

Trump can't stop demonizing Iran

By staff writer

TEHRAN — Speaking at a campaign rally on Monday in Grand Island, Nebraska, President Donald Trump suggested that Iran could “take out” Los Angeles and San Diego.

Trump made such illusory statements to inflame public opinion as the midterm congressional elections are rapidly approaching. He fears that Republicans could lose control of both the House of Representatives and the Senate because of the unwarranted war that he and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu started against Iran on February 28 and is still continuing.

At the campaign rally, Trump said he wanted to “see a tremendous victory” in the November election.

Trump is using such bombastic rhetoric as the war on Iran has caused fuel prices to rise sharply at home after Iran closed the strategic Strait of Hormuz — a transit route for about one-fifth of global energy supplies — in response to the surprise and illegal aggression against the country. ▶ Page 5

October 7, genocide and Yemen

By Ali Minabi

TEHRAN — Since the Second World War, West Asia has emerged as a region in which the fate of the world is increasingly determined.

The region's importance has only grown with the emergence of the Zionist regime and the strategic significance of oil. It has consequently witnessed a series of bloody regional and international confrontations. ▶ Page 5



Blood, Bombs & Billions

For some in America, every new war comes with a new payday

By Maede Zaman Fashami

TEHRAN- The US-Israeli war against Iran was not merely a military and geopolitical crisis; it also created a major economic shock. According to an estimate by the US Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the direct cost of US combat operations against

Iran had reached approximately \$38 billion by August 1, 2026. That figure includes the cost of replacing expended munitions and lost equipment, increased flight hours, military operations, and higher fuel costs. It does not include costs borne by other federal agencies or the war's longer-term economic consequences.

At the same time, Americans faced a sharp increase in energy costs. According to an estimate by the Democratic members of the Joint Economic Committee, US households had spent an additional \$71.5 billion on gasoline since the war began an average of about \$604 per household. ▶ Page 3

Pezeshkian calls for broader engagement with EU, Asia

TEHRAN — Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian has called for expanded political, economic, scientific, and cultural relations with countries across Europe and Asia, stressing Tehran's commitment to peaceful engagement, multilateral cooperation, and stronger regional ties.

Pezeshkian made the remarks in separate meetings with the newly appointed ambassadors of Denmark, Thailand and India to Tehran, as well as during a ceremony to bid farewell to Iran's new ambassadors to several countries. ▶ Page 2

Iran's defense industry reaches new capacity as army chief warns enemies of 'historic confusion'

TEHRAN — Iran's indigenous defense industry has maintained uninterrupted production through the recent US-Israeli war and expanded its weapons production capacity to 2.5 times its pre-war level, senior Iranian military officials said, stressing that any renewed aggression would face a stronger response with more advanced weapons.

Army Commander Major General Amir Hatami said Iran's adversaries were facing “historic confusion” in the face of the power and resilience of the Iranian nation.

Hatami made the remarks during a meeting with Mehrdad Akhlaqi, the nominee for Iran's Minister of Defense and the current managing director of the Defense Industries Organization. ▶ Page 3

CIA's Red Cell warns Israel sits one spark away from collapse

By staff writer

TEHRAN — A classified CIA assessment reportedly warns that Israel is heading toward potential civil war and collapse as years of genocide in Gaza and military aggression across Lebanon and Iran fracture the regime from within.

The August report, titled “Fracture From Within,” was produced by the agency's Red Cell unit to challenge prevailing assumptions and evaluate high-risk domestic scenarios ahead of Israel's October 27 parliamentary elections.

It combines open-source analysis with classified intelligence, according to an October 5 report co-published by American news outlets Drop Site News and Capital & Empire.

Cracking under war and trauma

The assessment outlines how relentless military mobilizations and soaring military expenditures have severely damaged the internal economy of Israel.

Households face an escalating cost-of-living crisis marked by a 9.5 percent surge in food prices over the past two years alone. ▶ Page 5

Interior Min.: Technical delegation to visit Qatar to follow up on Iranian pilots

TEHRAN — Iranian Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni says Tehran and Doha have agreed to step up security cooperation, establish a joint working group and continue consultations on bilateral and regional issues.

Iranian Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni has said a technical delegation will travel to Qatar to follow up on issues concerning Iranian pilots, as Tehran and Doha agreed to intensify consultations on security, trade and other areas of bilateral cooperation.

Speaking at the conclusion of his visit to Doha, Momeni described his talks with senior Qatari officials as constructive and fruitful, saying the discussions covered a broad range of bilateral and regional issues.

During a meeting with his Qatari counterpart, the two sides discussed cooperation in combating organized crime and drug trafficking, coordination between coast guard forces, and broader security issues, the Iranian minister said.

“It was agreed that expert-level security meetings will be held immediately after our trip and that these meetings will continue regularly,” Momeni said. ▶ Page 3

Six-volume “1001 Questions on Resistance” unveiled in Tehran

By Samaneh Aoutalebi

TEHRAN- The six-volume book “1001 Questions on Resistance,” based on three decades of conversations with the late Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, was unveiled Monday at the Sarcheshmeh Cultural Center in Tehran during a gathering examining his thought and legacy.

The ceremony was attended by Hojatoleslam Mohammad Qomi, head of Iran's Islamic Ideology Dissemination Organization; Mohammad-Hossein Saffar-Harandi, a member of the Expediency Discernment Council; Hojatoleslam Asad Qasir, a cleric and director of the Center for Authentic Islam; Hojatoleslam Ahmad Rahdar, a faculty member at Baqer al-Olum University; ▶ Page 8



Exclusive

‘Our doors and hearts are always open to Iran’: Malaysia’s chargé d’affaires tells the Tehran Times

By Mona Hojat Ansari

TEHRAN - Dato' Wan Aznainizam Yusri bin Wan Abdul Rashid arrived in Tehran in late August to take up the post of Chargé d’Affaires and Head of Mission at the Embassy of Malaysia. He will be elevated to Ambassador upon the formal presentation of his credentials.

In his first exclusive interview in Iran, granted to the Tehran Times, he talks about his first month in the country, Malaysia's firm stance on U.S.-Israeli aggression, the state of trade between the two countries, and the cultural and educational ties that keep Malaysians and Iranians connected.

He also shares what he hopes to achieve during his time here, and has a simple message for the people of Iran.

Below is the full text of the interview:

You have been in Tehran for a month now. What have your first impressions been of the country and its people?

My first impression of Iran is one of profound admiration and warmth. Upon arriving, one is immediately struck by the deep cultural heritage and historical ties that Malaysia and Iran have shared for centuries. Our nations are bound by a rich tapestry of mutual respect, intellectual exchange, and civilizational links that continue to strengthen our modern diplomatic relations.

What stands out most, however, is the remarkable resilience of the Iranian people. To witness how this nation has consistently overcome immense challenges, including decades of economic sanctions since 1980,

▶ Page 2

Scan this QR code to watch the video.▶

TEHRAN PAPERS

In the following column, we take a look at some important contents and views in yesterday's Iranian newspapers.

Reopening channels to bypass sanctions through Russian banking system

In an editorial, Kayhan discussed the reopening of channels for bypassing financial sanctions through Russia's banking system. Iran's Central Bank has so far transferred more than \$1.5 billion of its funds through the Russian banking network, thereby utilizing the Russian route to circumvent US financial sanctions. Available information indicates that, in addition to China, Russia's banking infrastructure can be used to settle trade with countries such as India, Brazil, African nations, etc. However, despite the effect of sanctions and external pressure, exchange-rate increases cannot be explained solely by outside factors. Therefore, one of the government's most important tasks under current conditions is to manage foreign pressure while simultaneously abandoning and revising its economic adjustment policies.

Shargh: Diplomacy backed by strength and readiness for defense

In its analysis of Araghchi's meeting with foreign ambassadors, heads of diplomatic missions, and representatives of international organizations in Tehran, Shargh argued that Iran's foreign minister sought to present a clear picture of Tehran's evolving foreign policy. The central message was that the door to diplomacy remains open, but it is now supported by a stronger readiness for defense. The core message of Araghchi's remarks is neither negotiation alone nor resistance alone, but rather the simultaneous pursuit of both. Viewed from this perspective, Araghchi's recent statements can be seen as an effort to define Iran's foreign policy at a stage when war, negotiations, the Strait of Hormuz, and regional relations have become more interconnected than ever.

Jam-e-Jam: It was the enemies, not Iran, that chose war

In a commentary, Jam-e-Jam highlighted Iran's ethical outlook and its approach to international engagement. While Western governments accused the Islamic Republic of warmongering and alleged that Iran sought to eliminate certain regional countries and resolve disputes through military force, Iran consistently stated that it preferred understanding and negotiation in dealing with contentious foreign-policy issues, including the nuclear question. The newspaper pointed to numerous rounds of negotiations and serious dialogue with global powers and neighboring countries as evidence that Iran favors engagement over confrontation. In particular, over the past year and several months, Iran repeatedly demonstrated its willingness to negotiate on nuclear matters by accepting proposals for talks. Nevertheless, Iran's adversaries chose the path of conflict and imposed two, or arguably three, wars on the country during the past 18 months. Iran's ethical and humanitarian view of power was once again

distinguished from what it characterized as the aggressive and inhumane approach of its opponents.

Khorasan: Iran is fully prepared

In an article examining current Iranian and American policies, Khorasan argued that Iran's foes have entered a phase of "operational patience," seeking to select the most effective and least costly option from among various scenarios. However, this patience stems not from caution but from weakness, and Trump knows that losing one or both chambers of Congress would significantly complicate his position. Military limitations continue to constrain any potential action by the US military. While Iran's opponents may view the situation as static, realities on the ground remain dynamic and subject to change. Under these circumstances, it predicted that war could eventually begin. However, it emphasized that Iran remains committed to serious negotiations, though not in a manner that would imply surrender or deception. The article concluded that Iran is preparing for the worst-case scenarios, harbors no optimism regarding future developments, possesses a broad range of response options, and regards maintaining public calm as the most crucial element of national security.

Ettelaat: Escalating crisis in the region

Ettelaat discussed that indirect communication between Tehran and Washington is continuing, but even more significant are the military and political signs suggesting a growing possibility of a new conflict. According to the paper, Iran says it has received the US response to Tehran's seven-day trust-building proposal concerning the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz and is currently reviewing it. At the same time, Washington is reinforcing its forces in the region and Donald Trump has spoken of a decision regarding Iran that could proceed through either an "easy path" or a "hard path." Meanwhile, Iranian military and political officials have spoken of greater readiness for any future conflict and of improving missile capabilities. The newspaper noted that the principal disagreement between the two sides remains clear: Iran views the reopening of Hormuz, an end to pressure on shipping, and sanctions relief as the main pillars of negotiations, whereas the United States continues to place the nuclear issue at the center of its proposals. According to the article, this disagreement, combined with the growing US military posture in the region, has created a situation in which diplomacy has not entirely collapsed, yet discussions about the possibility of political pressures evolving into a new confrontation are becoming increasingly frequent.

Iran calls on France to respect human rights

TEHRAN — Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmail Baqaei has called on France to respect human rights and the right to peaceful protest, criticizing 'contradictory approaches by French officials toward demonstrations in Iran and France.'

In a post on his X account on Tuesday, Baqaei recalled that France had called on Iran in January 2026 to guarantee the right to peaceful protest without fear of reprisals and had urged restraint in dealing with demonstrations.

He noted that, despite calls for revolt from abroad and reports of armed attacks against facilities and security forces in Iran, France's foreign minister had characterized the unrest at the time as a peaceful revolt.

Baqaei contrasted that position with the French government's current response to protests by high school students, saying demonstrations in France were now being described as "urban violence." He also pointed to the French interior minister's calls for rapid intervention and the use of force to restore public order.

The Iranian spokesman noted that French officials had also cited political manipulation and the role of far-left movements in the protests.

Baqaei stressed that violence against police, arson and damage to public property could not be justified and acknowledged the state's responsibility to maintain and restore public order.

He argued, however, that the central issue was the differing standards applied to protests depending on where they take place.

The Iranian spokesman questioned why similar conduct was assessed differently when the protesters were in Iran rather than France, emphasizing that the right to peaceful protest and respect for human rights should be upheld consistently.

"If human rights and the right to protest are universal principles, their definition should not change based on the geographical location of the protester," Baqaei's remarks underscored.

