caspian coast until it reaches Gorgan in the northeast.

The route offers you a combination of diverse nature and cultures while crossing the small villages and towns.

Kish Island

Situated in the stunning Persian Gulf, Kish is a vast island suitable to be explored by bicycle.

It has special cycling routes to make it easier and safer. Nights would be the best time for cycling there, however, cycling or strolling along the beaches during the day would be memorable as well.

What makes Iran a unique place to go cycling is not the lavish historical monuments, jagged mountains, dense forests, sea coasts, lush plains, or empty deserts but its captivating culture and people who believe "guest is God's friend".

Mazandaran records 6m overnight stays on Eid al-Fitr holidays

TEHRAN - Iranians made more than six million overnight stays in the official accommodation centers across the northern province of Mazandaran during the two-day Eid al-Fitr holidays, which marks the end of the fasting month of Ramadan, the provincial tourism chief has said.

visit this protected area is in the

take extraordinary photos there.

Gulf. Tourists may cycle across

the 270-kilometer island enjoying

numerous attractions such as the

Valley of the Stars, the Salt Cave,

the mangrove forests, and scenic

Due to the hot and humid climate

An ideal place for cyclists, the

Maranjab desert is located some

60 km northeast of Kashan and is

one of the most visited deserts in

The diversity of plants and

animals, as well as attractions such

as Salt Lake, make this desert one

of the most popular destinations

for adventurers and among the

of Oeshm, winter is the best time

for cycling on the island.

Maranjab desert

the Iranian plateau.

experience for you.

Qeshm Island

beaches.

"Atotal of 6,001,433 people made overnight stays during the Eid al-Fitr holidays at the authorized accommodation centers such as hotels, guest houses, traditional lodging houses, and apartment hotels," IRNA quoted Mehdi Izadi as saying on Friday.

This number of stays is identical to what Mazandaran recorded during the first half of this year's Noruz holidays, he noted.

The impressive number is due to the holiday's timing and the change for the exact time of Eid al-Fitr, which extended the holiday's duration to [almost] a week, the official mentioned.

Some 850,000 people visited the historical sites, tourist attractions, and natural sights across the province during the mentioned time, he added.

An early civilization flourished at the beginning of the first millennium BC in Mazandaran (Tabarestan). Its insecure eastern and southeastern borders were crossed by Mongol invaders in the 13th and 14th centuries. Cossacks attacked the region in 1668 but were repulsed. It was ceded to the Russian Empire by a treaty in 1723, but the Russians were never secure in their occupation. The area was restored to Iran under the Qajar dynasty.

The northern section of the region consists of lowland alongside the Caspian and upland along

the northern slopes of the Alborz Mountains. Marshy backlands dominate the coastal plain, and extensive gravel fans fringe the mountains. The climate is permanently subtropical and humid, with very hot summers.

This year's Ramadan began on April 03, which falls in the spring season in Iran, and came to an end on Monday evening. Because of the nature of the lunar calendar system, the dates of Ramadan vary each year and there is always a sort of disagreement among scholars as to when Ramadan precisely start or come to an end.

By tradition, the new moon crescent which is sighted by the naked eye marks the beginning of a new lunar month but these days Muslims prefer to lean towards astronomical calculations to avoid such confusion.





IN THE NAME OF GOD ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN BROADCASTING

INTERNATIONAL TENDER No: 1401/103-09/03

Tender Holder:

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN BROADCASTING (IRIB)

Broadcasting the TV network of Hispan TV on Hispasat 30W satellite in accordance with the technical specification

and other terms and conditions mentioned in the tender documents. Deadline and how to receive the tender documents:

From Sunday 08 May 2022 (1401/02/18) 09:00 a.m until Wednesday 11 May 2022 (1401/02/21) by 14:00 p.m with

presentation of introductory letter by company or its representative and the receipt of paying the documents fee.

