



World After October 7

The Strategic Consequences of Operation al-Aqsa Storm

Gaza a symbol of Western moral decline, Raisi tells BRICS leaders

TEHRAN- Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi has said that the Israeli atrocities in the Gaza Strip are indicative of the West's moral decline.

He noted that "what is crueler than the West giving weapons to Israel and opposing the ceasefire?"

President Raisi made the remarks at a BRICS summit on the Israel-Gaza war on Tuesday.

The proposal to hold the summit came after Israel's relentless crimes in Gaza and the ensuing escalation of tensions in West Asia. The meeting hosted by South Africa as the rotating president of BRICS.

During the summit, he made certain proposals to end the crimes of the Zionists, saying that America has made all international organizations "futile."

Regarding Gaza to be a symbol of the West's moral decline, he added, "Worst of all is the unwavering support of America and the West for the Israeli regime perpetuating genocide and infanticide in Gaza." ▶ Page 2

Iran aiming to boost trade with Pakistan by establishing free zones, trade centers

TEHRAN - The Islamic Republic of Iran is aiming to expand its economic and trade relations with Pakistan through establishing joint free zones and trade centers with the country, IRIB reported.

According to Ahmad Jamali, the deputy secretary of Iran's Free Zones High council, Tehran has reached an agreement with Islamabad to establish a joint free zone on the border between the two countries.

"We have identified 200 investment opportunities in potential joint free zones with Pakistan which can be used to boost export to the country," Jamali said in a meeting held on Monday by the Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) for exploring Iran-Pakistan business opportunities.

Noting that Chabahar free zone in Sistan-Baluchestan Province is a good platform to develop exports from Iran to Pakistan, the official added: "Identifying investment opportunities in free zones can lead to the prosperity of businesses and trade of the two countries' economic operators."

Jamali further noted that Iran has considered significant incentives for the exporters to Pakistan and the government fully supports business operators active in the mentioned country.

Mentioning an upcoming exhibition of Iran-Pakistan trade opportunities, which is scheduled to be held in mid-January 2024, Jamali said holding such exhibitions would also be another great way to expand economic relations between the two countries. ▶ Page 4

Ship seized by Yemen belongs to Israeli company

By Ali Karbalaee

TEHRAN- Following the seizure by Yemeni naval forces of the cargo ship, Galaxy Leader, in the southern Red Sea on Sunday, Israeli officials were quick to claim that it was British-owned and Japanese-operated.

"This is not an Israeli ship," the Israeli military insisted.

Information in the public domain suggests otherwise.

The Galaxy Leader was chartered by Japan's Nippon Yusen, on voyage from Turkey to India, and its crew is made up of different nationals.

The ownership details of Galaxy Leader in public shipping databases connects the ship's owners to Ray Car Carriers, a company founded by Abraham "Rami" Ungar, who is considered one of the wealthiest Israeli men in the occupied Palestinian territories and with links to the political hierarchy.

According to the Paradise Papers, a major leak of confidential documents in 2017 that exposed enormous wealth and ownerships unknown to the world before, Ray Car Carriers' beneficial owner appears to be the Israeli billionaire Rami Ungar.

Tragedy in Gaza is a great shame for humanity

By Faramarz Kouhpayeh

TEHRAN - Israel's atrocities in Gaza have shocked the world to the extent that protestors around the world carry placards demanding an immediate end to the "genocide" against the Palestinian people in Gaza.

Israel's actions in Gaza are a shame for humanity and history. It has started a war against Hamas in response to the October 7 attack but it is punishing the entire population in the Gaza Strip.

It has just dropped over 30,000 tons of bombs on the people, so far butchering over 13,000 Gazans, including 5,600 children and 3,500 women.

Amid such barbaric acts, it is heart-wrenching to imagine that 2.3 million population have been denied water, food, medicine, fuel, and other essential things.

While people are grieving for their dear ones mutilated in aerial bombardments or caught under rubble, they don't have access to food and water or find a safe place to sleep.

According to Richard Falk, an emeritus professor of international law from Princeton University,

On Lebanon's Independence Day, criminal 'Israel' intentionally assassinates 2 journalists

By Sondos Al-Asaad

Today marks the anniversary of "Lebanese Independence Day," which was achieved thanks to the persistent jihad of the people of the South and the Bekaa and their outstanding courageous resistance to the brutal French occupation that inflicted great losses on Lebanon, the most notable of which is its separation from Greater Syria, especially in the wake of the signing of the ill-fated "Balfour" Agreement.

This anniversary coincides with the Zionist enemy deliberately killing two fellow Al-Mayadeen's journalists, along with their driver.

This deliberate crime clearly reveals the enemy's hostility. It further reveals Washington's hypocrisy regarding protecting international humanitarian law and all conventions related to media work. It is obviously a field assassination, and an integral part of the ongoing war on Al-Mayadeen Channel, as it has taken the line of defense of Palestine and the oppressed wherever they are, unlike the pro-Israel mainstream media.

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The platitudes of Iran-bashing media rhetoric

By Ardalan Mohammadzadeh

TEHRAN - The American Spectator publication published a story on November 19, aiming to portray Iran's diplomatic relations and nuclear activities as a threat. However, every independent country has the right to pursue its national interests.

The author, Jed Babbin, claims that cooperation between Iran, China, and Russia is the "Axis of Evil," which he claimed seems threatening to the U.S.

The conservative American magazine attempted to link Operation Al-Aqsa Storm to Iran and depict the country as the cause of the marginalized normalization talks between Tel Aviv and some Arab states.

Babbin pointed to an American sanctions waiver to Iran selling electricity to Iraq, which was granted in July and recently renewed. ▶ Page 2



Intl. festival of Iranian nomads & tribal economy opens in northern Iran

TEHRAN - On Monday, the 16th edition of an international festival of Iranian nomads & tribal economy was launched in the ancient city of Gorgan, northern Iran, among a crowd of various tribes and curious visitors.

Along with Iranian nomads, tens of tribespeople and exhibitors from Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, and Kazakhstan take part in the five-day event to highlight their cultural heritage and tourism magnetism.

Organizers hope to encourage more domestic and overseas tourists and holidaymakers to visit nomadic tribes. ▶ Page 6

IRGC conducts tactical drills in southern Iran

TEHRAN- The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Ground Force has staged a tactical war exercise in Kerman, a desert province south of Iran.

The drill began on Tuesday morning in the presence of Iranian Armed Forces Chief of Staff Major General Mohammad Hossein Bagheri.

"Today, the enemies are shedding the blood of children in Gaza and committing genocide. However, the killing of innocent people will not be a sign of victory for the Zionists who were defeated in the unparalleled and surprise operation on October 7," he said, referring to Operation Al-Aqsa Storm conducted by the Palestinian Hamas resistance movement against the occupying entity.

"Definitely, the victory of the Palestinian nation is near with the resilience of people and the power of resistance front fighters," he asserted. ▶ Page 2

TEHRAN PAPERS

Western carte blanche for Israel

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

In its featured report, Kayhan delved into Western perspectives on Gaza and engaged in an interview with Ms. Clare Daly, an Irish politician, to discuss the various views on the ongoing conflict. According to Daly, the West has afforded Israel complete impunity in the Gaza war. She conveyed to Kayhan: "The European Union is complicit in Israel's war crimes. Europe has overtly declared its support for Israel presently and in the future, essentially providing Israel with carte blanche to act however it pleases against the Palestinians." The European Union has consistently emphasized Israel's right to self-defense, arguing that, within this context, the assault on Gaza does not constitute an international invasion. Nevertheless, it is essential to note that Israelis are occupying forces in Palestine and have a legal obligation to safeguard non-combatants in the territories they have seized. By continually echoing phrases like 'Israel's right to self-defense,' the European Union has, in essence, approved Tel Aviv's war crimes.

Shargh: Biden considers post-Gaza scenario

In a commentary by Kouros Ahmadi, a former Iranian diplomat, the Shargh newspaper takes a look into Joe Biden's article in The Washington Post. The paper interprets his article as a manifestation of the White House's concern for Gaza's future. According to Ahmadi, Biden's piece, outlining a roadmap for Palestine, reflects the U.S. authorities' deliberations over the past six weeks concerning a post-war policy for Palestine. The article gains significance by aligning with similar statements from Biden and the U.S. Secretary of State during recent visits to the region. Biden, in this piece, asserts the "two-state solution" as the "sole path to ensure the long-term security of both the Israeli and Palestinian peoples." He envisions a process ultimately leading to the realization of the two-state solution after the war. Ahmadi raises two pivotal questions posed by Biden's article: 1- In light of the shock from Hamas's October 7 attack on Israel and the global condemnation of Israel's unprecedented actions in Gaza, will Israel's right-wing reconsider its policies from the past? 2- Considering the influence of Israel's right-wing in the U.S. and the upcoming elections, how inclined or capable will the current and future U.S. administrations be to promote their views on the two-state solution?

Farhikhtegan: Israeli policies boost Hamas popularity

In its coverage of the ongoing conflict between Israel and Gaza, the Farhikhtegan newspaper, citing Mansour Barati, an expert on Israeli affairs, asserts

that the policies of the Zionist regime have fueled the growing popularity of Hamas. The newspaper highlights that 'to strike at Hamas's is a long-term objective pursued by the Zionists.' "The overarching goal of the Zionist regime is to deliver a significant blow to Hamas and, if feasible, remove Hamas from Gaza," he states. However, as Barati observes, "eliminating Hamas is unattainable due to the substantial support it receives in Gaza." Ironically, Israel's recent actions and policies have contributed to an increase in the popularity of Hamas. In essence, if the Zionist regime aimed to diminish Hamas's popularity, it should have granted more privileges to its counterpart, which is the self-governing entities. Nevertheless, their actions have spurred the Palestinian people, both in the West Bank and Gaza, towards the idea of resistance more than ever. The concept of peace and reconciliation has waned over the years as people increasingly lean towards supporting resistance groups. Ultimately, the Zionists aspire to completely eliminate Hamas from the equations of Gaza and Palestine or replace it with a mixed Arab force under the supervision of Jordan and Egypt. If they are willing to provide substantial advantages to the Palestinians, they are ultimately open to the idea of self-governing entities, supported by international backing and supervised by the United States, taking control in Gaza and parts of Gaza.

Armanmeli: Yemen's strategic move

The Armanmeli newspaper examined the Yemeni navy's interception of an Israeli ship in the Red Sea in response to Israel's atrocities in Gaza, characterizing it as a strategic move. In an article penned by Hasan Hanizadeh, an expert in West Asia affairs, the newspaper highlights that Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, conducted on October 7, stands out as one of the most impactful operations in the region. This operation has led to a significant setback for the Zionist regime. Hanizadeh notes: "It appears that Ansarallah has executed a completely innovative and unprecedented move, successfully capturing public attention." If the confrontation phase by Ansarallah persists and the conflict shifts towards American warships, the United States will be compelled to engage and the axis of resistance will inevitably be drawn into intervention. "This will potentially lead to a widespread international regional war," he comments. From this perspective, Ansarallah's move seems thoroughly strategic, executed within a framework of deterrence. If the United States decides to answer to these actions, it could carry perilous consequences.

Iran rights chief criticizes intl. bodies for failing to safeguard Gaza children

TEHRAN- On the occasion of World Children's Day, Iran's top human rights official has attacked governments and international organizations for failing to protect children in Gaza, where the Israeli regime has killed thousands of children in the last 45 days as part of an ongoing war against the enclave.

"If they consider the children in Gaza to be part of the world's children, it would be good for them to recognize the right of these oppressed children to a childhood, to continue to live and to grow," wrote Kazem Gharibabadi in a post in Farsi on the X platform on Monday.

Gharibabadi serves as the secretary general of Iran's High Council for Human Rights, a subsidiary of the Iranian judiciary.

During the Gaza conflict, the body has been active in a campaign to expose human rights violations and crimes against humanity committed by the Israeli regime.

His comments came as the number of children killed since the start of the Israeli aggression on Gaza on October 7 exceeded 5,500 on Monday, according to official figures. That means that one out of every 200 children in Gaza has been killed in Israeli attacks over the past six weeks.

During a weekly news conference on Monday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Nasser Kanaani said that the international community's growing dissatisfaction with the conflict and desire for its end is seen by the mounting resistance to Israeli crimes in Gaza and the U.S. government's support of the regime's wrongdoings.

