

# Iran President to Visit Oman

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## Report

### Sayyed Nasrallah on resistance against Israel

Hezbollah Secretary-General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah says martyr Mustafa Badr El-Din along with Imad Mughniyeh are among a generation, which he classed as the generation of 1982 who have been joined by younger resistance generations “protecting Lebanon to this day.”

During a speech, marking the sixth of martyrdom anniversary of Hezbollah commander Mustafa Badr al-Din, Sayyed Nasrallah affirmed he “is one of the symbols of this entire generation,” stressing that “he was present, in his name Dhu al-Fiqar, in all the battlefields, that is, the battlefields of Palestine, Lebanon and Syria.”

The Secretary-General of Hezbollah lauded Badr al-Din for “carrying all the honors of a fighter and an injured man until he was martyred and spent his life facing the Zionists and the takfiris.”

The noble actions and personalities of figures such as the martyr Badr al-Din are in line with the Hezbollah figures whose acts of resistance to foil Israeli regime plots only became known in the public sphere after his martyrdom and is among the figures whose names, faces and roles are kept from the public eye when they were alive, Sayyed Nasrallah explained.

Sayyed Nasrallah touched on the Palestinian Nakba (catastrophe), the day the Zionist entity was created and the Palestinians were forced to leave their ancestral homes 74 years ago.

Regarding the Palestinian Nakba, Sayyed Nasrallah said that “the Nakba of the 15th of May was not only the Nakba of Palestine, but the Nakba of all Arabs in the region, Muslims and Christians and it is an ▶ Page 5

## Report

### Our life depends on species, ecosystems

By Faranak Bakhtiari

TEHRAN – More than 10,000 vertebrate species are pushed to extinction, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List. The continuing loss of species, habitats, and ecosystems also threatens all living creatures on earth, including humans.

People everywhere rely on biodiversity and wildlife resources to meet all their needs, from food to fuel, medicine, housing, and clothing.

Millions also rely on nature as their source of livelihood and economic opportunity, so it is urgently needed to reverse the fate of the most vitally endangered species, support the restoration of their habitats and ecosystems, and promote their sustainable use by humans.

According to the IUCN, at least 40 percent of animals, insects, and plants are at risk of extinction across the world. To prevent these species from going extinct and create awareness, the Endangered Species Day is observed.

Every year on the third Friday in May, Endangered Species Day is observed, and this year it will be observed on May 20. ▶ Page 7

### IPO hosting intl. event on privatization in Iranian economy

TEHRAN – Iran Privatization Organization (IPO) is hosting the first International Event on Privatization in Iran’s Economy from May 21 to 24, at the country’s International Conference Center, IRIB reported.

Heads of the three government branches, heads of the country’s chambers of commerce, related ministers, members of parliament, as well as experts and scholars from the United States, Brazil, Poland, and other countries will deliver speeches and present papers in this event.

As reported, the main purpose of this conference is to identify the challenges in the way of privatization and to prepare a comprehensive privatization document that

could ultimately improve the quality of government commercial assets.

In this three-day conference, the process of privatization over the past 20 years is going to be reviewed.

Oil, electricity, petrochemicals, banking and insurance, agriculture, industry, mining, roads, and urban planning and services are some of the areas whose relative ministers and representatives will share their experiences and explain the measures taken for privatization during this event.

An integrated privatization system is also going to be unveiled during this international event.

#### Need for change in privatization process

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the event on Saturday, Iranian Finance and Economic Affairs Minister Ehsan Khandouzi stressed the need for major changes in the privatization process, saying: “Following the previous ways for privatization will bring us back to the same point that we are standing today, and if we want to progress, we will have to change the path ahead.”

“Many government-owned companies need to be reformed to increase the overall growth and competitiveness in the country’s economy, and this will be a turning point in the country’s economic policy path,” Khandouzi stressed. ▶ Page 4

### Restoration work begins on 30 monuments in Tehran

TEHRAN – Restoration work has begun on a selection of 30 historical sites and aging buildings in Tehran province to mark the national cultural heritage week, which started on Wednesday.

A budget of 120 billion rials (\$414,000) has been allocated to the collective restoration project, the deputy provincial tourism chief has said.

The highlights are Varamin Jameh Mosque, the historical bridge of Jajrud-Pardis, Haj Kamal Caravanserai, and Badrud Tower, CHTN quoted Mohsen Sa’adati as saying on Saturday.

Hugging the lower slopes of the magnificent, snowcapped Alborz Mountains, Tehran is much more than a chaotic jumble of concrete and crazy traffic blanketed by a miasma of air pollution. This is the nation’s dynamic beating heart and the place to get a handle on modern Iran and what its future will likely be.

The metropolis has many to offer its visitors including Golestan Palace, Grand Bazaar, Treasury of National Jewels, National Museum of Iran, Glass & Ceramic Museum, Masoudieh Palace, Sarkis Cathedral, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Carpet Museum of Iran, to name a few.

Among all these monuments in Tehran, Golestan Palace is the only one listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage site. The palace complex,

which is located in the heart and historic core of Tehran is one of the oldest in the Iranian capital, originally built during the Safavid dynasty (1501–1736) in the historic walled city.

Following extensions and additions, it received its most characteristic features in the 19th century, when the palace complex was selected as the royal residence and seat of power by the Qajar ruling family (1789–1925). At present, the Golestan Palace complex consists of eight key palace structures mostly used as museums and the eponymous gardens, a green shared center of the complex, surrounded by an outer wall with gates.

As mentioned by UNESCO, the complex exemplifies architectural and artistic achievements of the Qajar era including the introduction of European motifs and styles into Persian arts.

The first time Tehran is mentioned in historical accounts is in an 11th-century chronicle in which it is described as a small village north of Ray.

Ray, in which signs of settlement date from 6000 BC, is often considered to be Tehran’s predecessor. It became the capital city of the Seljuk Empire in the 11th century but later declined with factional strife between different neighborhoods and the Mongol invasion of 1220. ▶ Page 6

### Doc depicts Austrian architect Hans Hollein’s visits to Iran

TEHRAN – Iran’s Documentary, Experimental and Animation Film Center (DEAFC) has produced a documentary that chronicles the trips Austrian architect Hans Hollein made to Iran in the 1970s.

The documentary entitled “Hollein in Iran” has been directed by Hadi Afarideh, the DEAFC said on Saturday.

### Foreign Ministry: Iran’s water rights from Helmand being pursued legally

TEHRAN— Visiting the Dugharun border city in Khorasan Razavi on Saturday, Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said Iran is pursuing its water rights from the Helmand River through legal entities.

“We are following up on the issue of preserving Iran’s water rights from the Helmand River through legal approaches so that the interim Afghanistan governing body would provide Iran with the desired water rights from this river,” Khatibzadeh said.

On the sidelines of his tour of the border city which also included a visit to the city of

He visited Iran by invitation of the Glassware and Ceramic Museum of Iran, also known as Abgineh Museum, to design showcases for the museum.

“During his stay in Iran, Hollein traveled across Iran and was mesmerized by the grandeur of ancient Persian and Islamic architecture,” Afarideh has previously said. ▶ Page 8

Taibad, Khatibzadeh told IRNA that high commissioners from the two countries have had contacts on water sharing.

“Iran’s share of water, which should have been provided, has not been attained until today,” he regretted.

The spokesman also said there are good infrastructure on the Dugharun border that has facilitated the process for transit, export and import of goods.

“We hope that similar facilities will be provided across the border and in Afghanistan,” Khatibzadeh noted. ▶ Page 2

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## Interview

### Ex-Iran coach Karkhaneh lauds level of Asian Club Volleyball Championship

By Farrokh Hesabi

TEHRAN – Former Iran volleyball coach Mostafa Karkhaneh believes that the 2022 Asian Club Volleyball brought excitement to the country’s volleyball fans after some years.

Paykan of Iran came from two sets down to beat Japan’s Suntory Sunbirds 3-2 (21-25, 26-28, 25-13, 25-20, 15-12) and won the trophy on Friday.

Paykan signed four volleyball starts before the tournament, namely Earvin N’Gapeth, Nimir Abdel-Aziz, Saeid Marouf, and Mohammad Mousavi to turn into a star-studded team ahead of the competition.

“The tournament level was high and the competition was breathtaking,” said Karkhaneh in his interview with Tehran Times.

“I have been in the Asian Club Volleyball Championship more than ten times. I can say with certainty that this competition edition was one of the best and strongest ones and the teams showed fantastic performance. This was due to the presence of great players who were playing in this tournament,” he stated.

“Japan’s Suntory Sunbirds were a competitive and hard-working team. Dmitriy Muserskiy, Suntory’s star, is a great player with a high salary, about one million euros. He can change the result of every game. The same is true for players like Nimir Abdel-Aziz and Earvin N’Gapeth. ▶ Page 3



### President Raisi visits Tehran book fair

President Ebrahim Raisi talks to a publisher during a surprise visit to the 33rd Tehran International Book Fair at Imam Khomeini Mosalla on May 21, 2022.

“With Reading, We Feel Healthy” was the motto of this year’s fair, which wrapped up on Saturday. The virtual edition of the book fair will end on Sunday.

## MPs: U.S. must give up hostility, return to its JCPOA obligations

TEHRAN — Two parliamentarians have taken the recent hostile position of the United States in regards to the ongoing negotiations in Vienna intended to lift sanctions on Iran as well as unfreezing Iran's assets abroad with a pinch of salt, demanding a U.S. return to the 2015 nuclear pact.

"Unfortunately, experience has shown that the United States has never been trustworthy and we always see lies and deception by its politicians," Mohammad Saleh Jokar, the representative of the people of Yazd, told the ICANA news agency about the United States' negative stance on the release of Iran's frozen assets in South Korea.

Talks to revive the nuclear deal started in Vienna in April 2021. However, the U.S. has caused the talks to stalemate as it refuses to delist the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps from the list of foreign terrorist organizations.

Jokar said if the nuclear agreement is revived, there is some degree of certainty that it would be operational. However, he said, if the Americans lift the sanctions based on the agreement, they will impose new sanctions under the pretext of missiles, human rights, regional issues, etc.

Recently, European Union political director Enrique Mora visited Iran to help restart the nuclear talks in Vienna. After Mora returned to Brussels, EU foreign policy chief said the talks in Tehran had "gone better than expected".

MP Jokar said the Iranian negotiators must not allow any loopholes in case the agreement is resurrected.

"Our country's negotiating team must deal with the Americans intelligently so that there is no room for the slightest mistake," Jokar remarked.

He added undoubtedly the White House is trying to strike an "immature" agreement so that it can violate it in the future.

"Our country's officials also do not trust the United States, and this is a result of the White House's hostile actions against the Iranian people," the MP noted.

### 'U.S. has little understanding of facts'

Similarly, Jalil Rahimi Jahanabadi, a member of the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee of the parliament, told ICANA that people across the world and independent countries are grappling with the problems that the U.S. has "little understanding of the facts".

The MP also labeled the United States government's stance on Iran's internal affairs as "interventionist", saying, "In many countries, even in the United States and Europe, people protest and gather in the streets for various reasons."

Following subsidy reform plan which was introduced some two weeks ago by the Iranian government there were sporadic protests in certain cities against price rises. The United States expressed support for the protestors.

Jahanabadi stressed, "The interventionist statements of the Americans are surprising, because the difficult economic conditions and rising prices are created by American sanctions, and Iran does not stop its peaceful nuclear activities, because it signed the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) and it has fulfilled its commitments."

Under the JCPOA Iran agreed to put limits on its nuclear activities in exchange for termination of economic and financial sanctions. The agreement was approved by United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231.

Noting that even the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) endorsed Iran's loyalty to the agreement, the MP asked, "Why did the United States withdraw from the JCPOA?"

He then continued, "Every person who has the most basic intellectual ability will notice the nonsensical remarks of the Americans. They are the main cause of Iran's current problems and issues."

The MP stressed that in the new round of negotiations, Iran has agreed to fully return to all its obligations, but the American side has sidelined the negotiations and wants to bring the dialogue to a standstill by raising issues which have nothing to do with the JCPOA.

