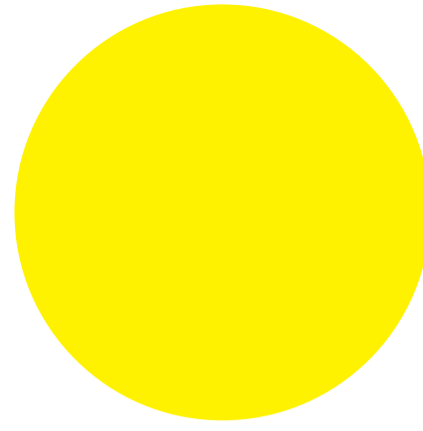




Iran sees promising increase in organ donation index 7 >



Yazd 800-year-old Darayi-Bafi requires more support 8 >



Iran Daily

Raeisi: Victories of resistance front prove Israel's fake power



Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi (r) shakes hands with Ismail Haniyeh, the head of the political bureau of the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas, in Tehran on June 20, 2023. president.ir

International Desk
Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi said victories of the resistance front have proven that the Israeli regime's alleged deterrent power is fake, as tensions are growing between the regime and Palestinian resistance fighters. "The victories of the resistance front have revealed and proved that the image that the Israeli regime is trying to portray of its alleged deterrent power is not real," President Raeisi told the visiting head of the political bureau of the Pal-

estinian Hamas resistance movement, Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran. He said that today the resistance front is stronger than ever and its enemies are in a weaker position than ever. Today, even those who once sought to negotiate and reach an agreement with the Israeli regime and its supporters, have come to a conclusion that negotiation and compromise with this regime is useless, and the only possible way to counter it is resistance, Raeisi said. Nowadays no one has the

slightest confidence in Israel and its supporters, which is another great achievement for the resistance front, the Iranian president added. President Raeisi described the liberation of Al-Quds as the most important issue of the Muslim world, stressing that any attempt to normalize relations with Tel Aviv is a betrayal of the Palestinian cause and a stab in the back of the resistance movement. President Raeisi warned Islamic countries that are seeking to normalize relations with Israel, that nor-

mization will not bring security for the regime. Raeisi's meeting with Haniyeh came after the Iranian president held talks with visiting Secretary-General of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad resistance movement, Ziad al-Nakhleh. The Palestinian officials' trips to Tehran occurred amid deadly violence in the occupied territories which have erupted in recent days. On Tuesday, a Palestinian man opened fire at a gas station near an Israeli settlement in the West Bank, killing at least four people and wounding several oth-

ers, Israeli medics said. The shooting underscored the fragility of the situation in the West Bank, where, on Monday, an Israeli military raid into the northern Jenin refugee camp ignited some of the fiercest Israeli-Palestinian fighting seen in years, killing six Palestinians. Militants targeted Israeli military vehicles with roadside bombs and Israeli forces deployed helicopter gunships to evacuate stranded troops. The intense surge in violence has killed 126 Palestinians and 24 Israelis so far this year.

Qatar's emir: Doha seeks comprehensive development of ties with Tehran



Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani said his country seeks comprehensive development of relations with Iran, while hailing the existing "strong" ties between the two nations. The Qatari emir made the remarks during a meeting with Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian in the capital Doha on Tuesday, as he asked the top Iranian diplomat to convey his greetings to President Ebrahim Raeisi. [Page 2 >](#)

China-US diplomacy solely aimed at easing crises

By Ebrahim Beheshti
Staff writer

INTERVIEW

The recent visit of US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to China, including his unannounced meeting with President Xi Jinping, has garnered significant attention and prompted various interpretations and contemplations. Following their talks in Beijing, both parties have expressed contentment with the outcome. However, a pertinent question arises amidst the heightened competition between Beijing and Washington, as well as the prevailing global crises: Can diplomatic engagements between China and the United States offer a definitive blueprint for future global peace? To delve into this matter, Iran Daily has spoken with Jahanbakhsh Izadi, a professor of international relations and an expert on American affairs.

Iran Daily: How should we analyze Blinken's visit to China amidst escalating global tensions and intense competition between the two power houses? Does it carry a significant message for their bilateral relations?



Izadi: Despite its established relationship with China, the US has been taking Beijing's challenge to its global position seriously. Initially, their rivalry was predominantly focused on the economic realm. [Page 3 >](#)

India's market ready for Iranian goods: Envoy

Economy Desk

Iran's ambassador to New Delhi said the ground has been paved for the development of business ties with India, and this capacity should be used optimally for spurring exports. Iraj Elahi made the remarks at the Iran-India Business Forum on Tuesday and stated that Iran and India are considered complementary, based on the two countries' economic indicators, reported IRNA. The value of trade exchanges between Iran and India in the pre-sanctions period reached \$18 billion, but after sanctions were imposed by the U.S. against Iran, the volume of bilateral trade significantly slumped, he said. In recent years, the volume of trade, with crude oil and urea excluded, increased to \$5 billion, with the incessant efforts of commercial envoys and this promises a bright future in trade ties between the two countries, he said. [Page 6 >](#)



NEWS IN BRIEF

West responsible for refugee crisis: FM spox



PRESS TV – Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kan'ani rebuked the West for evading responsibility for the current refugee crisis, saying the U.S. and Europe are to blame as their "wrong policies" triggered a migration wave. Kan'ani made the remarks via Twitter on Tuesday, after an overcrowded fishing trawler carrying as many as 750 migrants, including around 100 children, sank in the Mediterranean Sea. The boat was traveling from Libya to Italy, when it capsized off the coast of Greece on Wednesday. So far, only 104 survivors have been found and 81 bodies recovered, while more than 500 people are still missing.

Iran has joined 33 int'l maritime conventions: PMO



TASNIM – The Islamic Republic of Iran has thus far joined 33 international maritime conventions, the chief executive of the Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) said on Tuesday. Ali Akbar Safaei made the remarks in his message on the occasion of World Maritime Day (WMD). "With their powerful and strong presence in sea and ocean and guiding regional and ocean-going commercial ships, sailors have an undeniable contribution in providing food and protecting the economic and military security of a country. These industrious sailors spare no effort to fulfill their duties in very difficult conditions even during international crises," he wrote.