He also said that the U.S. and Israel have been

forewarned by the resistance groups in the region that they would not stand idly by while the Israeli regime carrying out its atrocities on the Palestinian people in the beleaguered Gaza Strip.

"The actions of the Zionist regime spark a reaction by the resistance groups in the region. They (the groups) had repeatedly warned the U.S. and the Zionists that if these attacks continue, they will not remain silent," he said.

"The U.S. and the Zionist regime must understand that they can escape the situation only by stopping the war completely and immediately, allowing the dispatch of humanitarian aid [to the coastal enclave], and ending the forced displacement of the people of Gaza."

Additionally, the Iranian diplomat asked the U.S. administration to cease supporting Israeli atrocities in Gaza and focus on international security and peace rather than putting pressure on others to take action.

He pointed out that U.S. Congressmen have shown in recent years that they are willing to sacrifice the interests of the American people in favor of the Zionist regime.

With a population of over 2.3 million, estimates indicate that about half of Gaza residents are under the age of eighteen.

The situation of children in Gaza has piqued the interest of human rights campaigners and anti-war activists throughout the world, with rallies taking place nearly on a daily basis in Western capitals to pressure the Israeli regime to end its killing of women and children in the blockaded region.

Gaza a symbol of Western moral decline, Raisi tells BRICS leaders

From page 1 ▶ "So far, about 5,500 innocent children have been killed and 41,000 residential structures have been damaged," Raisi noted.

Given the scandalous act of the West over the fictitiousness of their slogans, the Iranian president averred that "the U.S., UK, Germany and France have dispatched all kinds of weaponry and bombs to the Zionist regime day in day out, opposing the ceasefire as well. It is the U.S. to blame for impeding all aid routes to Gaza which could maim the UN Security Council."

Proposals to BRICS leaders

Ayatollah Raisi said, "Today, BRICS member countries have a historical responsibility to prove that human values cannot be sacrificed for political interests."

The president continued to make suggestions about stopping the crimes of the Zionist regime and helping the people of Gaza by considering the inability of the United Nations Security Council to carry out its mission to create peace and security, and obstructing the issuance of a binding resolution for a ceasefire.

"It is necessary for the member states, within the framework of Peace, to establish a binding resolution in the United Nations General



Assembly against the Zionist regime and with the aim of stopping the crime against the people of Gaza," he said.

In his second proposal, he emphasized, "The ongoing attacks of the Zionist regime on hospitals, medical centers, and religious places, and the killing of women and children, doctors, nurses, and journalists are all acts of terrorism, which are necessary to recognize this phony regime as a terrorist organization."

Regarding his third proposal, Raisi said, "Iran supports the action of some countries to bring the case of the Israeli crimes in Gaza to the International Criminal Court and believes that in addition to Israel, the United States should also be identified in the International Court

for crimes against humanity."

In another proposal, the president said, "The collective action of BRICS members is necessary to break the blockade of Gaza and create a permanent and safe route for sending humanitarian aid to Gaza."

In his fifth proposal, Ayatollah Raisi stressed, "Considering the unprecedented crimes and the use of several thousand tons of weapons as well as prohibited weapons such as white phosphorus, it is necessary for BRICS members to quickly investigate such crimes and report it in a special international mission."

In the sixth proposal, he emphasized, "Regarding the continuous crimes and the racist nature of the fake Israeli regime, the free nations expect all governments, especially the BRICS members, to put the complete severance of their po-

litical, economic and military relations with the Zionist regime on the agenda as soon as possible."

"The continuation of interactions with this regime in the military and economic fields means helping continue the crimes and killing of women and children, which is the subject of condemnation and blame of all nations," he added.

Raisi concluded by stating his seventh proposal, "Recognizing the right of the Palestinian people to defend themselves and their effort to liberate the occupied territories is supported by the government and free nations. The support of BRICS of this right shows that we fulfilled our moral and human duty."

Following the escalation of tensions in West Asia, the BRICS group held an extraordinary meeting focusing on the Gaza war.

BRICS leaders and BRICS+ members expressed their positions on the sufferings of people in Gaza. BRICS includes Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Iran's membership of BRICS was accepted on August 24. Iran will officially join the club of emerging economic powers on January 1, 2024. In addition, on the same date Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE were invited to join the club.

The platitude of Iran-bashing media rhetoric

From page 1 ▶ Pointing to Tehran's access to its frozen assets, Babbin also stated that he "who believes the Iranians will only buy food with the money is a fool."

The author also claimed that Iran has continued to build its stockpile of 60 percent enriched uranium, which is a short step to the 90 percent weapons-grade material to demonize Tehran's peaceful nuclear program.

However, the American publication's argument can be countered with seven key points:

Diplomatic relations are based on national interests

The term 'national interest' has been used by statesmen and scholars since the founding of nation-states to describe aspirations and goals.

Although the author considers the Tehran-Beijing alliance to be dangerous, Washington has been one of the greatest trade partners to Beijing.

Since early 1979, the United States and China have initiated hundreds of joint research projects and cooperative programs under the Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology, the largest bilateral program.

The trade between the U.S. and China has ballooned in recent decades. This trade has benefited U.S. and Chinese consumers and companies, according to the Council on Foreign Relations.

China is one of the largest export markets for U.S. goods and services, and the United States is among the top export markets for China. This trade has helped the United States in the form of lower prices for consumers and higher profits for corporations, but it has also come with costs, said the American think tank on September 26, 2023.

Given the strong relationship between the U.S. and China, it should be noted that why Iran should not strengthen its ties with China.

The frozen asset are not 'ransom'

Iran's frozen funds, as it was insisted by the State Department recently, can only be spent with U.S. approval.

IRGC conducts tactical drills in southern Iran

From page 1 ▶ Bagheri went on to say that if Israeli crimes continued, the real faces of the child-killing Zionist usurpers and their criminal American and hypocritical European backers would come to light.

Nothing will halt the adversaries' atrocities and persecution in Palestine, he said, where they have demonstrated their cruelty.

The Iranian Armed Forces will prove their mettle in combat and would stop at nothing to protect the nation's security, the country's top general added.

He continued, "If there is sustainable deterrence in our country, it is thanks to the presence, steadfastness and resilience of the armed personnel"

A senior State Department official said that the waiver "isn't a free pass for all this money (\$10 billion) to move," arguing it is a "layered" and "cumbersome" process.

The waiver allows the payments so long as they go through Oman, where a portion is converted to euros or other widely-traded currencies for Iran to buy non-sanctioned products such as humanitarian aid.

The point is that despite the statements by American officials and the Department of State with respect to Iran's frozen funds, Babbin claims that the unfreezing of the assets will be worrisome.

This is while the assets are Iran's money, which has been illegally blocked by the U.S. bullying policy.

Iran ready to negotiate issues with IAEA

Despite the author's claims that tend to tarnish Iran's nuclear program, the recent IAEA report, which was issued last week, does not provide evidence that Iran seeks to weaponize its nuclear plan.

As was stated by Iran's Ambassador to Kuwait, Mohammad Touthouchi, on Monday, Iran expressed its desire to maintain constructive interaction with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"Tehran has extended an invitation to the Director General of the IAEA to address any remaining issues," said Touthouchi.

Israeli war crimes halt normalization talks

"Iran is also approaching Saudi Arabia to ensure it doesn't accede to former president Trump's Abraham Accords," said Babbin, claiming that the Saudis' negotiation with Israel to join the Abraham Accord is "gone" because the Saudis won't make any agreement with Israel.

Nevertheless, the main cause to halt the normalization process is the Israeli war crimes that are being continuously carried out in the besieged enclave.

Saudi officials, faced with global reactions to the Israeli barbarities in the Gaza Strip, seem to



have come to second thoughts in relation to Riyadh-Tel Aviv normalization of relations.

The Saudi authorities may consider how the Arab states would react to Riyadh's normalization of ties with Tel Aviv.

Not only Saudi Arabia but also many states are considering a boycott of Tel Aviv as their agenda in foreign policy.

Washington faithful backer of Tel Aviv

As part of an agreement reached under the Obama administration, Israel now receives \$3.8 billion annually from the U.S. under a 10-year agreement that began in 2016.

Earlier in November, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill to provide \$14.3 billion in aid to Israel.

The House bill would provide billions only for Israel's military, including \$4 billion for the procurement of Israel's Iron Dome and David's Sling defense systems.

Biden had urged Congress to approve a broader \$106 billion emergency spending package including funding for Israel as well.

As it seems, when it comes to backing Israel, it is Washington's framework to pour the American taxpayers' money into the Zionists' pockets.

Biden or Babin, who knows better

Referring to Biden's article in the Washington Post, Babbin expressed worries about why the U.S. president did not hold Iran accountable for the current developments in West Asia. So, a question is directed to Babbin "Who is well-informed about the ongoing issues in West Asia, you or Biden?"

forces to oppose and defeat the Zionist regime.

"The enemies must bear in mind that the youth of Muslim countries and the resistance axis won't remain silent and won't allow anything from the foundation of arrogance to remain," the top general stated in response to the current situation in Gaza.

The IRGC Ground Force, comprising artillery, rockets, and rangers, is participating in the tactical military drills near Kerman.

Bagheri attended the exercise to assess the offensive, defensive, and operational preparedness of the Iranian military.

Iranian authorities have made it

clear time and again that Iran would never negotiate away its defense capabilities and will never hesitate to bolster its military might, particularly its missile capacity, which is only intended for defense.

On October 7, when Hamas began its successful campaign in the occupied territory, Israel started a brutal war on Gaza.

The Tel Aviv regime has murdered 13,300 Palestinians since the war began, including 5,600 children and 3,550 women, and injured over 31,000 more in Gaza.

Additionally, it has established a "complete siege" on the coastal sliver, depriving the more than two million Palestinian residents of their water, food, fuel, and power.

World after October 7

By Mona Hojat Ansari

TEHRAN - Israel suffered an egregious blow on October 7 while its leaders seemed to have been asleep at the wheel. Many believe that the successful Hamas operation marked a strategic shift in global equations.

As Israel stands pat with its relentless attacks on the Gaza Strip, analysts across the world are warning that the longer the war goes on, the more consequences the regime will have to face.

Some also fear that the bloodthirsty waves of violence against Gaza will not only be to Israel's chagrin, but also hurt its Western allies who are supporting the regime unlimitedly.

In this article, we will take a look at how the October 7 Operation by the Hamas Resistance Movement has changed West Asia, and essentially the dynamics of the world.

Western public opinion turns against Israel

The Israeli lobby has traditionally held significant control over mainstream media in an attempt to rectify the narratives to its benefit. Western media outlets have been working in tandem to promote pro-Israeli accounts while vilifying Palestinians in every way possible. Even the journalists that find it difficult to stay silent on Israeli crimes, are forced to toe the line somewhere along the way.

That's because Zionist institutes like the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA) which ferret out critics day and night, either bully journalists into silence or get their employers to fire them. Most recently, Michael Eisen, the Jewish editor-in-chief of the prominent open-access journal eLife, was removed from his position for endorsing



a satirical article that spoke to how the dying people in Gaza are being asked to condemn Hamas. There are countless of other journalists like Eisen who do not dare say a word about Israeli crimes as they could risk losing their jobs after being accused of anti-Semitism.

But Israel's old tactics have proven to be its own detriment in the latest war as people around the world can now figure out what's happening thanks to social media. While media outlets continue to regurgitate the lie-ridden stories fed to them by the regime, people are becoming more aware about Israel's 75-year-long occupation of Palestine by the day. Those hearing about the "barbaric" and "cruel" nature of Hamas on media, find themselves questioning the legitimacy of the claims when laying their eyes on the pictures of mutilated and burned corpses of Palestinian children.

Since October 7, millions of people have taken to the streets across the world to voice their support for Palestine. For the first time in history, Israel seems to have lost the media battle against the Palestinian resistance.

Countries now seek to enter the nuclear fray

This month, Israel's Heritage Minister Amihai Eliyahu shocked the world by suggesting that the regime should use a nuclear weapon against the Gaza Strip, a territory which 50% of its population consists of children.

Several countries, including Iran, China, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey, condemned the remarks as a global threat.

