

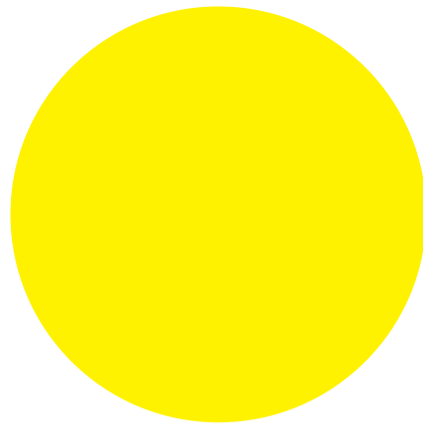
Iran Daily felicitates its readers on the occasion of Eid al-Fitr, a major Muslim feast that marks the end of the fasting month of Ramadan. Our next issue will come out on Monday.



EXCLUSIVE

## Arabs distance themselves from Israel

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# Iran Daily

## Leader: Enemy seeking to polarize Iranian nation

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A young nomad holds a newly-born lamb in his arm during a seasonal migration on a plain in Iran's southern Fars Province on April 19, 2023. Three major nomadic tribes of Fars have begun moving to summer pasture.

FARS

## Iran, Oman condemn Israeli aggression against Palestinians

International Desk

Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi on Wednesday strongly condemned the Israeli aggression and "barbaric crimes" against "defenseless" Palestinians during the fasting month of Ramadan as he spoke with Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said of Oman on the phone. Raeisi emphasized that the cooperation, companion-

ship, and like-mindedness of all Muslim countries would effectively deter Israeli aggression and lead to the realization of the legal rights of the Palestinian nation. He also highlighted Oman's "special status" in Iran's foreign policy and called for the implementation of agreements between the two countries. The Sultan of Oman ex-



president.ir

pressed his satisfaction with the level of relations between Muscat and Tehran and stressed the importance of the execution

of bilateral agreements. He also condemned Israel's actions, particularly its desecration of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and vowed to con-

tinue advocating the legal rights of the Palestinians. Since the beginning of the fasting month of Ramadan, Israeli forces have conducted numerous attacks that resulted in the injury and arrest of hundreds of Palestinians. Additionally, Israeli settlers have been violating the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound with impunity under the protection of the Israeli police.

## Iranian MP advises Baku to be far-sighted

EXCLUSIVE



BORNA NEWS

A senior Iranian lawmaker advised the Azerbaijani authorities to be far-sighted about their foreign relations and national interests. In an interview with Iran Daily, Abbas Moqtadaei, the deputy chairman of the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee of the Iranian Parliament, warned Baku against trading in the long-term interests of the people of Azerbaijan for the short-term interests of Israel.

In recent months, Tehran and Baku have been involved in, among other things, a tense dispute over the alleged growing involvement of Israel and its military in Azerbaijan, which was recently escalated as Azerbaijan opened an embassy in Tel Aviv on March 29. Moqtadaei pointed out that as two historic neighbors that once were part of one single territory, Iran and Azerbaijan have many common interests, but Israel is only pursuing its own interests and policies and does not care for anything else.

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## Without intervention, Hyrcanian forests of Iran will be no more

Social Desk



Northern forests in Iran are disappearing at an alarming rate, replaced by citrus plantations and luxury villas, according to environmentalists. The Hyrcanian forests have been divided into three categories: lowland, intermediate, and high-altitude oak and beech forests. Only two hectares of lowland forest remain, while the intermediate and high-altitude forests are under threat. Environmentalists attribute the degradation of the forests to urban sprawl, with many unauthorized edifices cropping up, including the usurpation of mountains, forests, and land in the northern provinces, especially Mazandaran. Despite environmentalists' outcry, officials have not exhibited resolute responsibility, allowing the commodification of nature and the resulting environmental destruction to continue.

### A catastrophe in the making

As soon as one traverses any of the northern thoroughfares that penetrate the forests, the scale of the catastrophe becomes apparent. The phenomenon has thwarted all endeavors to contain it, resulting in the degradation of both land and forest. Presently, experts and environmentalists opine that the commodification of nature engenders environmental destruction. A variety of methods has been employed to destroy not only the Hyrcanian forests but also other woodlands in Iran. Nonetheless, its intensity and severity in the northern regions of the country are higher due to escalating land values, buying and selling, and the influx of migrants.

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### Ta'arof, an old tradition of showing respect

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### Esteghlal, Persepolis flying high ahead of season-defining derby

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### Dangerous new trend puts babies and mothers at risk

EXCLUSIVE

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## MP: Chabahar, crossroads of global trade



Sadeq Dehqan  
Staff writer

EXCLUSIVE

The Iranian port city of Chabahar can become the fastest transit route between Europe and Asia if it is connected to the national railroad network, Iranian Member of Parliament Esmaeil Hossein-Zehi, told Iran Daily. Chabahar is located in Iran's southeastern province of Sistan-Balouchestan. It is Iran's only ocean port situated near



IRNA

the Sea of Oman, with access to the high seas. Iran plans to turn the port into a transit hub for immediate access to markets in the northern part of the Indian Ocean and Central Asia.

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## Addressing the illicit trade of antiquities



Hamideh Hosseini  
Staff writer

EXCLUSIVE

In 2016, security officials at London's Stansted Airport stumbled upon an enigmatic object nestled within loosely wrapped packaging. This haphazard package of suspicion was subsequently transferred to the British Museum, thus beginning the tale of the Sassanid rock relief. The Iranian carving appeared to have been subjected to a level of brutality that surpassed anything, leaving many archaeologists surprised. The unique sculpture carved from calcareous limestone in the 3rd century

A.D. dates back to the Sassanid Empire. It depicts a male figure of over one meter in height that appears to have been removed from its original place on a cliff with an angle grinder. The lack of an inscription makes it impossible to identify the person depicted, but his dress and diadem headdress signifies him as a figure of high rank. His gesture of greeting and submission, with a raised bent forefinger, is a feature of Sassanid art when dignitaries are in the presence of royalty.

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