"Americans do not have a proper understanding of how to interact with others. Their attitude towards China, Chile, Brazil, Uruguay and other countries for four decades is an example of the Americans not behaving properly. Weren't the Americans in Afghanistan for years? Finally, we saw how they suddenly left the country and what problems they caused to the Afghan people."

He added, "We are dealing with a country in the world who does not have a proper understanding of its own interests and the world at large."

Jahanabadi noted that the U.S. claims that it supports the Iranian people, but if it was sincere, it must not have quit the nuclear deal while Iran was fully honoring its commitments.

"Unfortunately, this is the behavior of Americans. They think that the people of the world like the 1940s-1950s, believe in the Americans' slogan, but in fact, the American's words no longer have any weight to the people, and this is because the Americans are the root cause of all the misfortunes in the world," the MP concluded.

maintaining and bolstering the regional security," Iran's president pointed out.

He went on to say that the Washington and Tel Aviv rulers have no sympathy for regional countries or other countries across the world.

Noting that Iran supports increasing economic, political, cultural, and trade links with Azerbaijan, Raisi called for full implementation of agreements reached between the two countries in a variety of domains, including economy and transportation.

"Iran and Azerbaijan are more than mere neighbors as they share the same religion and the same culture.... No factor must be allowed to harm the two countries' friendly relations," Iran's president noted.

Mustafayev, for his part, underscored that the Republic of Azerbaijan is steadfastly pursuing fulfillment of bilateral agreements.

New plans are being worked out to build new rail, road, and transport projects, according to the Azeri official, with the goal of improving ties between the two neighbors.

He stated that Iran-Azerbaijan ties have improved and flourished in all spheres.

# Iran FM talks to EU's Borrell, insists Tehran committed to reaching robust deal

TEHRAN - In a phone conversation initiated by EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell late on Friday, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian insisted that Tehran is determined to strike a good, robust, and long-lasting nuclear agreement with the West within the framework of the Vienna talks.

The Vienna talks are intended to lift sanctions on Iran by reviving the 2015 nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Amir Abdollahian said the continuance of negotiations to lift U.S. sanctions against the Islamic

Republic shows Tehran's desire to negotiate a good, robust, and enduring deal.

Enrique Mora, the European Union's deputy secretary-general for political affairs, recently visited Tehran to help restart the Vienna talks which have been halted since March.

Amir Abdollahian indicated that several measures were discussed during Mora's visit.

"Tehran has the goodwill to reach an agreement," he continued, applauding Borrell and Mora's positive efforts.



For his part, Borrell said, "We are now on a new path of continuing the dialogue and focusing on solutions," referring to the suggestions put up by the Islamic Republic in the Vienna talks.

"We are determined to continue our efforts in the ongoing contact between Tehran and Washington in order to bring the views closer. I hope to achieve a good result," Borrell pointed out.

During the phone call, Amir Abdollahian also said Iran has always maintained that it opposes any war, including the

one in Ukraine.

Iran's senior diplomat stated that Tehran is willing to mediate in the Ukraine conflict and that Tehran supports peace and security.

Borrell also complimented Iran's attempts to resolve the Ukraine situation, saying that Tehran's efforts to bring the parties to negotiations were due to the country's goodwill.

He added, "Unfortunately, the two sides accuse each other of not having the goodwill to talk, and in such circumstances, it will be difficult to achieve peace."

## Foreign Ministry: Iran's water rights from Helmand being pursued legally

From page 1 ► He added that appropriate equipment and facilities for providing services to Iranian and Afghan drivers at the Dugharun border are foreseen, which still needs to be upgraded.

"The purpose of visiting the Dugharun international crossing is to get acquainted with this economic center, and the different parts of the Dugharun border show the good neighborliness of the Islamic Republic of Iran with Afghanistan," he continued.

According to the diplomat, Dugharun border is one of the most important land borders, which has a significant role in development of Iran-Afghanistan relations,



The long-standing relations between Iran and Afghanistan show the high interactions between the two countries, he added.

On Saturday morning, Khatibzadeh led a

delegation to the Dugharun International Crossing on the Iranian-Afghan border.

During his visit to the border crossing, Khatibzadeh visited the construction site of the foreign nationals' camp, the Shahid Fakhrizadeh parking lot, the Iran-Afghanistan border checkpoint, the Dugharun border checkpoint, the Dugharun special economic zone, and the representative office of the General Directorate of Foreigners and Immigrants in Taibad.

The director general of citizens and foreign visitors of Khorasan Razavi, the governor of Taibad and the commander of the Taibad border regiment accompanied Khatibzadeh on the visit.

## Biden continuing wrongheaded Trump-era policy on Iran: MSNBC

In a commentary on May 20, the MSNBC criticized Joe Biden's policy toward the Iran nuclear deal which is on life support, saying 18 months into his presidency he is "continuing wrongheaded Trump-era policy on Iran".

Trump unilaterally quit the 2015 nuclear deal in May 2018 in line with his "maximum pressure" campaign against Iran. A year after Trump rescinded the nuclear deal, Iran gradually started to remove bans on its nuclear program. Trump suffered from the illusion that by abrogating the nuclear deal, Iran would give in to his illegal demands.

Based on the nuclear agreement, Iran was obliged to put limits on its nuclear activities in exchange for termination of economic and financial sanctions.

The American cable channel is

asking: "How long can Biden stick to Trump's failed Iran policy?"

Following is an excerpt of the article:

Biden heavily criticized former President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw from the nuclear deal and opposed his "maximum pressure" strategy seeking to force Iran to capitulate by crushing its economy through unprecedented sanctions. Yet, 18 months into his presidency, Biden has yet to shift away from Trump's sanctions policy. A combination of factors — from not wanting to spend political capital on this issue to seeking to avoid an open political conflict with Israel — appear to explain Biden's malpractice on this issue.

The question is: How long can Biden stick to Trump's failed Iran policy without having to take ownership

and responsibility for its continued failure?

Another example of Biden continuing wrongheaded Trump-era policy on Iran is the debacle over the current listing of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, a branch of the Iranian Armed Forces, as a terrorist organization. It has become the key sticking point for the U.S. to rejoin the nuclear agreement, but completely needlessly.

Back in 2017, Antony Blinken, who is now Biden's secretary of state, penned an op-ed in The New York Times arguing against designating the IRGC as a terrorist organization, pointing to the escalatory potential of such a decision. He told CNN then that this was precisely why both the Bush and Obama administrations had rejected this move.

But after withdrawing from the Iran

deal, the Trump administration put the IRGC on the U.S. list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations anyway, in a cynical and transparent move to render any U.S. return to the Iran nuclear deal more difficult. Since the IRGC was already sanctioned under U.S. law, the designation had only the symbolic effect of further stigmatizing and angering Iran. Proponents of the move admitted as much publicly. In 2019, the National Security Action group — which was co-founded by Jake Sullivan, who is now Biden's national security adviser — blasted the decision as a "dangerous and self-defeating tactic that endangers our troops and serves nothing but the Trump administration's goal of destroying the Iran deal, which is all that stands in the way of Iran's pursuit of a nuclear weapon."

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](https://tehrantimes.com))

## Raisi: Strong relationships between neighbors to help secure region



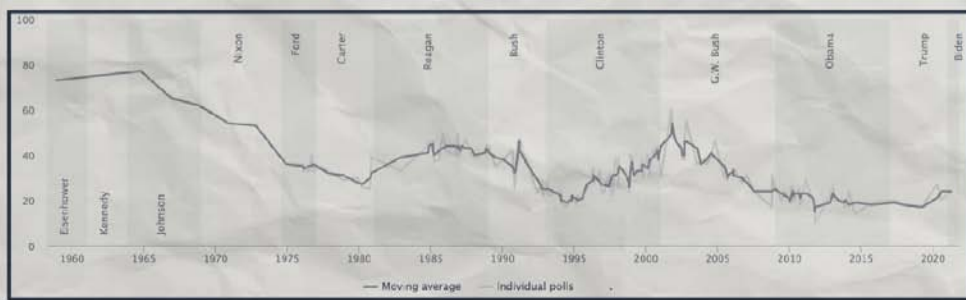
TEHRAN- Good relations between neighboring nations, according to Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi, is the most essential aspect to boost regional security.

Raisi made the comments at a meeting in Tehran on Thursday with Azerbaijan's First Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Abdulla Oghlu Mustafayev.

Raisi emphasized Iran's "principled position" on maintaining the unity and territorial integrity of all countries, including the Republic of Azerbaijan, during the meeting.

"The existence of constructive relations on the basis of mutual interests between neighboring countries, including Iran and Azerbaijan, is the most effective factor in

# Not Even Americans Are Safe



1 According to a Pew survey, public trust in the U.S. government is now at its lowest.

Experts believe encroaching on privacy is a factor.

3 According to Reuters, "FBI searches of data collected without a warrant nearly triples last year."

4 The FBI made nearly 3.4 million queries to a database of information relating to U.S. citizens.

5 It contained 3,394,053 searches for personal data without a warrant.

6 According to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, it tripled from the previous year.

7 1.9 million queries related to "attempts to compromise U.S. infrastructure by cyber actors."

8 The queries were under Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

9 The Act is to Monitor foreign intel or evidence of a crime that needs no warrant.

10 Privacy advocates have been critical of the use of Section 702 by the FBI.

11 They argue that FISA was not to turn up information about U.S. citizens.

# Iran president to visit Oman

TEHRAN – It’s now official. Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi will pay an official visit to Oman on Monday as part of his administration’s push to boost ties with neighboring countries.

State news agency IRNA reported that Raisi’s visit to Muscat will be for one day, during which he will hold talks with the Omani Sultan at Al Alam Palace, and sign several cooperation documents in various fields.

The visit was widely hailed by Iranian officials as strategic and important. Hossein Noushabadi, a member of the Iranian parliament’s National Security Council and Foreign Policy Committee, told IRNA that the visit is “strategic.”

The trip to Oman is part of a new trend in Iranian foreign policy initiated after Ayatollah Raisi took office in August 2021, which attaches special importance to expansion of ties with the neighboring countries.

At the start of his presidency, Ayatollah Raisi announced that he would prioritize what came to be known as “neighborhood policy,” one that rests on fostering good neighborly relations with all neighbors and boosting ties with Eastern powers along with Europe.

Commenting on the news of Raisi’s imminent visit to Oman, Iranian ambassador to Oman Ali Najafi wrote on Twitter that the visit confirms the priority of neighbors in Iranian foreign policy.

He added that in this regard relations with Oman are given a priority. He also stressed that expanding trade relations with Oman tops the agenda of Raisi’s visit.

“Oman is a priority in Iranian



neighborhood policy. Development of economic ties with Oman is a priority,” he tweeted.

In an interview with state news agency IRNA, Najafi praised the foreign policy of the Raisi administration. “I believe that the government’s approach to developing cooperation with its neighbors is the right and precise strategy. Iran is located in a very important geographical point. It has many neighbors and the priority of cooperation with neighbors can create good capacities to strengthen the relations of the Islamic Republic with neighboring countries in various fields of economy, trade, culture, tourism, transit and transportation cooperation,” he said.

Aside from economic issues, which are expected to take center stage, Ayatollah Raisi’s visit to Muscat is also of diplomatic and political importance.

Raisi is visiting at a time when the growing trend of normalization between Israel and some Arab states has raised concerns in Tehran. This may be the reason why Noushabadi described the visit as strategic. He

said that the visit can play a very important role in the development of relations and expansion of Iranian relations in the southern part of the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

He added, “Iran’s consultations and coordination on regional issues with Oman have always been desirable, and this trip can also be important in further developing relations, and the President’s visit to Oman in this situation is very decisive, sensitive and effective.”

Referring to the normalization of relations between of Israel and some Arab governments, the lawmaker said, “We strongly criticize the normalization of relations between some Arab countries and the illegitimate and usurping Zionist regime. And through good relations and mutual respect with neighboring countries, we try to make them in no need of relations with extra-regional countries. This fake regime has nothing in common with the culture, history and civilization of the region. Strengthening these ties [between Iran and the Arab states] will diminish the Zionist regime’s presence in the region. We must convince the

neighboring countries to prioritize their relations with the Islamic countries in order to establish peace and stability in the region.”