These comments marked the first public acknowledgment of Israel's possession of nuclear weapons and contradicted the previously held premise that the regime would only consider such extreme measures in the event of an existential crisis. Now, nations in West Asia, including Iran, Turkey and Saudi Arabia, are feeling a heightened urgency to address the threat posed by Israel's illegal nuclear weapons.

The Israeli minister seemed to only want to brandish the regime's nuclear capabilities, but he spilled the beans and overshot the mark instead.

Normalization deals down the drain

The October 7 attack by Hamas underscored the vulnerability of the so-called Abraham Accords.

Saudi Arabia, which had been progressing toward normalization with the Israeli regime just a week before the operation, withdrew from all talks with Israel. Additionally, other countries that had previously signed normalization deals with the regime were compelled to diminish their support for the Zionists.

Moreover, Jordan and Egypt, the first nations to recognize Israel, have issued warnings to the regime, indicating that they might engage in conflict if Palestinians are once again displaced and pushed into neighboring regions. This development adds significant strain to the dynamics, much to Israel's disadvantage.

West under mounting pressure

As Israel sinks deeper into the mud, it appears to no longer be an asset to Western governments. Many in the Western world believe the Zionist regime has now turned into a burden for the states whose paramount priorities have shifted towards China and Russia. Supporting Israel has now become too cumbersome for Western politicians who are receiving growing criticism at home for turning a blind eye to Israeli atrocities in Gaza.

Furthermore the West has allowed China to whittle away at the number of its traditional allies in West Asia. Beijing has hosted the foreign minister of 7 Arab and Muslim countries including Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Jordan, who have called on China to help them bring an end to the war in Gaza.

The war in Gaza will not simply end once the regime feels it has killed enough Palestinians. Its effects will continue to haunt Israel and its Western allies for the decades to come.

Iran chastises UN Security Council for failing to request Gaza ceasefire

TEHRAN- The UN Security Council has come under fire from Iran for neglecting to demand a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip in the resolution that was just voted on Israel's genocide against the beleaguered enclave.

Amir Saied Iravani, Iran's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, made the statements on Monday during a UN General Assembly meeting on the humanitarian situation in Gaza.

He was alluding to a Security Council resolution approved in mid-November that merely called for "extended humanitarian pauses" in Gaza.

The following is the full text of Iravani's speech at the meeting of the 78th Session of the UNGA in New York City:

Mr. President, let me begin by thanking you for convening this meeting. I would also like to thank all the briefers for their informative remarks.

Gaza is experiencing a challenging time and the people of Gaza facing unabated war crimes, and crimes against humanity by the Israeli regime. The people of Gaza expect concrete support from the United Nations. Their land is still under occupation and they continue to suffer from Israel's vicious war despite worldwide calls

for a ceasefire, notably voiced in resolutions adopted by the General Assembly urging an end to hostilities and in appeals from the Security Council for humanitarian pauses. In such a dire situation, sympathy is no longer enough. There is generally an expectation that the content of the Security Council resolution should have included the main elements of the resolution of the General Assembly that was adopted with a majority of 121 votes, especially its key point that there is a most urgent need for an immediate, sustainable and durable truce for civilians.

Regrettably, some members of the Security Council who voted in favor of the General Assembly resolution refused to agree to the amendment that included the demand for a truce in the UNSC resolution to avoid the UNSC resolution being vetoed. Consequently, the adopted resolution lacks an adequate provision for ending the war, which is essential for ceasing Israel's atrocities in Gaza against innocent civilians.

What has happened since the adoption of this resolution? Has the number of attacks on innocent people decreased? Has Gaza's population received sufficient humanitarian assistance? The answer is NO. Instead, the



representative of the occupying regime said in the same meeting that they would do whatever they wish. This regime has directly attacked three UNRWA schools housing thousands of Palestinian displaced families only since the first part of this meeting held on Friday. All this because there is a fundamental problem and missing gap in the resolution that it lacks an executive guarantee and is not a legally binding resolution.

Accordingly, we believe that the General Assembly must play a leading role based on the powers and authority granted to it by the Charter of the United Nations. During the last two years, the General Assembly's capacity has been used to address issues related to peace and security. Now, the international community expects the same. To assist the Palestinian people in the current catastrophic situation, we believe the same potential must be utilized.

IRGC chief says U.S. preventing ceasefire in Gaza

TEHRAN - The chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) has drawn attention to the anticipation of a ceasefire in Gaza, while stressing that the U.S. is unlikely to permit it.

Major General Hossein Salami underscored the exposure of the true nature of the United States, the West, and the Zionists to the global community in the aftermath of the Gaza war. He reminded that while the Zionists anticipate a ceasefire amid their crisis, the United States is likely to impede it.

The general, speaking at a gathering of academics on Tuesday, also emphasized that the heightened internal turmoil and anxiety among the Zionists surpassed the distress witnessed



in Gaza.

Highlighting the internal upheaval among Zionists, deemed more perilous than the situation in Gaza, Salami drew a sharp contrast with the serene state of mind among the people of Gaza.

Reflecting on the events in Gaza and Zionist actions, the commander remarked that the

calculations of the United States, the West, and the Zionists faltered under the impact of Hamas's surprise operation.

He also emphasized that the resistance group's operation against Israel undermined the global standing of the United States.

The Palestinian resistance group Hamas carried out a surprise attack, dubbed Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, against Israel on October 7. The surprise operation was in response to the intensified crimes of the occupying regime against the Palestinians. Since then, Israel has been relentlessly conducting air and ground assaults on Gaza, targeting hospitals, schools, and places of worship.

In its bombardment of the Gaza Strip, Israel has killed at least 13,000 Palestinians, including more than 5,000 children and 3,500 women.

During his address, Salami also underscored the erroneous perception of Iran's vulnerability held by the United States, the West, and other adversaries. Contrary to these ideas, he pointed out the evident equilibrium and resilience within Iran's system, emphasizing its inherent stability despite external pressures.

The military official highlighted Iran's pivotal role in the political landscape of the region, asserting that the world turns its gaze to Iran to navigate the evolving dynamics. "This is a testament to the nation's strength," he added.

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Straight Truth
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SPORTS

Iran out of 2023 FIFA U17 World Cup

TEHRAN - Iran lost to Morocco in the 2023 FIFA U17 World Cup Round of 16 on Tuesday.

The match ended 1-1 after 90 minutes and Morocco beat Iran 4-1 on penalties.

Esmael Gholizadeh was on target with a header in the 72nd minute for Iran and Nassim Azaouzi leveled the score in the 89th minute at the Gelora Bung Tomo Stadium in Surabaya, Indonesia.

Morocco are scheduled to play Mali, who defeated Concacaf champions Mexico in the last 16 on Saturday.

Hossein Abdi's Iran started the campaign with a 3-2 win over titleholders Brazil in Group C.

The Persians lost to England 2-1 and beat New Caledonia 5-0 and advanced to Round of 16 as one the best third-placed teams.

Qatar to donate ticket revenue from football tournament to support Palestine

TEHRAN - Ticket revenue from football's Asian Cup in Qatar early next year will be donated to support emergency relief for Palestine.

The move was announced in a statement on Monday from the organizing committee for the Asian Football Confederation's showpiece international tournament, which is set to take place from January 12 to February 10.

Qatar took on hosting rights last year after China - originally set to stage the event in June and July this summer - withdrew because of the country's strict Covid-19 policies.

Organizers said their move to support Palestine was in line with the concept that "football promotes social development".

The organizing committee will use ticket sales to provide "urgently needed medical and food relief to Palestinians through its partners"

Paykan part ways with Rasoul Khatibi: PGPL

TEHRAN - Paykan football club announced on Tuesday the departure of the team's head coach Rasoul Khatibi.

Khatibi was sacked after five months following poor results in the Tehran-based club. Under Khatibi, Paykan earned just one win in 10 matches.

Alireza Mansourian, Faraz Kamalvand, Hooman Afazeli and Reza Enayati have been shortlisted to take charge the team.

Paykan sit 13th in the 16-team table at the 2023/24 Iran's Persian Gulf Pro League (PGPL).

Shadloui joins Indian kabaddi team Puneri Paltan

TEHRAN - Iran's Mohammadreza Shadloui Chiyaneh emerged as the costliest player in history of Pro Kabaddi League auction after he was bought for \$281,000 by Puneri Paltan.

The two-day auction began on Monday with 12 teams bidding for players, both Indian and overseas, from categories A and B. The auctions for categories C and D will take place on Tuesday.

A total of 137 matches will be played in the 10th edition of PKL. As many as 132 league stage matches will be followed by the playoff comprising five matches two eliminators, two semifinals and the final.

Iran coach Abdi expresses sorrow over loss in 2023 U17 World Cup

TEHRAN - Head coach of Iran's U17 football team, Hossein Abdi, expressed his sorrow over their elimination from the 2023 FIFA U17 World Cup.

Iran suffered a loss to Morocco in the 2023 FIFA U17 World Cup Round of 16 on Tuesday. The match ended 1-1 after 90 minutes, and Morocco emerged as the winner with a 4-1 penalty shootout victory.

Esmael Gholizadeh scored with a header in the 72nd minute for Iran, while Nassim Azaouzi equalized in the 89th minute at the Gelora Bung Tomo Stadium in Surabaya, Indonesia.

"Congratulations to the Moroccan team, they were highly skilled," he said.

Hossein Abdi commented after his team's defeat: "They leveled the score in the last minutes and emerged victorious in the penalty shootout."

"Despite the demanding travel schedule of three hours between cities and a two-hour flight, our players excelled under pressure. Meanwhile, the opponent enjoyed a five-day stay and conducted all their training here," added the head coach of U17 national team.

Abdi referred to this confrontation and his team's defeat as the game of tears and smiles. "We were initially leading 1-0, then the game was tied, and we ultimately lost in a penalty shootout."

"Perhaps with less fatigue, our players could have achieved a different outcome. Nevertheless, it was an excellent game, and congratulations to the national team boys."

"Our apologies to the Iranian football fans. We will strive to meet their expectations in the future," concluded Abdi.

Palestine football fans stage protest against Israel conflict

TEHRAN - Palestinian football fans staged a protest against the ongoing conflict with Israel as their men's team took on Australia in a World Cup qualifier on Tuesday in Kuwait.

However, the war between Israel and Hamas led to the game, where Graham Arnold's defeated Palestine 1-0 in their qualification campaign for the 2026 tournament.

Fans attending the match staged a protest against Israel's actions in the Gaza Strip. On the seventh minute of the game, fans raised Palestinian flags to mark the start of the war on 7 October - the date of the Hamas attack inside Israel.

Protestors were also seen holding key signs during the match, which symbolises those taken during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, according to Al Jazeera, while others held 'Free Gaza' signs.

2026 FIFA World Cup qualifier: Iran held by Uzbekistan

TEHRAN - Iran national football team were held to a 2-2 draw by Uzbekistan in Group E of the Preliminary Joint Qualification - Round 2 for the FIFA World Cup 2026 and the AFC Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2027 on Tuesday.

In the match held in Tashkent's Bunyodkor Stadium, Ramin Rezaeiyan opened the scoring for Iran after 14 minutes. Uzbekistan goalkeeper Utkir Yusupov was unable to save the ball from the close range.

Mehdi Taremi made it 2-0 in the 38th minute.

In the second half, Uzbekistan were the better team and came from behind to draw the match. Oston Urunov pulled a goal back in the 52nd minute and with seven minutes remaining, Igor Sergeev equalized the match.

The result means the teams will go into the next matchday, scheduled for March, 2024, level on points.

Iran had defeated Hong Kong 4-0 on Thursday in Group E.

Chamber of Guilds, ISIPO ink co-op MOU

TEHRAN - Iran Chamber of Guilds and Iran Small Industries and Industrial Parks Organization (ISIPO) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to cooperate in various fields, IRIB reported.

The MOU was signed in a meeting between the heads of the mentioned entities in Tehran on Monday.

Speaking in this meeting Head of Iran Chamber of Guilds Mojtaba Safaei said: "Currently, more than 70 percent of the country's export products are produced in small enterprises, while the capacity of this sector has not been used optimally."

He proposed that the heads of the chambers of

guilds across the country become members of the ISIPO board in order to increase the interactions between the two bodies.