Esteghlal St. Vali - Assr Ave, Tehran, Iran

Place of receiving the tender document:

The fee of the tender documents and how to deposit it: Submission of payment receipt for the amount of 1,000,000 Rials to account 4101029171204273 with BIC No.IR

Interested participants may refer to purchasing (KALA) Dept. ,4th Floor of IRIB Administration Complex ,Hotel

Type and amount of guarantee for participation to tender:

310100004101029171204273 IRAN Central Bank in the name of IRIB.

The amount of deposit for participanting in tender is USD 37200 fixed or its equivalent in Rials 9300000000 which should be in the form of Bank Guarantee.

- Time and place of delivering Bidding Envelopes:

The sealed (A,B&C) packages/envelopes and the qualification evaluation package/envelope separately packed, should be submitted no later than 09:00 a.m. on Saturday 18 June 2022 (1401/03/28) at the address mentioned in 4th clause.

Time and place of opening Qualification Evaluation envelopes:

The date of opening the Qualification Evaluation envelopes is on Saturday 18 June 2022 (1401/03/28) at 10:00 a.m in the office of International Purchasing Dept.

Time and place of opening Envelopes:

The envelopes A of those eligible participants who meet the qualification criterion and approval of Technical and Commercial committee will be opened on Sunday 19 June 2022 at 04:00 p.m (1401/03/29) in the office of Financial Vice President .In case of complete content in the envelopes A the envelopes of B and C of eligible participants will be opened at the same time and place.

The participant must be qualified by the competent authorities.

Fore more information please see:

www.iriboffice.ir/tenders and http://iets.mporg.ir/ Tel: 00982122167053

Purchasing (Kala) Dept.,IRIB





IN THE NAME OF GOD ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN BROADCASTING

INTERNATIONAL TENDER No: 1400/103-84/03

Tender Holder

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN BROADCASTING (IRIB)

Broadcasting the TV network of English iFILM on Paksat 1R@38°E satellite in accordance with the technical specification and other terms and conditions mentioned in the tender documents.

Deadline and how to receive the tender documents:

From Sunday 08 May 2022 (1401/02/18) 09:00 a.m until Wednesday 11 May 2022 (1401/02/21) by 14:00 p.m with presentation of introductory letter by company or its representative and the receipt of paying the documents fee.

Place of receiving the tender document:

Interested participants may refer to purchasing (KALA) Dept. ,4th Floor of IRIB Administration Complex ,Hotel Esteghlal St. Vali – Assr Ave, Tehran, Iran

The fee of the tender documents and how to deposit it:

Submission of payment receipt for the amount of 1,000,000 Rials to account 4101029171204273 with BIC No.IR 310100004101029171204273 IRAN Central Bank in the name of IRIB.

Type and amount of guarantee for participation to tender:

The amount of deposit for participanting in tender is USD 27200 fixed or its equivalent in Rials 6953000000 which should be in the form of Bank Guarantee.

Time and place of delivering Bidding Envelopes:

The sealed (A,B&C) packages/envelopes and the qualification evaluation package/envelope separately packed, should be submitted no later than 09:00 a.m. on Saturday 18 June 2022 (1401/03/28) at the address mentioned in 4th clause.

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Purchasing (Kala) Dept.,IRIB

\$15m allocated to restore Gomishan wetland

TEHRAN - A total of 4 trillion rials (nearly \$15 million) has been earmarked to revive the Gomishan international wetland in the northern Golestan province, Mohammad Reza Kanani, head of the provincial department of environment, has announced.

Gomishan wetland is home to over 20,000 water birds, and more than 20 species of birds, which supports three IUCN Red List vulnerable species of waterbirds, i.e., Pelecanus Crispus, Aythya nyroca, and Vanellus gregarious, as well as the vulnerable mammal Phoca (Pusa) caspica; it is also an important staging area for the fish subspecies Rutilus rutilus caspicas.