The lawmaker pointed that the United States and some European countries are in the region, seeking illegitimate expansion with their sinister and seditious intentions.

He noted the leaders of “some Arab states should know that they should trust the neighboring Islamic countries” and that they do not need “the extra-regional countries that cause instability and insecurity.”

Oman seems to have a role in this regard, at least from the Iranian perspective. The Iranian ambassador to Oman highlighted Muscat’s role in Tehran-Riyadh talks.

“The role of Oman has always been considered effective and important, but currently the negotiations between Iran and Saudi Arabia are being pursued within the framework of Baghdad,” he said.

He added that Oman has tried at various times to help solve various problems and issues. “The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes such a constructive role in line with its principled policy to help consolidate peace and security at the international level,” the ambassador said.

The ambassador also said that the countries of the region should resolve issues through dialogue among themselves. “We believe that these communications can lead to clearing up misunderstandings, help define and design grounds for friendly cooperation in the relations of the Islamic Republic of Iran with different countries,” he remarked.

## Ex-Iran coach Karkhaneh lauds level of Asian Club Volleyball Championship

Frome Page 1 ▶ “Don’t forget that players such as Saeid Marouf and Mohammad Mousavi are also among the best volleyball players in the world,” he added.

The former coach of the Iran national volleyball team says that holding such competitions in Iran is very profitable for the country’s volleyball.

“The tournament brought excitement to the volleyball fans in Iran after more than two years. We never had such a large number of spectators in the club volleyball games in our stadiums. I appreciate Paykan Club and the young general manager of this club, Amir Atabakhsh, for accepting the hosting of this tournament and holding it in the best possible way,” he concluded.

## Hull City make Allahyar Sayyadmanesh decision

TEHRAN – Allahyar Sayyadmanesh will arrive back at Hull City to join in with the first of pre-season training on June 20, after club’s owner Acun Ilcal confirmed the Iranian striker would be moving on a permanent deal from Turkish giants Fenerbahce.



Sayyadmanesh has become a popular figure both in the Tigers dressing room and on the MKM Stadium terraces after pinning down a regular place in Shota Arveladze’s squad following his January loan move from the Super Lig. City have already agreed a fee with Fenerbahce which is believed to be in the region of £2m, while personal terms with the 20-year-old were thrashed out some time ago.

“Allahyar is like a piece of my jewelry”, Ilcali told Hull Live. “He’s our jewelry. He’s very talented and is progressing. I’ve said before that I think he can be the new Mohammed Salah. I’m not saying he is that now but he can be in the future, he has a big passion (for Hull City) and potential.

“When you look at the field of play, you see a guy who is moving quicker than everybody else. It’s like on the Play Station, there’s a player who is moving faster and you put him in the best positions – for me, Allahyar is that player. He has to improve of course, but when I look at our fans, they are cheering him and giving motivation to him. He is so happy and he’s now in paradise,” Ilcal added.

## Incredible Iran storm home to win CAFA U16 Championship

TEHRAN – Iran pulled off an improbable CAFA U16 Championship title win late on Friday, edging Uzbekistan out on goal difference after a stunning finale at Republican Central Stadium.

Hossein Abdi’s side came into the final day level on points and head-to-head with the Uzbekistan squad at the top of the standings, but five goals behind on goal difference, only for the margin to evaporate in a dramatic final day.

Eager to avoid finishing last, the unfancied Kyrgyz side made a blistering start and went ahead on nine minutes thanks to Munarbek Kuvatbekov’s penalty, and scored again through Baiel Tursunaliev, but Uzbekistan quickly levelled both occasions via goals from Saidov, whose second effort made it 2-2 on 25 minutes.

The brilliant Saidov ultimately decided the match, completing his hat-trick in the 75th minute, and giving Uzbekistan a three-point, six-goal advantage over Iran going into the final match of the tournament.

### Tajikistan 0-7 Iran

The task ahead of the Iranians was simple, and monumental: defeat tournament hosts Tajikistan by seven clear goals to become Central Asian U16 champions.

Reza Ghandipour did everything possible to give his side a chance, scoring in the 17th and 40th minutes to give Iran a 2-0 half-time lead, then netting again four minutes after the break to complete his hat-trick.

Those goals gave Iran belief, which only grew when goals from Mohammad Askari and Esmaeil Gholizadeh Samian extended the lead to five, but Iran still came into the final 10 minutes two goals away from their target.

Kasra Taheri made it 6-0 with six minutes to go, then made himself the hero for Iran, scoring in the final minute of normal time to give Abdi’s charges the remarkable turnaround they needed, and put them on top of the final standings by a solitary goal.

Ghandipour’s efforts were acknowledged with the tournament MVP award, while Uzbekistan’s Saidov walked away with the Top Scorer honor after his six-goal campaign.

## Skra Belchatów thank Milad Ebadipour

TEHRAN – Polish volleyball team Skra Be?chatów have thanked Iranian outside hitter Milad Ebadipour.

The 28-year-old player joined Skra in 2017 and played 146 matches for the team in five seasons.

He became champion of the league with Skra and claimed the Polish Super Cup two times during his time in the team.

Skra have thanked Ebadipour via Twitter and wished him all the best in the future.

Ebadipour has been linked with a move to Italian team Allianz Milano.

## Marouf earns 2022 Asian Club Volleyball Championship MVP

TEHRAN – Paykan setter Saeid Marouf was chosen as the Most Valuable Player of the 2022 Asian Club Volleyball Championship.

He helped Paykan win their eighth cup in the competition.

The Iranian team claimed the title of the 2022 Asian Men’s Club Volleyball Championship after an epic comeback 3-2 (21-25, 26-28, 25-13, 25-20, 15-12) win against Japan’s Suntory Sunbirds in the thrilling final showdown at Azadi Hall on Friday.

Marouf was also named as the best setter of the competition.

## Arab media speculating about Mehdi Ghayedi’s next team

TEHRAN – A number of Arab news outlets have started speculations about the next team of Iranian striker Mehdi Ghayedi.

News websites such as Dubai Sports and Kooora365 have predicted that Ghayedi will part ways with the Emirati team in the summer transfer window. The websites have named Qatar’s Al-Gharafa SC as one of the teams that are seriously after this acquisition.

The 23-year-old talent joined Shabab Al Ahli in August last year on a five-year deal. However, he has failed to fulfill the expectations in the UAE league. Mahdi Ali, the team’s head coach, has no particular belief in the Iranian player and rarely uses the player on the pitch, PLDC wrote.

Last year, experts believed that Ghayedi’s move from Esteghlal to Persian Gulf countries could pave the way for his transfer to a European team, like what has happened for Taremi.

## Iran chief negotiator to brief parliament

Frome Page 1 ▶ Amir Abdollahian in other comments spoke about the Ukraine crisis and said Iran has always underlined that it is opposed to use of war, including in Ukraine.

During the telephone conversation, the EU foreign policy chief put emphasis on Iran’s initiatives during the Vienna talks, saying, “We are now on a new path of continuing dialog and focusing on solutions”.

Borrell added, “We are determined to continue our efforts in constant touch with Tehran and Washington to bring their views closer together.”

Borrel then said he is optimistic about reaching a good deal.

Meanwhile, there are growing calls for the parliament to take on a proactive role toward the

Vienna talks. Mahmoud Abbas Zadeh Meshkini, spokesman for the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, said on Saturday that parliament should make a decision on the Vienna talks. “The Islamic Consultative Assembly should take on proactive role in the issue of negotiations and [reaching] a good agreement,” he told the Asr Iran news website.

## U.S. “maximum pressure” failed: Raisi

TEHRAN – Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi said on Friday that the “maximum pressure” exerted by Washington against Tehran has failed, and this is acknowledged by the U.S. administration.

“The White House spokesman admitted that maximum pressure against Iran has failed,” Raisi said while visiting West Azarbaijan Province in northwest of Iran.

“Maximum pressure” campaign against Iran was introduced by former U.S. president Donald Trump. Through such a strategy, Trump intended to suffocate the Iranian economy.

Raisi also called people of West Azarbaijan loyal border guards who are committed to the ideals of the Islamic Revolution.

“The residents of West Azerbaijan province are loyal border guards who have been defending values and the Islamic revolution,” Raisi said in the city of Mianduaub.

The president indicated that all officials in his government are doing their best to solve problems and alleviate the suffering of citizens in various parts of the country, stressing that field tours in the provinces will address difficulties and problems, Al Alam reported.

Ayatollah Raisi added, “All our work in the government is based on justice, and the government seeks to take decisions on the basis of the general public, and justice is the people’s demand and the government’s efforts on this basis.”

On the other hand, the president pointed out, the friends of the revolution will become more optimistic and the enemies will become more desperate. He said, “Today the government and everyone are trying to solve the problems as quickly as possible because the people showed that they distinguish the servant from others.”

The president added, “America and European countries are currently suffering from Corona issues, but all people have noticed that the Corona situation in our country is different from other countries.”

And on the country’s economic issues, Raisi said, “The government seeks to achieve development across the country and establish justice.”

Raisi also addressed a meeting of the administrative council of West Azerbaijan.

Raisi said, “In our religious culture, serving the people means loving God and we believe that closeness to God

happens through serving the people.”

Ayatollah Raisi described serving the people as one of the central teachings of the Islamic Revolution and pointed out that during the past 40 years, remarkable work has been done in the country. “In these 40 years, the face of our cities and villages has changed and it is unfair to say that nothing has been done, but people’s expectations of work and effort were different and higher than what was done.”

He said, “In the next 40 years of the Islamic Revolution, which is called the second step, we must have a fair look at what has been done so far. In the first 40 years of the revolution, we had many achievements in some areas, such as security, defense and military, but in some areas, we also have backwardness,” according to the official website of the Iranian presidency.

The president said shortcomings can only be redressed through hard work, adding, “All managers of the province and the country should know that in order to progress and compensate for underdevelopment, we need sincere and motivated jihadist work, along with thought and reason.”

He said that at this stage we have no right to trial and error and things must be done carefully and wisely. “We

strengthen peace, security and economic prosperity at the regional level.”

The ambassador made the remarks in an interview with state news agency IRNA ahead of a Monday visit by Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi to Oman.

“The visit of officials from different countries to Tehran and the increase of contacts and meetings can strengthen the path of dialogue, cooperation and development of friendly relations between different countries and between the Islamic Republic of Iran and these countries and other countries with each other,” he added.

The ambassador also said that the countries

of the region should resolve issues through dialogue among themselves. “We believe that these communications can lead to the elimination of misunderstandings, definition and design of grounds for friendly cooperation in the relations of the Islamic Republic of Iran with different countries,” he remarked.

He said, “This can be analyzed in the framework of the principled policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran based on focusing on the region and the area of neighbors. We believe that the issues between the countries of the region should be resolved by the countries of the region themselves, and we prefer the intra-regional approach to the interventions of non-regional countries at the regional level.”

## Iran voices support for Oman ‘constructive role’

TEHRAN – Ali Najafi, Tehran’s ambassador to Oman, has said that Iran supports “the constructive role” played by Oman in regional developments.

Underlining that Oman pursues a balanced policy in its foreign policy, Najafi said, “Oman has tried at various times to play a role in helping solve various problems and issues. The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes such a constructive role in line with its principled policy to help consolidate peace and security at the international level.”

He added, “In this regard, we hope that the friendly consultations and cooperation between the two countries will further help to reduce issues and problems at the regional level and

## IPO hosting intl. event on privatization in Iranian economy



From page 1 ► A review of 20 years of working on privatization shows that despite the fact that most of the goals set in this regard are not fulfilled, in some cases, of course, we have had some successes, the official said.

According to the minister, based on the national budget bill, the shares of 187 companies as well as the ownership to 300 government assets should be transferred to the private sector in the current Iranian calendar year (started on March 21).

"[In the process of privatization] there is a distinction between offering the shares of a company, transferring its ownership or changing the management and moving towards increasing productivity, and we try to put productivity first," the official stated.

### 8 rounds of privatization need to be reformed

Further in the first day of the international event,

IPO Head Hossein Qorbanzadeh delivered a speech, saying that all the companies that have been privatized over the past 20 years have not been able to succeed and improve.