SalamAir to launch direct flights to Shiraz

TASNIM – SalamAir announced bi-weekly direct flights from Sohar Airport in the Sultanate of Oman to Shiraz Airport in Iran as of July 5, 2023. SalamAir is a low-cost airline in Oman, headquartered and based at the Muscat International Airport.

U.S. fears independent Iran, Venezuela: *Raeisi*



● IRNA

International Desk

Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi said Washington doesn't want countries like Iran and Venezuela to achieve independence in production, exports, and trade, and everything else including its strategic, double-standard use of human rights is "a front".

In an interview with the

Venezuelan TeleSUR television network during his five-day Latin America tour earlier this month, Raeisi noted that Washington is furious at Caracas and Tehran because the former doesn't relinquish its oil freely, and the latter insists on achieving independence and opposing tyranny.

"Former U.S. president

Donald Trump exposed Washington's greed a while back when he admitted that Washington wanted to 'take over' Venezuela and its oil, further criticizing the incumbent U.S. government for giving money to Caracas in exchange for its oil," he highlighted. "That is Washington's attitude. That is Washington without filter, showing it-

self for what it truly is and admitting to its pillaging goals in foreign affairs." To this end, Raeisi pointed out, Washington uses sanctions as a weapon to attack nations that either want to be independent or stand up to its pillaging exploits.

"It looks as if sanctions are imposed on governments, but their weight, in fact, falls on the people," the Iranian president reaffirmed, concluding that one way to neutralize sanctions is for independent and sanctioned countries to cement their ties. Noting that Venezuela was in a corner, Raeisi asserted, "We did whatever we could at the time to help, and we are still standing beside the people and government of Venezuela".

He maintained that after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, Iranians embraced the same ideals of independence, freedom, and justice that the Latin American nations embraced when they fought for and gained their independence.

Raeisi said that Washington's rule of thumb that every country that doesn't oblige to its demands is to be called the embodiment of evil, adding: "But if we

look around the world today, we can clearly see who killed thousands in Iraq and Afghanistan, and who was responsible for the disability of 35,000 Afghan kids."

"I ask them: Don't you believe in democracy? Then why don't you respect the wishes of the people of Venezuela and other Latin American countries and the results of their elections? Why don't you let all the Palestinians — whether they be Muslims, Jews, or Christians — freely vote for their government and end this 70-year-old oppression?"

Stressing that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always insisted that every nation including Afghanistan, Yemen, Cuba, and Venezuela must be allowed to decide its own fate, the president lambasted the United States for allowing themselves to interfere in the domestic affairs of other countries and violating fundamental principles of democracy and human rights.

Stating that the dominance of tyrannical powers is on the decline, President Raeisi asserted his belief that the world order will transform in favor of independent countries.

French police prevent MKO from holding rally



● XINHUA

International Desk France has banned an upcoming rally of the anti-Iran Mujahedeen Khalq Organization (MKO) over security concerns, according to a letter sent to the organizers and seen by Reuters. The ban comes as Western powers seek to defuse tensions with Iran and a few weeks after Tehran released several Europeans from prison including two French

nationals. French President Emmanuel Macron held a 90-minute call with Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi on June 10. France 24 has reported that the MKO was reported to have been furious by the Paris police's de facto ban on the rally, claiming that it was the result of "pressure" on France by the Iranian government. The MKO intended to stage a rally after the release of an Iranian diplomat falsely convicted of masterminding a plot to bomb the group in 2018. Mujahedeen Khalq has held frequent rallies in the French capital over the years, often attended by high-profile former U.S., European, and Arab officials critical of the Islamic Republic. The MKO terrorist organization has assassinated more than 15,000 Iranian authorities and civilians in its campaign since the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Qatar's emir: Doha ...

He went on to describe Iran as an important country in the region which holds a special position, calling for the development of economic relations between the two countries, Press TV reported. Sheikh Tamim further stated that economic relations between Doha and Tehran are improving. However, he said, the two countries have not reached their goals yet and they need to make efforts to elevate their cooperation to the desired level. Amir-Abdollahian, for his part, hailed the effective role of Doha in resolving regional prob-

lems in recent years. He also called for expanding the political and economic relations between Tehran and Doha, describing the upcoming meeting of the two countries' joint economic commission as "a favorable opportunity" for accelerating economic and trade cooperation. Regional peace and stability, as well as the developments in Afghanistan and Palestine, were among other issues discussed in the meeting. Amir-Abdollahian left Tehran for Qatar's capital late Monday to discuss bilateral relations as well as major regional and international

developments with high-ranking Qatari officials. The Iranian foreign minister left Doha for Oman's capital city of Muscat following his talks in Qatar. Since its inauguration, President Raeisi's administration has been diligently pursuing a good-neighborliness policy to cement ties with the nations in the region. During Raeisi's visit to Doha in February 2022, Iran and Qatar signed 14 memoranda of understanding in the fields of aviation, trade, shipping, media, cancellation of visa requirements, electricity, standards, education and culture.

Iran delegation holds separate meetings on Astana talks

Ali Asghar Khaji, a senior aide to the Iranian foreign minister, separately met with deputy foreign ministers of Turkey, Syria, and Russia on the sidelines of the latest round of Astana talks on the Syrian conflict, which is also focused on restoring ties between Damascus and Ankara. Deputy foreign ministers from Turkey, Russia, and Iran, as the guarantor states, came together for the 20th round of Astana talks in the eponymous Kazakh city on Tuesday morning to discuss ways

to resolve the Syrian conflict, according to IRNA. Representatives of the government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and militant groups opposed to it are also participating in the talks, which are expected to continue on Wednesday as well. On the sidelines of the quadrilateral meeting, the Iranian delegation, led by Khaji, exchanged views with the Turkish delegation, led by Deputy Foreign Minister Burak Akçapar, on the latest developments between Syr-

ia and Turkey. They agreed that negotiations between Ankara and Damascus must continue until their relations return back to normal. Both sides also underscored the importance of respecting national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the independence of Syria. The Iranian delegation also held discussions with the Syrian delegation, headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Ayman Susan. Separately, Khaji and his accompanying delegation met with the Russian del-



● AA

egation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov. The two sides discussed the latest developments in the region and ways to resolve dif-

ferences between Damascus and Ankara. They also emphasized respecting Syria's sovereignty and the need to fight terrorism.

