

TEHRAN TIMES

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Iran FM talks to Palestinian resistance leaders

TEHRAN- Hossein Amir Abdollahian, the Foreign Minister of Iran, has reiterated the Islamic Republic's backing for the oppressed Palestinian people and demanded that Israel quickly put an end to its killing of civilians in the Gaza Strip.

Amir Abdollahian made the comments on Monday during separate phone conversations with Ziad al-Nakhleh, the secretary-general of Islamic Jihad, and Ismail Haniyeh, the head of the Hamas Political Bureau.

He said that in addition to stopping the forcible relocation of residents in the besieged Strip, Israel must open the Rafah border crossing between Egypt and Gaza to allow much-needed relief to pass to Palestinians.

In addition to the relentless bombardment of the coastal enclave of Gaza, Israel has cut food, water, medicine, and fuel to the people.

In terms of international law, Israel's actions are clear examples of war crimes and crimes against humanity. ▶ Page 2

Opinion Disney's controversial donation: a clash of values amidst Gaza conflict

By Samaneh Aboutalebi

TEHRAN - Amid the ongoing war and genocide in Gaza that has resulted in the tragic deaths of numerous children and teenagers at the hands of Israeli forces, it is disheartening to learn that Disney Company, renowned for producing family-friendly content, has made a donation of two million dollars to the Israeli government.

Such contributions will be utilized towards the procurement of bombs and missiles, directly contributing to the already devastating loss of lives. This contradiction is alarming, as a company that endeavors to bring joy and happiness to children worldwide is also enabling a regime that perpetrates violence against them.

In this new world, however, it is not surprising that the governments of superpowers not only tolerate but actively endorse such heinous deeds. The creators of so-called heroes for children are now aiding the enemies of these innocent kids, making it easier for them to harm children.

Considering the United States' history marred by the tragic displacement and colonization of Native American lands, it is not unreasonable to seek assistance from an animation company like Disney to create heroes for their young generation, to replace the real heroes they have never had the privilege to witness in their own lives. ▶ Page 8



Palestinian children looking toward the sky amid airstrikes at a United Nations-run school in Gaza City on Saturday, October 21, 2023.

▶ Page 5

Child-Killer is Busy

Israeli bombing of Gaza has killed nearly 2,000 Palestinian children

A severe political & military paranoia

By Sondos Al-Asaad

BEIRUT - More than two have passed since the historical epic "Al-Aqsa Storm". The military spokesman for the Ezzedine al-Qassam Brigades, Abu Ubaida, has spoken about 250 Zionist prisoners, the majority of whom were from the "elite" brigades. The Zionists believe that through the ground invasion, they will enforce a state of "humanitarian" pressure to reduce their losses. Nevertheless, the entire Palestinian resistance forces have tested its army repeatedly, and know that it is a fragile and helpless cartoon army that is only good at slaughtering children and women with absolute American support and advanced weapons.

During the past days, the enemy's leadership's speech is evidence of weakness; its threats are released from shelters, while the Palestinian resistance is determined to resolve the issue of its own prisoners, and bring joy to their hearts, as Abu Ubaida has promised in his recent speech. ▶ Page 5

Why Israel's invasion of Gaza is still pending

By Mona Hojat Ansari

TEHRAN - Israel has been talking up a supposedly upcoming ground offensive into Gaza over the past days. Despite attempts by the Israeli regime to project a united front and strong military presence, recent events indicate that Israel's military as well as its cabinet are grappling with internal challenges following the attack by Hamas on October 7.

Tensions are escalating within Israeli forces, particularly involving high-ranking leaders, suggesting a strained atmosphere. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in particular, has faced calls from various Israeli politicians and settlers to step down.

As reported by Israeli daily Yedioth Ahronoth on Monday, three Israeli ministers are contemplating resignation to "hold Netanyahu accountable" for the recent Palestinian attack.

The prime minister is also being given the cold shoulder by the military. A video shared online on Saturday shows Netanyahu getting confronted by an Israeli soldier during his visit to a base. ▶ Page 5

What position has Iran taken on the Gaza war?