"Eight rounds of privatization that have already been carried out in the country must be reformed," he regretted.

"We need a proper pathology and a comprehensive look at the past to examine the positive and negative impacts of the privatization over the last two decades and to decide what should be done from now on," he said.

One of the most important aspects of the policies introduced in Principle 44 of the Iranian Constitution is the subject of privatization, which is referred to the transferring of the management and ownership of the shares of government enterprises to the private sector.

Despite the stress on accelerating the implementation of the privatization process, it has become one of the most challenging topics over the past two decades. So, finding the main cause and factors contributing to this shortcoming, and overcoming the challenges facing the implementation of the aforementioned policies has become a major priority of the IPO as it is essential for the improvement and advancement of the country's economic system.

## ICCIMA to dispatch a trade delegation to Kazakhstan in late May

TEHRAN- Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) will dispatch a trade delegation to Kazakhstan in late May.

The delegates are active in foodstuffs, transportation, pharmaceutical, and weaving industries, knowledge-based and technology fields, as well as cleaning materials, furniture, containers, and tourism.

Also as previously announced by the head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO), Kazakhstan's city of Almaty is going to host an exclusive exhibition of Iranian products during July 1-3.

Alireza Peyman-Pak has said that buildings and new technologies in the construction industry, agricultural machinery, technical and engineering services, oil, gas and petrochemical, industrial machinery, food industry, educational products and services, mining machinery, medicine and medical equipment, home appliances, furniture, and wooden products, and health tourism are some of the areas in which Iranian companies will showcase their products and achievements in the exhibit.

Kazakhstan is one of the major export destinations of Iranian products in Central Asia. Iran and Kazakhstan's positive political relations, as well as easy access to each other's markets through road, rail, air and sea, have created a very high potential for the expansion of trade ties between the two countries.

"Kazakhstan has a high



potential in importing goods and export products from our country; Therefore, this exhibition is a good opportunity for the country's businessmen and exporters," Peyman-Pak said.

Licensed by Trade Promotion Organization of Iran, the exhibition is going to be organized by Trade and Exhibition Event Promotion Company in collaboration with the embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Astana, Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA), Ministry of Trade and Integration of Kazakhstan and Iran-Kazakhstan Joint Chamber of Commerce.

The exhibition comes shortly after the two countries held their 17th Joint Economic Committee meeting in Tehran during February 21-22.

The mentioned event was attended by senior officials from the two countries, including Iranian Agriculture Minister Javad Sadati-Nejad, Kazakhstan's Minister of Trade and Integration Bakhyt Sultanov, Kazakhstan's Ambassador to Tehran Askhat

Orazbay, ICCIMA Head Gholam-Hossein Shafeie, and ICCIMA Deputy Head Mohammadreza Karbasi as well as Iranian ambassador to Astana Majid Samadzadeh Saber.

During the meeting, the two sides expressed dissatisfaction with the current level of economic relations between the two countries and noted that the level of trade between Iran and Kazakhstan can reach \$3 billion in the next three years.

At the end of the event, the two sides signed five cooperation documents in various fields including standards, economic, scientific, technical, and cultural as well as customs.

The mentioned documents were signed by Iran's Sadati-Nejad and Kazakhstan's Sultanov who co-chaired the two countries' 17th Joint Economic Committee meeting.

Meanwhile, during a phone conversation in early February, the presidents of Iran and Kazakhstan had stressed the expansion of trade ties between

# Iran, Oman confer on forming roadmap to expand trade ties

TEHRAN – Head of Iran Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Alireza Peyman-Pak and Omani Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef met on Saturday to discuss ways of expanding economic ties between the two countries.

During the meeting, the officials agreed on creating a roadmap for the expansion of trade relations and also discussed the establishment of an Iranian trade center in Muscat, the TPO portal reported.

Speaking in this meeting, Peyman-Pak voiced the readiness of his organization and the Iranian Ministry of Industry, Mining, and Trade for providing the necessary infrastructure for expanding trade exchanges between the two countries.

Referring to the recent visit of an Iranian delegation to Oman for attending a business forum hosted by Muscat Chamber of Commerce, and also holding Iran's pavilion at Oman's International Construction

Technology, Infrastructure and Building Materials Exhibition (Project Oman 2022), Peyman-Pak proposed that a joint committee would be formed at the deputy level to pursue the development of mutual economic and trade relations.

He also proposed signing a roadmap for trade cooperation between Iran and Oman, which was welcomed by the Omani minister.

Mentioning some of the challenges in the way of developing economic cooperation between Tehran and Muscat, Peyman-Pak said that talks were underway between the ministries and private institutions of the two countries to resolve the problems related to transportation and banking relations.

Yousef for his part referred to the upcoming visit of President Ebrahim Raisi to Oman and considered this visit as an opportunity for developing economic and trade relations between the two countries.

the two countries.

In the conversation with Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, President Ebrahim Raisi described the security, stability and tranquility of the friendly country of Kazakhstan as important for Iran, saying, "We support stability and tranquility in the region".

Referring to his recent meeting with Tokayev on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit in Tajikistan, the president said, "As I emphasized during that meeting, the current level of bilateral economic and trade relations and cooperation is not commensurate with the level of political relations and I hope in the 30th year of diplomacy between the two countries, we can take a big step towards improving the level of economic interaction."

For his part, Tokayev said that in the 30 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations, the two countries have been able to achieve a desirable level of close and friendly relations with each other.

He also thanked Iran for its support of the region's independence.

"I am sure that the future of bilateral relations will be very fruitful and bright," he reiterated.

The Kazakh president further said that the growing expansion of relations with Iran, especially in the field of economic and trade cooperation, is very important for him.



He expressed hope that during the visit of President Raisi to Oman new agreements will be signed to pave the way for the development of economic relations between the two neighbors.

Alireza Peyman-Pak, who is also a deputy industry minister, led a 30-member trade-marketing delegation to Muscat on Monday, as President Raisi is due to visit the Arab country in the near future.

The head of the Export Guarantee Fund of Iran (EGFI) and the deputy head of the Iranian Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) also accompanied Peyman-Pak on this trip.

During his visit to Oman earlier this week, Peyman-Pak attended a business forum in which opportunities and challenges for expanding trade between Iran and the Sultanate were explored.

The event was attended by senior officials from the two sides, including Peyman-Pak and Chairman of Oman Chamber of Commerce and

Industry (OCCI) Readh Juma Mohammed Ali Al Saleh, as well as the representatives of the two countries' private sectors.

Speaking in this meeting, Peyman-Pak referred to the strategic position of Iran and Oman in the region and noted that the two countries can use their geopolitical capacities to expand their economic ties especially through transiting goods.

The official also mentioned Oman's free trade agreements with other countries and the region's \$1.5 trillion trade capacity, saying that the two countries should take necessary measures to increase their share in the regional market by developing trade infrastructure and activating the North-South corridor.

The OCCI chairman for his part referred to the recent increase in trade between the two countries, saying "Despite the banking and transportation problems, with the efforts of both sides, trade relations between Iran and Oman will continue to improve."

## New IPOs to be held according to market conditions: TSE head



TEHRAN – Managing Director of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE) Mahmoud Goudarzi said initial public offerings (IPOs) in the current Iranian calendar year (started on March 21) will be prepared and held in accordance with market conditions and the balanced entry of liquidity into the market, IRIB reported.

The official further underlined the need for the development of technical infrastructure in the stock market, saying: "It seems that due to the importance of derivative transactions, the capital market, especially Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO), Tehran Stock Exchange, and the regulatory bodies should cooperate to strengthen the necessary technical infrastructure to see the further strengthening of derivative contracts in the market transactions."

Back in March, TSE's Admission Manager Mohammad-Amin Qahremani said that TSE

was going to host 17 IPOs in the current Iranian calendar year.

According to Qahremani, several meetings were held in this regard and the necessary preparations have been made for holding the mentioned IPOs.

Asked about the schedule for the offerings, the official said determining the exact time for the mentioned offerings is not possible due to various factors including market conditions, preparation of various documents by companies, as well as other necessary measures such as holding introductory sessions based on new procedures.

"The list of mentioned companies has been made available to the public on the Tehran Stock Exchange website, under the "Publishers and Admissions" and "Stock Acceptance Cases" sections," he explained.

Qahremani emphasized that the process of accepting and listing companies as one of the main missions of the Tehran Stock Exchange is always ongoing and has never stopped.

"In Tehran Stock Exchange, no process has been stopped in order to list or accept companies," the official said, adding: "It is hoped that with the improvement of capital market conditions, we will also see an improvement in the valuing process of initial offerings."

## ICC inks co-op MOU with Russia's Roscongress Foundation

TEHRAN – Iran Chamber of Cooperatives (ICC) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Russia's Roscongress Foundation to promote economic cooperation between the two sides.

The MOU was signed in a ceremony attended by Iranian Ambassador to Moscow Kazem Jalali and the representatives of the mentioned

fund, the portal of Iran Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) reported.

An Iranian delegation headed by the president of Iran Chamber of Cooperatives had traveled to Russia with the aim of developing economic cooperation between the two countries, especially in the cooperatives sector.

## TEDPIX drops 15,000 points on Saturday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), lost 15,286 points to 1.579 million on Saturday (the first day of Iranian calendar week).

As reported, over 9.074 billion securities worth 62.387 trillion rials (about \$300 million) were traded at the TSE.

The first market's index lost 11,209 points and the second market's index dropped 30,747 points.

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

"The capital market index

experienced a significant decline in [the Iranian calendar year] 1399 (ended on March 20, 2021) and the transactions at this market also undergone some correction in the previous year. Therefore, it seems that given the relative stability of macroeconomic variables, we will see a slight growth in the market index during the current year," Ali Teymouri said.

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



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

In the last few months of last year,

the capital market experienced some turbulence due to the ambiguities about the outcomes of the Vienna talks.

Former Deputy Industry, Mining, and Trade Minister Mehdi Karbasian believes that the stock market can provide the liquidity required by the country's productive sectors to perform at full capacity, IRNA reported on April 10.

"All around the world, investor liquidity is a major source of capital for production units which is mostly provided by the banking system or the capital market, but in Iran, it [growing liquidity] is considered as an issue," Karbasian said.

Pointing to the important role of the capital market in removing barriers to production and creating the necessary conditions for the realization of the slogan of the current Iranian calendar year (started on March 21) which is named "Production: Knowledge-Based and Job-Creating" the official added: "There are several factors affecting the production process in the country, each of which should be considered separately."

He underlined investment as the first factor affecting production units in the country and said: "We must accept that the rate of investment in the whole country

is very low and even close to zero, such a statistic indicates that investment planning has not been made at the macro level and no alternative has also been provided for this issue; Therefore, the existence of such margins has prevented the country from moving towards the development and productivity."

Considering the issues created by the U.S. sanctions in the way of attracting foreign investment, the capital market can help the development of production units in terms of providing liquidity, and this market has a special place in this field, Karbasian added.

# Bennett admits Israeli regime’s future ‘in danger’ after key defections

Israeli premier Naftali Bennett, in a candid admission, has said that the regime’s future is “in danger” after an Arab lawmaker resigned in protest against violence on Palestinians, becoming the second defector in the Bennet-Lapid’s hotchpotch coalition in less than two months.

“Being responsible for forming a rescue government was a difficult choice, but the country’s future is in danger and we must fight to preserve the unity of our people, because we have no other country,” Bennett said in a statement posted on his Twitter page on Friday.

It came a day after Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi of the leftist Meretz Party stepped down from the ruling coalition, which is led by Bennet and his ally and foreign minister Yair Lapid, reducing the fragile coalition to a minority in the Knesset.

In a letter announcing her decision, Zoabi cited the Tel Aviv regime’s hard-nosed position on Arab issues, including recent violence at the al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the occupied East al-Quds, the demolition of Arabs’ homes, and land confiscation as reasons behind her resignation.

“Again and again the heads of the coalition have taken hawkish, rigid and right-wing stances regarding basic issues of utmost importance for Arab society,” she said. “I cannot continue supporting the existence of a coalition that harasses my community in this



disgraceful manner.”