"Unfortunately, in the previous statute of the ISIPO, export advantages were mostly aimed at the industry sector, therefore, in the form of the upcoming memorandum, we have proposed that the guilds' potential capacities be used by joining the heads of guild chambers in the ISIPO," Safaei said.

"We want small producers to distribute their products in the market without intermediaries," he added.

TCCIMA board of representatives holds 8th meeting

TEHRAN - The eighth meeting of the Board of Representatives of the Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) was held on Tuesday in which the attendees addressed various economic issues and the problems created by government's policies regarding the private sector.

The meeting was attended by TCCIMA Head Mahmoud Najafi-Arab, members of the chamber's board, and Head of the Parliament's Economic Committee Mohammadreza Pour-Ebrahimi, the TCCIMA portal reported.

In the meeting, representatives of the private sector criticized the continuation of some incorrect policies and addressed some macroeconomic problems of the country.

In this regard, Pour-Ebrahimi announced the facilitation of some policies including the foreign currency obligation for some goods.

He further announced the revival of the Ministry of Commerce in the third quarter of the current Iranian calendar year (ends in late March 2024) and said the Central Bank of Iran (CBI)'s new law will be unveiled soon.

Commodities worth \$238m exported from Zanjan province in 7 months

TEHRAN- As announced by a provincial official, non-oil goods worth about \$238 million were exported from Zanjan province during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-October 22).

Mohammadreza Naderi, the director-general of the province's finance and economic affairs department, said that the seven-month export indicates 32 percent fall, year on year.

The official named Turkey, Iraq and Russia as the main export destinations of the province's products during the mentioned seven-month period.

As previously announced by the head of the province's Industry, Mining and Trade Department, commodities valued at \$579 million were exported from Zanjan province in the past Iranian calendar year 1401 (ended on March 20).

Saying that six countries were added to the export destinations of the province, Majid Golshani said that currently, the main export target countries of the province are Turkey, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Pakistan, India, Azerbaijan, Oman, South Africa, Russia, and Spain.

He named zinc ingots, transformers and accessories, rebars, steel ingots, copper wire, zinc concentrate, cardboard, lead ingots, and dairy products as the main exported items.

The official further announced that commodities worth \$504 million were imported to the

province in the previous year, and named Turkey, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, Germany, Slovakia, Singapore, Italy, China, Hong Kong, and Spain as the main sources of imports.

He listed wood pulp, recycled paper and cardboard, tobacco, polyamide and plastic tape, production line machines, polyamide thread and polyester thread as the major imported items.

As announced by the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), Iran exported 79.5 million tons of non-oil commodities worth \$28.3 billion during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year.

Mohammad Rezvani-Far said that the 7-month non-oil export indicates a 29.32 percent rise in weight, and less than one percent drop in value, year on year.

The official further announced that 20.9 million tons of non-oil goods worth \$36 billion were imported to the country during the seven-month period of this year, with 6.21 percent growth in weight, and a 12.61 percent rise in value, as compared to the same period of time in the previous year.

Rezvani-Far, who is also the deputy minister of finance and economic affairs, went on to say that the country's seven-month non-oil trade stands at 100.4 million tons worth \$64.4 billion, with 23.71 percent rise in weight, and 6.2 percent increase in value, year on year.

Iran aiming to boost trade with Pakistan by establishing free zones, trade centers

From page 1 ▶ Also speaking in the same meeting, Director of TPO's South Asia Department Hadi Talebian-Moghadam announced a plan for establishing trade centers in Pakistan in the coming months, saying: "We are planning to increase the volume of trade between Iran and Pakistan, because the two countries need each other's goods and products."

Stating that currently the highest level of trade between Iran and Pakistan is nearly \$2.5 billion, he added: "In the two countries' strategic cooperation roadmap, we seek to increase the level of exports and exchanges between the two countries to five billion dollars bartering and free trade."

The value of Iran's non-oil export to Pakistan increased by 62 percent during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-October 22), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, the spokesman of the International Relations and Trade Development Committee of Iran's House of Industry, Mining and Trade announced.

Ruhollah Latifi said that Iran exported non-oil commodities worth \$1.14 billion to its neighbor Pakistan in the seven-month period of this year.

He also announced that Iran imported commodities valued at \$352.64 million from Pakistan during the first seven months of this year, with 39 percent drop year on year.

The official has previously announced that Iran's non-oil export to Pakistan increased by 18 percent in the previous Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20).

Pakistan was Iran's fifth largest export market in the previous calendar year, importing non-oil products worth \$1.488 billion from Iran, Latifi said in May.

He added that Iran imported non-oil goods worth \$842 million from



Pakistan last year, up 170 percent from the previous year.

The intertwining of economic, security, and transit relations between Iran and Pakistan has made the relations of the two countries beyond the neighborhood and turned them into strategic partners with common interests at the regional level.

Having more than 900 kilometers of joint border can lead to closer and more cooperation between the two countries in areas such as transit corridors and bilateral trade.

Iran and Pakistan signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in mid-January to facilitate bilateral trade between the two countries.

The MOU was signed by the former Head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) Alireza Peyman-Pak and Head of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) Muhammad Zubair Motiwala.

Based on the MOU, which was signed on the sidelines of Iran's Exclusive Exhibition in Karachi, the parties pledged to exchange business information, support each other's private sectors, and provide the conditions and context for the presence of their trade delegations in the other country.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Peyman-Pak said that signing this MOU was indicative of the two sides' determination for removing

the obstacles in the way of bilateral trade and prepare the ground for the businesspersons of both sides to bolster cooperation.

He considered the holding of exclusive exhibitions, exchanging trade delegations, and investment in joint production units as positive steps for knowing the capacities and needs of the two countries and expressed hope that such events would continue.

Also, during a meeting between the previous Head of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines, and Agriculture (TCCIMA) Masoud Khansari, and Chief Executive of Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) Muhammad Zubair Motiwala in Tehran in mid-May, the two sides expressed the need for the expansion of relations between the private sectors of the two countries.

Speaking at the meeting, Motiwala announced the readiness of his organization for long-term and progressive interaction with TCCIMA in order to facilitate the commercial exchanges of the two sides' economic enterprises.

He stressed the need for continuous exchange of trade delegations with the aim of introducing the economic and market cooperation capacities of the two countries and identifying the goods and services needed by the markets of both sides.

According to the official, the chambers of commerce in the two

countries can provide the basis for the expansion of interaction between the private sectors of the two countries.

Motiwala also considered the revision and modification of the tariffs on commodities traded between the two countries as necessary to increase the level of economic cooperation, and in this regard, he reminded that Pakistan is taking serious measures.

Khansari for his part, welcomed the ideas presented by the Pakistani side and emphasized the need for amending the tariffs on goods exchanged between Iran and Pakistan.

"A complete list of commodities needed by the markets of the two countries has been prepared by the Tehran Chamber of Commerce which has been compiled by the data provided by reliable companies," Khansari said.

As the latest step in line with broadening economic and trade ties between the two sides, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian and his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari inked a five-year strategic plan document for trade cooperation between the two neighboring countries from 2023 to 2028, in Islamabad.

Amir Abdollahian and Bilawal discussed the latest bilateral political, economic, and defense issues, including the development of trade ties during the meeting.

"Under the government of Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi, the volume of trade exchanges between the two countries has increased by more than 50 percent," Amir Abdollahian said in the meeting, adding that Iranian and Pakistani officials want to see further expansion of ties in the future, given existing capacities.

Bilawal, for his part, called for the formation of a strategic committee to follow up on agreements on the expansion of cooperation.

Tehran, Ankara discuss expanding agricultural ties

TEHRAN - Deputy agriculture ministers of Iran and Turkey met in Tehran on Monday to discuss ways of expanding agricultural relations between the two countries, the portal of the Iranian Agriculture Ministry reported.

Speaking in the meeting, Iranian Deputy Agriculture Minister Alireza Mohajer enumerated the cultural and religious commonalities between the two nations of Iran and Turkey and emphasized the need for the promotion of economic cooperation between the two countries, especially in the field of agriculture.

He pointed to the cooperation based on the climatic conditions of the two countries as an important factor in meeting the needs of the two sides in different seasons and said: "with this method, part of the summer crops can be produced in the open farms [of the other country] without the need for excessive energy costs in greenhouse cultivation."

The Turkish official, for his part, considered it necessary to establish cooperation based on climatic conditions and changes and said: "Countries alone cannot do anything to fight climate crises, and we need international cooperation and partnership, especially with our neighbors."

Last July, Iran, and Turkey discussed ways of expanding economic relations along with political ties at the Turkish-Iranian High-Level Cooperation Council in Tehran.

During the meeting, which was co-chaired by Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the two sides negotiated the extension of the gas export contract between the two sides for the next 25 years.

In the meeting, President Raisi noted that the Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to expand economic relations with neighboring countries.

The president also evaluated Tehran-Ankara



ties as positive and progressive, saying that the two countries should pursue appropriate policies to move towards increasing their annual trade exchanges to \$30 billion.

On the sidelines of the mentioned meeting, Iranian Energy Minister Ali-Akbar Mehrabian also held talks with Turkish Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Fatih Donmez in which the two sides exchanged views on cooperation in energy fields.

TEDPIX gains 2,100 points on Tuesday

TEHRAN- TEDPIX, the main index of the Tehran Stock Exchange (TSE), gained 2,129 points (0.11 percent) to 2,020,137 on Tuesday, which is the fourth day of the Iranian calendar week.

TSE is one of the four Iranian stock exchanges, and the most important one. The other three ones are Iran Mercantile Exchange (IME), Iran Energy Exchange (IRENEX), and Iran's over-the-counter (OTC) market, known as Iran Fara Bourse (IFB).

Head of Iran's Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO) Majid Eshghi has said the main goal of his organization is to protect and support the rights of the shareholders, and SEO is taking all the necessary measures to achieve this goal.

Eshghi pointed to the measures taken by the 13th government and the SEO to return investors' trust in the stock market, saying: "The



philosophy of the Securities and Exchange Organization is to design, organize and develop a transparent, efficient and fair market for investors so that they are able to operate smoothly in this market."

"At the beginning of the new management at SEO, which started from the first months of the 13th government incumbency, our main goal was defined in the form of a strategic plan, which was about protecting the rights of investors with an emphasis on long-term benefits, and in this regard, we defined some diverse programs," Eshghi said.

Mentioning other goals of the

SEO outlined in the organization's strategic plan, the official said: "Increasing the effectiveness and monitoring of capital market activities was also put on the agenda, and in this regard, various programs were implemented in three main areas of market monitoring, monitoring of financial institutions and supervision of IPOs."

He further pointed to the facilitation of financing, capital formation, and risk management as other strategic programs of the Securities and Exchange Organization and stated: "Considering the negative rate of capital formation in the past years and the increase in the percentage of depreciation of economic enterprises, major measures were needed to be taken on the issue of capital formation and financing."

"Diversifying investment options by relying on indirect investment has been one of our main and long-term plans in the organization," he added.



Iranian offshore Engineering & Construction

Call for Tender 1st Announcement for the Purchase of Steel Sections Related to the Structural items of the Belal platform project, Tender No. 939088

Iranian Offshore Engineering and Construction Company intends to purchase the Tender of Steel Sections Contains: HEA .IPE .Z-Plates .Round Bar & etc Related to the Structural items of the Belal platform project through a public tender. Therefore, the applicants are allowed to have 30 days after the date of 1st publication of the tender notice in the newspaper to participate in this tender.

To download the tender documents, please visit the tender's section of the IOEC's website: WWW.IOEC.COM/TENDERS, and Please do not hesitate to contact with Transaction Committee office with Tel: +9821-82841902 (or) with Tel: +9821-82842740 under sign for any inquiries and more information.

Tragedy in Gaza is a great shame for humanity

From page 1 ▶ says the agonies of the Gazans are “a nightmare beyond even Kafka’s darkest imagining.”

The grief-stricken people are not even safe in hospitals, schools, churches, mosques, and UN offices. Even when they are fleeing their houses they are being bombarded and ambulances carrying the injured become targets.

Even if great poets like William Shakespeare and Hafiz-e Shirazi were alive today they could not fully describe the sorrows of the Gazans.

There is no limit to the extremism of Benjamin Netanyahu, who has been rightly called “crime minister”, and his ultraright cabinet.