By Alireza Akbari

TEHRAN - The following report highlights the viewpoints of the top Iranian political and military figures regarding the barbarity of the Israeli rulers against Palestinians in Gaza.

The senior Iranian officials have openly supported the Palestinians' struggle against the Israeli occupation and violence for more than four decades. Iran also praised the Operation Al-Aqsa Storm by Hamas against Israel inside the occupied territories on October 7. However, the Islamic Republic has dismissed linking the Storm operation to Iran as non-sensical.

Despite all commotions, Iran stands with the oppressed Palestinians.

Leader's stance regarding Storm operation

Ayatollah Khamenei, the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, in the joint graduation ceremony for the cadets on October 10 said: "We cannot be indifferent to these matters and to this important event. Fortunately, the stances taken by our officials were correct and good." ▶ Page 3

Iranian transport minister visits Armenia to pursue expansion of ties

TEHRAN - Iranian Transport and Urban Development Minister Mehrdad Bazrpash traveled to Armenia on Monday to meet the country's senior officials and discuss ways of expanding trade and transit ties between the two countries, IRNA reported.

Speaking to the press prior to the visit, Bazrpash emphasized Iran's readiness to export technical-engineering services to Armenia, announcing the plan of the two countries to strengthen the level of trade and transit, and remove cumbersome regulations in the way of trade development.

Regarding the objectives of his trip to Armenia, the official pointed out that the two countries have common borders with each other, which is an advantage for both, saying: "During this trip to Armenia, we have based negotiations with political and economic authorities on two axes." ▶ Page 4



IRNA / Payam Sani

'Time for peace, cooperation, and progress in South Caucasus': Iran FM

TEHRAN - Iran's foreign minister on Monday said regional countries in the Caucasus now have a historic opportunity to move towards peace and cooperation as "the war in the South Caucasus is over".

Hussein Amir Abdollahian made the remarks on Monday while hosting the foreign ministers of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Turkey and Russia in the Iranian capital of Tehran. The meeting, held as part of the 3+3 Format, is the second such ministerial gathering with the first one held in March of 2021.

"The title of this meeting is "Peace, Cooperation, and Progress in the South Caucasus." ▶ Page 3

Discus throwers collect three medals

TEHRAN - Iranian discus throwers Alireza Mokhtari, Asadollah Azimi and Rashid Masjedi claimed three medals in the 2022 Asian Para Games on Monday.

Mokhtari seized the gold with a throw of 22.38 meters in the Men's Discus Throw-F53 Final, followed by Azimi with 21.57 meters and Masjedi with 20.71 meters.

A total of 128 male athletes represent Iran in 16 events and 82 female athletes compete in 11 events.

Iran finished in third place in the 2018 Asian Para Games held in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Iran's slogan in the 2022 Asian Para Games is "Faith, Iran, Honor" and the name of the delegation is "Children of Iran".

Hangzhou 2022 takes place from Oct. 22 to 28. An estimated 3,000 athletes compete across 22 sports.

Child-Killer Is Busy

Israeli bombing of Gaza has killed nearly 2,000 Palestinian children

TEHRAN - So far, Israel has killed over 4,650 people in Gaza, including nearly 2,000 Palestinian children, leveling residential buildings, hospitals, mosques, churches, etc.

It means children make up around 40 percent of those who have lost their lives to the bombardment so far. That is an average of almost 111 children a day. Thousands more have been injured.

"More than 4,600 children are injured as hospitals run out of fuel, electricity, and medical supplies," rights group Defence for Children International - Palestine said in a post on social media platform X on Sunday.

Children in Gaza are developing severe trauma symptoms alongside the risk of death and injury, according to a Palestinian psychiatrist.

The psychological impact of the war on children was showing, said Fadel Abu Heen, a psychiatrist in Gaza. Children had "started to develop serious trauma symptoms such as convulsions, bed-wetting, fear, aggressive behavior, nervousness, and not leaving their parents' sides."

The "lack of any safe place has created a general sense of fear and horror among the entire population and children are most impacted," he said.