A comprehensive plan for rehabilitation, protection, and management of Gomishan wetland in the fifth meeting of the National Headquarters for Coordination and Management of Wetlands, chaired by First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber, was proposed and approved on Saturday.

In addition to climate change, some natural disasters have exacerbated the condition of water resources in Iran, climate change had a share of about 10 to 15 percent, and natural disasters about 50 percent; which highlights the need for com-



prehensive management.

Using the knowledge of satellite images and aerial lasers, in this case, is one of the new measures of the Deprtment of Environment, which was piloted in Gomishan, Miankaleh, and Hourolazim wetlands, and will be conducted on 2 million hectares of wetlands.

Wetlands' importance

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

development by supplying all our freshwater. More than 40 percent of freshwater fish are said to live

in wetlands.

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

Iran is rich in terms of having a variety of wetlands due to its climatic diversity. In Iran, 141 wetlands with ecological value with an area of

over 3 million hectares have been identified, of which 25 wetlands are designated as wetlands of international importance (registered in the Ramsar Convention) covering more than 1.4 million hectares and four sites are biosphere reserves.

Of Iran's 25 Ramsar sites about one-third are under pressure or in critical condition.

Unfortunately, wetlands are being degraded and lost due to pollution, overexploitation, climate change, and human population growth.

Iran is rich in terms of having a variety of wetlands due to its climatic diversity, as 25 wetlands are designated as wetlands of international importance (registered in the

Ramsar Convention).

Most recently, the Webometrics Ranking of

Straight Truth TEHRAN TIMES

27 Iranian universities among world's most influential

TEHRAN – The 2022 edition of the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, based on universities' contributions to delivering the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), listed 27 Iranian universities.

There are among 1,524 institutions from 110 countries featured in the Impact Rankings 2022, based on their impacts on the 17 United Nations' SDGs. Each university was rated on four goals of research, stewardship, outreach, and teaching.

Iran University of Medical Sciences is ranked among the top 200 universities, with a ranking of 82, which is followed by Semnan University of Medical Sciences and Isfahan University of Med-

Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Kordestan University of Medical Sciences, University of Mohaghegh Ardabili, Ahvaz Jondishapur University of Medical Sciences, University of Kashan, Kashan University of Medical Sciences and Health Services, University of Kordestan, Sharif University of Technology, Tarbiat Modares University, University of Tehran, are the next ten universities with the highest rate of global impact.

The 2021 THE Impact Rankings has also listed 27 Iranian universities among the 1,115 most effective institutions worldwide.

Academic quality

World Universities 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.

KANS scientific event hosts 20 technological ideas of Islamic world

TEHRAN - Some 20 technological ideas of the Islamic world competed in the second edition of the Knowledge Application and Notion for Society (KANS).

KANS aims to present science-based solutions to human issues which are offered by young scholars, university students, and professors (under 45 years of age) throughout the Islamic countries.

In the competition, participants submit their solutions for challenges declared by national and international pavilions, in form of a 3 to 5-minute video.

KANS seeks to pursue efforts in the following areas, like, finding solutions to tackle the current challenges of human communities, using the characters and capacities of specialists to develop science and technology and to meet the needs of various industries, and pushing young elites to create scientific projects of higher quality and in larger quantity.

It also aims for paving the way for more interaction among researchers, technologists, and investors as to foster science and technology, as well as building a platform for interaction and cooperation between the competition winners and the Mustafa (PBUH) Prize laureates, and thereby creating scientific networks at different levels.

KANS competition fields include Economics, banking and finance, energy; water and environment; information and communication technology; health and medtech; and transportation.

In this period, 658 projects from 25 countries were presented and evaluated, 20 of which were selected from Iran, Malaysia, and Bangladesh, and 6 projects will receive the KANS Scientific Competition Award, Saeed Sohrabpour, head of the event, said.

Noting that 13 Iranian and non-Iranian pavilions have been created in the challenges section, he said that 63 challenges have been pre-



sented in this section.