Israel’s response to the October 7 attack by Hamas has lost meaning in terms of proportionality, international law, and international human rights laws.

Certain Western governments, including the United States, Britain, and Germany, have called Israel’s actions in Gaza “self-defense”. But what the Israeli army is doing is an ethnic cleansing, war crime, and crime against humanity.

The support of these self-proclaimed upholders of human



rights for the criminal regime of Netanyahu is disgraceful. It is for this reason that Craig Mokhiber from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on October 28 said the U.S., Britain, and much of Europe are “wholly complicit in the horrific assault” in the crimes in Gaza and described the completely besieged enclave as a “textbook case of genocide” and resigned his post.

Philippe Lazzarini, the commissioner-general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees has said that “Gaza is being strangled

and it seems that the world right now has lost its humanity.”

“Old people, children, pregnant women, people with disabilities are just being deprived of their basic human dignity, and this is a total disgrace,” Lazzarini said, according to Newsweek.

Most probably, for the West the lives of Palestinians are trivial. Such ideology is derived from a sense of supremacy and racism that still exists in the “blood” of certain Western rulers and Israeli officials whose parents or grandparents moved from Europe to

Palestine and stole the lands of their native inhabitants.

The remarks of Yoav Gallant, the Israeli war minister, who said “we are fighting against human animals” originate from such a dangerous mindset.

Professor Falk says the words of Gallant “will be long remembered in the annals of genocidal rhetoric.”

The West is not just responsible for the ongoing tragedy in Gaza; it is also complicit in other tragedies with lesser degrees in the occupied territories throughout all these long years. It is because of these blind and senseless supports that Israel has turned into a spoiled child and killed every opportunity for peace.

The West is also indirectly responsible for those killed in the October 7 attacks in Israel. If Israel had faced pressure and sanctions or its criminal rulers had put on trial in the International Court of Justice today the world would not have seen such heart-wrenching scenes in Gaza.

The horrible events in Gaza have opened a new dark chapter in human history which once again made the West in general and criminal rulers in Israel greatly shameful in human history.

WORLD HEADLINES

Hamas leader says deal to release some hostages could come soon

The leader of Hamas’ political wing said Tuesday that his group had «delivered its response» to mediators in Qatar and that it was «close to reaching a truce agreement» with Israel more than six weeks after its Gaza-based fighters launched a massive cross-border attack that killed some 1,200 Israelis and seized around 240 hostages.

The statement from Doha-based Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh, posted to social media, follows days of negotiations over a possible deal, which must also be approved by Israel’s war cabinet, security cabinet and government cabinet.

Details of the possible deal have yet to be officially released. However, Arab and Israeli media have cited unnamed sources suggesting it would involve a pause in Israel’s strikes in Gaza and the release of dozens of Palestinian prisoners in exchange for Hamas freeing some of the hostages it seized during its Oct. 7 attack on Israel, NPR reported.

98 percent of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip will not “forgive nor forget” Israel’s onslaught on the besieged coastal enclave.

The poll also found that:

65 percent perceived the war as targeting all Palestinians, while only 18 percent said it was a war between Israel and Hamas.

75 percent supported to some extent the October 7 attacks by Hamas on Israel.

Only 22 percent expected a return of the Palestinian Authority (PA) to Gaza in the war’s aftermath.

68 percent said their support for a two-state solution to the conflict has declined.

More than 13,300 people have been martyred in Gaza

More than 13,300 people have been killed in Gaza since October 7. In Israel, the official death toll from Hamas’s attacks stands at about 1,200.

At the same time, the health ministry says all hospitals in northern Gaza are now out of service.

At least two journalists and another person have been killed by a rocket strike near Lebanon’s border with Israel, according to the Lebanese state news agency.

The incident took place near the town of Tir Harfa, about 1.6km (1 mile) from the Israeli border, it added.

Hamas using bunkers built by Israel under Al-Shifa Hospital: ex-Israeli PM

Former Prime Minister Ehud Barak said Monday that Israel had built bunkers «decades ago» underneath Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City.

“It’s already [been] known for many years that they have the bunkers that originally [were] built by Israeli constructors underneath Shifa [which] were used as a command post of Hamas. And, a kind of junction of several tunnels are part of this system,” he told CNN’s Christiane Amanpour in an interview.

“It’s probably not the only kind of command post, several others are under other hospitals or in other sensitive places, but it for sure had been used by Hamas even during this conflict,” he added.

“It was probably five or four decades ago that we helped (the Palestinians) to build these bunkers in order to enable more space for the operation of the hospital within the very limited size of this compound,” Baruk said.

Hostages’ families clash with Israeli politicians over talk of death penalty

Families of Israeli hostages held by Hamas have clashed with far-right Israeli politicians who want to bring in the death penalty as a possible sentence for captured Palestinian militants.

The families said on Monday that even talk of doing so might endanger the lives of their relatives. The row underlines the deep divisions in Israel over how to deal with the hostage crisis.

Reports have suggested that Israel and Hamas are edging towards a deal that would bring the release of a significant number of the more than 240 people seized by Hamas fighters during their attack in Israel last month, possibly in return for a limited ceasefire and the release of Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails.

%90 of Palestinians say coexistence with Israel is ‘impossible’: poll

A survey by the Ramallah-based Arab World for Research and Development has found that



Ansarullah’s military forces shared footage showing how it seized the ship after soldiers dropped from a helicopter down onto the deck.

After seizing the ship, Ansarullah described it as Israeli and said, “We are treating the ship’s crew in accordance with humanitarian principles and values.”

The armed forces of the movement have been launching long-range precision missiles as well as drone salvos, on a regular basis, at Israeli military targets in the occupied Palestinian territories in solidarity with the people of Gaza.

In one instance, the Israeli military said it had used its Arrow aerial system to try and intercept a missile in the vicinity of the Red Sea after air raid sirens had sounded in the settlement of Eilat.

Most of the long-range Yemeni missiles and drones have been directed at Eilat, which the occupying regime has turned into a military fortress.

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

Ship seized by Yemen belongs to Israeli company

Ansarullah has vowed to target all ships owned or operated by Israeli companies

From page 1 ▶ Scrolling through the London Stock Exchange Group, where the “benefits section” on its website for shipping includes “maritime and port data, freight analysis, news and the tools you need to understand the latest transportation,” shows that Galaxy Leader is owned by a company registered under Ray Car Carriers, which is also a unit of Tel Aviv-incorporated Ray Shipping.

Global Maritime company Ambrey has also reported that “the vehicles carrier’s group owner is listed as Ray Car Carriers”, whose company belongs to the Israeli tycoon.

According to Haaretz, Abraham “Rami” Ungar is one of the regime’s richest individuals, with a total net worth of more than \$2 billion.

He is an international shipping mogul and one of the biggest motor vehicle importers in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Ungar also had close ties to right-wing Israeli politicians for quite a long time. He was also linked to political scandals stretching back to former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert.

The Israeli billionaire told the Associated Press he was aware of the incident but could not comment as he was awaiting further details.

Despite the Israeli denials, all the shipping lanes over the Galaxy Leader lead to Tel Aviv.

The anger of the United States about the incident is reflected in the logic of its leadership.

What is much more significant to the administration of U.S. President Joe Biden is any disruption to shipping in major waterways such as the Red Sea, which could see oil prices rising significantly.

Critics say that with a general election coming up in the U.S., Biden couldn’t care less about the more than 12,000 Palestinians killed, the vast majority of them being women and children. The only aim of the man sitting in the White House is to try and keep oil prices steady.

The rest is collateral damage.

The cargo ship captured by Ansarullah’s naval forces is believed to be currently held in Yemen’s Hodeidah port.

Japan, which chartered the ship, has said it is “directly reaching out” to Yemen’s Ansarullah movement as well as a number of regional countries.

Japanese chief cabinet secretary Hirokazu Matsuno said the government was doing its utmost for an “early release” of the ship and its crew.

Ansarullah military spokesperson Yahya Saree said the seizure of the ship was in response to the “heinous acts against our Palestinian brothers in Gaza and the West Bank”.

“If the international community is concerned about regional security and stability, rather than expanding the conflict, it should put an end to the Israeli aggression against Gaza,” he wrote in a post on social media.

Last week, the Ansarullah leadership said their forces would conduct further attacks on Israeli military sites, and they could target Israeli ships in the Red Sea and the Bab al-Mandeb Strait.

Earlier on Sunday, the government in Sana’a said all ships owned or operated by Israeli companies, or carrying the Israeli flag, could be targeted.

Dehumanization of Palestinians: How Israel justifies its crimes

with over 70 percent consisting of women and children. Schools, hospitals, homes, mosques, and churches lie in ruins, and Palestinian civilians have nowhere to seek shelter. For those living in the besieged Gaza Strip, the specter of death looms ominously, casting a dark shadow over every corner of their existence.

For people who found the Israeli war minister’s infamous remarks horrifying, subsequent comments by the regime’s Knesset deputy speaker were even more appalling. “The people of Gaza cannot be described as animals because animals are better than [these] humans,” said a social media post by Nissim Vaturi on Sunday. He also suggested that Israel was acting “too humane” towards Palestinians and that the regime should “burn Gaza” as soon as possible.

Such inflammatory sentiments are not exclusive to far-right Israeli politicians in their 50s or 60s. A chilling video circulating online this week showed Israeli children singing for “annihilation” in Gaza. “In another year there will be nothing there/and we will return safely to our homes/within a year we will annihilate everyone/and then we will return to plow our fields,” chant the children as CGI-enhanced footage of strikes on buildings plays in the background.

But why do Israelis express their blatantly racist and neo-Nazi beliefs so nonchalantly?

In order to perpetuate the acceptance of its horrendous crimes against Palestinians, Israel

needs to rely on the dehumanization of the people of Palestine.

For more than 70 years, the regime has been trying to depict Palestinians as barbaric, primitive, and devoid of an understanding of the laws of war—portraying them as people who make no distinction between civilians and combatants, ultimately branding them as immoral.

With a short look through history, it becomes evident that the tactic of dehumanization has been frequently employed by white colonizers seeking to rationalize their occupations. The origins of European racism can be traced back to the 19th century, when both the British and French

argued their superiority over what they deemed as backward and barbaric African people—whom they considered to be subhuman.

Today, Western nations, the former colonial powers of the world, seem to be reinforcing their support for an entity mirroring their shameful past. In October, as Israel’s assaults on Palestinians were underway, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen avoided to condemn the denial of water, electricity, and heating to men, women, and children. Instead, she made a personal visit to the Israeli president, emphasizing that Europeans stand as “friends of Israel!”

(See full text at tehrantimes.com)

On Lebanon’s Independence Day, criminal ‘Israel’ intentionally assassinates 2 journalists

From page 1 ▶ “Al-Mayadeen” is the name of a platform that relentlessly defends the option of righteous Resistance against barbarism, imperialism and Zionism. “Al-Mayadeen” is the name of a platform that bravely confronts injustice, defies the false fabricated narratives, and exposes the brutal and heinous practices of the Zionist occupation. “Al-Mayadeen” is a channel that has taken the ethical and humanitarian responsibility of practicing pro-Resistance media work, no matter how precious and dear the cost is. This has necessitated the colonial entity to recently ban its broadcast in the occupied Palestinian territories due to the great influence it plays.

and disciplined martyr who insisted on covering the Zionist brutality, along with covering the heroism of the legitimate resistance. She just recently visited the families of the martyrs of Zionist terrorism, and conducted a report on their steadfastness, patience, and determination to confront the occupation and their unconditional support for the Resistance.

As for “Rabih,” it is the name of the determined and brilliant photographer who covered ISIS terrorism in Iraq. The photographer was a passionate, creative artist who conveyed the ongoing hostile aggression against the South. He deeply believed in the legitimacy of the struggle; an unknown soldier who worked hard in his pro-Resistance media work

without fear or apprehension.

Everyone is betting today on the resistance only. Definitely, there is no trust in a hypocritical and double-standard international community. The deliberate crime that has occurred is nothing but a direct, premeditated and planned attack. It is a natural result of the American green light that was given to the dysfunctional entity to shed the blood of both the Palestinians and the Lebanese.