"Some of them reacted directly and expressed their fears. Although they may need immediate intervention, they may be in a better state than the other kids who kept the horror and trauma inside them."

About half of Gaza's 2.3 million population are children. Since 7 October, they have lived under near-constant bombardment, with many packed into temporary shelters in UN-run schools after fleeing their homes with little access to food or clean water.



Studies conducted after earlier conflicts have shown a majority of children in Gaza exhibiting symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

After Operation Pillar of Defence in 2012, UNICEF, the UN children's agency, found that 82% of children were either continuously or usually in fear of imminent death.

Among UNICEF's other findings were: 91% of children reported sleeping disturbances during the conflict; 94% said they slept with their parents; 85% reported appetite changes; 82% felt angry; 97% felt insecure; 38% felt guilty; 47% were biting their nails; 76% reported itching or feeling ill.

After Operation Cast Lead, the three-week war in 2008-09, a study by the Gaza community mental health programme (GCMHP) found that 75% of children over

the age of six were suffering from one or more symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, with almost one in 10 ticking off every criterion.

At the time, Hasan Zeyada, a psychologist with the GCMHP, told the Guardian: "The majority of children suffer many psychological and social consequences. Insecurity and feelings of helplessness and powerlessness are overwhelming."

"We observed children becoming more anxious - sleep disturbances, nightmares, night terror, regressive behaviour such as clinging to parents, bed wetting, becoming more restless and hyperactive, refusal to sleep alone, all the time wanting to be with their parents, overwhelmed by fears and worries. Some start to be more aggressive."

Experts also noted a spike in

psychosomatic symptoms, such as a high fever without a biological reason, or a rash over the body.

A report last year by Save the Children on the impact of 15 years of blockade and repeated conflicts on the mental health of children in Gaza found their psycho-social wellbeing had "declined dramatically to alarming levels".

Children that the aid agency interviewed "spoke of fear, nervousness, anxiety, stress and anger, and listed family problems, violence, death, nightmares, poverty, war and the occupation, including the blockade, as the things they liked least in their lives".

The report quoted António Guterres, the secretary general of the UN, describing the lives of children in Gaza as "hell on earth".

Why Israel's invasion of Gaza is still pending

Israeli military, cabinet have been thrown into disarray ahead of the claimed Gaza invasion

From page 1 ▶ in the southern region of the occupied territories. The soldier could be heard expressing strong criticism, stating, «You slaughtered all my friends! You have brought ruin upon Israel,» while another soldier attempted to prevent him from approaching Netanyahu.

The rift between Israeli politicians and military officials seems to have already taken a toll on the mentality of the regime's soldiers. Hebrew media outlets have reported that four Israeli soldiers have taken their own lives since the Hamas resistance movement shook the occupied territories through a surprise attack.

With these circumstances, several military figures from Israel have come forward in the past days trying to warn the regime against launching a ground offensive into Gaza.

Yigal Carmon, a former colonel from Amman who previously served as an advisor to two Israeli prime ministers, is among the well-known figures cautioning the Israeli regime about such an attack, suggesting that the regime is barking up the wrong tree. «We don't have enough information about the situation on the ground and our forces have not been sufficiently trained,» he said during an interview with Israeli television last week adding that attacking Gaza on the ground could soon backfire and turn into an even bigger crisis than the regime is already experiencing.

American military analysts have also been trying to warn Israel against the act. «Israel can refuse to walk into the trap that Hamas has set up,» Edward Story, a retired U.S. Army infantry officer, and Dennis Aftergut, a former federal prosecutor, wrote on MSNBC on Friday. The two tried to persuade Israeli forces that they should not feel «ashamed» if they decide to refrain from a direct battle with Hamas.

Top American officials have also expressed the same concerns. Pentagon chief Lloyd Austin announced on Monday that an Israeli invasion of Gaza would be "extremely difficult".

In addition to the evident demoralization among Israeli soldiers and the growing disconnect between the military and the far-right Israeli cabinet, practical factors on the ground further complicate and hinder the possibility of an offensive into Gaza for the Israeli regime.