In fact, pavilions are seekers and young scientists are solvers. Hence KANS is not only a competition but also a marketplace, in which scholars and innovators may find overseas customers for their idea, prototype, MVP, or new product.

The final stage of the second edition of the competition will be held on Friday, May 13, at the same

time at the Pardis Technology Park.

527,000 foreign students educating in Iran

From page 1 ▶ Iran is home to over 800,000 registered refugees and some 2.6 million undocumented Afghans. Today, more than 500,000 Afghan children- including undocumented Afghans and those who have newly arrived in Iran following the Taliban-takeover-are benefitting from Iran's inclusive education policies, one of the most progressive in the world.

Many of the refugees living in Iran are the second and third generation, according to the UNHCR.

Iran spends about 20 trillion rials (nearly \$77 million) every year on the education of foreign

creased by 9 percent," he added.



national students residing in the country, head of the international affairs department of the Ministry of Education Gholamreza Karimi said in March 2020.

Foreign students attend Iranian universities

Some 57,675 foreign nationals Affairs, said in April.

from 133 countries are studying in Iranian universities, 30,600 of whom are studying in universities affiliated with the Ministry of Science, while 25.000 others are receiving education at Azad University and about 2,000 in medical universities.

Currently, foreign nationals constitute 1.64 percent of the country's student population, which is about 0.14 percent higher than the goal set by the Sixth Five-Year National Development Plan (2016-2021), Mohammad Javad Salmanpour, the deputy head of the Organization for Student

Twenty-five percent of the foreign students studying in Iranian universities are Afghan nationals, he added.

Afghan students attend Iranian universities in three ways; some enter the university by participating in the national entrance exam of Iran, and some others receive admission from universities that have non-Iranian student licenses. The third group also attended the country's universities through scholarships, he explained.

Many of the Afghan students are studying master's and Ph.D. courses in Iranian universities, he added, IRNA reported.

Efforts to protect natural resources, wildlife, and ecosystems in Iran

Part 6

Rangelands, which formerly comprised more than 60 percent of Iran, have also been destroyed on an unprecedented scale. Rangeland production in 1970 was estimated to be 20 million tons of forage per year, which was inadequate for the number of grazing animals in the country. The policy in the mid-1970s was to ensure pasture recovery through both better control and reduction of grazing, as well as incorporation of grazing animals into fodder-growing agricultural units.

An estimate made in 1983 showed forage production to have decreased to about 10 million tons per annum, i.e., half the amount it had been thirteen years before. Yet very little additional fodder was provided by the agricultural sector.

In another estimate made in 1990 it is demonstrated that the population of domestic grazing animals in Iran exceeds pasture capacity by a factor of four. Excessive grazing, the cutting of vegetation, and the indiscriminate ploughing of range for dry farming on land invariably ill-suited for the purpose are the main practices leading to rangeland destruction. The result has been the total loss of vegetation over wide areas, desertification, erosion, floods, and dust storms.

Parks and protected areas

The areas that Iran began protecting in the late 1950s had been incorporated by 1976-77 into one of the most comprehensive programs for nature conservation in Asia. The Department of the Environment placed great emphasis on natural processes and on minimizing human interference with nature.

The reserves were developed strictly on an ecological basis. The Department of the Environment's strategy was to establish priority-use

reserves to protect renewable natural resources, viable remnants of Iran's ecosystems, and endangered or threatened species of fauna and flora.

By the mid-1970s there were eleven national parks, twenty wildlife refuges, twenty-three protected areas, and two national nature monuments, totaling an area of about 7.5 million hectares. Eight of these reserves were selected as part of UNE-SCO's biosphere reserves.

Serious harm was done to the various reserves after the Revolution. By the time the authorities reacted, many of the areas had been damaged or altered beyond recall. The area of these reserves in 1991 was slightly greater than before 1977, with seven national parks, twenty-three wildlife refuges, thirty-eight protected areas, and four national nature monuments, but the majority of them are neglected.

