



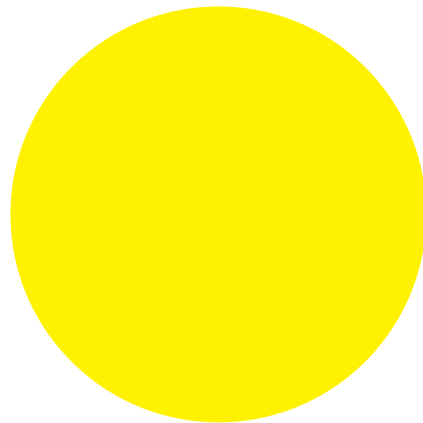
Sarab Garden in Shahrud in danger of destruction

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A menace spreads through Middle East

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Iran Daily

Israeli strikes in Gaza kill senior resistance commanders, 12 others

International Desk

Israel carried out a series of airstrikes in populated areas of the Gaza Strip early Tuesday, killing at least 12 civilians and three senior commanders of the Islamic Jihad movement, Palestinian health officials said.

Two of the commanders' wives, several of their children and other bystanders were among the dead.

The airstrikes hit the top floor of an apartment building, a house in Gaza City and a third house in the southern town of Rafah. The Palestinian Health Ministry said 20 people were wounded, and that some were in serious or critical condition.

Another Israeli strike killed two more Palestinians. The Gaza Health Ministry said two men were killed by an air strike on a vehicle in Khan Yunis.

At midday, tens of thousands of people took part in two funerals, with at least 10 bodies being mourned in one funeral in Gaza City. Mourners carried the bodies, which lay on stretchers, on their shoulders to ambulances. Children's coffins were carried next to those of their parents. Such targeted killings are rare, and in the past, Palestinian groups have retaliated with heavy barrages of rocket fire. In anticipation of renewed rocket fire, the Israeli military advised residents of communi-

ties within 25 miles (40 kilometers) of Gaza to stay close to designated bomb shelters.

The Israeli airstrikes drew condemnation from Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh, Jordan and the Egypt, Iran, Turkey, Syria.

Tor Wennesland, the U.N. envoy to the Middle East, said he was "deeply alarmed" and condemned the civilian deaths, calling on all sides "to exercise maximum restraint."

Dawood Shahab, an Islamic Jihad official, said that there would be a "unified Palestinian response" to the strikes at a time and place of its choosing.

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh warned that Israel will "pay the price" for the killings. "Assassinating the leaders with a treacherous operation will not bring security to the occupier, but rather more resistance".

Iran's Foreign Ministry also strongly condemned Israel's attacks. Spokesman Nasser Kanaani said silence and inaction of international organizations and Western countries towards Israel's "inhumane acts", which have been intensified against the Palestinian people in recent months, have emboldened the Tel Aviv regime to continue its crimes. He called for immediate, effective, deterrent and coordinated action by Muslim countries to stop the "killing and crime machine" of the regime.



A Muslim cleric leads the prayer during a funeral in Gaza City for people killed in Israeli air raids on the Palestinian territory early on May 9, 2023. MOHAMMED ABED/AFP

Optimism on Tehran-Cairo talks on the rise

By Abdul Amir Nabavi Professor at Tehran University

EXCLUSIVE

According to some media reports, the second round of talks between delegations from Iran and Egypt was held in Baghdad. The two countries are now on the path to normalizing relations. The improvement of ties between Iran and Saudi Arabia has had a direct and positive effect on Tehran's relations with other Arab countries, most notably, Egypt.

The Tehran-Riyadh agreement (Beijing Agreement) has helped speed up the negotiations between Tehran and Cairo and the determination to resolve previous misunderstandings.

Of course, the expectation that the normalization of ties between Iran and Egypt would take place quickly, and in all areas of dispute, is a bit premature, nevertheless, these talks can help reduce ambiguities, emphasize common concerns, and lead to an understanding of the sensitivities of the parties.

If the talks shift from security to political concerns, and if a dialogue is held by the foreign ministers of the two countries, it would be a positive step considering the 30-year break in diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Concurrently, the improvement of Iran's relations with Egypt after the agreement between Tehran and Riyadh will help improve Tehran's diplomatic ties with the whole Arab world.

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Biden administration blocking seizure of Iranian oil tankers

The Biden administration is blocking authorities from seizing ships carrying sanctioned Iranian oil. The Department of Homeland Security says it has been unable to seize tankers carrying sanctioned oil for a year, thanks to "policy limitations" enacted by the Treasury Department. This has contributed to the 35 percent increase in Iranian oil exports over the past year, according to a bipartisan group of lawmakers demanding the Biden administration rectify its contradictory approach, The Washington Free Beacon reported. "United States sanctions should be enforced to the fullest extent of the law," a group of 12 senators led by Sen. Joni Ernst (R,

Iowa), wrote to President Joe Biden in April. The bipartisan support for the letter signals that members of both parties are increasingly frustrated by the Biden administration's approach towards Tehran. Iran has sold nearly \$50 billion worth of oil since the Biden administration took office and began relaxing sanctions on the Islamic Republic's oil trade. The Biden administration has only imposed eight sanctions on Iran, a significant downswing from the dozens imposed during the Trump administration, according to data reviewed by the Free Beacon. Iran has been selling its oil everywhere from China to Syria and into Latin America.



Pakistan's ex-PM arrested, sparking protests

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Iran's Keshavarz bags double Asian weightlifting bronzes

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Hundreds of old Farsi manuscripts kept in Sarajevo library

EXCLUSIVE

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Iran begins pipe installation for massive water transfer project

Economy Desk

Iran has commenced the installation of pipes for a massive water transfer project aimed at addressing the water deficit in the country's eastern regions.

Ali Abdollahi, the director of studies for the water transfer project, told IRNA that the pipeline spans a considerable 235 kilometers in length for the primary stretch and a secondary stretch of 132 kilometers. The entire stretch of the pipeline, from Chabahar Port in Sistan and Baluchestan Province to the city of Mashhad in Razavi Khorasan Province, is undergoing



IRNA

earthworks. Abdollahi revealed that the project has achieved 10% physical progress. The aim is to ensure that both the industrial and domestic consumptions in the eastern region of the country receive adequate water supply to promote job creation, foster sustainable growth, and prevent the evacuation of villages.

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Iraq's Kurdistan region to invest in Iran's Kish Island

The Iraqi Kurdistan region has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with authorities in Iran's southern island of Kish — a major tourist destination.

The acting director of the Economic and Investment Department of the Kish Free Zone Organization (KFZO) said on Tuesday that the agreement to facilitate investment in the island was signed in the fields of trade, commerce, tourism, entertainment, and air and sea transportation, IRNA reported. Speaking to reporters, Alireza Ebrahimpour said the MoU was inked on the sidelines of the Iran Expo 2023, adding that a direct air

route will be launched between the Kurdistan Region and Kish Island.

"Under the MoU, the two sides will also cooperate in the field of industry," he added.

Furthermore, Ebrahimpour said that the agreement as well as the formation of a task force will bring about new cooperation between the two sides in various areas.

The 5th Export Potential Exhibition of the Islamic Republic of Iran (Iran Expo 2023) kicked off in Tehran on Sunday to showcase Iran's trade and investment opportunities in the country for foreign businesses and entrepreneurs.