We extend our sincere and deepest condolences to Al-Mayadeen channel – its management, its media professionals and its entire employees – as well as to all committed Lebanese media personnel, and the international pro-Resistance media that is revealing



the genuine bloody nature of this enemy. Mercy for the martyrs and victory and pride for the Resistance.

We address and say to the barbaric enemies that this cowardly assassination is evidence of

the Zionists’ cowardice, fragility and failure. We pledge that we will take revenge. We will defeat and expel you from our indigenous lands. We will hold you accountable no matter how long your criminality and tyranny last. We also hold your masters in Washington and the West, which falsely and hypocritically claim support for freedom of expression.

In revenge for the pure blood of our martyrs and with the blessed efforts of our valiant resistance, we will paralyze every hand that has deliberately slaughtered our dear journalists, innocent children and civilians until the end of this colonial entity usurping our Levantine lands.

A tough race to save Isfahan's cultural treasures from landslide



TEHRAN - The relatively insane speed of land subsidence is triggering destructive impact on the cultural gems of Isfahan, which is widely known as "half of the world."

Based on available data, Isfahan has the highest risk of land subsidence in the country, and in terms of the number of cities and the amount of worn-out fabric, it ranks first in the zoning of subsidence.

Sources say that subsidence in Isfahan is moving at a crazy speed; now, after the penetration of this phenomenon into the residential structures, facilities, and basic infrastructures, it has reached the thresholds of some historical monuments.

In fact, land subsidence like a quiet earthquake changes the vertical location (settlement) of the earth's surface so it inflicts destructive effects on buildings, roads, and infrastructure.

Devastating drought, excessive use of underground water, lack of perpetual water flow in the river of Zayandeh Rood, reduction of downpours, and other water resources have fueled this crisis, according to experts.

Meanwhile, experts and cultural heritage devotees have always warned about the dangers and threats caused by the expansion of land subsidence across the ancient city.

Recently, those warnings have become more serious along with a routine discovery of new cracks creeping into the heart of a majestic city, which was once the capital of Iran.

Surveys show that in the past months, traces of subsidence have reached monuments such as Abbasi Jame Mosque, Hakim and Atiq Mosque and Shahshahan Mausoleum, Vazir Bathhouse, Ali Qoli Agha mosque and bathhouse, Seyed Mosque, to name a few.

The cracks can be seen on the walls of other treasured works such as Si-o-seh Pol ("33-Arched Bridge"), the Khaju Bridge, etc.

The same challenge even threatens the whole of Isfahan province, which is home to about 22,000 historical monuments, seven of which gained UNESCO labels.

If before this, the north of Isfahan was one of the unfavorable and critical areas and everyone talked about the high rate of subsidence in these areas, now, according to many geological experts, the subsidence has covered all areas of Isfahan and is progressing.

An official with Isfahan's cultural heritage directorate says: "The main cause of the subsidence should be addressed, which is the drying up of Zayandeh Rood."

"If necessary, we will ask for help from international experts to check the condition of Naqsh-e Jahan Square and its cultural elements, which is a UNESCO World Heritage."

The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement

Chosen from the work of architect Le Corbusier that survives in eleven countries on four continents, the sites in seven countries on three continents, implemented over half a century, for the first time in the history of architecture attest to the internationalization of architectural practice across the entire planet.

Situated in Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, India, Japan, and Switzerland, the seventeen sites together represent an outstanding response to some of the fundamental issues of architecture and society in the 20th century.

According to UNESCO, they all were innovative in the way they reflected new concepts, all had a significant influence over wide geographical areas, and together they disseminated ideas of the Modern Movement

Persian caravanserais: how restoration efforts can drive tourism, cultural preservation

TEHRAN - As Iran's tourism looks to fully recover from the aftershocks of the coronavirus pandemic, a fresh push for the restoration and revival of Persian caravanserais may offer many benefits to the tourism sector.

Experts say restored caravanserais provide an authentic glimpse into Iran's rich cultural history on the other hand, and offer much-needed facilities and amenities that can make traveling in Iran more enjoyable and accessible on the other hand.

In that line, the Iranian government has launched a series of initiatives aimed at restoring these magnificent buildings to their former glory. In doing so, they hope to attract more tourists to the country and generate revenue that can be used to maintain the sites for future generations.

At the same time, efforts to preserve caravanserais also help raise funds for their maintenance and ensure that these sites will be around for future generations. Through tourism revenue, organizations can invest in ongoing upkeep and restoration efforts, helping to keep these structures standing for years to come.

On Tuesday, Ahmad Tajari, who presides over the tourism ministry's bureau for investment and development assistance, said the revival and preparation of caravanserais as travel destinations is a unique opportunity for tourism investment.



Aerial view of a centuries-old Persian caravanserai which once provided merchants, pilgrims and other trekkers with shelter, food, and water in ancient Iran.

"The restoration and revival of historical buildings will give a new life to the cities where these monuments are located."

He made the remarks in a ceremony held to mark the recent restoration of a centuries-old caravanserai located in the Fariman country of Khorasan Razavi province, northeast Iran.

Such a scheme provides direct and indirect jobs while greatly contributing to the development of tourism, the official added.

Over the past couple of years, hundreds of Iranian historical sites and monuments have been auctioned to be temporarily ceded to the private sector, reportedly aimed at achiev-

ing higher productivity and better maintenance. This trend is observed under the close supervision of the Revitalization and Utilization Fund for Historical Places, however, there have been many opponents saying the scheme will not result in better maintenance in some cases.

Earlier this year, a selection of 54 century-old roadside inns won a UNESCO label under the name: The Persian Caravanserai. The shortlist, however, is only a small percentage of the numerous caravanserais built along the ancient roads of Iran. However, they showcase the evolution and network of caravanserais in Iran in different historical stages.

Caravanserai or caravansary is a compound word combining "cara-

van" with "sara"; the former stands for a group of travelers and the latter means the building. They often had massive portals supported by elevated load-bearing walls. Guest rooms were constructed around the courtyard and stables behind them, with doors in the corners of the yard.

For centuries, caravanserais constituted key parts of a rich circuit of travel and trade by providing shelter, food, and water for caravans, pilgrims, and other trekkers. For many travelers, staying in or even visiting a centuries-old caravanserai can be a wide experience; they have an opportunity to feel the past, a time travel back to a forgotten age.

Cozy chambers that are meticulously laid out around a vast courtyard may easily evoke spirits of the past. It's not hard to fancy the hustle and bustle of merchants bargaining on prices, recounting their arduous journeys to one another while their camels chew hay! You can also conceive the idea of local architectural style and material in its heyday.

The earliest caravanserais in Iran were built during the Achaemenid era (550 - 330 BC). Centuries later, when Shah Abbas I assumed power from 1588 to 1629, he ordered the construction of a network of caravanserais across the country. Such roadside inns were once constructed along ancient caravan routes in the Muslim world to shelter people, their goods, and animals. The former Silk Road may be the most famous example dotted with caravanserais.

Intl. festival of Iranian nomads & tribal economy opens in northern Iran

TEHRAN - On Monday, the 16th edition of an international festival of Iranian nomads & tribal economy was launched in the ancient city of Gorgan, northern Iran, among a crowd of various tribes and curious visitors.

Along with Iranian nomads, tens of tribespeople and exhibitors from Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, and Kazakhstan take part in the five-day event to highlight their cultural heritage and tourism magnetism.

Organizers hope to encourage more domestic and overseas tourists and holidaymakers to visit nomadic tribes.

Highlights of the festival include traditional music, folk dance, workshops, and cultural and cu-

linary shows to name a few.

The festival is intended to establish bonds between various nomads. A cultural heritage expert stressed the need to reinforce cultural ties between the nomadic tribes of the ancient land. "Iran is a rainbow of different ethnicities, which have lived together for millennia," Ata Hassanpur said.

Iranian nomads mainly live in the provinces of Fars, Chahmahal-Bakhtiari, Khuzestan, Isfahan, and some other provinces. They usually change between their winter quarters in steppes (Qishlaq or warmer areas) and summer quarters in green mountainous regions (Yeqlaq or cooler countryside).

Sightseers may visit nomads at different times of the year. However, the best seasons are spring

and summer. There are several nomadic tribes you can meet or stay with, each of them having its own unique lifestyle, culture, customs, foods, and musical performances.

Held every year on May 21, the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development celebrates not only the richness of the world's cultures but also the essential role of intercultural dialogue in achieving peace and sustainable development.

The United Nations General Assembly first declared this World Day in 2002, following UNESCO's adoption of the 2001 Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, recognizing the need to enhance the potential of culture as a means of achieving prosperity, sustainable development, and global peaceful coexistence.

Baysunghur's lavish patronage of arts and architecture to be discussed in Tehran meetings



Scene from the Baysunghur Shahnameh, a Shahnameh commissioned by Baysunghur, 1430

TEHRAN - A package of Tehran meetings and workshops is set to

turn the spotlight on Baysunghur, who was a great patron of arts and architecture in 15th-century Iran.

Born Ghiyath ud-din Baysunghur in 1397, he was a prince of the Timurid dynasty and a prominent calligrapher whose name is better remembered as a leading patron of the Persian miniature in Iran. He commissioned the Baysunghur Shahnameh and other works as well.

The meetings will be held on the sidelines of an exhibition of his works, which will run from November 21 to December 21 in downtown of the Iranian capital.

Baysunghur was the son of Shah Rukh, the ruler of Iran and Transoxiana, and Shah Rukh's most prominent wife, Gawhar Shad.

A first-class calligrapher, he was an outstanding representative of Islamic culture of the Turco-Iranian type, whose distinctiveness and

worth have only in recent decades received adequate appreciation in modern scholarship.

Some experts believe that in both contemporary and modern historical works, Baysunghur is overshadowed by his elder brother Olog Beg who was notable for his work in astronomy-related mathematics.

Baysunghur played a big part in the administration of the Timurid empire. He was appointed governor-general (wali) of Tus, Neyshapur, and Astarabad when he was seven years old.

Moreover, he fought in campaigns against the most dangerous enemies of the Timurids. He accompanied Shah Rukh's expeditions against the Turkmens in the northwest in 1421 and 1429 and against Boraq the Uzbek in the northeast in 1427 after the latter had inflicted a defeat on Olog Beg.

As mentioned by Iranica, the fondness of the Timurids for splendid architecture and fine art can be explained by two considerations: first, the then prevalent tendency of rulers to enhance their prestige by making their courts centers of culture and, second, the legacy of Timur, who had deported architects, artists, craftsmen, scholars, and poets from conquered cities to Central Asia and set them to work in that region, mainly at his capital Samarqand.

Baysunghur was a talented poet who had an excellent knowledge of both Persian and Arabic as well as his Eastern Turkish mother tongue.

The Malek National Library and Museum Institution, itself a top travel destination in downtown Tehran, is playing host to that meetings, workshops, and exhibitions dedicated to Baysunghur and his contributions to Persian arts.

Glimpses of World Heritage sites

throughout the world.

Despite its diversity, the Modern Movement was a major and essential socio-cultural and historical entity of the 20th century, which has to a large degree remained the basis of the architectural culture of the 21st century. From the 1910s to the 1960s, the Modern Movement, in meeting the challenges of contemporary society, aimed to instigate a unique forum of ideas at a world level, invent a new architectural language, modernize archi-

tectural techniques, and meet the social and human needs of modern man. The series provides an outstanding response to all these challenges.

Some of the component sites immediately assumed an iconic status and had worldwide influence. These include the Villa Savoye, as an icon for the Modern Movement; Unité d'habitation in Marseille as a major prototype of a new housing model based on a balance between the individual and the collective;

Chapelle Notre-Dame-du-Haut for its revolutionary approach to religious architecture; the Cabanon de Le Corbusier as an archetypal minimum cell based on ergonomic and functionalist approaches; and the Maisons de la Weissenhof-Siedlung that became known worldwide, as part of the Werkbund exhibition.

Other sites acted as catalysts for spreading ideas around their own regions, such as Maison Guiette, which spurred the development of the Modern Movement

in Belgium and the Netherlands; the Maison du Docteur Curutchet which exerted a fundamental influence in South America; the Musée National des Beaux-Arts de l'Occident as the prototype of the globally transposable Museum of Unlimited Growth which cemented ideas of the Modern Movement in Japan; and the Capitol Complex that had a considerable influence across the Indian subcontinent, where it symbolized India's accession to modernity.