Zoabi’s resignation left the ruling coalition, which was formed by eight Israeli parties from the far-right to the far-left, with 59 seats in the 120-seat Knesset.

It came over a month after lawmaker Idit Silman from the right-wing Yamina Party defected from the coalition to the opposition Likud party.

The move could provide Likud leader and former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu the votes he needs to call new elections and bring down the peculiar coalition, which was created with the main objective of unseating Netanyahu.

**‘Palestinians rising up through resistance’**

Palestinian-American journalist

Ramzy Baroud argues that Israel’s political crisis will “continue indefinitely” regardless of the fate of the Bennett regime.

In an article published days before Zoabi’s resignation, Baroud predicted a second defection in the ruling coalition, which he said has been “left to contend with the painful reality that its odd political components have very little in common.”

Pointing out that Israeli politics is among the most fractious in the world, he said that on the other hand, the Palestinian body politic has been slowly reanimating.

“Grassroots leaderships are coordinating their actions from [al-Quds] to Gaza, from the Negev to the West Bank and to Palestinian communities in Israel itself,” the

noted analyst wrote.

The Israeli occupied territories have been the scene of protests in recent days, in the aftermath of the Israeli forces’ killing of Shireen Abu Akleh, a veteran journalist who was shot in the head on May 11 while covering an Israeli raid on a refugee camp in the Palestinian village of Jenin.

Israeli violence at the funeral of Abu Akleh, whose brutal killing sent ripples of anger and outrage around the world, was one of the reasons cited by Zoabi for her resignation.

“The last month, the month of Ramadan, has been unbearable,” she wrote on Twitter. “The sights that came from the Temple Mount of violent policemen in front of a crowd of worshipers, the funeral of Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, brought me to only one personal conclusion: no more.”

Baroud, the founder of PalestineChronicle.com, wrote in his article that for the first time in many years, “Israel finds itself in a position where it is no longer the only party that is shaping events or determining outcomes” in the occupied territories.

“Contrastingly, Palestinians are finally becoming a factor in Israeli politics and, through their popular resistance, can mobilize to put pressure on Tel Aviv, as has been the case in recent years,” he concluded.

(Source: Press TV)

## Sayyed Nasrallah on resistance against Israel

From page 1 ► incident whose calamities and pain do not end,” noting that “the most important thing now regarding this Nakba is the position of the people. The Palestinian people during all these decades are still suffering from the calamities of this Nakba,”

“All our problems in this region, from wars, offensives, dangers, massacres, the theft of natural resources began with the Nakba in 1948 and continues to this day 74 years later.”

But the Hezbollah Chief praised the Palestinian willpower after all these decades, pointing to what has occurred in the past weeks (in the occupied territories where Palestinians have risen against brutal Israeli attacks) and the sword of al-Quds battle last year.”

Nasrallah pointed out that “the most important message of the Palestinian people is that they are no longer waiting for Arab nations, an Arab League, or the United Nations to come to their rescue,”

The Secretary-General of Hezbollah added that the Palestinian people “made their choice a long time ago, and today they are present in the battlefield. Over the past few decades, more Palestinians view armed resistance [against the occupation] than at any time [since the creation of Israel]

Stressing that “the advantage of Mustafa Badr El-Din’s generation is that it did not wait for Arab countries, Islamic organizations, an international community and an international security council, but rather started the Lebanese resistance” in the country, in the first hours of the Israeli invasion when Israeli regimes forces managed to reach the Lebanese capital Beirut, take over the entire south and the rest of the country was under danger of being taken over.

The Secretary-General of Hezbollah pointed out that “relations with the Arab world are among the constants that there is no discussion about, but no one should be under the illusion that they were able to protect Lebanon,” stressing that “in the face of the occupation and protecting Lebanon from threats, the Arab world could not and can not protest Lebanon, just as it could not and can not protect Palatine.”

“The only Arab country that stood with and supported Lebanon” Sayyed Nasrallah said “was Syria” and among the Islamic world “The Islamic Republic of Iran.”

Sayyed Nasrallah also noted during his speech that “according to experts, some of the countries that normalized ties with Israel are struggling economically, and they are on the brink of collapse. One of them has already started selling its assets,” he revealed.

Addressing those who say the government should take the role of the resistance movement, the Hezbollah Chief highlighted that different Presidents have served terms in the country who played their roles as commanders in chief of the armed forces but asked when did they ever manage to liberate Lebanon from Israel occupation and keep Lebanon safe from Israeli threats and dangers?

Since 1992, the governments he said chose the worst option: “negotiating with the Israeli enemy”. And what results did they achieve? He asked.

“They even signed a document with the regime, a negative agreement that violates Lebanon’s sovereignty and territorial integrity.”

Nasrallah added that “the team that signed the May 17 agreement is the same today that

calls for sovereignty and relations in the Arab world,” adding that “it is necessary to strive to build a just and capable state, but the basis is the authority that governs this state and its connections.”

The Secretary-General of Hezbollah stressed that “the resistance contributed to uncovering and dismantling many Israeli spy networks, in cooperation with the security services,” noting that the latter “is determined to proceed with dismantling the spy networks,” calling on “all leaders to support this trend.”

Nasrallah added that “in light of the resistance’s capabilities, the Israelis are in need of many agents, and their recruitment begun in a clumsy and unprofessional manner,” adding “the martyr commander Badr al-Din spearheaded the battle to dismantle car bombs at the beginning of the confrontation of Takfiri terrorism [in Lebanon].”

The Secretary-General of Hezbollah indicated that “the choices of our political team have always been the right ones, and they have won since 1982 until today,” explaining that “the issue in Lebanon is a question of choices, since the invasion until today, and throughout the global war that was launched against Syria.”

Sayyed Nasrallah added that “the division in Lebanon still exists, and today it is acute, and therefore we are facing challenges,” addressing those who “talk about national affiliations,” saying, “We are the most concerned with preserving the country and its identity.”

The Secretary-General of Hezbollah said the group can play a big role in the country declaring, “we are here, we were born here and here we will be buried, and no one expects that we will weaken or abandon our country for which we paid all this precious blood,” noting that “we in Lebanon today are facing great and very dangerous challenges.”

Sayyed Nasrallah clarified that “the imminent challenge is the economic and living crises, the bread, medicine and electricity crises, not the resistance weapon,” hereiterated the importance of drilling for oil in the Mediterranean, saying this is “the best chance of getting out of the crises the country is facing instead of begging and asking for loans from the International Monetary Fund.”

The Hezbollah chief commented on the reports surrounding former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs David Schenker referencing the top U.S. diplomat’s words about the parties funded by Washington, “Schenker, who knows them so closely described them as narcissistic and individualistic that do not care for the nation nor the people.”

Nasrallah expressed satisfaction with the parliamentary election results for Hezbollah and it’s allies while thanking the group’s supporters, in particular the expatriate voters who had travelled long distances to reach a ballot box to vote for the movement.

He highlighted how a parliament with different parties is healthy and means all sectors will share the responsibility adding that “we do not enjoy the luxury of time, and this requires us to move urgently in parliament to form a government.”

## Russia says opening Ukraine ports would need review of sanctions

Moscow has said that sanctions on Russia would have to be reviewed if it were to heed a UN appeal to open access to Ukraine’s Black Sea ports so that grain could be exported, according to an Interfax news agency report.

Ukraine, one of the world’s biggest grain producers, used to export most of its goods through its seaports, but since Russia sent troops into Ukraine, it has been forced to export by train or via its small Danube River ports.

According to Al Jazeera, UN food chief David Beasley appealed on Wednesday to Russian President Vladimir Putin, saying, “If you have any heart at all, please open these ports.”

Beasley’s World Food Programme feeds some

125 million people and buys 50 percent of its grain from Ukraine.

Interfax on Thursday quoted Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Rudenko as saying, “You have to not only appeal to the Russian Federation but also look deeply at the whole complex of reasons that caused the current food crisis and, in the first instance, these are the sanctions that have been imposed against Russia by the U.S. and the EU that interfere with normal free trade, encompassing food products including wheat, fertilizers and others.”

Russia and Ukraine together account for nearly a third of global wheat supplies. Ukraine is also a major exporter of corn, barley, sunflower oil and rapeseed oil.

## Schroder steps down as Rosneft chair after Ukraine backlash

Former German chancellor Gerhard Schroder has stepped down as chair of the board of Rosneft, the state-owned Russian oil giant, after weeks of controversy over his refusal to distance himself from the Kremlin over the Ukraine invasion, Financial Times reported on Friday.

Schroder ’s resignation as a director of the crude oil producer, which came as former East German intelligence officer Matthias Warnig also stepped down from the board, follows a vote in the Bundestag this week to strip the former chancellor of his parliamentary privileges.

Rosneft, which is responsible for 40 percent of Russia’s crude output, said on Friday that the two men had informed it of “their inability to continue their roles at the company’s board of directors”. It added that Schroder and Warnig had “made a significant contribution to the company’s international business” and praised their “role in implementing large-scale infrastructure projects in Russia and Germany”, which it said sought to increase German economic efficiency.

Schroder’s exit comes months after the former leaders of countries, including Finland, Italy,

France and Austria, left their seats on the boards of state-backed Russian companies. Schroder, 78, who was chancellor from 1998 to 2005, has long been considered to be close to Vladimir Putin and took up a role at the Nord Stream gas pipeline to Germany days after losing office. He became chair of Rosneft’s board in 2017 and was paid \$600,000 annually, according to last year’s company report.

Warnig, a close friend of Putin, has worked in Russia for years. He oversaw the construction of Nord Stream and then Nord Stream 2 — a project now blocked by Germany and the EU — as chief executive. Schroder also served as chair of Nord Stream 2. In February, Schroder was nominated to the board of Gazprom, the giant Russian gas producer. But there has so far been no announcement about whether he will take up that role.

A confirmatory shareholder vote had been due in June. This week’s Bundestag vote to strip the former Social Democrat leader of his parliamentary office and staff came after he defended his ties to Russia in a New York Times

interview. He also said he did not think Putin was to blame for alleged war crimes committed by Moscow’s troops.

There have been widespread calls for him to be expelled from the Social Democrat party. At the start of the conflict, Schroder had called for the war to be ended as soon as possible, saying that to do so was the “responsibility of the Russian government”.

Reuters reported on Thursday that five foreign Rosneft vice-presidents had resigned from the company ahead of the latest round of EU sanctions on May 15. The executives were Didier Casimiro, Eric Liron, Zeljko Runje, Avril Conroy and Otabek Karimov, it said.

Asked by email if he had resigned from Rosneft, Casimiro, a key lieutenant of Rosneft’s chief executive Igor Sechin, responded by quoting lines from Oscar Wilde’s *Ballad of Reading Gaol* referring to “two doomed ships that pass in storm”.

Rosneft did not respond to a request for comment.

## Russia says in full control of Mariupol

Russia has claimed to have fully captured Mariupol in what would be its biggest victory yet in its war with Ukraine, marking an end to a weeks-long attack that left the strategic port city in ruins.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu reported to President Vladimir Putin on Friday the “complete liberation” of the Azovstal steel plant in Mariupol, and the city as a whole, spokesman Igor Konashenkov said.

“The territory of the Azovstal metallurgical plant ... has been completely liberated,” the defense ministry said in a statement. It said a total of 2,439 Ukrainian fighters who had been holed up at the steelworks had surrendered since Monday, including more than 500 on Friday.

A defense ministry video purporting to show the surrender showed a line of unarmed men approaching Russian soldiers outside the plant and giving their names. The Russians then carefully searched each man and their possessions and also appeared to be asking them to show their tattoos.

Hours earlier, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the last defenders at the steelworks had been told by Ukraine’s military that they could get out and save their lives. The Ukrainians did not immediately confirm the Russian figures on Azovstal.

Ukraine’s General Staff of Armed Forces did not comment on Russia’s claims in its morning update on Saturday.

The abandonment of the bunkers and tunnels



of the bombed-out plant by the Azov Regiment means an end to the most destructive siege of a war that began when Russia invaded Ukraine nearly three months ago.

Much of Mariupol has been reduced to a smoking ruin, with more than 20,000 civilians feared dead.