Palestinian resistance fighters are known for their intricate tunnel network beneath Gaza.

These tunnels, reportedly reaching depths of at least 100 meters, pose significant challenges for Israeli forces who have limited knowledge of the underground terrain. Some have drawn parallels between this situation and the 1942 Battle of Stalingrad during World War II, where Nazi Germany, despite outnumbering Soviet Union forces and possessing superior equipment, struggled to overcome the Soviet Union's preparedness and adeptness in underground warfare. The Battle of Stalingrad resulted in the loss of an estimated 1.2 to 2 million lives.

It is believed that at least 100,000 Hamas fighters are waiting for Israeli forces to enter Gaza. However, if Israel decides to invade the territory, it will not only have to contend with Hamas but also face an even bigger enemy: The Lebanese resistance movement led by Hassan Nasrallah, which many analysts say will join the conflict in case of Gaza invasion.

Since 2006, Hezbollah has become Israel's primary source of concern. However, its military capabilities have significantly evolved since their last confrontation. Hezbollah now possesses tens of thousands of powerful missiles, capable of bypassing Israel's Iron Dome defense system and striking any point within the occupied territories. The presence of 2,000 American marines floating in the Mediterranean, cautiously staying away from the shoreline, is unlikely to provide significant assistance to Israel if Hezbollah decides to unleash a barrage of missiles upon the occupied territories.

Furthermore, the potential for additional fronts to open against Israel in Syria and Yemen adds to the complexity. Both countries possess well-equipped forces, on par with Hezbollah, thus increasing the challenges Israel would face on multiple fronts.

Overall it seems that the masterminds of Hamas have caused Israel to get caught between a rock and a hard place. The regime needs to launch an offensive into Gaza to make up for its humiliating intelligence and military defeat on October 7, but that might get it into an even bigger crisis. Even if Israel manages to overcome its military and political challenges, invade Gaza, and remove Hamas, another Hamas is sure to appear soon after and create the same issues for the regime. The Palestinians' struggle for national liberation is not going to end through bombardments or invasions.



Support for Palestinians continues around the world



Sarajevo



Dehli



Paris

Sympathy for the Palestinian citizens who are being slaughtered in a barbaric way by the Zionist regime of Israel has infuriated people around the world.

Thousands in Paris gathered on Sunday in the first Pro-Palestinian demonstration allowed by police since October 7.

The protest in Paris was called by the collective "National Collective for a sustainable and just peace between Palestinians and Israelis", made up of more than 40 organizations, including left-wing party France Unbowed, the CGT trade union and the organization "France Palestine Solidarity".

Raising Palestinian flags and chanting "Gaza, Paris is with you," the demonstrators voiced solidarity with Palestinians in the Gaza Strip amid intense Israeli bombardment and blockade on the enclave.

More than 15,000 people gathered at the

Place de la Republique square, according to police figures.

Local media reported that police allowed the rally because calls to the demonstration condemned a surprise attack by Palestinian group Hamas against Israel.

The protest was called by a French group called the National Collective for a Sustainable and Just Peace between Palestinians and Israelis, along with more than 40 other organizations, including the CGT trade union, left-wing party La France Insoumise (France Unbowed), the Attac movement, and the France Palestine Solidarity organization.

The protesters called for a cease-fire and expressed solidarity with the Gaza Strip, where at least 4,651 Palestinians have been killed, including 1,873 children and 1,023 women, since Oct. 7.

On Monday, members of a left-wing student

group, Students' Federation of India (SFI), also held a pro-Palestine demonstration near the Israeli embassy in Delhi. Many of them were detained by the police at APJ Abdul Kalam Road.

A video of the protests, shared by news agency ANI, showed police officials dragging protesters away. The protesters were seen waving flags at the pro-Palestine rally.

Bosnians demand end to genocide against Palestinians

Several thousand people gathered in the capital Sarajevo waving Palestinian and Bosnian flags, demanding a halt to Israel's bombardment in Gaza.