Over 900 vulnerable children provided with nutritional care

TEHRAN –Some 915 children suffering from moderate to severe malnutrition in refugee settlements in Yazd and Khorasan Razavi provinces have received essential nutritional and therapeutic supplies.

Malnutrition in children under five years of age can lead to their being underweight, short, emaciated, and even death.

The Ministry of Health and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) cooperated to take necessary actions to combat malnutrition among vulnerable children in these two provinces.

Funded from the European Community Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO), the initiative provided 750 children under five, with essential nutrition supplies designed for prevention and management of malnutrition in health facilities, the UNICEF website announced in a press release on November 19.

Also, 165 severely malnourished children benefited from therapeutic supplements in Yazd and Khorasan Razavi provinces' hospitals.

With the improvement of the nutritional status of these children, UNICEF is now positioned to advocate for the widespread use of these supplies in less advantaged provinces and areas, the report added.

In addition, UNICEF plans to support the production of relevant domestic products to provide a



sustainable solution to malnutrition-related challenges faced by communities in need.

The cooperation between the Ministry of Health and UNICEF signifies a shared commitment to improving the nutrition and well-being of children in Iran.

By providing essential nutrition supplements, UNICEF and its partners are taking significant steps to make a healthier future for children in the country.

Wellbeing, empowerment programs

Recently, the Iranian Red Crescent Society in cooperation with UNICEF organized eight educational workshops for students and their family members residing in the city of Khoy which was struck by a strong earthquake in January.

On January 28, an earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale hit Khoy in the northwestern West Azarbaijan province. The disaster affected at least 261,000 people and displaced 130,000 from their homes.

A total of 1,700 male and female students and 120 of their family members attended these workshops.

These educational workshops were held with the aim of empowering children and their families in team building, team support, anger management, emotion regulation, empathy, happiness, self-care, and environmental care.

Facilitators of these workshops had earlier participated in a capacity-building training program organized jointly by UNICEF and the IRCS,

funded by the EU's European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), the UNICEF website announced in a press release on November 12.

Two pilot programs for the well-being and empowerment of young boys and girls have been launched in four provinces of the country.

Ministry of Sports and Youth and the Drug Control Headquarters in cooperation with UNICEF have implemented these programs in Kermanshah, Alborz, Isfahan, and Mashhad.

One program is for empowering adolescents and young boys and the other program is for girls' psycho-social health and their empowerment.

Soft and technical skills are taught to boys aged 15 to 24 in three UNICEF-supported centers located in Kermanshah, Alborz, and Isfahan provinces.

The centers provide different services including on-the-job training, internships, mentoring, psycho-social support, counseling, and social entrepreneurship programs.

The focus of this program is to facilitate a smooth transition from learning to earning, empowering 1,618 adolescents and youth in these provinces, the UNICEF website announced in a press release on November 13.

WHO, Oslo University Hospital contribute to effective treatment of poisonings in Iran



TEHRAN – In a groundbreaking collaboration, the World Health Organization (WHO) partnered with Oslo University Hospital to donate crucial sets of breathing machines and essential medicine to Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences (SBUMS) for collaboration on improving the efficacy of treatment for cases of poisoning with methanol, carbon monoxide (CO), or anesthetic gases.

This collaborative effort aims to contribute to global knowledge production and foster collaboration among academic institutes globally.

The partnership between Oslo University Hospital and SBUMS signifies a crucial step towards improving health and humanitarian services in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

By increasing the country's capacity for clinical trials in treating patients with poisoning, especially caused by methanol and CO, the collaboration addresses a critical healthcare need in the region.

This successful initiative involved coordination

across multiple sectors, including the curative sector, academic institutes, the Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME), and WHO at three levels – HQ, Eastern Mediterranean Region, and Iran country office.

The collaboration was comprehensive, addressing legal, technical, and logistics aspects.

The donated breathing machines and methanol antidotes were formally handed over during a ceremony held on Monday, 20 November 2023, at SBUMS.

The event was attended by esteemed figures, including the chancellor and authorities of SBUMS, the Ambassador of Norway in Iran, representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, MOHME, WHO, and the resident coordinator of the United Nations.

Partners from Oslo University Hospital participated virtually through a recorded video.

During the ceremony, Dr Syed Jaffar Hussain, WHO Representative and Head of Mission to the Islamic Republic of Iran, underscored the vital role of international collaborations, especially in the face of sanctions.

He emphasized the importance of joint research studies in strengthening capacities and knowledge transfer among countries and academic institutes.

WHO pledged support through nationwide training courses on the usage of donated breathing machines and technical assistance for project execution.

"We are also planning to upscale this initiative to the regional level for future collaborations,"

added Dr Hussain.

Mr Sigvald Tomin Hauge, the Ambassador of Norway, highlighted the humanitarian aspect of the donation, expressing Norway's commitment to supporting those in need in Iran.

He also mentioned that Norway supports future regional plans.

Dr Alireza Zali, the Chancellor of SBUMS, extended gratitude to the government of Norway and Oslo University Hospital for their support, emphasizing the positive impact on research and clinical institutes in Iran.

Dr Zali outlined the crucial role of poison centers in the country, stressing the significance of having an ample stock of required antidotes.

This donation not only enhances clinical studies on poisoned patients but also provides an opportunity for MOHME to strengthen national poison centers and networks.

In a video message, Dr Knut Erik Hovda, representing Oslo University Hospital, commended the close collaboration with WHO at all levels.

He acknowledged the commitment of technical and academic institutes in Iran, expressing hope that this donation would contribute to improved treatment for poisoning with methanol, CO, and anesthetic gases.

This collaborative effort stands as a testament to the power of international cooperation in addressing critical health challenges, ultimately saving lives and strengthening healthcare systems worldwide.

ENGLISH IN USE

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Precipitation forecast to reach above normal in next 3 months

The country is predicted to receive above normal rainfall over the next three months (February 20-May 21), head of the climatological research institute affiliated to Iran's Meteorological Organization (IMO) has said.

The whole country will meet normal and above normal rainfalls, the northern parts will receive above normal rainfall while southern provinces will receive normal to lower-than-normal rainfall, IRNA quoted Iman Babaiean as saying on Sunday.

This month, northern and eastern provinces will receive rain above normal averages, while in the first month of spring precipitation will be at normal amounts across the country, he noted, adding, during the second month of spring rainfall will reach its peak.

بارش‌های کشور در سه ماه پیش رو بیش از نرمال است

رئیس پژوهشکده اقلیم‌شناسی سازمان هواشناسی گفت: پیش‌بینی‌ها نشان می‌دهد میزان بارش در سه ماهه پیش رو (اسفند ۹۷، فروردین و اردیبهشت ۹۸) در حد نرمال و متمایل به بیش از نرمال خواهد بود.

ایمان باباییان روز یکشنبه در گفت‌وگو با خبرنگار ایرنا افزود: مجموع بارش‌ها در سطح کشور نرمال و متمایل به بیشتر از نرمال است اما در نیمه شمالی، بیشتر از نرمال و در نیمه جنوبی در محدوده نرمال تا کمتر از نرمال خواهد بود.

وی اظهار داشت: بارش‌ها در اسفندماه ۹۷ در نیمه شمالی و شرقی بیشتر از نرمال است، در فروردین ماه ۹۸ نیز بارش‌ها در محدوده نرمال و برای اردیبهشت بیشتر از نرمال پیش‌بینی شده است.

Tehran, Islamabad discuss enhancing security along borders

TEHRAN – Iran and Pakistan stressed the need to boost security along borders in a bid to promote relations and improve coordination between the two neighboring countries.

The Islamic Republic of Iran fights hard against drug smugglers and prevents them from entering the region, the commander of the Iranian border guards has said.

"We are pleased to hold the second joint border meeting of Iran and Pakistan since it affects the two countries' relations," IRNA quoted Brigadier General Ahmad-Ali Goudarzi as saying.

He made the remarks in a meeting with Rear Admiral Imtiaz Ali, the director general of the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA).

The Iranian official said former joint meetings have had a significant impact on border security relations. "These meetings should continue to be held with the focus on improving maritime security and fighting drug trafficking, as the main objectives."

The two countries share about 740 km and 204 km of land and sea borders, respectively. The stable security of the borders shows the good neighborly relations between Iran and Pakistan, Goudarzi noted.

Highlighting that the security of the Persian Gulf and the Oman Sea are of great importance to the regional countries, Goudarzi said over four thousand people have been martyred and some 12 thousand wounded in the fight against drug smuggling.

He went on to say that so far Iran has discovered more than 500 tons of narcotics in the current Iranian calendar year (started March 21). Over 15 tons of narcotic drugs have been discovered in the Sea of Oman.

To prevent drug trafficking, and illegal fishing, and ensure the safety of fishermen in the sea, the control of the sea borders should be enhanced by the two countries; joint patrols and maneuvers should be held, too, Goudarzi said.

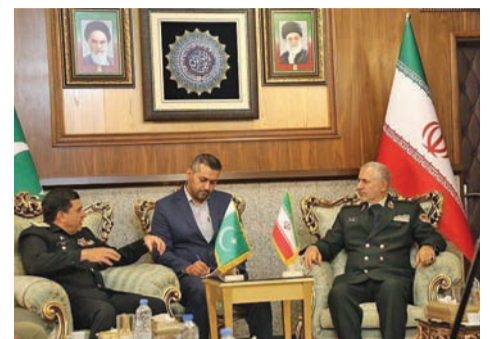
Imtiaz Ali, for his part, said, "Fortunately, the sea borders of the two countries are calm and this is the result of coordination and understanding between the two countries."

Emphasizing the need to increase cooperation toward the management of sea borders, he said the Persian Gulf is of vital importance to the world that needs security. "So, we must secure stability in the region so that people can have a better life."

Drug trafficking constitutes an important problem for Pakistan. "Our country is strongly against it and strictly deals with those engaged in drug smuggling," he added.

Triangular Initiative

On June 14, senior officials from Iran and Pakistan started a two-day meeting in Tehran to deepen counter-narcotics cooperation under the framework of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)-bro-



Iranian and Pakistani officials in a meeting.

kered Triangular Initiative. The meeting was part of the series of gatherings foreseen by the Triangular Initiative and aimed at discussing existing drug trafficking threats, regional counter-narcotic strategies, and operational means to improve trilateral cooperation, according to the UNODC website.

The Triangular Initiative was launched in 2007 to strengthen cooperation in counter-narcotics law enforcement between the Islamic Republics of Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

UNODC serves as its Secretariat; it facilitates the implementation of technical assistance and mobilizes financial support.

The initiative has so far helped to forge an unprecedented level of cooperation on drug control between the three countries.

Periodic meetings of experts and policy-makers have been facilitated by UNODC since 2007, building trust amongst the three countries' anti-narcotics authorities.

At the operational level, a Joint Planning Cell has been established in Tehran for information and intelligence sharing and the implementation of joint operations targeting drug trafficking networks operating in the region.

The front line

Iran is known as the first station and the front line of dealing with all kinds of drugs due to its location on the European transit route of Afghan drugs.

The fight against narcotics is very expensive due to the complexity of the mafia level of this business, a cost that the Islamic Republic of Iran has been paying alone for years despite the support claims of the international community.

On average, more than 90 percent of opium discoveries, 27 percent of heroin discoveries, and 59 percent of morphine discoveries in the world are made by Iran, Mohsen Nazari Asl, Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations in Vienna, has said.

some 716 tons of narcotics were discovered and seized in the past Iranian calendar year (March 2022-March 2023), he added.

The flow of narcotics into Iran has decreased by about 15 percent over the past four years, Eskandar Momeni, the secretary general of the anti-narcotics headquarters, has said.

Intl. conference on conservation of environment, natural resources to be held

TEHRAN –The fourth international conference on the conservation of environment and natural resources will open today in the northwestern city of Ardabil and will run for two days.

Protection and restoration of forest ecosystems; forest health and biodiversity; ecological approach to forests and pastures management; climate change; environmental hazards and ecological resilience; assessing, modeling, and managing water, soil, and plant resources; remote sensing and geographic information systems; community-based forests and pastures management; laws, rights and natural resources governance; environment and socio-economic issues; environmental and civil engineering; sustainable urban, rural, and ecotourism development; biosecurity and environmentally-friendly agriculture; and green investment, management and supply of raw materials for wood and paper industries are the main objectives of this conference.