Biden says threat of Putin using tactical nuclear weapons is 'real'



A small number of the Iskander tactical missile systems - seen here - can be used to launch nuclear weapons and has already been transferred to Belarus.
● REUTERS

US President Joe Biden said on Monday the threat of Russian President Vladimir Putin using tactical nuclear weapons is "real", days after denouncing Russia's deployment of such weapons in Belarus.

On Saturday, Biden called Putin's announcement that Russia had deployed its first tactical nuclear weapons to Belarus "absolutely irresponsible," Reuters reported.

"When I was out here about two years ago saying I worried about the Colorado river drying up, everybody looked at me like I was crazy," Biden told a group of donors in California on Monday.

"They looked at me like when I said I worry about Putin using tactical nuclear weapons. It's real," Biden said. Last week, Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko said his country has started taking delivery of Russian tactical nuclear weapons, some of which he said were three times more powerful than the atomic bombs the U.S. dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.

The deployment is Russia's first move of such warheads - shorter-range, less powerful nuclear weapons that could be used on the battlefield - outside Russia since the fall of the Soviet Union.

The US has said it has no intention of altering its stance on strategic nuclear weapons in response to the deployment and has not seen any signs that Russia is preparing to use a nuclear weapon.

In May, Russia dismissed Biden's criticism of its plan to deploy tactical nuclear weapons in Belarus, saying the US had for decades deployed such nuclear weapons in Europe.

The Russian deployment is being watched closely by the US and its allies as well as by China, which has repeatedly cautioned against the use of nuclear weapons in the war in Ukraine.

France to shut down climate NGO after protest violence

The French government said Tuesday that it would shut down an activist climate group over a series of recent demonstrations including one that led to fierce clashes with police over a controversial irrigation project.

Government spokesman Olivier Veran accused the Uprisings of the Earth (SLT) coalition of encouraging violence at protests in March against an irrigation reservoir near Sainte-Soline in western France, AFP reported.

"You don't dissolve an association because of its ideas. You dissolve it because there is violence or a risk for public safety," Veran told CNews television. SLT denounced "a very political and extremely worrying dissolution that was demanded from the head of state by the agriculture industry and the FNSEA farmers' union."

"This is a vain attempt to break the thermometer instead of worrying about the temperature," it said. President Emmanuel Macron, who has defended reservoir projects like the one at Sainte-Soline, said in March that while many of the protesters at the site were peaceful, "you had thousands of people who simply came to wage war."

Veran said SLT "whipped up violence at Sainte Soline by inviting rioters, who came from across Europe with metal bars and petanque balls to try and kill police officers."

"The climate question does not justify throwing rocks at police in a field," he said.

SLT is a coalition of several activist associations, which was also behind a recent protest against a sand quarry in western France where protesters tore up fields and equipment at a farm.

The group was also one of several organisers of a banned demonstration at the weekend against a new rail link between the eastern city of Lyon and Turin in Italy. It is part of a new wave of more radical climate activist groups, including Extinction Rebellion, which use direct action to underline their warnings about the dangers to the planet.

On Tuesday, prosecutors also said they had detained 14 people for questioning over vandalism at a protest supported by SLT, against a Lafarge cement plant near the southern city of Marseille. Protesters called the company "one of the most destructive in the world".



● SEBASTIAN SALOM-GOMIS/AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Shootings, violence leave dead and injured across US

AP - Mass shootings and violence killed and wounded people across the US this weekend, including at least 60 shot in the Chicago area alone. Four people were found shot to death in a small Idaho town, a Pennsylvania state trooper was killed in an ambush, and bullets struck 11 teenagers, killing one, at a party in Missouri. "There's no question there's been a spike in violence," said Daniel Nagin, a professor of public policy and statistics at Carnegie Mellon University. "Some of these cases seem to be just disputes, often among adolescents, and those disputes are played out with firearms, not with fists."

Turkish drone strike kills three in Syria

AFP - A Turkish drone strike killed three employees of Syria's Kurdish-run northeast village of Tal Shaeer on Tuesday, a spokesman said.

The strike targeted "a vehicle transporting civilian employees, killing two Kurdish women and a Christian" man, said Farhad Shami, spokesman for the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF). A fourth employee was wounded, he added. Turkish state media on Tuesday cited security sources saying Turkey's MIT intelligence agency had "neutralised" a senior figure in the Kurdish YPG in the area of Tal Rifaat some 27 km northwest of Tal Shaeer. It said he had been active in operations targeting the Turkish military. It did not say that any civilians were killed, or mention Tal Shaeer.

EU nations to train 30,000 Ukraine troops in 2023: Kyiv

European Union member states plan to train as many as 30,000 members of Ukraine's armed forces this year, including from territorial defence units, Kyiv said on Tuesday.

"In 2023, the EU Military Assistance Mission for Ukraine plans to train 30,000 Ukrainian armed forces personnel, including soldiers of the territorial defence forces," the Defence Ministry in

Kyiv said, AFP reported. The statement follows a pledge from EU officials in February this year that it would train 30,000 Ukrainian troops, building on an initial target of 15,000

personnel. The announcement came as Brussels asked EU member states to back a 50-billion-euro (\$55 billion) package to support Ukraine over the next four years.



● vanguardngr.com

China-US diplomacy ...