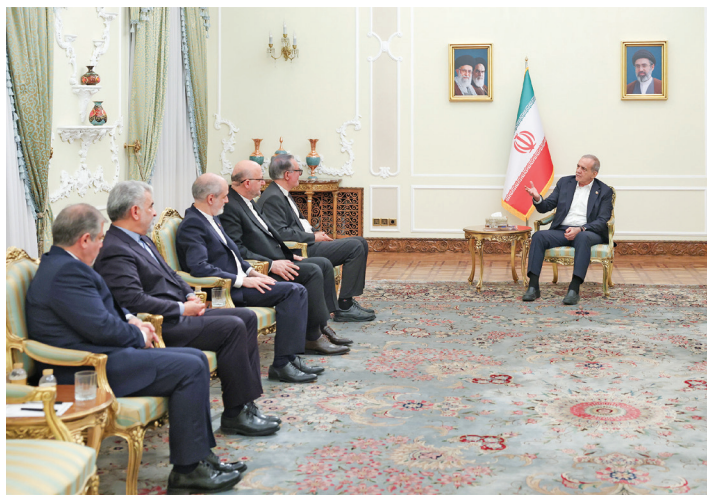
Pezeshkian calls for broader engagement with EU, Asia

From page 1 ► Receiving the credentials of Denmark's new ambassador, Pezeshkian said the Iranian nation had historically pursued peace, tranquility, constructive communication and healthy interaction with other countries.

He said Iran sought to expand relations and interactions with Denmark in economic, scientific, and cultural fields, emphasizing Tehran's readiness to cooperate, exchange experience, and develop mutually beneficial partnerships.

Pezeshkian also said perceptions of Iran in some European countries did not accurately reflect the realities of the Islamic Republic, expressing hope that the Danish ambassador would take effective steps during his tenure in Tehran to consolidate and expand bilateral relations.

The Danish envoy, for his part, said he considered it his responsibility to convey the realities of Iran to his country and ex-



pressed hope that he could contribute to deepening relations and creating new opportunities for bilateral cooperation.

He also said Denmark remained committed to multilateralism and the rule of law in international relations and that his diplomatic mission would be guided by these principles.

Iran, Thailand seek wider co-

operation

In a separate meeting with Thailand's new ambassador, Pezeshkian highlighted the broad potential for expanding relations between Tehran and Bangkok, particularly in economic, scientific and technological fields.

He said Iran and Thailand could further develop their ties

'Our doors and hearts are always open to Iran': Malaysia's chargé d'affaires tells the Tehran Times

From page 1 ► is truly inspiring. The ingenuity, self-reliance, and strength they display in navigating these difficulties speak volumes about their character. And honestly, seeing how the country stood firm and successfully defended its capital during the onslaught of aerial attacks by Israel and the U.S. was truly remarkable. It showed the world a profound level of resolve and courage.

Above all, I have been deeply moved by the incredible warmth and hospitality of the Iranians. From my very first interactions, the generosity and welcoming nature of the people have made me feel entirely at home. I look forward to working closely with our Iranian friends to further deepen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between Malaysia and Iran.

The most important issue in Iran today is the U.S.-Israeli aggression, which has both a military and an economic dimension. Malaysia was one of the most outspoken countries in Southeast Asia in condemning the military phase of the war. What drove Malaysia to take that stance when many Muslim countries hesitated to explicitly condemn the U.S. and Israel?

Malaysia's strong stance against U.S.-Israeli military aggression is driven by a deeply ingrained, bipartisan foreign policy that prioritises international law, national sovereignty, and an absolute rejection of geopolitical double standards.

When people look at Malaysia's vocal position today, they shouldn't see it as a sudden political shift. It is actually the continuation of a long-standing, deeply rooted principle. For decades, Malaysia has held a firm, institutional stance against illegal warfare, unprovoked aggression, and the violation of any nation's sovereignty. We do not choose our principles based on political convenience or who the aggressor happens to be.

My Prime Minister, Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, has been very clear on this at the global stage. Following the military strikes on Iran, Prime Minister Anwar immediately issued a statement condemning the attack. He had also made it clear to the world that we can no longer swallow lectures on human rights and democracy from Western powers when such double standards are playing out in real time. Under his leadership, Malaysia has consistently reaffirmed Iran's internationally recognized right to defend its own sovereignty

under international law, while also calling for a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

This outspokenness is a legacy passed down through our leadership. Past Prime Ministers, including Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, spent decades challenging Western hegemony and calling out global superpowers for using military and economic coercion against developing nations. Because this position is deeply embedded in our national identity, Malaysia's Parliament is entirely united on this issue, bridging all political parties to unanimously condemn these acts.

This is exactly why, at the recent UN General Assembly, our Foreign Minister, Datuk Seri Utama Mohamad Hasan, explicitly called out the global governance system. He stated plainly that Malaysia is sick of seeing the collective will of the General Assembly silenced by the Security Council's veto power. He demanded that to ensure true peace and global stability, the veto power must be challenged and ultimately abolished, especially when it paralyzes action against crimes against humanity. Expanding membership is pointless if the veto remains an asymmetric tool for superpowers to shield aggression.

While other nations might hesitate due to pressure or strategic ties, Malaysia believes that staying silent makes one complicit. We speak out because true global stability cannot be built on deception, and a nation's right to exist in peace should never be compromised for another's tactical advantage.

How does Malaysia view Iran's role in regional security in West Asia?

Malaysia views Iran as an indispensable, sovereign pillar of regional security in West Asia, and our perspective is rooted in a clear recognition of interconnected global realities. Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim and Foreign Minister Mohamad Hasan have consistently underscored three fundamental parameters.

First, absolute support for sovereignty and stability. Malaysia respects Iran's territorial integrity and sovereign right to defend itself under international law. We have openly condemned external aggression against Iran, viewing unilateral attacks as grave violations of state sovereignty. For true peace to return to West Asia, all parties must decisively reduce tensions, halt escalations, and allow diplomacy to replace mili-



tary hostility.

Second, an interconnected, self-reliant security architecture. Malaysia firmly believes that the security of West Asia is an interconnected whole. History has proven that the region cannot rely on external players, be it the United States or Israel, to engineer a manufactured or asymmetric stability. True, sustainable security can only be achieved when regional nations work together, manage their own borders, and determine their own future without foreign interference.

Lastly, deep appreciation for strategic cooperation. On a practical level, Malaysia deeply appreciates Iran's constructive role and cooperation in ensuring maritime safety. During periods of intense regional conflict and disruptions, Tehran actively facilitated the safe passage of Malaysian-owned merchant vessels through the critical chokepoint of the Strait of Hormuz. This concrete gesture is a testament to the trust between our nations and highlights Iran's capability to act as a responsible guardian of vital global trade routes.

Ultimately, Malaysia looks at Iran not through a lens of isolation, but as a key partner with whom we must engage to cultivate lasting, self-determined stability in the region.

How would you describe the current state of economic ties between Iran and Malaysia? Is it growing at all, given the difficulties caused by sanctions and the war?

The current state of economic ties between Malaysia and Iran is resilient and demonstrating growth, despite navigating a highly challenging landscape shaped by long-standing unilateral sanctions and recent regional volatility. While external geo-economic pressures and maritime instability present undeniable hurdles, both nations remain firmly committed to expanding their commercial relationship, driven by mutual

by drawing on their historical relations and existing capacities, stressing that the expansion of bilateral relations was fully achievable.

Pezeshkian also emphasized the important role of ambassadors in strengthening relations between countries, facilitating trade links, promoting interaction between peoples and creating opportunities for the two sides to exchange capacities and expertise.

The Thai ambassador said he had been tasked by Thailand's king, prime minister and foreign minister with further developing the friendly and understanding relations between the two countries.

He referred to the historical roots of Iran-Thailand relations, dating back thousands of years to the era of the Persian Empire, and expressed his determination to help continue and strengthen that longstanding relationship.

economic interests and a shared vision of a self-reliant Islamic world.

Recent data demonstrates that commercial ties are not stagnant but are actively expanding where permitted. Total bilateral trade between Malaysia and Iran reached RM2.45 billion, with Malaysian exports driving the bulk of this volume at RM2.17 billion. Malaysia's exports are anchored heavily by palm oil and palm-based products, while primary imports from Iran consist of essential pharmaceutical products, edible fruits, and nuts, alongside permitted oil and gas derivatives. While this represents a fraction of Malaysia's total global trade, the baseline shows a clear upward trend. In historic periods of engagement, bilateral trade has scaled past RM3.68 billion. The institutional intent from both capitals is to use current frameworks to return to and exceed those levels.

The expansion of these economic links faces explicit operational constraints that both governments are actively trying to bypass. Malaysia strictly enforces United Nations-mandated sanctions. However, navigating unilateral secondary sanctions imposed by Western powers creates severe compliance and banking hurdles, making standard international trade settlements exceptionally difficult. Geopolitical tensions in West Asia, particularly conflict disruptions impacting shipping through critical maritime channels like the Strait of Hormuz, have also introduced high freight costs, logistical uncertainties, and supply chain bottlenecks for merchants on both sides.

During the recent BRICS Leaders' Summit in New Delhi, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim engaged in vital bilateral talks with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian. Malaysia reaffirmed its stance to pursue economic linkages guided by national interest and respect for state sovereignty.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Blood, Bombs & Billions

For some in America, every new war comes with a new payday.

By Maede Zaman Fashami

TEHRAN- The US-Israeli war against Iran was not merely a military and geopolitical crisis; it also created a major economic shock. According to an estimate by the US Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the direct cost of US combat operations against Iran had reached approximately \$38 billion by August 1, 2026. That figure includes the cost of replacing expended munitions and lost equipment, increased flight hours, military operations, and higher fuel costs. It does not include costs borne by other federal agencies or the war's longer-term economic consequences.

At the same time, Americans faced a sharp increase in energy costs. According to an estimate by the Democratic members of the Joint Economic Committee, US households had spent an additional \$71.5 billion on gasoline since the war began an average of about \$604 per household.

Public opinion also showed that the war did not enjoy broad support. In a June 2026 Quinnipiac poll, 60 percent of American voters said the military action against Iran was not worth the cost, while only 34 percent said it was. A Reuters/Ipsos poll similarly found that just 25 percent of Americans believed the war was worth it, while President Trump's approval rating had fallen to 34 percent.

Under these circumstances, the important question is not simply whether the war has a cost. The more important question is: Who ultimately pays those costs, and who benefits financially from the consequences of the war? Every dollar spent on missiles, air-defense systems, aircraft, or ammunition creates revenue for a defense contractor. Every sharp increase in oil prices that means higher costs for consumers at the gas pump can translate into higher revenues and asset values for oil producers, refiners, and energy investors. And every surge in financial markets can generate substantial gains for investors who happened to be positioned correctly gains from which the average American has little or no direct benefit.

The broader picture, therefore, is one in which a large part of American society faces higher



public spending, more expensive energy, and an unpopular war.

But the war has not been equally costly for everyone. For some companies, executives, investors, and asset owners, it has instead created an opportunity to increase revenues and wealth. The following sections examine some of the most prominent individuals and mechanisms through which financial benefits have emerged from the conflict.

The defense industry: where the cost of war becomes a contract

One of the clearest examples is the American defense industry. During a war, companies that manufacture missiles, air-defense systems, aircraft, radar systems, and ammunition benefit not only from new contracts but also from the government's need to replenish weapons and equipment consumed during military operations.

RTX, the parent company of Raytheon, for example, reported \$24.7 billion in sales in the second quarter of 2026, up 14 percent from the previous year. Adjusted earnings per share increased by 21 percent, while the company's backlog reached \$289 billion, including \$119 billion in defense-related orders.

Lockheed Martin reported a similar expansion. In the second quarter of 2026, the company recorded \$20.1 billion in sales and \$1.8 billion in net income, while its backlog reached a record \$230 billion. A significant portion of that backlog is tied to missile-defense systems and other military programs whose importance increases during periods of war.

At the top of these companies

are executives such as Chris Calio, CEO of RTX, and Jim Taiclet, CEO of Lockheed Martin. Their compensation structures include not only salaries but also substantial bonuses and equity-based awards. As a result, rising company revenues and stronger long-term performance can have a direct impact on their personal wealth.