Often there is little control by wardens, and most of the reserves have minimal restrictions on the grazing of domestic sheep and goats.

Iran has some of the finest wetlands in Southwest Asia, all of which came under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Environment. Eighteen were designated as wetlands of international importance and listed at the ratification of the Ramsar Convention in 1975.

Although this treaty is still in force, a number of these wetlands have been subjected to ecological disturbance and one, the 10,000-hectare Kamjan marsh in Fars province, no longer exists. Error and neglect notwithstanding, Iran remains a leader in comparison to other countries in its region in the domain of nature reserves.

> Source: Encyclopedia Iranica To be continued

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Iran exports medical equipment to 55 countries worldwide

Some 105 medical equipment produced by 23 Iranian companies are exported to 55 countries across the world, Reza Masaeli, an advisor to the health minister said on Sunday.

"Currently, a total of 280,000 medical equipment is produced in the country," Fars quoted Masaeli as saying. "In recent years, the production of medical equipment in Iran has in-

One of the main strategies of the Health Ministry is to boost exports, he said, adding that Iran exports medical equipment to 55 countries including Russia, Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Croatia.

So far. a series of memorandums of understanding (MOUs) have been signed for export of medical equipment to various countries, including Brazil, Iraq and Oman, Masaeli stated.

تجهیزات پزشکی ایرانی به ۵۵ کشور دنیا

مشاور وزیر بهداشت گفت: در حال حاضر ۱۰۵ محصول تجهیزات پزشکی ایرانی که توسط ۲۳ شرکت ایرانی تولید می شود، به ۵۵ کشور جهان از جمله کشورهای روسیه، آلمان، ایتالیا، بلژیک، هلند و کرواسی صادر می شود. به گزارش گروه اجتماعی خبر گزاری فارس، رضا مسائلی، اظهار داشت: در کشور بیش از ۲۸۰ هزار قلم تجهیزات پزشکی در کشور وجود دارد و در سال های اخیر، تولیدات تجهیزات پزشکی در جمهوری اسلامی ایران، ۹ درصد افزایش

وی توجه به صادرات را یکی از مهمترین راهبردهای اساسی وزارت بهداشت در راستای حمایت از تولیدات داخلی دانست و افزود: در حال حاضر ۱۰۵ محصول تجهیزات پزشکی ایرانی که توسط ۲۳ شرکت ایرانی تولید می شود، به ۵۵ کشور جهان از جمله کشورهای روسیه، آلمان، ایتالیا، بلژیک، هلند و کرواسی صادر می شود.

COVID-19 UPDATES ON MAY 7

| New cases | 270 |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| New deaths | 8 |
| Total cases | 7,224,701 |
| Total deaths | 141,165 |
| New hospitalized patients | 63 |
| Patients in critical condition | 916 |
| Total recovered patients | 7,002,258 |
| Diagnostic tests conducted | 51,446,960 |
| Doses of vaccine injected | 149,091,235 |

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MAY 8, 2022

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

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

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon:13:01 Evening: 20:15

Dawn: 4:30 (tomorrow)

Sunrise: 6:06 (tomorrow)

Omar Khayyam: As mathematician

Following a directive of Sabet ibn Qorra, he characterizes this measure by means of the anthyphairetic process; two ratios will then be the same if this process yields the same sequence of numbers when applied to each pair of magnitudes.

Mahani also states a definition of greater ratio based on anthyphairesis. He then proves that his definitions of same ratio and of greater ratio are equivalent to Definition V.5 and Definition V.7 (Euclid's definition of greater ratio) respectively.

In his commentary on Euclid's Elements, Abul Abbas Nayrizi (fl. ca. 900) has also interpreted Definition V.3 in terms of anthyphairesis; but, unlike his predecessor Mahani, he considers that it is not necessary to prove Definition V.5 since, in his opinion, this definition belongs to the principles of Book V. Neither does he study the connection between the anthyphairetic definition of same ratio and Definition V.5.