However, as time has progressed, this competition has spilled over into the military domain, intensifying their rivalry. Drawing upon the wisdom of English political philosopher Thomas Hobbes, conflicts can be summarized by two key factors: "greed" and "fear." Within this framework, China seeks to ascend and enhance its power, while the United States is apprehensive about losing its international standing. Over the past few years, tension-generating issues have emerged, exacerbating the existing divisions between the two nations. For instance, the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic remain disputed, with the Americans believing that China deliberately unleashed the virus to undermine the US economy. This divergence in perception has widened the rift between them. Moreover,

incidents such as Chinese balloons hovering in American airspace have further strained their relationship, leading to the suspension of several normal interactions. The war of words and threats exchanged by authorities on both sides regarding Taiwan also contribute to the mounting tensions. This implies that the previous economic competitions have gradually transcended into the political and even military realm. From this perspective, Blinken's visit can serve as a platform for normalizing political relations between Washington and Beijing, aiming to prevent the escalation of their differences. The conflict in Ukraine holds immense significance for the Americans, as they are concerned about China aligning with Russia. Notably, it has been five years since a US Secretary of State last visited China, underscoring the

importance of Blinken's visit as an initial step toward political reconciliation with China.

Regarding Ukraine, Blinken said that he had urged China to assist in establishing peace between Russia and Ukraine.

While the United States has made this request to China, it is contingent upon China clearly stating its position concerning Ukraine. The Americans are resolute in their desire to prevent Russia from emerging victorious in the conflict.

Can these diplomatic discussions, seemingly aimed at managing major tensions, ultimately contribute to global peace? Obviously, the nature of relationships between world powers has a profound impact on global developments. However, it is essential to assess these rela-

tionships through the lens of China's and the United States' national interests. From this perspective, it becomes evident that sharp differences persist between them in key areas. America's adherence to the one China policy and its refusal to formally recognize the independence of Taiwan may appear as mere rhetoric. If China were to pursue military action in Taiwan, the US would undoubtedly respond, perceiving it as a substantial failure on its part. Notably, European nations, who previously maintained closer ties with China, now officially see Beijing as a threat and have aligned themselves more closely with the United States. In the Asia Pacific region, the US endeavors to uphold its security policies concerning China through various agreements. Therefore, such diplomatic visits alone cannot yield a comprehensive policy

framework that fosters a tangible vision of world peace. These consultations primarily serve as attempts to manage crises and mitigate the risk of armed conflict.

There is also an element of competition between China and the United States in the Middle East. Can these efforts to manage or control crises contribute to greater stability in this region? Can we anticipate a similar approach by China in improving the relationship between Iran and the West, akin to its role in normalizing Iran-Saudi Arabia relations?

The United States supports the de-escalation process in the Middle East region, as it aims to avoid opening another front amid its competition with China and its involvement in the Ukrainian conflict. However, the dynamics between Iran and Saudi Arabia dif-

fer significantly from those between Iran and the United States. Tehran and Riyadh face fewer internal, regional, and international obstacles to normalize their relations, unlike the numerous obstacles that exist in Iran-US relations. Consequently, unlike China's mediation in the case of Iran and Saudi Arabia, China does not hold a mediatory role between Tehran and Washington. Furthermore, China has not signaled any intention to facilitate the normalization of Iran-US relations. Similarly, the United States does not grant China the same privileges and seeks to contain it. While Washington acknowledges China as a global economic power, it has not recognized China as an international power in areas such as military, political, or cultural influence. In my view, Iran should take the initiative in this matter on its own.

UN: Over 500k have fled Sudan

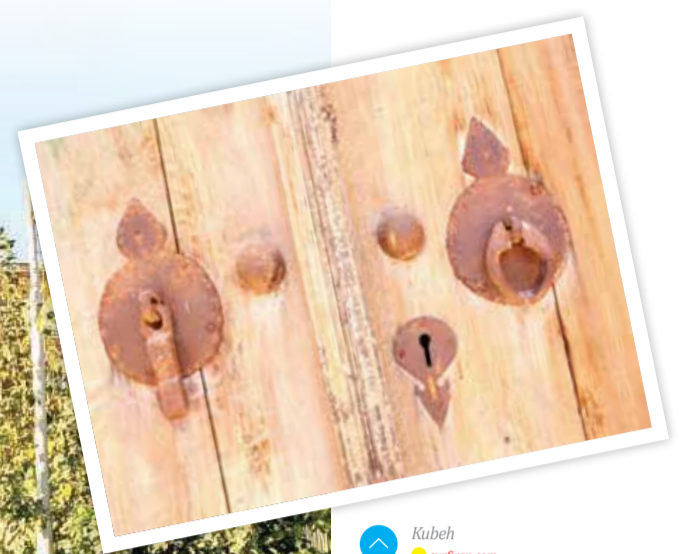


AFP - The head of the UN's refugee agency Filippo Grandi said on Tuesday that the number of people who have fled the fighting in Sudan was now more than 500,000 while two million are internally displaced. "Today we pass the mark of half a million refugees from Sudan following the beginning of the conflict," he said at a press conference in Nairobi. Sudan has been riven by conflict since April 15, with the army led by Abdel Fattah al-Burhan battling the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces commanded by his former deputy, Mohamed Hamdan Daglo.

Splendor of traditional Persian architecture



Zahir-ol-Eslam House, Tehran
wikimedia.org



Kubeh
surfiran.com

Traditional houses are among the jewels of Iran and the Persian culture. In Kashan, Isfahan, Yazd, and other cities, they can be among the highlights of your visit. The monuments are open books telling about people's traditional way of life.

sun exposure, and is thus cooler.

Importance of guests

Besides the weather, the architecture of traditional houses of Iran was based on their social function. If a house's primary purpose was to be a living

decorated with beautiful mirror works and paintings. One of the best examples is the Mollabashi House in Isfahan.

The rooms also have colorful windows, a typical element of Persian culture. Not only would they add artistic value to the

traditional houses have a more sophisticated entryway, with engravings, calligraphy, a semi-dome, as well as two platforms on both sides.