"Genocide, genocide," some chanted, while a large and prominent banner read "Yesterday Srebrenica, today Gaza," referring to the 1995 massacre in the Bosnian town, Europe's worst atrocity since World War Two in which Serb forces killed an estimated 8,000 Muslim men and boys.



A severe political & military paranoia

So far, the occupation army has failed to invade Gaza. Its technological, security and military tools are ready; however, its "soldiers" lack the will to fight. Its leaders are naive and unable to

overcome the ambushes and surprises of the united Palestinian resistance factions, which consistently coordinate on an ongoing basis with Hezbollah forces on the northern borders.

All it can do is shedding blood and committing genocide, whereas the so-called international community is: deaf, dumb, blind.

For its part, the Western mainstream media is racist, disgraceful, and violates all journalistic ethics. It exploits its major platforms and the algorithms of alternative media platforms to demonise the righteous legitimate resistance, and to justify the "Nazi" genocide committed against Gazan "babies." Meanwhile, it has turn blind eyes and deaf ears to the closure of the crossings, the obstruction of humanitarian aids to Gaza, and the occupation's intentions to displace the indigenous population and to resettle them in an alternative homeland under clear and explicit American sponsorship. What is currently taking place is a huge media storm accompanied by false narratives, systematic deception, information fragmentation, and hideous exploitation of artificial intelligence, just to demonise the right of the people of Palestine to struggle and defend their own lands.

80% of the innocent victims of the Baptist

Hospital massacre are women and children, who took refuge in the hospital as it is an internationally forbidden site to target. Nevertheless, racist Western mainstream media has intentionally adopted the narrative of the colonial occupation, which has insolently disavowed its heinous atrocity, accusing the Palestinian resistance of it, and displaying the bloody event as an "explosion" and not an "air bombardment." In addition to describing the victims as "dead" and not "killed." Besides, the mainstream media avoids mentioning the word "Baptist" since the crime is an attack on a health center affiliated with the Anglican church.

In case the Zionist entity approves establishing an investigation committee, then this would solely be for media-manipulation, as happened with the "Kahane Commission" that published a report on February 7, 1983 in which it concluded that it did not find evidence of any direct involvement of the Zionists in the heinous "Sabra and Shatila massacre." The enemy's acceptance of the investigation is to claim an alleged Zionist "democracy!"



Managing Director: **Mohammad Mahdi Rahmati**
Editor-in-Chief: **Mohammad Sarfi**

Editorial Dept.: Fax: (+98 21) 88808214 — 88808895
Email: info@tehrantimes.com
Switchboard Operator: Tel: (+98 21) 43051000
Advertisements Dept.: Telefax: (+98 21) 43051430
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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

God must be thanked for every blessing, and he who is thankful, receives more blessings, and he who neglects it, endangers that blessing and may soon lose it.
Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times » Noon: 11:49 Evening: 17:37 Dawn: 4:55 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:19 (tomorrow)

Persian fiction in Afghanistan

Part 2

On the one hand the new power elite took repressive measures to curb independent activities of the literati and, on the other hand, sponsored cultural institutions like The Literary Society (Anjoman-e Adabi) and The Historical Society (Anjoman-e Tarikh) and expanded public education and the press to an unprecedented degree.

The government succeeded in establishing an active and prolific, though largely conformist, group of intelligentsia that dominated the literary and cultural scene during the period.

Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, in addition to the publication of short stories, a number of novels and longer novellas appeared in installments in newspapers.

Panzdah Sal Qabl (Fifteen Years Ago) by Malekzade was an early successful attempt away from the overall romantic atmosphere of the prose fiction of the preceding decades.

Ebrahim Alamshahi's Sham-e Tarik, Sobh-e Rowshan (Dark Dusk, Bright Dawn) was another important story of this period. These stories, along with Solayman-Ali Jaghori's Bigom, Gol-Mohammad Zwanday's Firuz, Jalal ad-Din Khoshnava's Khanjar (Dagger), and Amin ad-Din Ansari's Dar Jostoju-ye Kimia (In Search of Alchemy) were written in a predominantly pedagogic and overtly didactic mode.