The defense of the steel mill had been led by Ukraine’s Azov regiment, whose far-right origins have been seized on by the Kremlin as part of an effort to cast its invasion as a battle against Nazi influence in Ukraine. Russia said the Azov commander was taken away from the plant in an armored vehicle.

Russian authorities have threatened to investigate some of the steel mill’s defenders for war crimes and put them on trial, branding them “Nazis” and criminals. That has stirred international fears about their fate.

The steelworks, which sprawled across 11 square kilometers (four square miles), had been the site of fierce fighting for weeks. The

dwindling group of outgunned fighters had held out, drawing Russian air raids, artillery and tank fire, before their government ordered them to abandon the plant’s defense and save themselves.

The complete takeover of Mariupol gives Putin a badly needed victory in the war he began on February 24 – a conflict that was supposed to have been a lightning conquest for the Kremlin but instead has seen its failure to take the capital of Kyiv, a pullback of forces to refocus on eastern Ukraine, and the sinking of the flagship of Russia’s Black Sea fleet.

Military analysts said Mariupol’s capture at this point is of mostly symbolic importance, since the city was already effectively under Moscow’s control and most of the Russian forces that were tied down by the fighting there had already left.

The Kremlin had sought control of Mariupol to complete a land corridor between Russia and the Crimean Peninsula, which it seized from Ukraine in 2014, and free up troops to join the larger battle for the Donbas. The city’s loss also deprives Ukraine of a vital seaport.

Mariupol endured some of the worst suffering of the war and became a worldwide symbol of defiance. An estimated 100,000 people remained out of a pre-war population of 450,000, many trapped without food, water, heat or electricity. Relentless bombardment left rows upon rows of shattered or hollowed-out buildings.

(Source: Al Jazeera)

## Mashhad's intl. air passenger traffic jumps 310% year on year



TEHRAN - The number of international passengers flying to Mashhad in Farvardin (March 21-April 20) soared 310 percent year on year to over 41,000, a local aviation official said on Saturday.

"The number of foreign passengers flying to Mashhad in Farvardin jumped some 310 percent compared to the same month last year," Hassan Jafari was quoted by ISNA as saying.

"More than 41,000 foreign passengers arrived in Mashhad by air during Farvardin, while the number reached 10,350 in the same month last year."

Overall, the number of air passengers (domestic and international travelers) to

Mashhad rose 18 percent during the first month of the Iranian calendar year, the official noted.

The surge is mainly due to the easing of coronavirus restrictions, the official noted.

Before Farvardin, local authorities estimated up to ten million travelers and pilgrims would be arriving in Mashhad during the two-week Noruz holidays.

Mashhad, the capital of Khorasan Razavi province, is Iran's holiest and second-largest city which embraces the shrine complex of the eighth Shia Imam.

Before the coronavirus puts almost everything on lockdown, Mashhad, played host to thousands of travelers and pilgrims who come from various Iranian cities, neighboring countries, and even across the globe to visit the holy shrine.

According to an available official statistic, some 37 million Iranian pilgrims and travelers visited the shrine city of Mashhad during the first ten months of the past Iranian calendar year 1398 (March 21, 2019- March 10, 2020). Of whom some eight million came by road, six million by rail, 3.8 million by air, and 18 million by private cars.

## Restoration work begins on 30 monuments in Tehran

From page 1 ► Various exhibitions, meetings, workshops, and festivals have been organized to mark Iran's rich heritage from the early civilizations through to the modern era.

Iran played a leading cultural role as a source of innovation, as a melting pot and cultural powerhouse connecting Africa, Asia, and Europe. Highlights are the pre-Islamic empires of the Achaemenids and Sassanids, the formation of a Persian-Islamic culture, and the artistic masterpieces of the 9th to 13th centuries



as well as the heyday of the Safavids to name a few.

## Safavid mosque undergoes restoration

TEHRAN - A new round of restoration work has commenced on the Safavid-era (1501-1736) Jameh Mosque of Sede, in Qaen county, South Khorasan province.

A restoration workshop has been set up to clean the roof of the structure from the worn-out plaster works, a local tourism official has said.

As part of the restoration project, part of the damage caused by natural factors over the years will also be repaired, Hamid Abbaszadeh explained on Saturday.

The historical mosque has been inscribed on the national heritage list.

The terms "Jameh Mosque", "Masjed-e Jameh" and "Friday Mosque" are used in Iran for a grand communal mosque where mandatory Friday prayers are performed: the phrase is used in other Muslim countries but only in Iran does it designate this purpose.

Located in eastern Iran, South Khorasan is home to many historical and natural attractions such as Birjand Castle, Dragon Cave, Furg Citadel, and Polond Desert.

The province is also known for its famous rugs as well as its saffron and barberry which are produced in almost all parts of the province.

# Gorgan to host exhibit of exquisite potteries, tiles and porcelains

TEHRAN - Gorgan Archaeological Museum is set to host a loan exhibition of exquisite potteries, tiles, and porcelains.

Seven tiles and seventeen works of ceramics and porcelains will go on view at the exhibition, which will be running from May 24 to June 25.

The objects, according to organizers, have tightly been selected from the Islamic Arts' treasure trove of the National Museum of Iran.

Being kept at the National Museum, the objects were unearthed from the ancient city

of Gorgan in successive rounds of excavation, the museum director Jebrael Nokandeh has said.

"The objects mostly date from the Anushtegin era (1077 to 1231)," he said.

The ancient city of Gorgan was a prosperous hub of handmade tiles and porcelains in the medieval Islamic eras, Nokandeh said.

Gorgan, formerly Astarabad, is situated along a small tributary of the Qareh River, 37 kilometers from the Caspian Sea. Gorgan for long suffered from inroads of the Turkmen tribes who occupied



the plain north of the Qareh River and were subjected to incessant Qajar-Turkmen tribal conflicts in the 19th century according to the Encyclopedia Britannica.

Furthermore, Gorgan is famed for its ruined ancient defensive wall which is stretched for almost 200 kilometers. The ancient Great Wall of Gorgan was constructed from 420s CE to 530s as a northern frontier of the then mighty Persian Empire, which was then ruled under Sassanids.

The wall was involved in a series of wars first against the

Hephthalites or White Huns and later against the Turks. Most parts of the gigantic monument are still hidden underneath the surface some segments have so far been unearthed and even restored to former glory.

The gigantic barrier is also more than three times the length of the longest late Roman defensive wall built from scratch, the Anastasian Wall west of Constantinople. The combined area of the forts on the Gorgan Wall exceeds that of those on Hadrian's Wall about threefold.

## Parthian coffins on show at Susa Museum

TEHRAN - Three rarely-seen coffins dating from the Parthian era (247 BC - 224 CE) have been put on show at the Susa Museum in southwest Iran.

"It is the first time the coffins go on public show after they were unearthed during four seasons of excavation, the first three of which were conducted from 1986 to 1988. And the fourth season was conducted in 1998," the director of Susa World Heritage site said on Saturday.

"A team of cultural heritage experts led by Iranian archaeologist Mehdi Rahbar discovered the coffins from an ancient cemetery in Galalak village of Khuzestan province," Bijan Heydari said.

"Those excavations yielded burial places of several local sovereigns who ruled during the Parthian era," the official explained.

"The burial places included five catacomb tombs, each having a number of coffins, and funerary objects such as clay and glassworks. Moreover, a bust of Mithra (the god of light) was found in one of the tombs."

The UNESCO-listed Susa embraces the whole southern flank of modern Shush in southwest Iran. Originally similar in scale to the UNESCO-designated Persepolis, the city saw countless invasions and sackings during its history which spans almost 6000 years.

Susa served as a winter residence for Persian kings after being captured by Cyrus the Great. It became part of the Persian Empire under Cyrus II, the Great in 538 or 539 BC. Archaeological excavations in Susa have yielded numerous



relics including pottery, arms, ornamental objects, metalwork, bronze articles, and clay tablets to name a few.

In the Bible, Susa is known primarily from the story of Esther in which Haman the Agagite planned to defeat the Jews of Persia. According to the story, Esther outwitted him by persuading her husband, King Ahasuerus of Persia, to sabotage Haman's plan. The episode is commemorated every year in the Jewish Purim festival which is marked with costumed parties and other celebrations, according to Ancient Origins.

Moreover, Susa is mentioned in Nehemiah and Daniel, both of whom lived in the city during the 6th century BC in the period known as the Babylonian captivity when several Jews were held captive following the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar. A tomb known as Shush-Daniel is believed to be that of Daniel himself. It is capped by an unusual white cone which some belief was formerly a stone 'Star of David'.

Archaeological evidence suggests that Susa has been continuously inhabited since 4,200 BC placing it among the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. In addition, there are traces at Susa of a village inhabited around

7,000 BC and painted pottery dating from ca. 5,000 BC at the site.

It is said that Alexander of Macedonia captured Susa in 330 BC and plundered the city, seizing some 40,000 talents of gold and silver from the treasury. Alexander the Great initiated Shushan's decline by favoring Babylon and shortly after, following a revolt, the city was burnt to the ground. Subsequently rebuilt by Sapor II (309-379 CE), it was renamed Iranshahr Shapur and later helped in the resistance against the Arab invasion of 645.

After the fall of the Achaemenid Empire and the reign of Alexander the Great, who married in Susa, the city became part of the Seleucid empire. It was now called Seleucia on the Eulaeus. A palace in Greek style was erected, next to Darius' palace. The administrative center, however, was in the southern part of the city, where nearly all Greek and Parthian inscriptions were discovered. In the Parthian age, the city minted coins.

During the Sasanian age, the city had a large Christian community. It was sacked by the Sasanian king Shapur II, who transferred the population to Iwan-e Karkheh, but Susa was sufficiently recovered in the early seventh century to fight against the Arabs, who nevertheless captured the city which remained important until the thirteenth century CE.

According to UNESCO, "the excavated architectural monuments include administrative, residential, and palatial structures" and the site contains several layers of urban settlement dating from the 5th millennium BC through the 13th century CE.

## Qajar-era manuscripts on display at Mashhad exhibit

TEHRAN - A collection of manuscripts by Abbas Qoli Khan, a Qajar-era (1789-1925) governor, are currently on display in an exhibition at the Great Museum of Khorasan in Mashhad.

The historical documents along with a number of postage

stamps, dating back to the Qajar and Pahlavi (1925-1979) eras, telegrams related to the exchange of information between Iran and the Soviet Union, and some postcards have recently been donated to the museum by Abbas Qoli Khan's family, CHTN reported on Saturday.

This exhibition displays 160 manuscripts, belonging to Abbas Qoli Khan and his son Pasha Khan, which have been handed down from father to eldest son, Said Siavash Vakili, one of the descendants of Abbas Qoli Khan.

As the consul of Torbat -e Jam,

Abbas Qoli khan Vakil al-Dowleh was sent to the Khorasan region by the order of Qajar king Nasser ad-Din Shah (1821-1896).

Among the many historical and civil monuments left from Abbas Qoli Khan is the Abbas Qoli Khan Theological School, one of the seminaries of Mashhad.

## Visitors flock to central Iran for rosewater festival

TEHRAN - A rosewater distillation festival, commonly known as "Golab-giri", was held in Khomein county, central Iran, Khomein's tourism chief has said.

On Thursday, the two-day festival opened in the village of Shahabieh during a ceremony attended by hundreds of cultural and tourism officials, Ali Mashhadi explained on Saturday.

Performing traditional music, making local foods, and Gol Ghaltn (a ceremony in which people roll babies among the roses to give them joy and refreshment) were parts of the festival, the official added.

A major aim of the festival was to promote the cultivation of rose flowers and floriculture as well as studying florists' issues and problems to find solutions and promote this industry in the region, he noted.

Golab or rosewater is obtained from a particular kind of Rose, known as Mohammadi roses in Iran. Harvesting



flowers seems to be the most important part of the process. They should be picked from dawn through morning very carefully. The petals are put into massive copper pots and boiled, and then the extracted water is kept in special bottles. The longest the distillation is, the better will be the quality of the rosewater.