Wooden doors are systematic features of traditional houses, on which two doorknockers are attached. Called *kubeh*, these two knockers have different sizes and produce different sounds: one was used by male guests and the other by female guests, so that the person opening the door could know whether to expect a man or a woman. Once passed the entrance, the guests would cross an antechamber called *hashti*, leading to the central courtyard. All traditional houses have a central courtyard, which is where the family members would often gather. In the middle is a small

progressively furnished in Iran. Traditionally, the most essential element of the rooms is the carpet, as people would sit on the floor to talk, have tea, and share food. Large cushions were placed against the walls so that people could lay back. When

the capital city of Tehran. Hopefully, plenty of them are now being renovated and turned into museums, hotels, cafés and restaurants, so that travelers can fully appreciate them. However, central Iran is where the most beautiful traditional houses can be

into a hotel, Mollabashi House has one of the most beautiful and photogenic *shahneshins*. You can drink tea in the yard of Abbasi Hotel, which was not a house but a caravanserai.

Shiraz

Going further south, the atmosphere changes a bit as you approach Shiraz, the capital of Fars Province. This city is famed for its roses, orange blossoms and poetry.

Don't miss the opportunity to visit Qavam House, located in the Narenjestan Garden, which was once the residence of Shiraz's ruling family under the



Tabatabaei House, Kashan
surfiran.com

There is no need to be a fan of architecture to appreciate the exceptional features of traditional Iranian houses. With a delicate design, full of beautiful mirror work, woodworks, and paintings, they are the perfect embodiment of Persian art and culture, surfiran.com wrote.

Climatic conditions

Iran is a four-season country, and all traditional houses have been built according to the climatic conditions of the region to provide comfort for their residents. Furthermore, traditional houses are oriented north-south, to help people use different parts of their house depending on the temperature: in the winter, the southern part of the house, which is exposed to the sun, was used, while in the summer, people would occupy the northern section of the house that has less

space for a family, it has also always been a place to receive guests. Having guests in the Persian culture is central, and the more luxurious the building is, the more sophisticated must be the way guests are welcomed.

Traditional houses have been built with two separate parts: one called *birouni*, dedicated to guests; and the other called *andarouni*, that was used by the family and servants. It allows the latter and, in particular, women who may not have wanted to be seen, to navigate the house without having to cross the areas where the guests were staying. Often, houses have a room for guests, which varies in size depending on the family's wealth. It is called *shahneshin* (meaning fit for a king), the most luxurious, or *talaar* and *neshiman*, the simplest ones. *Shahneshins* are very eye-catching spaces,



Mollabashi House, Isfahan
surfiran.com

house, but their stained glasses also protect the rooms from the light and prevent some insects from entering.

Specificities

Passersby can hardly guess the beauties that are on the other side of the wall. Indeed, traditional houses usually have a simple façade. Rich

pool, called *howz*, often decorated with flowers. Rooms are all around the rectangular yard, and would be occupied by several generations of the family, all living together. Inside the house, there would be little if no furniture. It was only from the Qajar era, under the influence of the European style that houses were

comes the time to nap, they would bring floor mattresses.

Where to visit traditional houses in Iran

It's unthinkable to visit Iran without seeing a few traditional houses. Unfortunately, many have been destroyed in the past centuries, in particular in

admired. Let's have a look at some of the traditional houses which you can visit in four cities: Kashan, Isfahan, Yazd and Shiraz.

Kashan

Kashan is the main city in Iran to visit traditional houses, as it holds some of the most amazing ones. These traditional houses belonged to rich merchants of the 19th century. Each of them has a unique architecture and an exceptional interior design that are the best illustrations of the beauty of Persian architecture. Boroujerdi House, Tabatabaei House, Ameri House, and Abbasi House are the most famous monuments to see while in Kashan.

Isfahan

With many magnificent monuments dating back to the Safavid era, Isfahan is another great destination for lovers of traditional houses. Now turned

Qajar Dynasty. Zinat-ol-Molk is another beautiful traditional house that has now become a museum. You will also find plenty of smaller houses turned into cafés and hotels.

Yazd

Traditional houses of Yazd tend to differ from the other cities of Iran. One of the most iconic ones is Aqazadeh House, a beautiful mansion, dating back to the Qajar era, which is located in Arbakooh, near the capital city of Yazd.

Malek al-Tojjar House is another traditional monument that once belonged to a rich merchant close to the Qajar king, Nassereddin Shah.

As Yazd is a desert city, all houses have one or more wind catchers. They are also singular for using their rooftops, now often used as cafés.

Here again, don't miss your chance to stay in one of Yazd's traditional houses.

Iran beats Netherlands for historic world wheelchair basketball bronze



● IWBF

Sports Desk

Iran grabbed a historic bronze medal at the IWBF Wheelchair Basketball World Championships in Dubai, the UAE, thanks to a 72-54 victory over the Netherlands on Tuesday. Morteza Abedi contributed 19 points, 18 rebounds, and three assists to a maiden medal for Iran at the competition, while Omid Hadi-Azhar also finished on 19 points, while registering eight rebounds and 11 assists. Hakim Mansouri and Mohammad-Hassan Sayyari chipped in 11 points apiece for the Asian side, which fell to a 64-44 defeat against the Great Britain in the semifinals. Dutchman Mendel Op Den Orth scored a game-high 24 points, followed by teammate Robin Poggenwisch, who had 21 points, as well as eight rebounds and nine assists. Iran got off to a flying start to the game in Dubai WTC Court 1 – winning the first period 25-15 – and never looked back through the

contest as Mohammadreza Dastyar's men went into halftime with a 42-31 lead. Iran, which had been beaten by Australia in the third-place match in the previous edition in 2018, increased the gap to 16 points in the third quarter, before a 14-12 triumph in the final period sealed the historic triumph for the country. Dastyar's team had a slow start to its campaign in Dubai and suffered back-to-back defeats against Team GB (90-59) and USA (82-74) – the two men's finalists on Tuesday – before an 83-41 win against Iraq saw the Iranians progress to the knockout phase as the third team in Group D. Iran beat France 89-79 in the last-16 round and then came out on top against Germany with a 70-68 scoreline for a place in the semifinals. The 14th edition of the quadrennial event was initially scheduled for November last year but was moved to the new date to avoid clashing with the FIFA World Cup in Qatar.