In the second part of his commentary, Khayyam intends to deal thoroughly with the concepts of ratio and proportionality between magnitudes, since in his opinion this matter had never been dealt with in a satisfactory and philosophical manner.

Commenting upon Euclid's Definition V.3. Khayyam says that two things enter into the concept of ratio: the relation between the two magnitudes as to equality and inequality, and the size, or the magnitude, of this ratio.

He explains that this concept was first found in natural numbers; that is, when one considers the numbers related to one another, one finds that they are either equal or unequal; and if they are unequal, then the smaller number will either be a part or parts of the larger one.

For instance, since 3 measures 9 three times, 3 is one-third of 9, and the size of the ratio of 3 to 9 will be one-third; likewise 2 is two-sevenths of 7, and the size of ratio of 2 to 7 will be two-sevenths.

When one considers this concept with regard to magnitudes, one will find, besides the preceding three possibilities, a fourth one, namely that the two magnitudes may be incommensurable, so that the less will neither be a part of the greater nor parts.

He then recalls Euclid's Definition V.5, and adds: "But this does not manifest (yonabbe'an) true proportionality. Do you not see that if a questioner inquires, saying: Four magnitudes are proportional according to Euclidean proportionality, and the first is the half of the second, will the third then be the half of the fourth, or not?".

In other words, even though it is fairly easy to prove starting from Definition V.5 that the third magnitude will also be one-half the fourth (for according to Definition V.5 twice the third magnitude is equal to the fourth, so that the third is obviously one-half the fourth), yet this definition is not satisfactory in that it does not manifest an immediate property of proportional magnitudes, as in fact any true definition should.

He calls the Euclidean concept of proportional magnitudes "common proportionality" and intends to speak of "true proportionality".

Khayyam's conception of ratio and proportionality is essentially the same as that of his predecessors Mahani and Nayrizi. That is, given two magnitudes, they will either be equal, or the less will be a part or parts of the greater; and if the two magnitudes are incommensurable, the relation will then be characterized by

means of anthyphairesis; whence it follows that two ratios will necessarily be the same if the anthyphairetical process applied to each pair of magnitudes yields the same sequence of numbers.

Khayyam also defines the concept of greater ratio through anthyphairesis. He then proves that the anthyphairetic definitions of same ratio and of greater ratio are equivalent to Euclid's corresponding definitions.

Consequently all properties of proportional magnitudes that had already been established within the framework of the Euclidean theory will remain valid within the framework of a theory based on the anthyphairetic definitions; therefore, these properties do not need to be proven again.

Compounding of ratios and irrational numbers. We find in the beginning of Book VI of the Elements a definition (now considered as an interpolation) according to which a ratio is compounded of ratios when, the sizes of these ratios being multiplied together, they produce a certain ratio.

But Euclid does not explain anywhere what he means by "the size of a ratio," not to mention the "multiplication" of these sizes. However, he does make use of the compounding of ratios in Propositions VI.23 and VIII.5 of the Elements.

In each case, he admits without proof that, given three magnitudes or three natural numbers A, B, C, the ratio of A to C will be compounded of the ratio of A to B and of the ratio of B to C.

It is this last statement, the one mathematicians use when compounding ratios, that has often been considered as a proposition that should be proven.

This is in fact what Eutocius of Ascalon (b. ca. 480) applies himself to when commenting on Proposition II.4 of On the Sphere and the Cylinder, in which Archimedes (ca. 287-212 BC) had used the preceding statement on the compounding of ratios.

But although Eutocius intends to provide a general proof that this statement is valid for both natural numbers and magnitudes, he only considers ratios between numbers, so that his proof does not apply to ratios between incommensurable magnitudes.