Trump, his sons and his son-in-law: financial interests around the war economy

Among political figures in the US administration, Donald Trump is particularly significant because, unlike many presidents, he continues to hold substantial investments in publicly traded companies.

This is especially important in the energy sector. According to an analysis by the Democratic members of the Joint Economic Committee, Trump held as much as \$45.6 million in oil and gas stocks at the end of 2025. As energy stocks surged in 2026, the value of those holdings rose to as much as \$61.1 million, representing an increase in market value of up to \$15.5 million.

The rise in oil prices and energy stocks associated with the Iran war had a direct positive effect on the value of the president's personal holdings. Trump also purchased up to \$3.6 million more in oil and gas stocks during the first three months of 2026.

The financial connections between the Trump family and industries benefiting from the war, however, do not stop with the president's own portfolio.

Donald Trump Jr. has become closely involved with 1789 Capital, while Eric Trump has invested in defense and technology compa-

nies through American Ventures, the investment arm associated with Dominari Holdings. Their investment portfolios include startups involved in drones, artificial intelligence, space technology, robotics, and military technology precisely the sectors receiving increased attention as the US expands defense spending and develops new military capabilities.

The significance of these investments becomes clearer when looking at the companies in their portfolios. According to reporting by The Washington Post, at least 15 companies connected to investment portfolios associated with Trump's sons received approximately \$3.2 billion in direct federal business, including contracts, investments, and loans, after the Trump administration came to power. Those companies also had roughly \$3.1 billion in future contract opportunities.

A separate report from Democratic members of the House Judiciary Committee claimed that after Donald Trump Jr. joined 1789 Capital, assets under management grew from roughly \$150 million to more than \$3 billion, while its main fund had generated approximately a 200 percent return as of June 30, 2026.

Taken together, however, the investment activity shows that the Trump family has positioned itself financially in several sectors particularly defense technology and energy that have benefited from the economic consequences of the war.

Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law, presents another important case. Kushner owns the investment firm Affinity Partners, which invested heavily in Phoenix Financial, one of Israel's major financial companies.

The connection is important because Phoenix operates within the broader Israeli financial and investment ecosystem, including investments linked to companies involved in sectors connected to Israel's defense and security economy. As a result, the expansion of Israel's war economy and the rise in valuations of related assets have had financial implications for Kushner's investment firm.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Interior Min.: Technical delegation to visit Qatar to follow up on Iranian pilots

From Page 1 ► The Iranian interior minister also pointed to discussions on trade and the expansion of economic ties, saying the two sides had held constructive talks on strengthening mutual interactions.

He said the issue of Iranian pilots was also discussed, adding that a technical delegation would return to Doha to hold further talks and advance the process.

Momeni further said Qatar had expressed a positive view of the quality of Iranian products, voicing hope that trade between the two countries would expand alongside their political, cultural and security relations.

Visa facilitation on agenda

The minister said the two sides had also discussed facilitating visa procedures between Iran and Qatar.

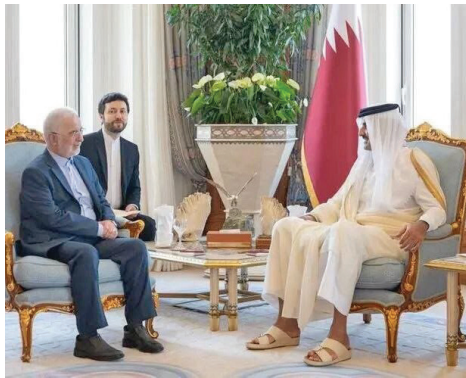
According to Momeni, the Qatari side pledged cooperation in this regard, while expert committees from both countries will follow up on the agreements according to a specific timetable.

He reiterated that strengthening ties with neighboring and regional countries remains a key priority of the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign policy.

Momeni to convey Qatari Emir's proposals to Pezeshkian

Momeni also said he would convey the views and proposals put forward by Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani on regional developments to Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian upon his return to Tehran.

Following his meeting with the Qatari emir, Momeni described the talks on bilateral issues as "good and constructive," saying he had conveyed messages and issues emphasized by President Pezeshkian.



"These messages were received with goodwill and a warm reception by the Emir of Qatar," he said.

Momeni described relations between Tehran and Doha as "brotherly and positive," adding that high-level meetings between the two sides provide an opportunity to address common concerns and identify practical solutions.

He said the Qatari emir had also raised several issues that he had agreed to convey to the Iranian president.

Joint working group to follow up on agreements

Momeni said Iran and Qatar had agreed to establish a joint working group comprising representatives of the two countries' interior ministries to follow up on decisions reached during his visit.

He also highlighted Qatar's role in regional diplomacy, along with Pakistan, expressing hope that continued consultations would contribute to reducing tensions and keeping the threat of war away from the region.

Momeni stressed that regional security is interconnected and should be achieved through cooperation among regional states.

A gathering of friendship, diplomacy: Uruguayan embassy hosts luncheon for journalists, ambassadors

By Mahnaz Abdi

TEHRAN — In a gesture of goodwill and diplomatic camaraderie, the Embassy of Uruguay in Tehran, under the gracious leadership of His Excellency Ambassador Beraldo Roque Nicola, hosted a warm and intimate luncheon bringing together prominent Iranian journalists and distinguished ambassadors from across Latin America and Spain.

The gathering, held on October 4, welcomed ambassadors from Brazil, Cuba, Spain, Nicaragua, and Venezuela, alongside officials from Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The event provided a rare and cherished opportunity for journalists—who tirelessly navigate the demanding world of news reporting, interviews, and investigative work—to step away from the pressures of their profession and engage in meaningful conversations with the diplomatic community.

In an atmosphere characterized by warmth and genuine friendship, journalists had the opportunity to connect with ambassadors, learn about the rich cultures of the represented nations, and strengthen bonds with fellow media professionals. The ambassadors, in turn, gained valuable insights into the perspectives and experiences of those who shape public discourse in Iran.

"Your role and responsibility are more important and necessary than ever" Ambassador Nicola told journalists

At the beginning of the luncheon, His Excellency Ambassador Beraldo Roque Nicola delivered a speech. The full text of his remarks is as follows:

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, honorable ambassadors of the countries of the American continent and the distinguished Ambassador of Spain, and especially the honorable journalists and members of the esteemed media of various outlets who accepted our invitation and honored us with your presence today:

Welcome to the Embassy of the Republic of Uruguay in Iran!

We wished to organize this gathering to provide an opportunity to meet in person with a number of the vast community of journalists

who work every day and continuously to inform and enlighten us.

When I proposed this idea to some of the ambassadors present here today, they all considered it a good idea and willingly expressed their readiness to participate in this program.

Therefore, today, a part of the members of the diplomatic community residing in Iran have gathered alongside you to honor your valuable efforts and services, and to express their gratitude for the important role you play. Today, the ambassadors of Brazil, Cuba, Spain, Nicaragua, Venezuela, and Uruguay are present in this gathering.

Without your efforts and the news you continuously publish, as well as analytical articles, reports, and other journalistic content, the tasks of embassies and diplomats residing in Iran would be far more difficult and complex.

I personally have had the opportunity to serve in several countries, and in this meantime, I have always appreciated the capability and high level of knowledge of the journalists with whom I have been in contact in the countries of my mission.

I am confident that all the ambassadors present in this gathering today have had a similar experience, and for this reason, I am very pleased that we were able to hold this meeting.

Iran today is experiencing special circumstances, and in such conditions, your role and responsibility are more important and necessary than ever. I sincerely thank all the honorable members of the media community for their commitment, efforts, the achievements resulting from their work, and also the high professional level they demonstrate in carrying out their duties.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the host country for their support and cooperation in coordinating and organizing this meeting, and once again, I thank all of you for accepting our invitation and providing us with this opportunity to spend friendly moments together and express our appreciation for your efforts and hard work.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Iran's defense industry reaches new capacity as army chief warns enemies of 'historic confusion'

From Page 1 ►The Army chief commended the efforts of specialized, committed, and revolutionary personnel in Iran's defense industry during the wars of aggression imposed by the United States and the Zionist regime, saying enemy attempts to disrupt the production chain for military equipment and weapons had failed.

He said defense-industry production lines "did not stop serving and working for a moment" even during the most critical circumstances of the aggression, enabling Iran's Armed Forces to maintain their capabilities and preventing the enemy from achieving its objectives.

Hatami said the recent war demonstrated that Iran's indigenous defense industry had become a strong and reliable support for the country's combat forces and would continue to fulfill that role.

He added that, under the guidance of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei, and through the vigilant presence of the Iranian people and the efforts of the Armed Forces, "all the enemy's calculations and objectives have been defeated."

"The sworn enemies of the Islamic Republic are facing historic

confusion in the face of the power of the great Iranian nation and engage in empty rhetoric every day," Hatami said.

Akhlaqi, for his part, expressed hope that Iran's Armed Forces would continue their achievements and secure the "final victory," namely the expulsion of the United States from the region.

Iran's weapons production capacity rises 2.5-fold

Separately, Defense Ministry spokesman Brigadier General Reza Talaei-Nik said Iran's weapons production capacity has increased to 2.5 times its level before the war, stressing that any new aggression would be met with a more powerful response and more advanced weapons.

Speaking at a press conference on Tuesday, Talaei-Nik said enemy psychological operations and moves suggesting the possibility of renewed aggression would be met with a decisive response and heavier defeats for the adversary.

He described the removal of the United States from the region and the suppression of the Zionist regime's acts of aggression as achievements of Iran's defense during the recent US-Israeli war.

"The punishment of the American and Zionist murderers is the firm resolve of the Islamic Repub-



lic and will never be forgotten," he said.

Talaei-Nik attributed the sharp rise in production capacity to the full mobilization of Iran's defense-industrial capabilities, saying the country's strategic depth in defense production had become an important component of national power and had strengthened Iran's resilience in confronting its adversaries.

He said Iran's production plans for offensive equipment were being continuously updated in accordance with developments in warfare and under the direction of the Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters and the General Staff of the Armed Forces, based on requirements identified by military commanders.

According to the Defense Ministry spokesman, Iran has the capacity to produce more than 1,000

weapons systems and military equipment, with some systems capable of being upgraded and manufactured in larger quantities in accordance with operational requirements.

"If the enemy makes a wrong calculation, it will definitely face more advanced weapons and a heavy response from the Armed Forces," Talaei-Nik warned.

Iran, Russia and China deepen defense consultations

Talaei-Nik also pointed to the longstanding cooperation and convergence among Iran, Russia and China, saying active relations among the three countries have been supported by all sides.

He said defense-related exchanges of views with Russia and China were on Iran's agenda, underlining Tehran's continued engagement with the two countries in the defense field.

Kabul hosting 180-member Iranian private sector trade delegation

TEHRAN- Afghan media reported the arrival of a 180-member trade delegation from Iran's private sector to participate in the Kabul International Exhibition and discuss expanding exchanges and investment between the two countries.

According to IRNA, a 180-member trade delegation from Iran's private sector, headed by Mahmoud Siadat, head of the Iran-Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce, entered Kabul on Tuesday.

According to this report, members of this large economic delegation are scheduled to attend the "Imam Abu Hanifa" International Exhibition in Kabul and meet with Afghan economic actors to examine ways to expand trade exchanges and opportunities for joint investment between the two countries.

Afghan economic experts consider the meetings between the Tehran and Kabul delegations important for strengthening economic and commercial ties between the two countries, and say these meetings can pave the way for expanding trade cooperation, investment, and transit.

Abdul Nasir Rashtia, an Afghan economic expert, said in this regard that establishing strategic and favorable relations with neighboring countries is of vital importance for Afghanistan.

Referring to the lack of regular transportation and an equipped railway network, he added: The more we use the routes of neighboring countries for exports and imports, the more the costs of transporting goods will decrease.

The exchange of economic delegations between the two countries comes as Tehran and Kabul have set a target of raising the volume of bilateral trade to \$10 billion per year.

According to reports, the fifth national and international Imam Abu Hanifa (may God have mercy on him) Exhibition begins on October 7, and runs for one week.

According to reports, traders, investors, and companies from more than 20 countries, including the Islamic Republic of Iran, Russia, India, Turkey, Japan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan, are participating.

Over the years it has been held, this exhibition has been able to provide a suitable platform in vital sectors such as industry and mining, agriculture and livestock, handicrafts and carpets, telecommunications, banking, and medical equipment for concluding major trade contracts and displaying the economic capabilities of the region.