These examples of prose fiction were generally critical of the prevalent social relations, and their authors advocated reform and economic progress under the direction of the state.

Two influential writers of prose fiction in the 1940s and 1950s were Najibollah Turvayaneh and Abd al-Rahman Pazvak. The more successful of Turvayaneh's stories consist of his semi-historical narratives, stories that betray the author's nostalgia for a glorious heritage of the past.

Characters of his stories include Mahmud of Hgazna, Mohammad Kharazmshah and his son Jalal ad-Din who resisted the Mongol onslaught, as well as men in Afghan frontiers

who successfully fought the Mughal rulers of India.

As Pazhvak's collection of short stories, Afsaneha-ye Mardom (1957) suggests, popular stories, folktales, legends, and romance constitute the main component of his essentially lyrical prose fiction.

Aziz al-Rahman Fathi's novel Dar Pay-e Nastaran (At the Sweetbrier's Stem, 1952) was a major contribution to the growth of Afghan fiction.

Although the story lacks a well incorporated narrative plot and technically unified thematic structure, and contains many superfluous episodes, Fathi's work shows a better grasp of the genre of prose fiction than any of his predecessors or contemporaries in Afghanistan.

Fathi's lead was followed by younger writers of the period such as Shafi' Rahgozar, Habibollah Bahjat, Abd al-Ahmad Ada, Hgolam-Hosseini Fa'al, Musa Nahmat, and Hasan Ghamin.

A prolific writers of fiction in this period was Musa Hemmat who had edited Peymaneh (Goblet, 1963), the first anthology of contemporary short stories in Afghanistan.

From the late 1950s, Afghan women increasingly engaged in writing fiction. Roq(ay) yeh Abu-Bakr, Nafisa Mobarez, Maga Rahmani, and Malalay Musa, among others, were the leading female writers who were instrumental in introducing such themes and topics as the social marginalization of women and in calling for the improvement of women's status and education.

The year 1964 was a turning-point for contemporary fiction in Afghanistan. The promulgation of a new constitution that permitted a generally free press helped literary figures to find ready forums to publish their work and, consequently, further establish the genre of prose fiction.

Source: Encyclopedia Iranica
To be continued.

Disney's controversial donation: a clash of values amidst Gaza conflict

From Page 1 ▶ Disney has a lengthy track record of manufacturing what some may perceive as "fake heroes" in their movies and TV shows. These icons often portray an idealized version of America and its values, selectively ignoring the darker aspects of the nation's history in favor of more palatable narratives.

While Disney has been preoccupied with fabricating these fictional heroes, true heroes can be found in the Gaza Strip. Palestinian children in Gaza face unimaginable hardships and adversity, yet they display remarkable resilience and courage.

Batman, Superman, Catwoman, Spiderman, and other fictional heroes are meant to impart life lessons to children while evoking joy and cheerfulness. However, during the same period, children in Gaza and Palestine have been enduring a decade-long siege, with constant Israeli bombardment impeding access to basic necessities like food and medicine. These innocent children have witnessed the loss of their loved ones due to Israeli airstrikes, yet they persistently fight for their rights and stand up for fellow Palestinians.

It is important to recognize the bravery and resilience of the children in Palestine who face unimaginable challenges on a daily basis. These children have shown incredible strength in the face of violence, oppression, and injustice perpetuated by the Israeli occupation.



Israeli soldiers have been accused of using excessive force against these child protesters, resulting in injuries, imprisonment, and torture. The courage displayed by these children in their resistance movements deserves recognition and support from the international community.

While Disney's involvement

in controversial issues of Israel has raised concerns about the company's stance on human rights, it is essential to separate the actions of the corporation from the courageous individuals fighting for justice. Supporting the child heroes of Palestine means advocating for their rights, amplifying their stories, and demanding an end to the

occupation and violence that they face.

Unfortunately, today Disney has become more concerned with creating fictional heroes than supporting real ones and is prioritizing profit over human rights and the well-being of children.