Bernard Vitrac has shown that Eutocius attempted later on to overcome the preceding limitation while commenting on Proposition I.11 of the Conics of Apollonius of Perga (b. ca. 262 BC).

Says Eutocius: "A ratio is said to be compounded of ratios when the sizes of the ratios multiplied by themselves produce something; it is being understood that 'size' is obviously said of the number to which the ratio is paronymous.

On the one hand, it is with the multiples that the size can be a natural number [e.g., the size of the triple ratio is three]; with the other relations, the size will necessarily be a number and a part or parts [e.g., the size of the sesquialter ratio is one-and-a-half], unless, however, someone maintains that there also exist inexpressible relations, as are those between irrational magnitudes.

And on the other hand, it is obvious that, in all the relations, this very size multiplied by the consequent term of the ratio will produce the antecedent".

Eutocius then produces a proof essentially the same as the one in his commentary on Proposition II.4 of On the Sphere and the Cylinder, but this time he does not specify whether the ratios are numerical or not.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica To be continued

Iranian Film Festival Zurich unveils official lineup

TEHRAN - The Iranian Film Festival Zurich has announced its official lineup featuring movies from Iran's independent cinema.

The 8th edition of the festival will take place in Zurich, Switzerland from May 26 to June 1.

Thirteen feature films have been chosen to be screened in the official competition of the event.

The festival is scheduled to pay tribute to Dariush Mehrjui, a pioneer of Iran's New Wave cinema, by a review of his 1969 drama "The Cow" on the opening day.

The film follows Masht Hassan, who owns the only cow in a remote and desolate village. While he is away, his cow, whom he treats as his own child, dies. Knowing the relationship between Masht Hassan and his cow, the villagers hastily dispose of the corpse, and when Masht Hassan returns, they tell him that his cow ran away. Devastated by the news, Masht Hassan starts to spend all his time in the barn



"Yadoo" directed by Mehdi Jafari.

believe that he has become the

The lineup also features director Mehdi Jafari's acclaimed drama "Yadoo".

The film follows a teenage boy named Yadoo living with his family and people under siege in the southwestern Iranian city of Abadan in the early days of the

eating hay and slowly begins to 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war. The family is finally forced to migrate.

> "No Choice" directed by Reza Dormishian is another highlight of the official competition.

> The film tells the story of three women who clash when a determined lawyer takes on the case of a 16-year-old homeless girl against a doctor. The girl repeatedly works as a

surrogate mother for money. A human rights attorney tries to rescue her, but inevitably faces difficulties.

The official competition also includes "The Sun Of That Moon" by Setareh Eskandari, "The Milky Day" by Mahmud Nuri, "World, Northern Hemisphere" by Hossein Tehrani, "At the end of evin" by Mehdi Torabbeigi, "The Rain Falls where it Will" by Majid Barzegar, "The Majority" by Mohsen Qarai, "Bone Marrow" by Hamidreza Qorbani, "District Terminal" by Bardia Yadegari, "TiTi" by Ida Panahandeh and "Une Histoire Provisoire" by Romed Wyder.

Nine movies, including "Barter" by Emad Arad and Ziba Karamali and "Cloudy Man" by Shahin Jalali, have also been selected to be screened in the short competition category.

"Invisible Lines" by Mehdi Rakhshani, "Tonight's Homework" by Ashkan Nejati and Mehran Nematollahi, and three other films will be showcased in the documentary films section.

"The Palm Tree and the Neighbors" published in Persian

TEHRAN - "The Palm Tree and the Neighbors" by Iraqi novelist Ghaib Tu'ma Farman has been published in Persian.

Originally published in 1966, the novel has recently been released by Iranian publisher Saless. Maani Shabani is the translator of the book.

"The Palm and the Neighbors" was selected as one of the 100 best Arabic novels. The novel was prepared theatrically, presented by the Modern Artistic Theater Troupe, and was at the forefront of Iraqi plays that won the admiration and approval of the audience.