Development of Herat-Mazar-i-Sharif railway, focus of Iran-Afghanistan economic diplomacy consultations

The Deputy for Economic Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs consulted with the Deputy for Financial and Administrative Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan's caretaker government on expanding economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.

According to IRNA, Hamid Ghanbari, Deputy for Economic Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, met on Tuesday with Mohammad Naeem, Deputy for Financial and Administrative Affairs of Afghanistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In this meeting, the two sides discussed and exchanged views on expanding economic and trade cooperation between the two countries, especially in the field of developing and strengthening infrastructure, including the construction of the Herat-Mazar-i-Sharif railway.

Ghadir Ghiafeh, Vice President of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA), at a meeting with the Deputy of the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment, proposed the establishment of a joint mining committee between the two chambers and the definition of a long-term program for cooperation in this field.

The Vice President of Iran Chamber, at the meeting with the Deputy of the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment, spoke about the significant mining capacities in Afghanistan and the need to pay attention to the area of joint investment between the two countries, and emphasized: Iran and Afghanistan must move beyond mere trade and

focus on joint cooperation.

Ghiafeh, at the beginning of this meeting spoke about the longstanding brotherly relations between the two countries and emphasized: Perhaps borders have created distance between the two nations of Iran and Afghanistan, but we have always lived side by side with a sense of brotherhood. Now at this stage of our relations, we must move beyond the exchange of goods and think about joint investment in infrastructure and mining sectors. On the other hand, processing and exploration of mines is a good area for joint cooperation between the two countries.

He referred to the construction of renewable power plants, thermal power plants, dams, various types of buildings, and generally the export of engineering and technical services from Iran to Afghanistan, and emphasized: Iran has 70 years of experience in mining industries, including copper processing, and good cooperation can be defined between the two countries through technology and knowledge transfer.

Ghiafeh, in addition to Afghanistan's mining capacities, pointed to the country's workforce and human resources, which can serve as a foundation for the country's rapid development.

The Vice President of Iran Chamber at this meeting proposed the establishment of a joint mining committee between Iran Chamber and the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment, within the framework of which a long-term mining cooperation of 5 to 10 years could be defined, leading to the development of Afghanistan's mining sector. Of course, in his view, both sides must be committed and faithful to the defined goals.

He noted: With this planning, I am confident that the level of relations between the two countries will increase from 3 billion dollars to 6 billion dollars.

Continuing, Mahmoud Siadat, Head of the Joint Chamber of Iran and Afghanistan, stating that Afghanistan's economic landscape is changing and growing rapidly, said: Capital that had left this country is now returning because security and confidence have been established, and Afghan traders and investors are striving to expand their activities in this country. In fact, Afghanistan has become a workshop of construction and growth.

He continued: In Iran, we must increase our readiness to meet the expectations of the Afghan side for supplying goods and services; in fact, an opportunity has arisen and we must seize it and increase our share of this market.

According to him, good events have been held in Kabul and other Afghan cities in recent months, and significant contracts have been signed between Iranian and Afghan traders. Movements and exchanges are proceeding at a good level, and it can be said that the relations of the Joint Chamber of Iran and Afghanistan with the mining, industry, agriculture, and trade chambers of Afghanistan have grown, and we are also witnessing the consolidation of the Joint Chamber of Afghanistan and Iran.

Siadat also announced the opening of the first investment company in Afghanistan, initiated by the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment.

In the next part of the meeting, Mirajan Suleiman Khail, Deputy of the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment, emphasizing that we must go beyond trade toward investments in industry, mining, and other sectors, stated: Perhaps investors have not yet found sufficient confidence to be present in the Afghan market. For this reason, with the aim of building trust, members of the chambers in Afghanistan have taken the lead in investing in this country, and we hope to gradually see the presence of foreign investors, especially from Iran.

He continued: For about 40 years, Iran has hosted the Afghan people and has stood by and supported the Afghan nation in all periods. Now if investment is to take place, priority is with them. Perhaps the necessary trust for investment has not yet been formed, so we invite investors to come to the Afghan market and become familiar with this market firsthand.

(See full text at [tehrantimes.com](#))

Program prepared for 117 technological projects in oil, gas sector

TEHRAN- The proposed package of 117 technological projects for the oil and gas industry, prepared with the direct cooperation of 42 entities, was reviewed at a meeting of the Special Headquarters for Technology Development chaired by Mohammad Reza Aref, First Vice President.

According to IRNA, at the meeting of the Special Headquarters for Technology Development, held under the chairmanship of the First Vice President, various proposed packages for applying new technologies in the oil and gas industry were reviewed.

These proposed packages include 117 projects prepared with the direct cooperation of 42 entities, and they pursue enhancing the resilience of the oil and gas industry, inter-sectoral coordination, support and facilitation for the private sector, prioritizing projects emphasized by upstream documents, developing dual-use technologies, and penetrating and expanding the application of driving technologies.

Enhancing oil and gas production, completing the value chain of the refining industry and resolving the gasoline and diesel imbalance, regenerating and upgrading the petrochemical industry, and increasing energy productivity in the production, transmission, distribution, and consumption chain are among the priorities of the oil and gas industry's technological projects.

Increasing daily oil production by at least 250,000 barrels

By supplying a modern drilling fleet and services and equipment related to oil well exploitation, an increase in crude oil production by at least 250,000 barrels per day has been targeted.

Increasing the country's foreign exchange revenues by \$5 billion, increasing the efficiency of oil fields, and diversifying and applying new production technologies are among the other goals of these projects.

In the South Pars pressure-boosting project, various contracts have also been concluded to begin the design and development of various turbines and the construction, installation, and commissioning of various in-well and wellhead compressors, and their implementation has begun.

One of these projects, which is due to be inaugurated by the Fajr Decade, will use the latest technologies for deploying pressure-boost-



ing turbines for offshore and onshore platforms—a technology that had previously been in the possession of only five countries.

According to the presented plan, with the implementation of these projects over 40 years, surplus gas production equivalent to \$500 billion from the pressure-boosting plan will be secured, and the stability of daily production of more than 700 million cubic meters of gas from the South Pars field will be maintained.

Maintaining the capacity of the electricity generation network and gasoline produced from liquids, and preventing an increase in energy imbalance, are among the other goals of these projects.

Using new technologies to facilitate the implementation of onshore flare management projects, as well as implementing surface storage projects for natural gas, was another part of the programs presented at this meeting.

With the implementation of these two plans, annual gas supply will increase by 8 billion cubic meters, non-oil exports will be supported by \$1 billion, and the stability of the gas distribution network in the cold season will also increase.

In this regard, for the first time in the country, flare gases have been pre-sold after refining through the conclusion of a contract.

Also, the project to convert flare gas into value-added products has begun with the cooperation of the petrochemical industry and knowledge-based companies.

In line with improving the quality of heavy refinery residues and producing petroleum products with higher added value, various

Vietnamese trade delegation in Tehran; exclusive Interview on expanding bilateral ties



By Mahnaz Abdi

TEHRAN- A Vietnamese trade delegation arrived in Tehran on Tuesday, October 6, and is scheduled to stay until October 18. During their stay, the delegation has a packed schedule of business activities, including visits to various regions of Iran, assessments of cooperation opportunities, and trade meetings.

In this connection, Tehran Times conducted an exclusive interview with the Delegation Head, Mr. Nguyen Dang Dinh, who is visiting Iran for the third time.

The full text of the interview follows:

What motivated you to join this business mission to Iran, and what specific opportunities do you hope to explore during the visit?

We joined this mission to expand our commercial reach in the Middle East and engage directly with Iran's sizable market. The Vietnamese business community aims to boost direct exports of agricultural products (coffee, cashews, pepper, rice) and consumer goods, while explor-

ing imports of high-quality Iranian industrial inputs and raw materials to support our domestic manufacturing.

Given the current sanctions environment and banking restrictions, what are your main concerns about doing business with Iran, and what practical payment or financial mechanisms do you think could help overcome these barriers?

The primary operational concern is the absence of direct, streamlined cross-border banking linkages. To facilitate smooth trade in civilian and consumer goods, we encourage trade agencies and financial institutions to support flexible settlement frameworks, such as bilateral barter trade mechanisms or compliant local-currency clearing solutions that lower exchange costs and transaction friction.

Official Vietnam-Iran trade is around \$170 million, but much of the real trade may pass through third countries. How do you assess the actual potential of bilateral trade, and what can be done to make these flows more direct and transparent?

The real economic potential between Vietnam and Iran is significantly higher than current figures suggest, as our economic structures are complementary rather than competitive. To make trade flows more direct and transparent, businesses on both sides need greater access to market intelligence, active participation in trade expos, and official business-matching platforms that reduce reliance on third-country intermediaries.

Which sectors do you believe offer the most realistic and immediate opportunities for Vietnam-Iran cooperation, and why? For example: agriculture, food processing, mining, logistics, technology, healthcare, or petrochemicals.

The most realistic sectors for immediate commercial cooperation include:

- Agriculture & Food Processing: Exporting Vietnamese coffee, seafood, and spices; importing Iranian dried fruits, saffron, and nuts.

- Industrial Raw Materials: Sourcing specialty chemicals, construction supplies, and polymers from Iran.

- Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals: Exploring trade in medical equipment, active ingredients, and biotechnology products.

From your experience, what are the biggest obstacles in logistics, transportation, quality standards, and verifying business partners between the two countries, and what solutions would you recommend?

Key supply chain bottlenecks involve long transit times, high freight costs, and differing quality compliance frameworks (such as

Halal certification). Practical solutions include establishing direct links with regional logistics providers and fostering mutual recognition between regulatory bodies to standardize quality inspections and expedite customs clearance.

Vietnam has 17 free trade agreements and access to 60 economies. How can Iranian and Vietnamese companies work together—through joint ventures, Vietnam-based production, or other models—to manage sanctions risks and reach regional and global markets?

Vietnam's extensive network of 17 FTAs offers preferential access to major global markets. Iranian enterprises can collaborate with Vietnamese companies through joint ventures or local processing facilities. By adding value to raw materials inside Vietnam, both sides can jointly access ASEAN and wider international consumer markets under compliant commercial arrangements.

What concrete outcomes would make this mission successful for you, and what follow-up steps should governments, chambers of commerce, and the private sector take to turn these discussions into long-term trade and investment partnerships?

For the business community, a successful mission means establishing vetted business leads, securing initial commercial contracts, and signing MOUs for non-sanctioned goods. Moving forward, chambers of commerce and trade promotion agencies should maintain direct communication lines and organize regular exchange delegations to turn these initial discussions into long-term trade partnerships.

From page 1 ▶ Al-Aqsa Flood, carried out by Hamas's armed wing with the participation of other Palestinian resistance groups, shook the world. It shattered the Zionist narrative surrounding the Palestinian people and their rights, exposed the hollowness of the capitalist discourse on democracy and human rights, and disrupted efforts to expand the Abraham Accords and bring the largest Arab oil-producing state into the fold.

Amid a U.S.-backed genocide in Gaza, it returned the Palestinian cause to the forefront of global affairs and reminded the Arab world once again that Palestine is not solely the cause of the Palestinian people. Nor is it an "Israeli-Palestinian" dispute. It is the cause of the entire Islamic and Arab world.

The Axis of Resistance: Hezbollah, Ansarallah, the Iraqi resistance movement, and Iran, soon entered the battle through a support front. Its impact would undoubtedly have been greater had the Hamas operation, whatever its calculations may have been, gone beyond the initial element of surprise and expanded to some form of communication within the resistance axis.

The reason is that the enemy camp, the American-Zionist alliance, had already laid the groundwork for setting the region ablaze in pursuit of a "Greater Middle East" project.

In light of all this, several points deserve emphasis:

Every confrontation with the U.S.-Zionist alliance is subjected to a process of preemptive demonization, with the culture of resistance itself blamed for the human and material costs of war. Yet Europe, for example, lost 50 million people in two wars fought on its own soil, while numerous European capitals, including London, were nearly destroyed in the process.

The same is true of the wars



of liberation fought by Vietnam, China, Algeria, and others, in which millions of people were sacrificed.

The Israeli regime's losses since October 7, and its illegal wars with Lebanon, Yemen, and Iran, exceeded all the losses it had suffered since it was founded in 1948.