Injured Qassempour a doubt for Wrestling World Championships

Sports Desk

Iranian freestyle wrestler Kamran Qassempour will face a race against time to be fit for September's Wrestling World Championships after limping off with a groin injury during a training session on Monday. The Iranian, who has been the dominant force of the 92kg weight class for the past two years with back-to-back world golds, will also miss the upcoming Ranking Series event – starting July 13 in Budapest. This was the same injury that forced Qassempour out of the Kaba Uulu Kozhomkul & Raatbek Sanatbaev Ranking Series tournament in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, earlier in June. Mohsen Kaveh, the head of the Iranian national teams, said an MRI scan will determine the timeline for Qassempour's return "within the coming days", adding: "We'll do all we can to make sure he will be a part of the team at World Championships." Kaveh named Mobin Azimi and Amirhossein Firouzpour as the two alternatives for the

● ADIB MOHMADI/iwf.ir

Iranian singlet at the World Championships in Belgrade in case Qassempour does not recover in time for the event. Azimi stole the headlines in May's Takhti Cup in Urmia, northwest Iran, by marching to the 92kg gold – thanks to a victory over Mohammad-Javad Ebrahimi in the final – while Firouzpour – an Asian champion and world U23 gold medalist in 2022 – was part of the Iranian team that won the silver in last December's FS World Cup in the United States. The two Iranians will join the six-man squad for the Ranking Series tournament in the Hungarian capital, as the wrestlers with the best result in each of the four weight divisions will be handed a berth at the World Championships. Ahmad Mohammad-Javan and Milad Valizadeh will represent Iran in the 57kg category in Budapest, with Amir-Mohammad Yazdani – a world silver winner in 2021 – and Mohammad Bakhshi taking part in the 72kg contests.

Mohammad Nokhodi and Ali Savadkouhi will also decide who will be the Iranian 79kg wrestler in Belgrade. Nokhodi had to settle for a silver in the last two editions of the World Championships after successive defeats against legendary American Jordan Burroughs, before Savadkouhi claimed a first victory in 15 attempts for the Iranian wrestlers against the seven-time world and Olympic champion at the FS World Cup. Reza Atri (61kg) – a world silver winner last year – reigning world champion Rahman Amouzad (65kg), Younes Emami (74kg), eight-time world and Olympic medalist Hassan Yazdani (86kg), Mojtaba Goleij (97kg), and Amirhossein Zare' (125kg) – a Tokyo Olympic bronze winner and world champion in 2021, who took the bronze last year – have already secured their spots in the World Championships.

Iran settles for Asian team saber silver



● IRNA

Sports Desk

Iran bagged the silver medal of the men's team saber contests at the Asian Fencing Championships in Wuxi, China, on Tuesday. Having beaten Japan in the semifinals earlier in the day, the Iranian four-man team – comprising Farzad Baher, Mohammad Fotouhi, Ali Pakdaman, and Mohammad Rahbari – suffered a 45-28 defeat against reigning world and Olympic champion South Korea in the final showpiece. Tokyo Olympic bronze medalist Kim Jung-hwan was joined by Gu Bon-gil, Kim Jun-ho, and

Oh Sang-uk in the South Korean team. China and Japan took the joint bronze medals. This was a fourth Asian silver in five years for the Iranian saber team, which had to share the third podium with Hong Kong last year in Seoul. Tuesday's result came after Pakdaman and Rahbari had won the individual gold and bronze medals in Wuxi respectively. Pakdaman edged Kim Jun-ho – a world bronze winner in 2018 – 15-14 in a thrilling final. Beaten by the South Korean in the last-four contest, Rahbari stood alongside Low Ho Tin of Hong Kong on the third podium.

Tuesday's silver – fourth in five years for the country – came after Ali Pakdaman had won the individual saber gold in Wuxi, while Mohammad Rahbari took the joint bronze.

NEWS IN BRIEF

China imports of Russian oil highest: *Data*

REUTERS - Chinese imports of Russian oil last month hit their highest level since February 2022, customs data showed Tuesday.

China is Russia's largest economic partner, with trade between them reaching a record \$190 billion last year.

In May, China imported 9.71 million tonnes of oil from Russia, Beijing said, more than double the amount from February 2022.

Crypto a 'flawed system': *BIS*

AFP - The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said Tuesday that centralised cryptocurrencies are a "flawed system" and instead supported the development of a centralised alternative.

The BIS, regarded as the central bank of central banks, backed "tokenisation" or the conversion of money and other assets into digital tokens that can be traded on programmable platforms, saying it offers the promise of a "major leap" in the financial system.

Intel to spend \$33b in Germany in landmark expansion

CNBC - Intel will spend more than 30 billion euros (\$33 billion) to develop two chip-making plants in Magdeburg as part of its expansion push in Europe, a deal Chancellor Olaf Scholz hailed as Germany's biggest ever foreign investment.

Berlin has agreed subsidies worth nearly 10 billion euros with the U.S. chipmaker, a person familiar with the matter said, more than the 6.8 billion euros it had initially offered Intel to build two leading-edge facilities in the eastern city.

Iran-Russia trade rose 20% to \$4.9b in 2022: *TPPRF chief*

● IRNA

Head of Russia's Chamber of Commerce and Industry (TPPRF) said bilateral trade with Iran rose by a

fifth last year. Sergey Katyrin said that Iran-Russia trade reached some \$4.9 billion last

year, up 20% from 2021, according to remarks covered in a report by IRIB News.

Katyrin said, however, that Russia expects its annual trade with Iran to increase by more than 10 times within few years to hit a target of \$40 billion.

He was quoted as saying that Russian companies are very interested to enter the Iranian market as it can link them to trade markets in the Middle East and South and South-east Asia.

The businessman said there are great potentials for cooperation between Iranian and Russian businesses in areas like agriculture, technology, energy, engineering, textile and tourism.

He also emphasized the need to introduce joint investment projects in special economic zones of the Iran and Russia where strict mainland

laws and regulations are eased to help boost trade and manufacturing activities.

The comments came hours after Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexey Overchuk said a key agreement between the Russia-led Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) and Iran to establish a free trade zone could be finalized before year's end.