The events in the novel are framed against the backdrop of the effects of the Second World War in Iraq, as the daily life system for its characters is formulated in light of the repercussions of that war in Baghdad, so they appear without will, and stripped of any positive action, and soon proceed in a state shrouded in despair to closed ends that led to either death, murder or absence.

Thus the novel has raised the issue of

the stagnant history of the nation, where hope for change is fading, everything is in a steady decline, as most of the characters surrender to a general despair that hangs over them from every side, and the palm tree withers the only one, the house is sold, the stable is demolished, the narrow muddy alleys are almost devoid of movement, and social participation seems paralyzed, even disrupted, as prospects have been blocked in front of marginalized personalities whose will has been restricted by a mysterious party, and have become forgotten.

In this novel, Farman leaves the circles of the educated and the intellectual, their places of work, their coffeehouses and bars. He focuses on the streets and alleys to shed light on the poor: their lives, their suffering, and their social interactions in different religions and communities.

The characters are simple, sarcastic and unforgettable, the language honest and varied, each character speaking in their own distinct voice and dialect.



Front cover of the Persian edition of Ghaib Tu'ma Farman's novel "The Palm Tree and the Neighbors".

Shadows of the British Mandate and the social reality of the time are reflected in the symbol of an old, dead palm tree in which the neighbors see something of themselves.

Italian gallery identifies "Manipulated Genes" influencing Iranian new media artists

Frome Page 1 > In the second part, the exhibition showcased works by four the photographers Bijan Sayfuri, Melina Clade, Samad Qorbanzadeh and Alireza Memariani.

The artists have made great efforts in the field of new media arts in Iran and other countries over the past two decades. In addition, a large number of them have received special awards at important international events.

Curated by Saeid Khavarnejad, exhibition took into consideration the method and style of Iranian new media arts, unique in its method and form.

After more than two decades of new media productions in Iran,

a large number of influential galleries do not regard these new productions, and see them as unproven media or unrelated

said in a statement for the exhibition.

"Undoubtedly, this situation is to the Iranian public, the curator not compatible with the search for the independence characteristic of contemporary art," he noted and added, "Therefore, artists in this medium inevitably introduce their works in short films, animation festivals or biennials of contemporary art in other countries.

The artists' works arouse a lot of international enthusiasm, and Iranian video-art has found its form and space in the West and

Weber & Weber distinguished itself from the beginning of its activity for having dealt with young artists, both national and international, many of them holding their first exhibition.

Memories of a warrior lady



Review of the book "The Essence of Patience"

The stories that have been handed down to us from our country's recent history are mostly based on the memories of individuals who had a significant role in the events of those years.

One of these significant stories is "The Essence of patience". It's the memories of Gohar Sharieh Dastgheib, a political activist and one of the Islamic Revolution's warriors. This book has been written by Tayyebeh Pazuki and published by Soore Mehr publication.

The author portrays the main character's entire life in eight chapters, with the first chapter focusing on her family, education, and marriage. The book's second chapter tells her life in Abadan from 1956 to 1966, beginning with a description of the city's beauty at the time and ending with her migration to Tehran. The third chapter is on her educational and work experiences. The fourth chapter of the book is titled "Refah School," and it includes details about her experiences working at the Refah School.

In the fifth chapter, the author has addressed the battles and struggles of years before the revelation triumph. The next chapter, which begins with her brother-in-law's imprisonment and continues with the topic of ideological differences in Qasr prison, is dedicated to the subject of pain and patience. For the book's eighth and final chapter, the title "The last two years" has been selected, and the narrator explained in this chapter that the year 1977 began peacefully, but then things happened that made people aware of what was going on in our country.

One of the features of Dastgheib memories is that it may be enjoyed by both a general and a special audience because it has a feminine vibe that makes it emotional and colorful on one side, and on the other side, it expresses important unspoken facts about the revolution's history, and readers gain good historical information by studying it.