For those who question the seriousness of these confrontations, it is worth recalling that most of the first- and second-tier leadership of Hezbollah and Hamas, as well as a number of Iranian leaders, were martyred in these battles.

Those who expect any given battle, war, or confrontation to produce immediate strategic breakthroughs and then judge it according to that expectation inevitably fall into despair, accusations, or even outright rejection of the struggle when those breakthroughs do not materialize. Such people overlook, or fail to understand, that the struggle against the Zionist regime and its imperialist and reactionary extensions is far broader, more complex, and more difficult than anything that has taken place so far.

Nor have any resistance forces demonstrated greater sacrifice, selflessness, courage, heroism, discipline, organization, and commitment to martyrdom than

Hezbollah, Palestinian resistance forces, as well as Yemen and Iran.

There can be no doubt that not a single drop of blood shed by their leaders, fighters, or people will have been in vain. More importantly, these experiences constitute a solid foundation for continuing a long road that has yet to reach its destination.

One war gives birth to another: Yemen

Following American statements that Washington would not permit the loss of, or any transfer of control over, Bab al-Mandab, warnings have emerged of a new crisis resembling the one surrounding the Strait of Hormuz. Amid these warnings, forces backed by Saudi Arabia, the U.S., and other regional and international actors have begun a military campaign to besiege the Sanaa government forces.

The prelude to this was a campaign of fabricated accusations alleging that Ansarallah had attacked Islam's holiest site, Mecca.

Ansarallah responded with mass demonstrations numbering in the millions, demonstrating the Yemeni people's support for the Sanaa government. It then launched a broad military campaign, seizing the equipment of entire military units.

Bab al-Mandab itself came

within their missile range, and before long, the entire Red Sea had effectively become part of the battlefield. Ansarallah's missiles also reached the land routes that the oil-rich Persian Gulf states had been relying on as alternatives to the Strait of Hormuz and Bab al-Mandab.

Ansarallah were fully aware of where this was heading and expected hundreds, even thousands, of American, Atlantic, and Saudi airstrikes in response to the defeats suffered by their forces on the ground.

According to preliminary estimates, the combined number of airstrikes and missiles launched against Yemen by the Americans and their allies since March 2015 rivals the scale of the Normandy campaign against Germany during the Second World War.

The air campaign can point to the scale of its bombardment and, once again, try to confuse the picture. But Ansarallah's experience has demonstrated and reaffirmed a historical lesson repeatedly shown by Yemeni resistance: every invading power and every local force serving it has ultimately faced defeat.

Neither Portugal, the Ottoman Empire, nor Britain at the height of their power escaped defeat at the hands of the Yemenis. Nor could any of them break the Yemenis' sense of dignity or pride in their history, including their resistance to Wahhabism and its extensions, which sought to dominate and control Yemen throughout the 20th century.

The same pattern is being repeated today, this time with the backing of the U.S. and its European and regional allies, alongside a group of Yemeni political figures who claim to represent Yemen's legitimate government, even though their claim to legitimacy is based solely on the support they receive from Riyadh and Washington rather than from Yemen itself.

CIA's Red Cell warns Israel sits one spark away from collapse



From page 1 ▶ At the same time, bitter social resentment has erupted over military service exemptions granted to ultra-Orthodox men while civilian reservists are repeatedly pulled away from their jobs and families to sustain prolonged multi-front campaigns of aggression across the region.

Compounding this domestic volatility, thousands of heavily armed veterans are returning from genocidal combat operations in Gaza carrying severe psychological trauma.

U.S. intelligence sources comparing these armed combatants, many keeping assault rifles at home, to the violent Freikorps paramilitaries of post-World War I Germany warned in the CIA report that a single domestic spark could trigger open civil strife.

Meanwhile, unchecked settler violence in the occupied West Bank and deepening constitutional clashes continue to accelerate internal breakdown.

Deadlock in Tel Aviv

Political deadlock offers no exit for the regime. Recent polling shows both Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition and the main opposition bloc falling well short of the 61 seats required to form a governing majority in the 120-member Knesset.

Anti-Netanyahu sentiment within Israeli society does not stem from moral objections to brutal war crimes against Palestinians,

but rather from anger over his handling of the October 7 security failure and the management of the war effort.

This domestic breakdown coincides with eroding external support, particularly from the United States. Recent Pew Research survey data reveals that 60 percent of Americans now view Israel unfavorably.

Systemic failure and regional implications

The Red Cell analysis specifically uses the term "civil conflict" to game out how an initial internal confrontation could trigger rapid decay of the regime.

Scenarios in the document include foreign artificial intelligence and technology firms pulling capital and personnel out of Israel, regional governments reconsidering normalization agreements, and Palestinian and regional Resistance forces pressing their advantage amid domestic weakness.

For decades, Israel relied on a carefully cultivated projection of unbroken internal cohesion and military dominance.

The CIA's classified analysis exposes that beneath this facade, economic, political, and social contradictions are piling up faster than military force can contain, signaling an entity unraveling under the weight of its own vicious belligerence.

Trump can't stop demonizing Iran

From page 1 ▶ Trump uttered these words to garner votes for fellow Republicans, especially as opinion polls show that a majority of Americans disapprove of his war against Iran.

Americans are now feeling the pain of the Iran war at gas stations. The public in the United States is asking how a president who denounced his predecessors for engaging in "endless wars" could himself start a war of choice against Iran.

Trump has been futilely seeking to justify the war by claiming that Iran was about to build nuclear bombs and drop them on other countries.

Just a few days ago, he claimed that Iran would have "wiped" Israel, Saudi Arabia and various other countries "off the face of the planet" with nuclear bombs if he had not been president. His Monday remarks also fall within such delusional and sham claims.

Such rhetoric from the president comes as U.S. intelligence agencies have found no evidence that Iran was trying to build nuclear weapons. Moreover, Iran has placed limits on the range of its missiles and does not possess intercontinental ballistic missiles capable of striking cities such as Los Angeles or San Diego.

Trump is accustomed to telling lies, but his Monday claim about Iran is particularly astounding. These remarks are primarily aimed at demonizing Iran.

Trump wants to deceive the public into believing that high fuel prices and the resulting inflation are a cost Americans should be willing to pay.

"It's a small price to pay for keeping the world safe, keeping our country safe," he con-

tinued. "They can take out a city, let 'em take out Los Angeles, let 'em take out San Diego. This is a very small price to pay," he told the campaign rally.

His rash comments were met with criticism from California leaders, including at least one Trump-endorsed Republican candidate from San Diego, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Gov. Gavin Newsom posted on X: "After sending the National Guard and Marines to occupy California, Donald Trump is now saying our foreign enemies should 'take out' Los Angeles and San Diego. ... He is deranged and dangerous."

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria also posted, "San Diego is not collateral damage." He added, "We are not expendable. And we are never a 'small price to pay.' Keep our city out of your reckless war talk."

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass, in a statement, called Trump's remarks "dangerous," saying they could "potentially compromise our safety."

"The role of a president is to protect the country, not to actively threaten it and encourage attacks on American lives," she said.

Sen. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) also criticized Trump for his comments on Monday evening, writing on X: "The President says the Iran war will end 'very soon.' How many times have we heard that promise? And if it means attacks on two major American cities in the process, he is not troubled by the cost."

Though these officials know that Trump is lying and are using his deceptive remarks in the run-up to the midterm elections, Trump's foreign policy statements are remarkably delusional and erratic.

Hezbollah leader vows complete liberation of southern Lebanon, praises Iraq for expelling US

By staff writer

TEHRAN — Hezbollah Secretary General Sheikh Naim Qassem declared Tuesday that the liberation of southern Lebanon is within sight, reiterating that Israeli forces will fail to maintain their illegal occupation regardless of time.

Speaking during a televised address in Beirut, the Resistance leader made the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops the non-negotiable prerequisite for any regional resolution, firmly dismissing American-backed demands for unilateral disarmament while enemy troops remain on Lebanese soil.

Institutionalizing a revolutionary legacy

The address was delivered at a ceremony marking the official launch of the Foundation for the Preservation and Dissemination of the Heritage of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah.

Approved by Hezbollah's Shura Council and managed directly under the oversight of the Secretary General, the institution will archive, publish, and study three decades of historical speeches, intellectual works, and operational records left by the martyred leader.

Sayyed Nasrallah, who assumed leadership in 1992 following the Israeli assassination of Sayyed Abbas al-Musawi, spent 31 years building an enduring infrastructure of armed resistance.

Sheikh Qassem emphasized that this vast collection of documents and oral history will serve as a permanent reference for scholars, universities, and future generations fighting for liberation, dignity, and sovereignty.

Six pillars of Resistance

Sheikh Qassem outlined six fundamental pillars defining the movement's intellectual and operational framework built under Sayyed Nasrallah.

First is the steadfast commitment to authentic Muhammadi Islam as a comprehensive guide for human dignity and social governance.

Second is the cultivation of jihadist culture rooted in the sacrifice of Imam Hussein (AS) at Karbala and the steadfastness of Lady Zainab (SA), turning Imam Ruhollah Khomeini's declaration that "everything we have is from Muharram [and Ashura]" into daily practice.

Third is the principle of Wilayah, extending the tradition of divinely ordained authority embodied by the Twelve Imams [of Twelver Shiism] to the contemporary leadership of Imam Khomeini and the martyred Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

Fourth is the active spiritual tie to Imam Mahdi (may Allah hasten his noble reappearance), instilling confidence in the ultimate triumph of global justice over oppression.

Fifth is the pursuit of Islamic and national unity, enshrined in the defense equation uniting the army, the people, and the Resistance against foreign occupiers.

Sixth is active military defense. Sheikh Qassem paid tribute to pioneer Resistance leaders, including Sheikh Ragheb Harb, Sayyed Abbas al-Musawi, Imam Musa al-Sadr, and Iranian General Qassem Soleimani, whose strategic support bolstered regional military capabilities against West-



ern-backed aggression.

Rejection of foreign dictates and Israeli occupation

Turning to field developments, Sheikh Qassem delivered an assessment of ongoing hostilities across the Lebanese front.

He stressed that two years of intense Israeli bombardment and ground incursions backed fully by Washington have failed to crush the Resistance, break its popular base, or allow the Israeli military to establish permanent settlements on Lebanese soil.

"Do not ask us what we will do," Sheikh Qassem stated, addressing external political pressures aimed at enforcing unilateral concessions. "We can only be a Resistance as long as this aggression exists."

The Hezbollah leader also rejected U.S.-sponsored diplomatic formulas that demand the group disarm while Israeli forces remain entrenched in southern Lebanon.

He insisted that the responsibility lies entirely with the occupying power to cease its violations and withdraw in defeat.

"The solution begins with the enemy's withdrawal under humiliating conditions," he added, iden-

tifying the joint Israeli-American aggression as the primary source of regional destruction.

Regional solidarity and internal unity

Evaluating broader regional dynamics, Sheikh Qassem commended the Iraqi people, their religious authority, and the Popular Mobilization Forces for driving American occupation forces out of Iraq and eradicating Daesh (ISIS) terrorism.

He noted that Iraq's victory proves how steadfast societies can expel foreign occupiers, whether imperialist powers or Takfiri extremists.

On internal Lebanese politics, Sheikh Qassem expressed full readiness to collaborate on economic reform, job creation, and protecting depositors' funds within constitutional channels, provided all discussions remain free from American tutelage.

He concluded with a message of solidarity to Palestinians in Gaza, the West Bank, and al-Quds (Jerusalem), declaring that despite massive civilian sacrifices and Western military backing for Israel, final victory inevitably belongs to those who defend their land.

Morteza Sharifi set to join Chinese club Hubei Baoding

TEHRAN _ Iranian volleyball international Morteza Sharifi is set to continue his club career in China after agreeing to join Hubei Baoding.

The experienced outside hitter will bring his international experience and attacking ability to the Chinese side as they prepare for the upcoming season.

Sharifi has established himself as one of Iran's prominent volleyball players, representing the national team in major international competitions.

His move to Hubei Baoding marks another chapter in his career and gives the Iranian star an opportunity to experience Chinese club volleyball.

The transfer is expected to add depth and quality to Hubei Baoding's roster, while Sharifi will look to make an immediate impact with his new team.