Golab is used nationwide in diverse traditional dishes to flavor them or consumed as a religious perfume as well. The holy month of Ramadan is one of the bestselling months for the product.

The distillation of flowers and herbs has a deep history in Iran. Many believe traditionally distilled rosewater is of higher quality than that produced in factories probably due to shorter time intervals between the harvest and distillation practices.

Harvesting damask rose flowers is somewhat intensive work. It is mostly performed from dawn through the morning. Delay in harvesting or transport to distillery results in decreased essential oil quantity and quality.

To extract the rosewater people first amass their petals to put them into the massive copper pots. Then the pots are put on traditional ovens made from bricks, stones, and mud.

Almost every 30 Kg of rose petals plus 80 liters of water is poured into each pot that is connected to metal pipes for the steam moving through to obtain the hydrosol. The waste of distillation is used for feeding livestock or composting.

### First Announcement



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### NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY AHVAZ-IRAN TENDER NO. : 08-38-9940006

National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends to purchase the following goods

Items	Material Description	Quantity
01	PARTS FOR WILSON "ROTARY TONGS SHORT JAW"	70 NO

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tender are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no.2, available at: [www.nisoc.ir](http://www.nisoc.ir), not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 1,327 EURO or 356,500,000 RIAL, in favor of NISOC.

Tender documents including the materials thorough technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment Forms can be accessed via: [www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab](http://www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab) ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P., NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D., SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL NO ADVANCE PAYMENT WILL BE PAID

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# Conditions improve for foreign nationals studying in Iran

TEHRAN – Health insurance coverage, longer residency, shorter visa processing time, and awarding exemplary students are among the conditions provided for foreign nationals studying in Iran, the deputy minister of science for foreign affairs, has stated.

The residency is currently extended for one year, but for the first time, some international students have been granted long-term residency based on the length of their education, ISNA quoted Jafar Razeqi as saying on Saturday.

One of the most important problems for non-Iranian students, especially in recent months, was the visa processing time, which took time due to problems at the host university and administrative processes in different parts of the organization, but now this time has been reduced by one third, he noted.

This year, a ceremony will be held to honor the best foreign students. Non-Iranian students who have learned Persian can also defend their dissertation in this language, he further said.

“We have corresponded with all host universities of international students to cover these students with “health insurance”, which will pay 70 to 90 percent of the treatment costs as well as 100 percent of the medical cost.

Another plan of the ministry is to provide dormitories to married students,” he explained.

### Foreign students

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

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.

On May 7, Abolfazl Kamali, the deputy education minister said some 527,000 foreign students are studying in schools nationwide, the majority are Afghans and the rest are from Bangladesh, Pakistan, Iraq, and other countries.

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

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.

Iran spends about 20 trillion rials (nearly \$77 million) every year on the education of foreign national students residing in the country, according to data released by the education ministry.

## Some 57,675 foreign nationals from 133 countries are studying in Iranian universities.

## Our life depends on species, ecosystems

From page 1 ► The day is designed to help people come together to find innovative ways to solve the environmental problems and save endangered species.

Currently, more than 41 percent of amphibians, 26 percent of mammals, 21 percent of reptiles, and 13 percent of birds are threatened. In the latest statistics, the number of endangered species in the country is 75 vertebrate species (18 species of mammals, 29 species of birds, 4 species of amphibians, and 16 species of reptiles) on the IUCN Red List.

Some of the endangered species are bald eagle, the alligator, snow leopards, polar bear, Asiatic cheetah, and the grey wolf among others.

Iranian vertebrates are counted as 198 mammal species, 559 species of birds, 242 species of reptiles, and 25 species of amphibians (1023 species in total); 274 approved species of fish in inland waters, and 975 species of marine fish (sharks and aquatic fish) has been registered in the country, but this list is subject to change due to genetic and field studies.

### Role of IUCN

The International Union for Conservation of Nature is an international organization working in the field of nature conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. It is involved in data gathering and analysis, research, field



projects, advocacy, and education. IUCN's mission is to “influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable”.

Established in 1964, the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species has evolved to become the world's most comprehensive information source on the global extinction risk status of animals, fungi, and plant species.

To date, many species groups including mammals, amphibians, birds, reef-building corals, and conifers have been comprehensively assessed. As well as assessing newly recognized species, the IUCN Red List also re-assesses the status of some existing species, sometimes with positive stories to tell.

For example, good news such as the downlisting (i.e. improvement) of a number of species on the IUCN Red List categories scale, due to conservation efforts.

Some of the endangered species are bald eagle, the alligator, snow leopards, polar bear, Asiatic cheetah, and the grey wolf among others.

The bad news, however, is that biodiversity is declining. Currently, there are more than 142,500 species on The IUCN Red List, with more than 40,000 species threatened with extinction, including 41 percent of amphibians, 37 percent of sharks and rays, 34 percent of conifers, 33 percent of reef-building corals, 26 percent of mammals and 13 percent of birds.

The solution to the bitter reality of the improper condition of the species is to streamline conservation and correct behavior at the community level, public participation, and attention to the scientific, functional, economic, cultural, aesthetic, and intrinsic values of the species.

Key species such as large cats, bears, crocodiles, and sharks have significant functional roles that lead to the maintenance and proper functioning of ecosystems, and ecosystem services such as pest control, flood control, carbon sequestration, and disease control, and air conditioning. The provision of our food and necessities, etc., plays a decisive role in the welfare and health of human societies.

Our survival depends on the conservation of species and ecosystems, and the continuation of the current trend will cause us more challenges and we will lose more species.

## Some \$45m allotted to empower women heads of households

TEHRAN – A total budget of 13 trillion rials (nearly \$44.8 million) has been earmarked to empower women heads of households under the coverage of the Welfare Organization, the deputy head of the Organization, has said.

Last year (March 2021-March 2022), 2,000 female-headed households achieved full empowerment and independence, IRIB quoted Mohammad Nasir as saying on Thursday.

“Empowerment of female breadwinners includes providing the basis for a healthy and lasting marriage, sustainable employment, socio-cultural empowerment, family and economic independence.

Despite all the problems, with the cooperation of the parliament, government institutions, and the Welfare Organization, we were able to attract 13 trillion rials (nearly \$44.8 million) of extraordinary credit for this sector, which solved the problem of resources to some extent,” he explained.

The budget bill for the current Iranian calendar year (March 2022-March 2023), has increased the budget of the Welfare Organization by three folds, he highlighted, adding that nearly 10 trillion rials (about \$34.4 million) will be allocated to female heads of households.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the entire world, with no regard to social or economic status. Families, households and particularly women, suffered a combination of economic, physical, and emotional stress.

During the pandemic-induced lockdowns, family interactions and livelihoods were impacted. Reduction in income, business losses, having to spend increased time in closer proximity than usual, and the fact that children could attend school gave rise to tensions between family members.

## Tribes in Iran

### Part 8

#### 4. Territorial distribution.

As already noted, we do not yet possess a comprehensive and accurate list of the tribes of Iran and their locations.

In the present state of knowledge and in the absence of agreement on uniform definitions, compilation of such a list would hardly seem practicable.

For example, it can often be seen that one writer treats a tayefa forming part of an il as an independent tribe, and that another writer treats the same unit as a tira forming part of a tayefa. The available lists are therefore not mutually comparable.

Moreover, the tribes themselves constantly evolve. The name, composition, abode, means of livelihood, and even language of a tribe can change.

Nevertheless, a good deal of information about the territorial distribution of the main tribes of Iran can be obtained from the published sources, particularly Kayhan's Joghrafiya II, Razmara's Joghrafiya-ye nezami-e Iran, Iranshahr, the reports of the Plan and Budget Organization (Sazman-e Barnameh wa Budjeh), 1355/1976, the Tribal Affairs Center (Markaz-e Ashayeri), and P. Hand's Survey of the Tribes of Iran.

In the present article, the ethnic categorization of the tribes is generally based on present conditions

### Pandemic, sanctions

Iran was among the first countries to be hard hit by COVID-19. The pandemic broke out at a time when the nation was still reeling under the impact of the unilateral economic sanctions, and this added to the pressures on daily life, particularly on women.

The participation of Iranian women in the economy post-pandemic declined. The effect of this reduction was worse among Women's Head Households (WHH) – and in low-income households headed by women, the situation was even more complicated, according to Claudio Providas, UNDP Representative in Iran.

According to the Statistical Center of Iran, out of twenty-two (22) million families in Iran, over three (3) million are WHH and most of them are in less-developed areas. The Government prioritized such families for targeting socio-economic support.

Earlier this month, Zahra Ershadi, Iran's ambassador and deputy representative to the United Nations, has said that Iran has made significant progress in empowering women, despite U.S. illegal and inhumane sanctions.

Meanwhile, Ensieh Khazali, the vice president for women and family affairs, said in the 66th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, that about 12,000 female heads of households underwent empowerment training and entered the traditional and virtual market.

Also, more than 11 million women heads of households are covered by the Relief Committee and more than 300,000 are covered by the Welfare Organization, benefiting from special support such as facilities, insurance, and livelihood services.

rather than historical origins, because many tribes which are today regarded as Kurdish or Turkish were in past times described as Lor or Lak, and vice versa.

For example, the Torkashvand of Hamadan are of Lor origin, but after moving to their present abode and coming into contact with Kurdish neighbors, such as the Jomur, they gradually adopted the Kurdish language; they have therefore been placed in the category of Kurdish tribes.

Although there are linguistic and ethnographic grounds for belief that the Guran in the provinces of Kermanshah are not of Kurdish origin, they are today counted as Kurds. Likewise, the Aqa Jari, now counted as one of the Lor tribes of the province of Kohgiluyeh-Boyer Ahmad, were originally Turks.

According to Khajeh Rashid-al-din Fazlalah, a section of the Ghozz (Oghuz) Turks who camped in scrub lands were called Aghach-Iri, i.e., scrub-dwellers.

In Sistan there is a small tribe known as the Kurds, of well attested Kurdish origin, that is now so assimilated to the Baluchi culture that they have to be classed as a Baluchi tribe. Many more instances could be cited.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica

To be continued

## COVID-19 UPDATES ON MAY 21

New cases	159
New deaths	9
Total cases	7,229,741
Total deaths	141,271
New hospitalized patients	28
Patients in critical condition	693
Total recovered patients	7,032,212
Diagnostic tests conducted	51,969,634
Doses of vaccine injected	149,661,505

## ENGLISH IN USE

### LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

## COVID-19 lockdown moves most cities out of “red” zone

Strict COVID-19 restrictions which took effect on October 26 have caused 87 out of 89 infected cities to get out of the high-risk “red” zone.

The National Headquarters for Coronavirus Control started strict restrictions in 43 cities that had the highest rate of infection in the country. Ten days later, decisions were made to set new limitations on highly-affected areas for another 10 days, through which 46 cities undergone restrictions.

The plan divided cities into three levels of alert, namely red, orange, and yellow.

All of the cities, except for two, are now out of the red condition and have turned orange or yellow so that the hospitalization rate has decreased, said Alireza Raeisi, the National Headquarters for Coronavirus Control spokesman, expressing hope that the death toll will also drop within two to three weeks.

In some 160 cities and towns that were on the highest alert, the disease prevalence has begun to decrease in about 145 cities. And the remaining 15 cities will also experience a downward trend this week, he explained.

### اعمال محدودیت ها اکثر شهرها را از وضعیت قرمز خارج کرد

علیرضا رئیسی، سخنگوی ستاد ملی مقابله با کرونا گفت: از ۸۹ شهری که از پنجم آبان محدودیت های کرونایی در آنها اعمال شده است، ۸۷ شهر از وضعیت قرمز خارج شده اند.

او با اشاره به محدودیت های کرونایی در ۸۹ شهری که ( از ۱۵ آبان در ۴۳ شهر و از ۱۴ آبان در ۴۶ شهر) اعمال شده است، گفت: از این تعداد به جز دو شهر همه شهرها از حالت قرمز خارج و به نارنجی یا زرد تبدیل شده اند. با توجه به ورودی بیمارستان ها و اینکه میزان بستری هم کاهش یافته است امیدواریم روند فزونی ها هم تا حدود دو تا سه هفته دیگر آثار خود را نشان دهد و روند کاهشی پیدا کند.