Calendar days

The fifteenth day of Esfand – the last Ira-

nian calendar month, which falls on March 5, has been approved to be registered on the national calendar as the 'Environmental Protection Education Day'.

Nourollah Moradi, the Department of Environment's director for educational affairs, said on Tuesday that the Environmental Protection Education Day is the second environmental event to be registered in the country's official calendar, IRNA reported.

Clean Earth Day, April 22, was the first environmental event registered in the national calendar.

He referred to the registration of the Environmental Protection Education Day in the country's official calendar as a valuable event for the environmental society of the country and said, "Education in the field of environment is one of the basic steps to preserve and protect the country's environment."

It will be an important measure taken to enhance environmental literacy and empower the next generations."



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GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

A wise man first thinks and then speaks and a fool speaks first and then thinks.

Imam Ali (AS)

Prayer Times > Noon: 11:50 Evening: 17:13 Dawn: 5:20 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:48 (tomorrow)

Painter Manuchehr Safarzadeh dies at 80



TEHRAN —Veteran Iranian painter Manuchehr Safarzadeh, also known as Mash

Safar, died in Tehran on Monday. He was 80.

Born in Tehran in 1943, he spent part of his educational years at the School of Fine Arts for Boys and obtained a diploma in painting in 1961.

Safarzadeh, who had claimed to have spent over 50 years of his life dedicated to painting, also joined the College of Decorative Arts.

He traveled to Europe for a period of time to gain artistic experience and returned to Iran after the Islamic Revolution in 1979. He continued his painting work in the style of mural painting and more.

Arasbaran Cultural Center to show Nolan's "Oppenheimer"

TEHRAN—The 2023 biographical film written and directed by Christopher Nolan "Oppenheimer" will be screened on Wednesday at Arasbaran Cultural Center in Tehran.

Being the 598th movie in the program of Tehran Film Club, the film will be shown at 6 p.m. and followed by a review session attended by writer and director Kourosh Jahed and university professor Kamran Kaveh.

It is the story of American scientist, J. Robert Oppenheimer, and his role in the development of the atomic bomb.

The film stars Cillian Murphy as Oppenheimer, the theoretical physicist credited with being the "father of the atomic bomb" for his role in the Manhattan Project—the World War II undertaking that developed the first nuclear weapons.

The film also stars Emily Blunt as Oppenheimer's wife "Kitty", Matt Damon as head of the Manhattan Project Leslie Groves, and Robert Downey Jr. as U.S. Atomic Energy Commission member Lewis Strauss. The ensemble supporting cast includes Florence Pugh, Josh Hartnett, Casey Affleck, Rami Malek, and Kenneth Branagh.

Based on the 2005 biography American

Prometheus by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin, the film chronicles the career of Oppenheimer, with the story predominantly focusing on his studies, his direction of the Manhattan Project during World War II, and his eventual fall from grace due to his 1954 security hearing.

During World War II, Lt. Gen. Leslie Groves Jr. appoints physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer to work on the top-secret Manhattan Project. Oppenheimer was the director of the laboratory at Los Alamos, New Mexico, where the atomic bomb was designed. The theoretical work of how the atomic bomb would function had to be converted into a practical weapon that could be dropped from an airplane and explode above its target.

Oppenheimer and a team of scientists spend years developing and designing the atomic bomb. Their work comes to fruition on July 16, 1945, as they witness the world's first nuclear explosion, forever changing the course of history.

The film has received critical acclaim and grossed over \$950 million worldwide, becoming the third-highest-grossing film of 2023, the highest-grossing World War II-related film, and the highest-grossing biographical film.

Cartoon of Day



Madness

Cartoonist: Simon Regis from Tanzania

Turkmenistan Cultural Week to be held in Iran

TEHRAN—The central Iranian city of Isfahan will be hosting Turkmenistan Cultural Week from November 23 to 26.

Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Mohammad-Mehdi Esmaeili, the Minister of Culture of Turkmenistan Atageldi Şamyradow, Isfahan's governor-general Seyyed Reza Mortazavi and several cultural figures are scheduled to attend the opening ceremony of the event, which will be held in the city's Art Hall on Thursday, IRNA reported.

With the presence of 40 artists from Turkmenistan, the event will offer a variety of art exhibitions and performances, including visual arts, music and handicrafts, the report added.

Throughout the event, in addition to traditional Turkmen music performances and handicraft exhibitions, there will also be showcases of art, traditional clothing, Turkmenistan film screenings, and a photography exhibition, the report added.

As part of this cultural event, a literary session on Iranian-Turkmen poet Makhtum-Qoli Faraghi (Magtymguly Pyragy, 1733-1790), a renowned figure shared between the two countries, will be held at the University of Isfahan, with the presence of poets and writers from Iran and Turkmenistan.

The event has been organized by Iran's Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO) in collaboration with Isfahan Municipality, the city's Culture and Islamic Guidance Department and Art Bureau.

Back in February, the Iranian Cultural Days was held in Ashgabat,



Turkmenistan, to celebrate the anniversary of the Islamic Revolution.

Groups of Iranian artists and artisans attended the cultural festival to showcase their latest works in numerous exhibitions.

In addition, several Iranian bands were also in Turkmenistan performing concerts of traditional music. Several acclaimed Iranian movies were screened during the cultural festival.

As part of the cultural festival, several exhibitions were inaugurated by Iran's culture minister and his Turkmen counterpart at the Museum of Fine Arts in Ashgabat.

The festival was organized based on an agreement signed by Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi and his Turkmen counterpart Serdar Berdimuhamedow, Iranian

ambassador to Ashgabat, Gholam-Abbas Arbabbkhales announced at the time.

"We are happy that this great cultural event is being organized eight months after signing the agreement, which recognizes the two countries' desire to expand cultural relations," he added.

He noted that the two countries have a lot in common leading to improve cultural ties and cooperation on political and economic issues in the region.

In the new administration under Ebrahim Raisi, Iran is seeking to boost cultural relations with countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia.

On October 4, 2022, Culture Minister Esmaeili and his Tajik counterpart, Zulfiya Davlatzoda, signed a memorandum of understanding in Tehran, just one

day after opening a Tajik cultural festival at the Abbasabad Cultural Complex in the Iranian capital.

In November, over 50 Iranian painters, calligraphers, storytellers, musicians and artists from other fields organized workshops, exhibitions and performances in an Iranian cultural week in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

Earlier in June, Azerbaijani Culture Minister Anar Karimov visited Tehran to discuss the expansion of relations on films, visual arts, literature and other cultural fields with his Iranian counterpart.

Cultural weeks are one of the most important events in cultural and public diplomacy relations between countries, taking place based on cultural agreements between the two countries and with the presence of high-ranking cultural officials.

Maestro Majid Entezami to hold concert after 11 years



TEHRAN—Maestro Majid Entezami is to conduct Iran's National Orchestra at a concert at Tehran's Vahdat Hall on December 6.

The celebrated musician and composer Entezami will return to the stage after 11 years to perform a number of his memorable compositions at the concert titled "Along with Memories," ILNA reported.

"The Symphony of the Epic of Khorramshar," "The Glass Agency," "From Karkheh to Rhine," "The Fragrance of Joseph's Shirt," "The Train," "Duel," "Zaal and Simorgh," "The Insane Flew Away," "Sheikh Baha'li," and "Great Expectation" are the nostalgic pieces selected to be performed at the event.

Also an oboist, Entezami, 75, has composed

music for over 80 movies, nine television series, and 10 suite symphonies. He has received the best original score award at the Fajr International Film Festival several times.

He studied at State University of West Berlin under the supervision of Karl Steins and Lothar Koch in 1968. He performed successful concerts with Berlin University Symphony Orchestra in Lyon, Nancy and Marseille, France from 1969 to 1972.

In 1973, Entezami came to Iran by the invitation of Tehran Symphony Orchestra and performed a successful Mozart concert as oboe soloist, conducted by Helge Dorsch. Then he returned to Germany as a member of the Berlin Symphony Orchestra and West Deutsche Philharmonie.

In 1974 he became a member of Tehran Symphony Orchestra as well as teacher at the Tehran Conservatory and music department of University of Tehran. He has performed two oboe recitals with Lucette Martirosian on piano and harpsichord and Ivan Pristas on bassoon in 1976 and a concert with the Les Jeunes Musicales de l'Iran orchestra conducted by Ali Rahbari and Valodia Tarkhanian as viola d'amore soloist.

Despite being the son of famous Iranian actor Ezzatollah Entezami, Majid's entrance into the

cinema industry was his own.

He has a profound understanding of the picture and has always tried to tell the untold essence of the story. He also has experience with a variety of styles which has given his portfolio variety, from comedies to epic war movies.

The music of Entezami is orchestral and based on western classical music, but with Iranian instruments and unusual rhythms which give his works an eastern feel.

Every theme and musical color heard in Entezami's work has a rational explanation in the story. He believes that music tells a part of the story that is not already told in the picture. Some of his works seem to be narrative, almost like part of the script, but he maintains that no director has ever asked him for such characteristics.

Iran's National Orchestra was founded in 1998 under the conduction of the renowned Iranian composer Farhad Fakhreddini.

The orchestra had been formed by Persian traditional instruments, strings and woodwind instruments. During its history, the orchestra focused on Persian composers' compositions including pieces by renowned figures such as Fakhreddini, Ali Tajvidi, and Hossein Alizadeh among others.

Iranian plays to be performed at Prague festival

TEHRAN—Two plays from Iran will be performed at the 15th Nad Prahou Half-Moon Festival in the Czech Republic, due to be held from November 23 to 27.

"Landless" directed by Morvarid Ramezani and "Forbidden" by Mehran Nael are the Iranian plays slated to be staged on November 25 at the event, Honaronline reported on Monday.

In "Landless" Ramezani deals with the conflict between the inner and outer world of a person who has decided to leave his country and now he has returned to his roots. However, he always asks himself questions about whether to stay or go.

Nael's "Forbidden" is the story of a musician who tries to establish himself in an

environment where there is strong opposition to music.

A number of Iranian short films are also to be screened at the event. They will be shown in Persian with English and Czech subtitles.

The 15th Nad Prahou Half-Moon Festival is set to unfold from November 23, gracing

multiple venues in Prague as well as Hradec Králové. The festival promises an eclectic array of non-traditional theatrical, literary, musical, visual, and filmic experiences. A host of international guests and hostesses will grace the event, which will also feature a plethora of premieres and one-of-a-kind happenings.

Adaptation of "Salome" to go on stage at Tehran theater

TEHRAN—Iranian director Babak Parham will stage an adaptation of Irish poet and playwright Oscar Wilde's play "Salome" at Tehran's City Theater on November 28.

Nakisa Oqbai is the main actor of the play, which will remain on stage until December 11.

First published in 1891, "Salome" tells the biblical tale of Salome, the stepdaughter of King Herod, whose destructive desires lead to a tragic outcome.

Wilde's "Salome" takes place in the court of King Herod Antipas, a backdrop rich with political intrigue and moral corruption. The central character, Salome, becomes infatuated

with the prophet Jokanaan (John the Baptist) after hearing his prophetic teachings. Salome's desire for Jokanaan intensifies, transforming into an intense obsession that consumes her.

Wilde's portrayal of Salome is both alluring and repulsive, capturing the dangerous power of desire. As the narrative unfolds, Salome's obsession drives her to manipulate those around her, including her own mother Herodias, and ultimately leads to a horrific request: the severed head of Jokanaan on a silver platter.

"Salome" challenges traditional notions of morality, exploring themes of lust, power, and the destructive nature of desire. Wilde's elegant and poetic language adds an ethereal quality

to the play, emphasizing the decadence and decadence of the characters and their actions.

Despite the controversies, "Salome" cemented Wilde's reputation as a literary provocateur and established his unique voice in the theatrical landscape.

With its seductive prose, compelling characters, and gripping storyline, Oscar Wilde's "Salome" continues to captivate audiences with its timeless themes and unnerving beauty. It remains a significant work in Wilde's canon, showcasing his talent for challenging social norms and delving deep into the darkest corners of human nature.