Golmohammadi: Iran U23 option or Team Melli coach?

TEHRAN - Yahya Golmohammadi has emerged as a name increasingly linked with Iranian football's national teams following his recent departure from Iraqi side Duhok. While reports have connected the experienced coach with the vacant Iran U23 head coach position, there is growing speculation that Golmohammadi could be a more suitable candidate for the senior national team.

The Iran U23 job became available after Hossein Abdi resigned as head coach, leaving the position open at a crucial stage for the country's young players. Golmohammadi's name has subsequently appeared in media reports as one of the possible candidates to take charge of the Olympic side.

However, it remains unclear whether there is any concrete agreement or serious negotiation between Golmohammadi and the Iranian Football Federation. Much of the current discussion appears to be based on media speculation rather than an officially confirmed proposal. His recent resignation from Duhok has naturally fueled those reports, but leaving an Iraqi club does not necessarily mean that the former Persepolis coach is preparing to take charge of the U23 team.

At the same time, another possibility deserves serious consideration.

The pressure surrounding Amir Ghalenoei has increased following a series of disappointing performances by the Iranian senior national team. Although Ghalenoei remains in charge, criticism of his tactical approach and the team's overall performances has led to speculation about a possible change in the future.

This is where Golmohammadi could become a particularly interesting candidate.

The 54-year-old coach has considerable experience managing Iranian clubs and has already worked under intense pressure at one of the country's biggest football institutions, Persepolis. His teams have generally been associated with organization, defensive discipline and an ability to compete under pressure. Those qualities could make him a logical candidate if the federation eventually decides to make a change at senior level.

Of course, appointing Golmohammadi to the U23 team could also make sense. Working with younger players would give him an opportunity to build a new generation and potentially prepare footballers for the senior national team. Yet, considering his experience and current profile, the senior team may represent a more natural challenge for him.

For now, the link between Golmohammadi and the Iran U23 team should be treated cautiously. There is no official confirmation that he will replace Abdi.

What is certain, however, is that Golmohammadi is available again. If the situation surrounding Ghalenoei becomes more com-

plicated, the former Persepolis boss could move from being a media-created U23 candidate to a serious contender for the biggest coaching job in Iranian football.

Morteza Nemati: my brother's gold doubles my joy in Nagoya

TEHRAN - Morteza Nemati is delighted to have won the karate gold medal at the 2026 Asian Games, but his joy has been doubled by the success of his brother, Mahmoud, who also struck gold.

Nemati claimed the men's -75kg title, securing his second gold medal in recent months.

Speaking exclusively to Tehran Times, Nemati reflected on his Asian Games triumph and outlined his plans for the remainder of 2026.

"I am grateful that I was able to win the first gold medal for Iran's delegation in Nagoya," Nemati said.

"After winning the Asian Championships, the coaching staff trusted me again and I had the honor of representing the national team once more. This time, I managed to win gold at the Asian Games."

Nemati also spoke proudly about his brother Mahmoud's success.

"Winning gold alongside my brother Mahmoud made the joy even greater. Everything went well, although I had the toughest draw," he said.

"Nurkanat Azhikanov of Kazakhstan is the toughest opponent I have faced in Asia and the world. I had lost to him twice before, but in the past two months I have beaten him twice. I defeated him by a single point in the Asian Championships final, but here I faced him in the first round in what was an early final and beat him by eight points.

"Then I defeated an opponent from the Philippines in the second round before beating Uzbekistan's Davut Nazymradov 4-3 in the final match of the Men's Kumite -75kg."

Looking ahead, Nemati said he will take a short break before returning to training for the World Cup in December.

"For now, I am resting after the Asian Games, but I will resume training soon and prepare for the World Cup in December," he said.

"Two years ago, I won the silver medal, and I hope that this time I can finish with the gold. There is also the Riyadh Indoor Games, which will be held toward the end of December. These are my plans for 2026, and I will follow the competition calendar for 2027 as well," Nemati concluded.

Panionios congratulates Iran volleyball team

TEHRAN - The Iranian men's national volleyball team's Asian Games in Nagoya has drawn congratulations from Greek club Panionios, where Iran national team outside hitter Ali Haghparsat is set to play next season.

Following Iran's triumph at the Asian Games in Nagoya, congratulations poured in for the national team players.

Among those extending their congratulations was Greek club Panionios, the team that Ali Haghparsat, Iran's national team outside hitter, is set to represent in the upcoming season.

Panionios congratulated its new player on Iran's impressive Asian Games title, highlighting the team's 3-1 victory over Japan in the final.

With Ali Haghparsat and several other international stars on its roster this season, Panionios will be aiming for strong results in the Greek Volleyball League.

Mudbrick houses: The heritage of traditional Iranian architecture

TEHRAN - Across Iran's deserts, dry plains and mountain valleys, houses built from earth form some of the country's most distinctive architectural landscapes. Their rounded roofs, thick walls, shaded courtyards and, in places, tall windcatchers are more than picturesque features. They are the result of centuries of experience in building with local materials and adapting everyday life to a difficult climate.

Mudbrick, or adobe, is among the oldest building traditions in the ancient country. Archaeological evidence shows that sun-dried mud bricks were being used in the Iranian plateau as early as the late 9th or early 8th millennium BCE. At Tepe Ganj Dareh in present-day Kermanshah province, early walls were built with shaped, sun-dried mud bricks. This means that the history of earthen construction in Iran is far older than the Achaemenid, Sasanian or Islamic periods.

Over thousands of years, Iranian builders refined the use of earth into a sophisticated architectural tradition. Mud was readily available, relatively inexpensive and particularly suitable for many of Iran's dry regions. It could be shaped into bricks, packed into walls or used in other forms of earthen construction. Straw and chaff were commonly mixed with the earth, while walls could be protected with mud, lime or other plasters.

For visitors, the appeal of these buildings lies not only in their age. Traditional earthen architecture offers a way to understand how Iranian communities once responded to heat, cold, limited water and scarce building materials without relying on modern mechanical systems.

Architecture shaped by climate

Much of central and southeastern Iran has hot, dry summers, strong sunlight and limited rainfall. Traditional houses developed in response to these conditions.

One of the most important features is the thick earthen wall. Such walls slow the transfer of heat, helping interiors remain relatively cooler during the day and retaining warmth when temperatures fall at night. The effect is reinforced by courtyards, shaded passages, underground spaces and carefully positioned openings.

In Yazd, perhaps the best-known surviving example of this approach, the relationship between architecture and climate can be seen throughout the historic city. UNESCO describes Yazd as a living example of the intelligent use of limited resources in a desert environment. Its traditional buildings use earth for walls and roofs, while courtyards, thick walls and windcatchers help create a more comfortable microclimate.

The result is an urban landscape that can appear almost monochromatic from a distance. Up close, however, its surfaces reveal different textures and shades of earth, plaster and brick. Narrow lanes often provide shade, while partially covered passages known as Sa'bat protect pedestrians from the intense sun.

For a traveler walking through Yazd's old quarters, these details make the city feel less like an open-air museum and more like a functioning architectural system. The buildings, streets, water infrastructure and public spaces were designed as parts of the same environment.

The courtyard at the heart of the home

The traditional Iranian house was not simply a collection of rooms surrounded by walls. In many regions, the courtyard was the center of domestic life.



A view of Esfahak village in South Khorasan province, eastern Iran.

Rooms were arranged around an enclosed open space, creating privacy and providing a protected environment for family life. In desert cities such as Yazd, courtyards could also be positioned below street level. UNESCO notes that traditional houses in Yazd include sunken courtyards and underground areas, which helped improve the local microclimate.

This inward-looking design was also connected to cultural ideas about privacy. Unlike many modern houses, which open toward streets and public spaces, traditional Iranian homes often turned their main living spaces toward the courtyard.

The courtyard could contain trees, plants and sometimes a pool or water feature. These elements were not merely decorative. Shade and vegetation helped soften the heat, while water contributed to a sense of coolness and comfort.

The house therefore became a small climate-controlled world, achieved through architectural planning rather than machinery.

Windcatchers: an ingenious response to heat

Few elements of Iranian architecture are more recognizable than the Badgir, or windcatcher.

These tall towers rise above many traditional houses and other buildings in central Iran. Their function is simple but effective: they capture air and direct it into the building. Depending on their design and the prevailing conditions, windcatchers can help circulate air through rooms and other parts of a house.

Yazd's skyline is particularly famous for them. UNESCO identifies windcatchers, courtyards and thick earthen walls as important elements of the city's traditional climate-adapted architecture.

A Badgir also demonstrates an important characteristic of vernacular architecture: local builders did not necessarily need sophisticated modern technology to solve environmental problems. They observed wind, temperature, sunlight and seasonal changes, then incorporated that knowledge into the buildings themselves.

For tourists, climbing to a rooftop in the historic quarters of Yazd offers one of the best ways to appreciate this relationship. From above, windcatchers, domes and earthen roofs appear as a continuous architectural landscape, with modern development often disappearing behind the old city's dense fabric.

From bricks to domes and vaults

Mudbrick was only one part of Iran's earthen-building tradition. Builders also developed sophisticated methods for constructing arches, vaults and domes.

The advantage was both practical and structural. Curved roofs could span spaces without requiring the large quantities of timber that were difficult to obtain in many arid regions.

The technique can be seen on a monumental scale at Bam in Kerman province. The UNESCO-listed Bam and its Cultural Landscape

contains the remains of a fortified settlement constructed with mud layers, known as Chineh, sun-dried mud bricks or Khesht, as well as vaulted and domed structures. The origins of Bam can be traced to the Achaemenid period, while the citadel reached its height between the seventh and 11th centuries.

Bam is particularly important because its architecture cannot be separated from the oasis that supported it. Underground irrigation channels, or Qanats, brought water into the settlement and allowed agriculture and urban life to develop in an otherwise arid environment. UNESCO considers the relationship between the earthen settlement and its water system an outstanding example of the interaction between people and their environment.

The earthquake of 2003 severely damaged the historic citadel, but conservation work has preserved and restored important parts of its traditional fabric. The site remains one of Iran's most powerful places for understanding earthen architecture on a large scale.

An architectural tradition across Iran

Yazd and Bam are perhaps the best-known destinations, but earthen construction is not confined to these two places.

Traditional earth architecture can be encountered across large parts of central, eastern and southeastern Iran. Historic settlements and houses in areas around Kerman, Kashan, South Khorasan and Sistan reflect different versions of the same broad knowledge: use what the land provides and design buildings according to local climate and resources.

The materials and construction methods were not identical everywhere. Iran's architectural traditions developed according to local soil, climate, available vegetation, water resources and building customs.

This regional diversity is one reason it is misleading to think of "mudbrick architecture" as a single architectural style. A house in Yazd may look quite different from an earthen building in Kerman or South Khorasan. What connects them is the use of earth and a long tradition of adapting architecture to place.

The archaeological record also shows that the use of mudbrick continued through different historical periods. Encyclopaedia Iranica notes that sun-dried mud bricks were predominant in Iran until the end of the Achaemenid period, while later periods saw increasing use of fired brick in important buildings.

This combination of continuity and change is visible across Iran's historic towns. Earthen construction did not disappear when fired brick, stone and other materials became available. Instead, different materials were often used according to function, location and status.

Why mudbrick matters today

Traditional mudbrick houses are increasingly vulnerable to neglect,

abandonment, urban expansion and the replacement of traditional materials with modern construction. Yet the knowledge embodied in them has gained new relevance at a time when architects around the world are looking for ways to reduce energy consumption and respond to climate change.

The historic city of Yazd has become an important reference point in this discussion. UNESCO describes its earthen architecture as a source of inspiration for contemporary architecture facing sustainability challenges.

The lesson is not that modern buildings should simply copy old houses. Rather, traditional architecture demonstrates how much can be achieved through passive design: orientation, shade, thermal mass, natural ventilation, compact urban form and the careful use of local resources.

One contemporary initiative is the Esfahk Mud Center in the historic village of Esfahk in South Khorasan province. Founded in 2015, the center focuses on education and the revival of traditional earthen construction techniques. Research on Esfahk has documented courses and practical work involving traditional building methods, including the construction of vaults.

For visitors interested in architecture, Esfahk offers a different experience from the major heritage cities. It provides an opportunity to see traditional techniques not simply as archaeological remains, but as knowledge that is still being studied, taught and tested.