The agreement can lead to a major increase in trade between Iran and Russia as well as between Iran and four other EAEU members, namely Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan.

Iran and Russia have significantly expanded their economic and energy ties since February 2022 when Russia came under Western sanctions because of the war in Ukraine.

Turkmenistan-Iran-Azerbaijan gas swaps to surge: *NIGC*

The volume of gas being transited between Turkmenistan, Iran, and Azerbaijan under a groundbreaking three-way swap agreement signed in late 2021 is expected to grow by 70 percent this year, according to Majid Chegeni, the head of the National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC).

According to the agreement, between 1.5 and 2 billion cubic meters of gas will be swapped annually, a volume which numerous subsequent reports said could quickly be increased, eurasianet.org wrote. In mid-2022, Iranian Oil Minister Javad Owji announced the three

partners had reached an agreement to double the volume of gas swaps.

Iran has been pushing ahead with its own plans to expand its gas transit infrastructure, with the apparent aim of boosting its capacity to transit gas between its neighbors.



● BP

Iran's Ministry of Agriculture gets new chief



● IRNA

Mohammad Ali Nikbakht was voted in as Iran's new minister of agriculture on Tuesday.

Iranian lawmakers on Tuesday debated the qualifications of Nikbakht as the proposed nominee to lead the Ministry of Agriculture, reported Tasnim

news agency. The president's nominee took office with 198 votes in favor, 40 against, and 10 abstentions. The former minister, Javad Sadatinejad, was dismissed on April 11 after President Ebrahim Raeisi conducted a partial reshuffle of his cabinet.

ELECOMP, an opportunity to raise hope in CIT sector: *Official*

The head of the Iranian CIT Guild Organization said the International Exhibition of Electronics, Computer and E-Commerce, with the acronym, "ELECOMP," is a golden opportunity for raising hope in the communications and information technology (CIT) sector.

The ELECOMP Expo will be held in Tehran from June 25 to 28, after a four-year hiatus, Hassan Hashemi added, according to IRNA.

He expressed hope that ELECOMP would create an opportunity for creating more hope in the ecosystem of information technology across the country.

An increase in the share of the domestic digital economy can be achieved

with the creation of hope and motivation in the IT ecosystem, Hashemi said. ELECOMP is held annually in Tehran under the supervision of the Islamic Republic of Iran International Exhibitions Company (IIECO).



● TASNIM

LatAm good market for exporting techno-engineering services: *MP*

Iran's energy sector could create a good market for itself in Latin America by exporting technical and engineering services, said a lawmaker on Tuesday. Talking to SHANA, Hojjatollah Firouzi noted that the U.S. considers Latin

America its backyard, adding that the recent visit of Iranian president to Venezuela, Nicaragua and Cuba could lead to the development of Iran's commercial and economic relations in America's backyard.

India's market...

Noting that India is among Iran's top five trade partners, Elahi added that the Indian market is ready

to expand its relations with Iran, and the growing economy of the South Asian country is considered the best lucrative market in

Asia and the world. Speaking in the forum, the head of the Trade Promotion Organization of Iran (TPOI) said the incumbent

government made efforts to conclude deals in the past two years, and prepared plans to restore relations with India as well. Without the active presence of Iranian and Indian businessmen, the expansion

of relations will not be possible, added Mehdi Zeighami. "Contrary to the business record we experienced in the past years, there is a very high capacity for trade between the two countries," he noted.

Iran sees promising increase in organ donation index

Health Ministry official announces significant increase in organ donation rates.

Social Desk

According to the Fars news agency, Amir-Hessam Alirezaei, the director of the Ministry of Health's Transplant Management and Disease Treatment Center, has reported a substantial improvement in the country's organ donation index. The index has risen from 7.8 per one million people in 2020-2021 to 12.2 in 2022-2023. Alirezaei revealed that the number of organ donations in the country increased from 645 in 2020-2021 to 928 in 2021-2022, and further rose to 1,016 in 2022-2023. He also highlighted the current state of transplant facilities in the country, which includes 30 kidney transplant departments, 11 liver transplant departments, 3 lung transplant departments, 4 pancreas transplant departments, 18 bone marrow transplant departments, 22 procurement centers, and 35 transplant identification centers.

Since the inception of the transplant program, kidney transplants have been the most common, with 40,095 cases recorded. Alirezaei noted that the country experiences 5,000 to 8,000 brain deaths annually, with 2,500 to 4,000 of these cases being suitable for transplantation. With 18,000 patients in need of organ transplants, 1,016 organ donations were performed in 2022-2023. Alirezaei emphasized the three pillars of organ donation as science, structure, and culture, attributing 20 percent to science, 30 percent to structure, and 50 percent to culture. In addition to the transplant program, Alirezaei discussed the establishment of infertility treatment centers across the country. All provinces now have level three infertility centers, totaling 109 centers, including 44 government-run, 10 non-governmental and affiliated organizations, and 55 private centers. Furthermore,



40 level two infertility treatment centers operate within 55 universities of medical sciences. These services encompass level one consultations, ex-

aminations, and basic paraclinical procedures; level two infertile couple evaluations, diagnosis of infertility causes, and intrauterine insemination (IUI); and

level three subspecialized infertility services, such as in vitro fertilization (IVF), intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI), and advanced endometriosis surgeries.

● FARS

DoE to collaborate exclusively with standardized zoos



Social Desk

The Director General of the Wildlife Protection and Management Office of the Department of the Environment (DoE), Gholamreza Ebdali, has announced that the organization will only cooperate with zoos that meet specific standards. Ebdali emphasized that zoos should not solely focus on economic and financial aspects, but also prioritize education, species protection, and animal rights. According to ISNA, Hassan Akbari, the Deputy Director of Natural Environment and Biodiversity of the DoE, previously addressed the issue of wildlife loss in the country's zoos. Akbari announced a rating plan for zoos,

which has significantly limited the issuance of permits. Zoos that meet the required standards and demonstrate suitable activity are supported, while those failing to meet the standards are either removed or encouraged to improve. Ebdali provided further details on the zoo ranking system. He explained that until recently, there was no criterion for ranking zoos to determine the level of cooperation. However, in the second half of the previous year, a rating plan was launched, and evaluation indicators were compiled. The plan currently includes about 16 axes with 70 indicators. The organization's evaluators assess zoos, bird gardens, and conservation

centers based on these set standards and assign them a score. The zoos are then ranked based on these reviews and scores. Ebdali stated that following these ratings, the organization can only cooperate with zoos that meet the specified standards and can protect a wide variety of species. Ebdali emphasized that the organization's expectations from zoos are clearly defined in this plan. He said, "In this plan, issues such as education, animal rights, and protection have been emphasized a lot. Zoos should assist in the field of wildlife species protection and survival of many species, in addition to cooperating with the Environmental Protection Agency."