However, this is not the first time that Disney has been involved in a contentious issue related to Israel. In fact, Disney has a long history of supporting Israel and has created numerous characters and stories that promote Israel's narrative and mythology.

Disney has been accused of using its power and influence to whitewash Israel's crimes against Palestinians.

In the face of all this, it is important to remember that the real heroes are the everyday people who are fighting for their rights and the well-being of their families and communities. Whether in Gaza or elsewhere, these people deserve our respect and support, and it is time that we recognize their bravery in the face of incredible adversity.

Disney has a responsibility to use their vast power and influence to promote justice and equality, rather than perpetuating harmful stereotypes and supporting unjust causes. Until they do, we will continue to stand with the real heroes of Palestine and reject the false narratives put forth by those who seek to whitewash the darker parts of American history and the ongoing oppression of the Palestinian people.

Neyanban virtuoso Ahmad-Ali Sharafi passes away



TEHRAN – Ahmad-Ali Sharafi, a veteran musician and neyanban virtuoso died in Bushehr, the southern Iranian city on Monday. He was 80.

Sharafi, a prominent figure in the music industry of southern Iran, died due to illness, ISNA reported.

He was born in Bushehr and had participated in many national and international festivals where he received numerous awards and

recognition.

The Persian instrument of neyanban, which is most common in southern Iran, is a kind of bagpipe.

This old instrument, which has been inscribed on the National Intangible Cultural Heritage list in 2015, is mostly played in the provinces of Bushehr, Khuzestan, Kerman and Hormozgan.

Ammar International Popular Film Festival condemns Zionists' crimes

TEHRAN-Following the Zionist Regime's crime in al-Mamdani Hospital in Gaza, a group of artists of the Ammar International Popular Film Festival, released a statement, strongly condemning the crime of the Zionist regime in the massacre of the oppressed people of Gaza.

In the statement, they wrote: "After the legitimate defense and the historic blow of the Palestinian Mujahideen to the deteriorating and feeble Zionist regime, the leaders of disbelief and hypocrisy and force, thinking of compensating for the disgraceful defeat of October 7, 2023, proceeded to punish collectively the civilians of the Gaza Strip and massacre the oppressed Palestinian people."

"They then purified their delusional

and animalistic image with the aid of the media's absurd and malicious tool and that of their accomplices. The crime of the Zionist regime in the bombing of al-Mamdani Hospital in Gaza, which led to the death and injury of thousands of children, women and innocent people, crossed the red line into barbarism. In front of the eyes of the people of the world, European countries and the American government also support these historical crimes by providing all kinds of WMDs and supporting them," the statement continued.

"Unfortunately, we have witnessed that the most obvious human rights are being subverted by the criminals of the world with the media tool or they are trying to hide the depth and severity of crimes by censoring the facts on the ground,

which hurts the heart of every free person, regardless of religion, profession, or specific geography," the signatories added.