A different way to experience Iran

The best way to understand Iran's mudbrick heritage is to walk through it.

In Yazd, travelers can explore historic neighborhoods where earthen houses, windcatchers, domes, covered lanes and traditional water systems remain part of the urban landscape. UNESCO inscribed the Historic City of Yazd on the World Heritage List in 2017, recognizing its exceptional earthen architecture and its adaptation to the desert environment.

In Bam, the scale changes. The citadel reveals how earth could be used not only for individual houses but for an entire fortified settlement. Its walls, towers, courtyards, vaulted spaces and relationship with the oasis show how architecture, trade, water management and security were woven together.

Elsewhere, smaller villages and historic neighborhoods offer a quieter encounter with the same tradition. Their value often lies precisely in their simplicity: an earthen wall, a shaded alley, a courtyard, an arched roof or a weathered brick surface can reveal centuries of practical knowledge.

Iran's mudbrick houses are therefore more than remnants of a pre-industrial past. They are evidence of how generations of builders learned to live with their environment. The earth beneath their feet became walls and roofs; scarce water shaped their settlements; the desert sun influenced the orientation of their homes; and the wind was turned into a natural source of ventilation.

For travelers, these buildings offer an architectural journey into that accumulated knowledge. For architects and conservationists, they offer lessons that remain relevant. And for local communities, preserving them means protecting not only old buildings but a part of the knowledge, identity and landscape that made life possible in some of Iran's harshest environments.

Festival of Kindness: supporting children and protecting their right to education

TEHRAN – As the new academic year begins across Iran, the annual Jashn-e Atefeh, literally meaning the Festival of Kindness, is once again bringing together people, charities and public organizations in a nationwide effort to support students from underprivileged families and help ensure that financial hardship does not keep children from education.

The festival, traditionally held at the beginning of the Iranian school year, calls on citizens to contribute school supplies, clothing, educational materials, and financial assistance to children and families in need. The initiative is mainly organized by the Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation, in cooperation with other charitable and public institutions.

Hamed Sabouri, the deputy education minister, said that the 35th edition of the festival will be held in schools for a full week this year for the first time, giving students, families and the education community more time to take part in the charitable initiative.

Sabouri added that the event is being held under the central slogan, “A Breeze of Kindness with Students’ Charitable Spirit.” Under this year’s plan, the festival will continue in schools for one week starting October 6, he noted.

Bottom of Form

The primary aim of the festival



val is to promote equal access to education and ease the financial burden faced by low-income families. Donations collected during the event are used to provide essential school necessities for disadvantaged students, allowing them to start the academic year with the basic resources needed for their education.

The initiative dates back to the early years following the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran and has gradually developed into one of the country’s best-known public charity

events. Over the years, the festival has attracted participation from government bodies, charities, businesses, schools, volunteers and ordinary citizens.

The festival’s name conveys the idea of affection, compassion and caring for others, reflecting the spirit behind the initiative. It seeks not only to provide material assistance but also to strengthen a culture of solidarity and social responsibility.

Donation drives are held in cities and towns across the country, with collection points set up at public venues and through

participating organizations. In recent years, online and electronic payment channels have also made it easier for people to contribute.

The festival has thus become more than an annual charity drive. It serves as a reminder of the importance of collective responsibility in supporting children and protecting their right to education, particularly at a time when economic challenges can place additional pressure on vulnerable families.

World Space Week highlighting ‘Rocket Revolution’

TEHRAN – Iran is marking the 26th World Space Week, being held from October 4 to 10 under the theme “Rocket Revolution,” with a wide range of promotional, educational, and scientific programs organized across the country.

The programs, targeting students, children, and adolescents, aim to promote awareness of space science and technology and encourage younger generations to explore the field through educational and scientific activities.

Iran has been celebrating World Space Week since 2000. In 2025, the country ranked among the top 10 nations in terms of the diversity of programs held to mark the occasion, hosting a total of 234 events nationwide, IRIB reported.

This year, the week began with a ceremony on Sunday at the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Tehran. The ICT Minister Sattar Hashemi, the Government spokeswoman, Fatemeh Mohajerani, and other officials attended the event. During the ceremony, the event unveiled five books on space technology for children and young adults.

The week’s educational programs primarily target children and students from schools and universities to make them more interested in space science.

These programs are being implemented in

cooperation with the Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (IIDCYA), the Ministry of Education, research centers, specialized space organizations and centers, organizations utilizing space services, universities and scientific institutions, private associations and institutions, private sector companies, and knowledge-based enterprises nationwide.

The World Space Week programs include contests for students, online educational events for seventh- and eighth-grade students, and specialized meetings. Moreover, conducting 5 space observations and distributing educational materials and books in underprivileged areas in the country are among other parts of the programs.

The days of the week in Iran are named after homegrown rockets. Sunday, October 4: Safir; October 5: Simurgh; October 6: Zol-janah; October 7: Qased; October 8: Qaem; October 9: Qoqnous; and October 10: Sarir.

World Space Week is an international celebration of science and technology, and their contribution to the betterment of the human condition. The United Nations General Assembly declared in 1999 that World Space Week will be held each year from October 4-10.

The dates commemorate two events: October 4, 1957: the launch of the first hu-

man-made Earth satellite, Sputnik 1, thus opening the way for space exploration, and October 10, 1967: The signing of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies.

World Space Week consists of space education and outreach events held by space agencies, aerospace companies, schools, planetaria, museums, and astronomy clubs around the world in a common timeframe.

The week aims to provide unique leverage in space outreach and education, educate people around the world about the benefits that they receive from space, encourage greater use of space for sustainable economic development, demonstrate public support for space programs, excite young people about science, technology, engineering, and math, as well as foster international cooperation in space outreach and education.

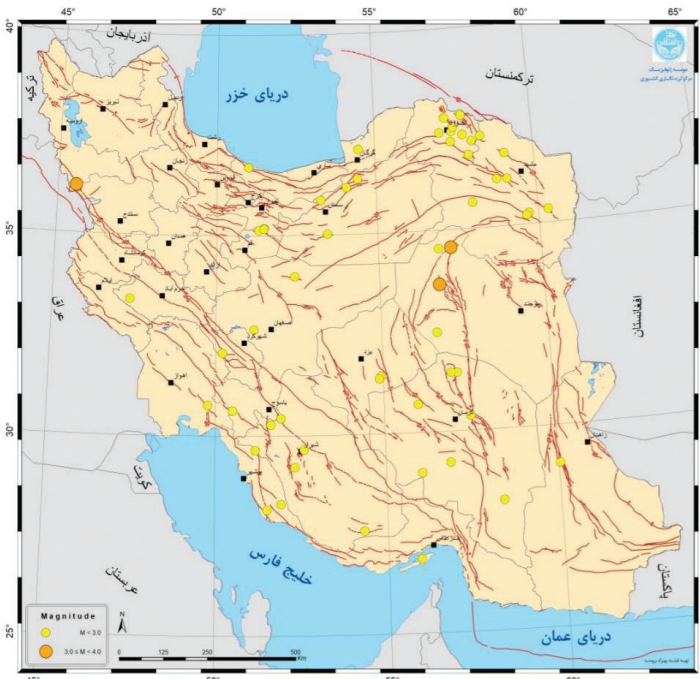
The 2026 theme focuses on the rapid transformation of space launch. Once limited to a small number of government programs, access to space is now expanding through commercial launch providers, reusable rockets, university teams, startups, and new national space actors. This shift is changing who can reach space, how often launches happen, and what space is used for.

2.5 on the Richter scale were recorded across the country over the past calendar year (March 2025–March 2026), according to the Seismological networks of the Institute of Geophysics of the University of Tehran, Mehr news agency reported.

Out of recorded earthquakes, 910 had a magnitude greater than 3, 130 had a magnitude greater than 4, and 15 had a magnitude greater than 5 on the Richter scale.

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

About 2 percent of the earthquakes in the world occur in Iran, but more than 6 percent of the victims of the world’s earthquakes during the 20th century are reported from Iranian earthquakes.



earthquakes hit Tehran. No earthquakes were recorded in East Azarbaijan, Ardabil, Alborz, Ilam, Zanjan, Qom, Qazvin, Kordestan,

Kermanshah, Gilan, Markazi, and Hamedan provinces.

A total of 2,380 earthquakes with a magnitude of more than

FAO boosts Iran’s capacity to protect date palms from pests and diseases

TEHRAN – The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is strengthening national and provincial capacities to prevent, detect and manage key pests and diseases affecting date palm production in the Islamic Republic of Iran, supporting healthier orchards, reduced production losses and more sustainable livelihoods for date-producing communities.

This support will be advanced through a newly signed Letter of Agreement between FAO and the Agricultural Education and Extension Institute (AEEI) under FAO’s project “Technical Assistance to Improve Integrated Pest Management of Key Date Palm Insect Pests and Diseases”. The agreement was signed on October 5 in Tehran and will enable a multi-provincial capacity-development programme targeting approximately 1,720 farmers, agricultural extension officers and technical staff across nine provinces.

The ceremony was attended by Mr Golmohammadi, Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

“Strengthening the capacity of farmers and agricultural extension services is essential to ensuring that pest and disease management measures are effective, timely and sustainable,” said FAO Representative in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Farrukh Toirov. “Through this cooperation, FAO is supporting the application of science-based and environmentally responsible approaches that can help protect date palm production, reduce losses and strengthen the livelihoods that depend on this important sector.”

The Islamic Republic of Iran is one of the world’s leading date-producing countries, producing approximately 1.3 million tonnes of dates annually. Date palms are cultivated across around 260,000 hectares, with an estimated 40 million trees nationwide. Date production provides an important source of income and employment for farming families and rural communities, particularly in southern and central provinces, while also supporting a wider value chain encompassing harvesting, processing, packaging, transportation, trade and export.

The health and productivity of date palm orchards are therefore closely linked to the resilience of rural livelihoods and the competitiveness of the date sector. Pest and disease outbreaks can reduce yields and fruit quality, increase production costs and contribute to economic losses for farmers and other actors across the value chain.

“Through this initiative, FAO is supporting efforts to improve the management of major threats to date palm production, including the Red Palm Weevil, date palm borers,



Dubas bug and important date palm diseases and disorders. The project focuses on strengthening surveillance, monitoring and early detection, while promoting effective, innovative and environmentally responsible Integrated Pest Management and Integrated Disease Management approaches,” Mr Toirov stated.

The newly signed Letter of Agreement will translate these objectives into practical capacity development in the field. Under the agreement, training activities will be carried out in Sistan and Baluchestan, Kerman, Hormozgan, Fars, Bushehr, Khuzestan, Yazd, South Khorasan and Isfahan provinces.

The programme will strengthen participants’ knowledge and practical skills in identifying pests and diseases, conducting surveillance and monitoring, recognizing threats at an early stage and applying appropriate integrated management measures. For farmers, improved knowledge of early signs of pest and disease incidence can support timely action and help prevent damage from becoming more severe. For extension officers and technical staff, strengthened capacities can support more effective field-level advice, monitoring and response.

By bringing technical knowledge and practical training closer to farmers and field-level agricultural professionals, the programme aims to support the wider application of integrated pest and disease management practices across major date-producing areas.

“The cooperation is expected to contribute to healthier date palm orchards, reduced production and economic losses, stronger farmer livelihoods and improved quality and competitiveness of Iranian dates in domestic and international markets.

Through the Letter of Agreement, FAO and its national partners are investing in the capacities, knowledge and institutions needed to support a more resilient and sustainable date palm sector in the Islamic Republic of Iran,” Mr Toirov concluded.

Tehran, Baghdad seek closer cooperation against drug trafficking

TEHRAN – Iran and Iraq have stressed the need to strengthen operational intelligence sharing, exchange experiences, and expand joint efforts to combat drug trafficking, as the two countries seek to enhance cooperation in the fight against narcotics.

Iranian Anti-Narcotics Police Chief Brigadier General Iraj Kakavand made the remarks during a meeting with his Iraqi counterpart, Ahmed Al-Zarkani, where he outlined Iran’s measures and efforts to counter drug trafficking.

Kakavand said the two countries’ cooperation in combating drug trafficking has been satisfactory, stressing that an effective and comprehensive response to the phenomenon requires cooperation beyond national borders.

