

## Tehran, Muscat sign four deals during Omani sultan's visit

### International Desk

Iran and Oman on Sunday signed four cooperation documents during a visit by the Persian Gulf Arab country's sultan to Tehran.

Officials from both sides signed deals in the fields of economy, investment, energy and free zones.

The signing ceremony came hours after Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said arrived in Tehran for a two-day visit on Sunday evening at the invitation of President Ebrahim Raeisi.

Raeisi welcomed the Sultan of Oman and his accompanying high-ranking delegation during a formal welcoming ceremony at the Saadabad Palace in northern Tehran.

Shortly after the ceremony, the two leaders held private talks at the palace. Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Albusaidi in an interview with Asharq Al-Awsat said that Muscat hopes the historic visit would have a positive impact on the stability and security of the region and relations between regional countries.

He noted that the purpose of the two-day visit is to continue consultation and constructive cooperation on various issues related to regional and international issues.

The Omani foreign minister noted that the visit by Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said to Tehran shows his strong interest in bilateral relations with Iran.

Sultan Haitham's trip to Tehran marks a significant milestone in relations between the two regional allies, opening new avenues for closer diplomatic cooperation and increased dialogue.

Oman has long been an interlocutor in interactions between the West and Iran. The country has mediated the release of several foreign citizens and dual nationals.

Oman has also played a mediating role between Tehran and the West in the build-up to a nuclear deal Iran and world powers reached in 2015.

Iran's president traveled to Muscat on a key visit last May, during which Iranian and Omani officials signed 12 cooperation documents and memorandums of understanding for the expansion of bilateral cooperation in various fields.

The two-day visit by the Omani leader has been hailed by both sides as marking "a new chapter" in bilateral relations. The invitation to Sultan Haitham was extended as part of Iran's policy of deepening relations with regional countries.