وی اعلام کرد: اکنون در ۱۶۰ شهر و شهرستان که قرمز رنگ بودند در حدود ۱۴۵ شهر روند کاهش بیماری آغاز شده است. در ۱۵ شهر باقیمانده هم در همین هفته این روند کاهشی شروع خواهد شد.

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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Recommended prayers cannot attain the pleasures of Allah for you when obligatory prayers are left unattended.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon:13:01    Evening: 20:28    Dawn: 4:13 (tomorrow)    Sunrise: 5:54 (tomorrow)

## Arabic Influences in Persian literature

Part 4  
After its use in the Quran, however, it disappeared from Arabic literature, and only gradually reappeared. The first Persian writer to have made extensive use of saj' was Khajeh Abdollah Ansari (1006-1088), while the maqama form was imitated in the Maqamat-e Hamidi of Qazi Hamid al-din (d. 1164).

By this time the use of elaborate figures of speech was a commonplace of both prose and poetry, though how far it would be true to attribute this to Arabic influence is doubtful.

It was perhaps rather a feature of literature produced by a small learned class, equally fluent in both languages, and developing similar figures in both languages in a style designed to appeal to an erudite or would-be erudite class.

The same figures appear in Persian poetry from the 11th century onwards, but in other respects the influence of Arabic is less obvious.

The commonly held belief that the Persian poetic meters were derived from Arabic seems now finally to have been abandoned (Khanlari, Wazn-e she'r-e farsi, The Persian Meters).

The question of the monorhyme remains open. Certainly there is evidence of rhyme and even monorhyme in the surviving fragments of pre-Islamic Persian poetry, but scarcely enough from which to draw any conclusions.

It has been argued that the monorhyme developed because of the facility provided by the structure of Arabic for the formation of rhyming words, yet the great majority of rhymes in Persian poetry are Persian.

On one point there can be little argument: the qasida is a conscious borrowing from Arabic, and in the hands of some poets (Manuchehri, Mo'ezzi, for example) almost slavishly follows the Arabic outline, beginning with the poet's arrival at his beloved's deserted encampment, even though such an incident was entirely remote from the experience of urban Persian poets.

More commonly, such poems open with a description of spring, praise of wine, or (in one famous poem of Farrokhi) the branding of horses.

To the other verse forms found in Persian there seems less reason to attribute an Arabic origin. The idea that the ghazal was originally a part of the qasida that became detached so as to form an independent poem seems highly improbable.

The stanzaic poem (mosammat) is found in both languages, but whereas the earliest extant Persian ones date from the early 11th century (Manuchehri), the Arabic ones would appear to be of considerably later date. Finally the right of the robai to be regarded as a native Persian growth has never seriously been challenged, though some would give it a Turkish origin in Central Asia.

The process described above continued throughout the post-medieval period, and by modern times Arabic words had become such an accepted element in Persian vocabulary that they hardly seemed to be recognized as such.

Arabic words had long been treated grammatically as though they were Persian, but now Persian words began to acquire Arabic suffixes to an extent not seen before, cf. farmayeshat, or the curious plural ending -jat incorporating a long since vanished gat: dastajat, ruznamajat, and even occasionally applied to Arabic words: amalajat. Macaronic

phrases like hasab al farmayesh become commonplace.

The 13th/19th century also saw a growing trend toward simplification of the language, the so-called bazgasht-e adabi, one of the pioneers of which was the minister Qaem-maqam Farahani (1779-1835).

Partly under the influence of expanding literacy, partly through the example of European literature encountered for the first time by young men furthering their studies in the West, and partly under the pressure to find new words to express new concepts, writers began to move towards a simpler, less convoluted style, to use common Persian words rather than rare Arabic ones.

Another leader in this was Mirza Malkom Khan (1833-1908), who already in 1857 was writing pamphlets in what was practically a colloquial style.

Some writers specifically composed entire treatises and books in persi-e sara, naghz (pure Persian); a good example is a brief history of a few years of the Qajar dynasty written by Farhad Mirza, younger brother of Mohammad Shah, in 1836, while another is the Nama-ye khosrovan, also an historical work, of Jalal ad-Din Mirza, a son of Fath-Ali Shah, first published in 1868-71.

This movement, though it continued almost up to the present day, was always rather artificial. Ahmad Kasravi, who was assiduous in digging up Persian roots to form new words for new concepts, was obliged to accompany many of his books with a vocabulary; while the Farhangestan, founded in 1935, was able, after five years of labor, to produce only some two thousand words to replace European as well as Arabic ones, mostly of a technical, medical or scientific nature-and many of these inventions failed to stick.

It is especially significant that when the need arose for new words to describe new political ideas, particularly during the Constitutional period in the early years of the present century, politicians and journalists instinctively turned to Arabic rather than Persian.

Nor did they by any means restrict themselves to the words that Arabs themselves chose. An obvious example is the word for "constitution," Arabic dostur (in origin a Persian word!), Persian, mashruta; many others could be cited, e.g. "mandate"—Arabic entedab, Persian qaymumiyat; "United Nations"—Arabic al-omam al-mottaheda, Persian melal-e mottafeq; "charter"—Arabic misaq, Persian manshur.

Here a domesticated form of Arabic exerts its influence from within the host language. Many "Arabic" words used in Persian today would scarcely be recognized in the lands of their origin: mawqe'iyat, e'zam, eshghal, monawwar al-fekr.

The tendency towards simplification of language still has some of its impetus. Novelists and fiction writers tend to restrict their use of Arabic, perhaps to as little as ten percent.

Journalists accept a higher proportion, of the order of twenty percent. The highest percentage of Arabic is still to be found in the writings of religious authorities, the language of the Muslim clerics that was satirized sixty years ago by Mohammad-Ali Jamalzadeh in his famous short story Farsi Shekar Ast.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica  
Concluded

# Tehran animation festival to review movies from Japan, Switzerland, Czech

Frome Page 1 ▶ His "Dreams into Drawing" will also be screened in the international competition.

The Panorama section will also review nine movies from the independent Japanese cinema in a subsection entitled "The Land of the Rising Sun: Independent Animation in Japan".

Independent animation cinema has a long history in Japan and it dates back to 1917. After World War II, this cinema found itself at a major turning point in the 1960s and reached the acme of perfection in the 1980s.

The Panorama section will also screen 14 silent animated movies by Georges Schwizgebel, Swiss director of the acclaimed film "The Man with No Shadow".

His films are marked by masterful technical execution, a playful approach to narrative, spectacular formalism and the intermingling of visuals and music.

His first film, "The Flight of Icarus", launched a prolific career, boasting numerous awards at prestigious international festivals like Cannes, Annecy, Animafest Zagreb, Hiroshima, Stuttgart, Ottawa and Espinho.

Schwizgebel received the Honorary Crystal in Annecy, followed

"Red Shoes", a short directed by Anna Podskalska at the Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (FAMU).

by the honorary award of the Swiss Film Awards in 2018. In 2019, he was awarded the French insignia of Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters. He is the most awarded author in the history of Animafest, and was presented with the lifetime achievement award in 2020.

The organizers will also review 13

movies from the Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (FAMU – Filmova a Televizni Fakulta Akademie Muzických Umeni v Praze).

FAMU is one of the three faculties of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (DAMU, FAMU, HAMU) and the fifth oldest film school in Europe.

The academy plays an important role in involving its teachers and researchers in international professional organizations, and collaborates with Czech Television and foreign television companies as well. FAMU is also an institutional member of the Association for Film and Audiovisual Education.

## Doc depicts Austrian architect Hans Hollein's visits to Iran

TEHRAN – Iran's Documentary, Experimental and Animation Film Center (DEAFC) has produced a documentary that chronicles the trips Austrian architect Hans Hollein made to Iran in the 1970s.

The documentary entitled "Hollein in Iran" has been directed by Hadi Afarideh, the DEAFC said on Saturday.

He visited Iran by invitation of the Glassware and Ceramic Museum of Iran, also known as Abgineh Museum, to design showcases for the museum.

"During his stay in Iran, Hollein traveled across Iran and was mesmerized by the grandeur of ancient Persian and Islamic architecture," Afarideh has previously said.

"This documentary gives an account of Hollein's trips across Iran and his love of Iranian architecture, and his contributions to the interior design of Abgineh Museum," he added.

The shooting began on location in Tehran in August 2021 and went on in Yazd and Shiraz.

While researching for the documentary, Afarideh

found amazing and never before seen documents, and over 2000 slides depicting Hollein from his arrival in Iran to his efforts to design the museum.

"These slides and documents, which seem to be very attractive for filmgoers, form the basis of the screenplay for 'Hollein in Iran,'" Afarideh stated.

Orod Atapur, director of the documentary "In Shams' Sun" about Iranian mystic and poet Molana Jalal al-Din Rumi's personal life as well as philosophical and mystic thoughts, has done the narration for "Hollein in Iran".

Hollein graduated in 1956 from the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, where he studied in the master class of Clemens Holzmeister.

In 1959, he attended the Illinois Institute of Technology and then in 1960, the University of California, Berkeley, where he completed his Master of Architecture degree.

In 1985, he won the Pritzker Architecture Prize, an international architecture award presented annually "to honor a living architect or architects whose built work demonstrates a combination of those qualities of talent, vision and commitment."

A file photo taken on March 20, 2009, shows Hans Hollein at his office in Vienna, Austria. (EPA/Roland Schlager)

Among his works are Haas-Haus and Soravia-Wing of the Albertina in Vienna, and Museum für Moderne Kunst in Frankfurt and Abteiberg Museum in Monchengladbach.

Hollein died in 2014 in Vienna, after a long illness, at the age of 80.

## Justin Skirry's studies on Descartes published in Persian

TEHRAN – American scholar Justin Skirry's book "Descartes: A Guide for the Perplexed" has been published in Persian.

Mehdi Qanbari is the translator of the book published by Elmi-Farhangi.

René Descartes is arguably the most important seventeenth-century thinker and the father of modern philosophy.

Yet his unique method, and its divergence from the method of his scholastic predecessors and contemporaries, raises complex and often challenging issues.

"Descartes: A Guide for the Perplexed" is a clear and thorough account of Descartes' philosophy,

A poster for the Persian edition of Justin Skirry's book "Descartes: A Guide for the Perplexed".

his major works and ideas, providing an ideal guide to the important and complex thought of this key philosopher.

The book covers the whole range of Descartes' philosophical work,

offering a thematic review of his thought, together with a detailed examination of the texts commonly encountered by students, including the Discourse on Method and Meditations on First Philosophy.

## "Orange Juice in Operation Karbala-5" unveiled

The book "Orange Juice in Operation Karbala-5," by Mahdi Ajam, was unveiled with 135 brief stories of doctors and nurses who worked in Baqiyatallah Al-Azam Hospital during the tough days of COVID-19.

"Orange Juice in Operation Karbala-5," was released in Baqiyatallah Hospital in the presence

of officials from the university and hospital, representatives from the Islamic Revolution Art Center, families of doctors, and nurses killed by Corona, and narrators.

At the start of the event, Dr. Behzad Einollahi and several nurses, who are also the book's narrators, spoke about their experiences during the Corona outbreak, and they all mentioned how, despite the hard work and loss of coworkers, they were self-sacrificing at work and providing appropriate services.

"These memories and accomplishments must be recorded in order to be passed on to future generations. It is also worth noting that, in addition to the sense of understanding and empathy that occurred in society, we also accomplished scientific progress, which increased the capacity to deal with this virus," said Mohammadreza

Sangari, one of the heads of the Art Bureau of the Islamic Ideology Dissemination Organization.

General Ebrahim Motevalian also said at the event that we Iranians have a problem in that, despite our excellent performance and quick responses to events and incidents, we struggle to collect documents from those incidents.

Mahdi Ajam, the author of the book stated that memories of about 70 doctors and nurses have been collected in the first wave of COVID-19 and took about 10 months with so many difficulties, like that one of the nurses he spoke with died in the middle of the project, which he discovered later with the help of her cow workers.

At the end of the event, the children of two nurses who died protecting people's health during the Pandemic unveiled the book.