He called for closer bilateral cooperation and faster information exchange between the specialized police forces of the two countries. Under a security and law enforcement cooperation memorandum signed between Iran and Iraq, the two sides can exchange information on drug trafficking and transit methods, as well as the status of arrested traffickers who are nationals of either country, he said.

Kakavand also stressed the need to hold regular meetings between the anti-narcotics police chiefs of the two countries’ border provinces, noting that operational coordina-

tion and the exchange of scientific, intelligence and field experience require sustained interaction between the two sides.

For his part, the Iraqi anti-narcotics police chief expressed satisfaction with the ongoing cooperation between the two countries in combating drug trafficking and called for further enhancement of cooperation and greater exchange of experience with Iran’s anti-narcotics police.

In January, Al-Zarkani highlighted the need to enhance joint activities on combating drug smuggling and sharing expertise between the two countries.

“We welcome boosting joint activities with Iran’s anti-narcotics police and look forward to expanding cooperation on other drug-related issues,” Al-Zarkani said in a meeting with Kakavand, ISNA reported.

The Iraqi official highlighted the significance of exchanging information on drug traffickers as well.

“A targeted, comprehensive fight against narcotics requires a lot of effort and goes beyond the national borders of the two countries; by fostering cooperation, we will be able to adopt appropriate measures to deal more decisively with drug trafficking,” Al-Zarkani noted.



OCTOBER 7, 2026

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Be not ashamed of a small donations; for, despair is much less than that.
Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon:11:52 Evening: 17:58 Dawn: 4:41 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:05 (tomorrow)

Tehran Theater to host adaptation of Neil Simon's "Laughter on the 23rd Floor"

TEHRAN – A loose adaptation of the 1993 play "Laughter on the 23rd Floor" by Neil Simon will be staged at the Tehran Theater Complex in the capital for two weeks.

Hesan Houshdar has directed the play and also performs in it along with Amirhossein Shishehgaran, Mehryar Khodaei, Meysam Goudarzi, Kamand Shouhani, Amirhossein Balouchi, Mohammad Vaghefi, Helia Hassan-zadeh, and Alireza Atabaki.

With the first performance set for October 8, the 90-minute play will run through October 23 at the Tehran Theater Complex, located at No. 3, Farhangi Alley, Vesal Shirazi St., Enghelab Ave.

It focuses on the star and writers of a TV comedy-variety show in the 1950s, inspired by Simon's own early career experience as a junior writer (along with his brother Danny) for "Your Show of Shows" and "Caesar's Hour."

The play focuses on Sid Caesar-like Max Prince, the star of a weekly comedy-variety show, and his staff, including Simon's alter-ego Lucas Brickman, who maintains a running commentary on the writing, fighting, and wacky antics which take place in the writers' room. Max has an ongoing battle with NBC executives, who fear his humor is too sophisticated for Middle America.

Brickman is a young comedy writer trying to prove himself in the fraternal writers room for The Max Prince Show. It's 1953, and with McCarthyism running rampant, the network demanding budget cuts, and a host who can't manage to stay sober, things aren't looking good.

Playwright Neil Simon, a television comedy writer himself, wrote "Laughter on the

23rd Floor" as a roman a clef: the characters are based on real people but given fictional names. There's the flashy Milt, who prefers quantity over quality when it comes to jokes, Ira, the hypochondriac agitator, Val, the fussy Russian immigrant, Brian, who claims to have somehow sold a screenplay he's yet to write, the sophisticated Kenny, and the defensive Carol, the sole female writer.

Packed with Simon's characteristic wit and offbeat characters, this ensemble comedy offers a fly-on-the-wall look at a zany TV writers room and the colorful personalities inside it.

This ensemble comedy features all the attendant comic drama as the harried writing staff frantically scrambles to top each other with gags while competing for the attention of star madman Max Prince.

The play is notable not only for its insider's look at the personalities and processes of television comedy writing, but also for its reflection of the political and social undercurrents of its time, in particular the rise of Joseph McCarthy, relationships between various (European) American ethnicities, and attitudes toward women.

Neil Simon (1927 – 2018) was an American playwright, screenwriter, and author. He wrote more than 30 plays and nearly the same number of movie screenplays, mostly film adaptations of his plays.

He received three Tony Awards and a Golden Globe Award, as well as nominations for four Academy Awards and four Primetime Emmy Awards. He was awarded a Special Tony Award in 1975, the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1991, the Kennedy Center Honors in 1995 and the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor in 2006.

Cartoon of Day



Harassment
Cartoonist: OSVAL from Cuba

Six-volume "1001 Questions on Resistance" unveiled in Tehran

By Samaneh Aoutalebi

TEHRAN– The six-volume book "1001 Questions on Resistance," based on three decades of conversations with the late Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, was unveiled Monday at the Sarcheshmeh Cultural Center in Tehran during a gathering examining his thought and legacy.

The ceremony was attended by Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Qomi, head of Iran's Islamic Ideology Dissemination Organization; Mohammad-Hossein Saffar-Harandi, a member of the Expediency Discernment Council; Hojjatoleslam Asad Qasir, a cleric and director of the Center for Authentic Islam; Hojjatoleslam Ahmad Rahdar, a faculty member at Baqer al-Olum University; Abbas Khomehyar, a former Iranian cultural attaché in Lebanon; Mehdi Afraz, author of the book; and a number of religious, academic and cultural figures.

Speaking at the ceremony, Afraz described resistance as one of the most significant human ideas of the contemporary era, saying that important questions about its intellectual and social dimensions remain unanswered despite extensive discussion of the concept.

He said the six-volume collection was compiled to address some of the ambiguities surrounding resistance in public discourse and social life.

"After extensive research, we selected the personality and views of martyr Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah as the main source, because his entire life and actions were closely intertwined with the issue of resistance, while his words offer strategic guidance for Muslim societies," Afraz said.

He described Nasrallah as a strategic architect of resistance, adding that the collection covers six major areas: the theology of resistance, political thought of resistance, resistance society, strategic equations of resistance, the resistance bloc, and resistance in Lebanon.

According to Afraz, the collection presents Nasrallah's statements in the form of 1,001 questions and answers, with two principal objectives: fostering an emotional and spiritual connection with him that can contribute to media and artistic productions, and enabling readers to engage more directly with his ideas.

Addressing the ceremony, Qomi described "1001 Questions on Resistance" as an example of the effort to clarify and accurately narrate the history and ideas of resistance.

He said Nasrallah's legacy should not be reduced to his military role, stressing that the late Hezbollah leader had presented resistance as a path toward



progress and dignity for the oppressed, supported by rational, innate and religious arguments.

"We all feel a debt toward Sayyed Hassan, and there is much that needs to be done," Qomi said, emphasizing that the task today is not merely to recall his character, conduct and courage, but to explain the path of resistance that he placed before humanity.

Khomehyar, a West Asia researcher and former Iranian cultural attaché in Lebanon, called for greater attention to the different dimensions of Nasrallah's thought and the values he established in Lebanon.

He said Iranian media and public platforms had largely focused on Nasrallah's military role over the past two years, arguing that this approach overlooks other aspects of his legacy.

"We must address the diverse values that Sayyed Hassan established in Lebanon and which later spread to other Arab and Islamic countries," Khomehyar said.

Referring to the concept of the "School of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah," he called for its less-explored dimensions to be studied and highlighted.

He said understanding the resistance movement in Lebanon requires examining Nasrallah's managerial abilities, rationality, realism, ethical conduct and emphasis on educating a new generation.

"Sayyed Hassan held classes more than he delivered speeches," he said, noting that Nasrallah regularly held sessions for the families of martyrs and young people and devoted considerable attention to educating and developing cadres.

Saffar-Harandi said Nasrallah filled a vacuum for a hero in the Muslim world by establishing a new standard for political

leadership.

He said Nasrallah represented a victorious model of resistance, creating expectations among his contemporaries and subsequent generations that would not easily be reversed.

Saffar-Harandi highlighted Nasrallah's deep religious convictions, close connection with the people and courage in difficult circumstances. He also pointed to his understanding of Lebanon's diverse social fabric, saying that despite leading a Shiite movement, he gained support among Sunnis, Maronites and other Christian communities.

He also described Nasrallah as a bridge between the Islamic Revolution in Iran and the Arab world, including Iraq, Yemen, Palestine and Syria.

Rahdar called for the compilation and publication of Nasrallah's collected speeches in a volume similar to "Sahifeh-ye Nour," the collection of the late Imam Khomeini's speeches and writings.

He described Nasrallah as an "allameh" in the full sense of the word, saying it would take time for the different dimensions of his personality and thought to be fully understood.

He said the wisdom evident in Nasrallah's speeches was not merely the product of theoretical study, but had developed through years of practical and ethical struggle.

"1001 Questions on Resistance" is published in six volumes covering the theology of resistance, political thought, society, strategic equations, the resistance bloc and the Lebanese resistance, offering a thematic presentation of Nasrallah's views through 1,001 questions and answers.

Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah became secretary-general of Hezbollah in 1992, following the as-

sassination of his predecessor, Sayyed Abbas al-Musawi. He led the movement for more than three decades, during a period that included the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon in 2000 and the 2006 war between Hezbollah and Israel. Under his leadership, Hezbollah developed into a major political and military force in Lebanon and assumed a broader role in regional affairs.

Nasrallah was also widely known for his televised speeches, through which he addressed supporters and commented on major developments in Lebanon and the wider region. Born and raised in Beirut, he came from a family with roots in Bazouriyeh in southern Lebanon. While his public life was closely followed across the region, his personal and family life largely remained outside the spotlight.

He was tragically killed at the age of 64 during a series of intense Israeli airstrikes in southern Beirut on September 27, 2024.

The attack that claimed Nasrallah's life was carried out by Israeli fighter jets targeting Hezbollah's main headquarters, resulting in the martyrdom of several senior Hezbollah commanders and prominent Iranian Revolutionary Guards Lieutenant General Abbas Nilforoushan, who was present at the scene.

Under Nasrallah's leadership, whose name means "victory through God," Hezbollah evolved from a grassroots armed movement into the largest political party in Lebanon's recent history. Renowned for his captivating speeches, Nasrallah garnered attention throughout the West Asia and beyond, establishing himself as a significant figure within the Axis of Resistance, which includes Hezbollah, the Palestinian groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad, the Houthi movement in Yemen, and various Iraqi paramilitary factions.

Iranian horror film "The Devil's Mirror" to compete in 20th Fright Night Film Fest

TEHRAN – The Iranian feature film "The Devil's Mirror" directed by Farid Valizadeh will compete in the 20th Fright Night Film Fest, which will be held in Kentucky, the US, on December 5 and 6.

Made in the psychological horror genre, the movie tells the story of demonic temptations in a luxurious villa around Tehran, Honaronline reported.

Produced by Fozhan Film, the horror-drama movie is the second full-length feature film by Valizadeh after the experimental film "Count to 10" (2023).

The cast of the 87-minute movie includes Sahar Vaseghi, Morteza Zarabi, Ghazaleh Nazar, Mohsen Sadeghinasab, Zahra Sادات Razavi, Alireza Shakiba, Golnaz Abbasi, Ali Yaghoubi, Behnaz Hosseini, Arash Yazdan, Payam



Eskandari, Omid Mohammadi, Saeed Nazari, Elham Bateni, Sajede Alimoradpour and Farid Valizadeh.

Farid Valizadeh, 46, is an Iranian film actor and director. He has been working with many famous Iranian directors such as Rakhshan Banietamad and Bahman Farmanara.

For more than 20 years, Fright

Night Film Fest has been dedicated to one mission: putting independent filmmakers and their films in front of the fans who love them.

From the beginning, the festival has remained committed to showcasing the best, boldest, and most original voices in independent cinema—giving filmmakers an opportunity to have their work seen,

celebrated, and discovered.

Its selections span the entire spectrum of genre filmmaking—from slashers, thrillers, and supernatural horror to sci-fi, cult cinema, dark comedy, and the wonderfully unexpected. Every year, it searches for films that entertain, challenge, surprise, and leave audiences wanting more.

Fright Night Film Fest is more than a film festival. It is a celebration of the filmmakers, actors, writers, artists, and fans who keep independent genre cinema alive.

In 2026, it continues the tradition by bringing together incredible independent films, passionate filmmakers, and devoted genre fans for another unforgettable year.