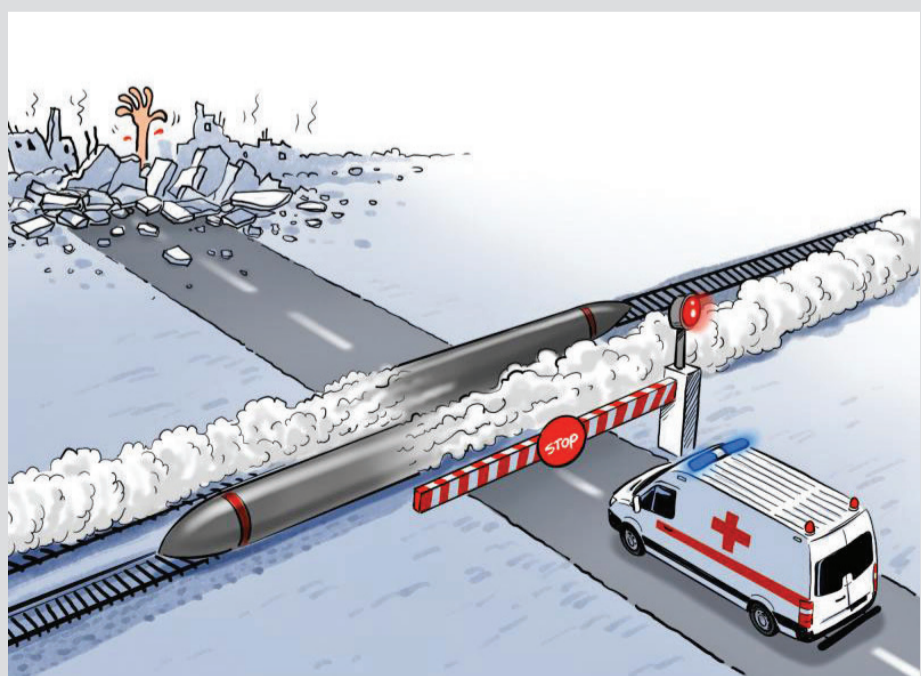
The statement continued by emphasizing the role of true artists in such conditions. "As this delicate situation continues, a great and historical responsibility is placed on the part of the oppressed and the human race towards the members of the media, especially the artists, who have fulfilled their mission by portraying the extent of ongoing crimes and the shameless genocide of the usurper Zionist regime, and by revealing the identity of the arrogant and the murderers should lead the public opinion of the world towards justice and humanity. It would be very foolish if such crimes are covered with silence and the media

and artists turn into modern slaves to serve the arrogance and share in an unpardonable sin."

The artists of the Ammar International Popular Film Festival concluded their statement by a verse from the Holy Quran: "And We desired to show favor to those who were oppressed in the land, making them models of faith as well as heirs". (Holy Quran, Surah al-Qasas, Verse: 5)

The Ammar festival was established in 2010 by a number of Iranian revolutionary figures to honor film and art products promoting topics such as resistance and revolution. It was named after Ammar Yasir, a close companion of the Prophet Muhammad (S).

Cartoon of Day



Aid to Gaza

Cartoonist: Osama Hajjaj from Jordan

Intl. fashion, architecture festival to make debut in Iran

TEHRAN – The first edition of the international festival of fashion and architecture is planned to be held in Iran in April 2024.

The festival aims to identify exceptional professionals, professors, designers, and artists in the fields of photography, fashion, and architecture, IRNA quoted the secretary of the event as saying on Sunday.

Additionally, the festival aims to create opportunities for communication and collaboration between designers, photographers, and major companies in the industry, Mehran Ariainia explained.

The festival seeks to exhibit the works of the selected artists and promote innovative concepts and approaches related to architecture, photography, and fashion, he added.

He also noted that the festival also aims to enhance the growth and propagation of Iranian culture through modern and traditional design.

"By integrating fashion and architecture, the festival intends to establish the necessary foundation and framework for progression towards favorable conditions concerning

architecture, fashion, and architectural photography."The event targets architecture students and graduates, as well as architecture design and construction companies, talented architecture designers, and students of technical and professional academies, he explained.

The festival also welcomes fashion and clothing design students and graduates, clothing design companies and boutiques, as well as talented clothing design students and photographers, including photography students, graduates, and amateurs, he added.

He expressed hope that the festival would facilitate opportunities for designers to interact and form connections. He added that the first festival is free of charge, and no application fee is required. They anticipate a high turnout of students and graduates in the fields of fashion and architecture.

The festival features eight awards in the area of architecture, eight prizes in the field of fashion, the selection of an architect of the year, the selection of the best clothing designer, and the best photographer of the year, among other



prizes, he mentioned.

He also pointed out that Iran is at the forefront of Islamic clothing globally. "Still, the country has not taken any significant action towards promoting this industry, resulting in Iranian clothing being categorized under world fashion, which is a fundamental problem."

He stated that the festival aims to discover and showcase authentic talent in the fields of fashion design, architecture, fashion, and photography.

The ultimate goal is to introduce Iranian designers to the world and establish the country as a hub of authentic Islamic fashion, he concluded.