The plan also addresses issues such as the quality of animal food, species welfare management, security of the storage place, species health, and disease management. Each of these areas has its own evaluation axes and indicators. In conclusion, Ebdali stressed that the guidelines are completely up-to-date and stated, "We expect zoos not to operate only with economic and financial goals. Zoos can have much more important goals. Issues such as education, respecting animal rights, species protection, and research should be emphasized and given more importance as scientific centers where university projects and animal behavior studies are conducted."

PIC OF THE DAY

Juicy and delicious stone fruits are the heart of Goldasht City, located in the central part of Najaf Abad, Isfahan Province. The city is known as the fruit production hub of the west of the province. As summer arrives, the harvesting season begins and continues till early autumn! Last year, Goldasht produced a whopping 10,000 tons of stone fruits with 820 hectares of orchards, out of which 510 hectares are fertile. Who's ready to take a bite?



● AZADEH AZIZIAN/IRIB NEWS

Iran to attend 21st Pune Book Fair in India



Arts & Culture Desk

IBNA - Iran's publishing industry is set to participate in the 21st Pune Book Fair, scheduled to take place from October 11 to 15, showcasing its diverse range of literary works and cultural products.

In addition to presenting books and cultural products, Iran's Cultural House in Mumbai, India, will offer visitors an immersive experience by providing services that delve into the realm of Iranian culture and tourism.

P.N.R Rajan, the fair convenor, extended an official invitation to Iran's book industry, recognizing its significance and inviting its active involvement in this esteemed cultural event.

The exhibition, held at the renowned Creativity commercial complex in Pune's Yerwada area, serves as a platform for distinguished publishers from all Indian states, boasting over 100 meticulously curated booths. With a daily footfall of two thousand enthusiastic visitors and prospective buyers, the fair stands as a hub of literary engagement and commercial activity.

Iranian short film 'Mattress' to be screened in Russia



Arts & Culture Desk

MEHR - Arash Hasanpour, an acclaimed Iranian filmmaker, will showcase his short film titled 'Mattress' at the prestigious Zero Plus International Film Festival in Russia, scheduled to take place from October 1 to 8.

The film revolves around the story of eight-year-old Mohsen, who becomes the target of ridicule from his friends when they notice a yellow stain on the mattress hanging out to dry, according to the film's synopsis.

'Mattress' features a talented cast including Mohammad Soroush Al-Hashi, Salar Qadimi, Mohammad-Amin Mohammadi, Fatima Neyshabouri, and Yadollah Shademani. Prior to its participation in the Zero Plus International Film Festival, 'Mattress' has already garnered attention at the 36th edition of the Cinekid Festival in the Netherlands. Additionally, it had a screening at the renowned St. Louis International Film Festival in the United States.

● License Holder: Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA)
 ● Editorial Dept. Tel: +98 21 88913453
 ● Editorial Dept. Fax: +98 21 88930684
 ● ICPI Publisher: +98 21 88548892, 5
 ● Advertising Dept. Tel & Email: +98 21 88500617 - irandaily@iranagahiha.com
 ● Website: www.irandaily.ir
 newspaper.irandaily.ir
 irandaily@icpi.ir
 ● Email: irandaily@icpi.ir
 ● Printing House: Iran Cultural & Press Institute

Address: #22, Hosseini-Rad Alley, South of Shahid Mottahari St., Vali-e Asr Ave., Tehran, Iran

Iran Daily has no responsibility whatsoever for advertisements and promotional material printed in the newspaper.

Yazd 800-year-old Darayi-Bafi requires more support



By Sadeq Dehqan
Staff writer

Darayi-Bafi, an exquisite and distinctive handicraft industry, holds a significant place in Yazd Province. This art form, a type of fabric weaving, has thrived in the city of Yazd for centuries, faithfully preserving its traditional and authentic techniques.

While Darayi-Bafi was once practiced in other regions of the country, it gradually faded over time, leaving Yazd as the sole bastion of this craft in Iran. Presently, several workshops in Yazd, predominantly situated in the historic quarters of the city, are dedicated to producing Darayi fabric. Authorities in the province are actively pursuing its registration as an intangible heritage, under the name of Yazd, aiming to inspire Yazdi artists to safeguard this venerable art from fading into oblivion.



Masoud Malek-Sabet, a Darayi weaver in Yazd, has diligently pursued his craft for many years within a small room tucked away in the courtyard of Ziaieh School, also known as Eskandar Prison - an ancient monument within Yazd's historic section. The art of Darayi-Bafi runs deep in his family, with his grandfather having achieved renown as a Darayi weaver in Yazd. Masoud himself has dedicated a decade to honing his skills in this profession. Describing the distinctive features of Darayi, he explains, "Unlike other fabrics, Darayi undergoes meticulous design and patterning on threads, employing precise calculations before the actual weaving process begins." Traditionally, pure silk was used for weaving Darayi fabric, but nowadays, cotton and rayon threads (artificial silk) are used.

In the past, possessing 16 pieces of Darayi fabric in a girl's dowry was a symbol of pride and affluence, elevating her social status and suggesting she hailed from a prosperous family. According to Malek-Sabet, Darayi fabric was predominantly employed for making bedspreads, curtains, and *shamad* (thin cotton blan-



ket) in the past. However, contemporary products such as scarves, tablecloths, bags, and shoes now showcase this distinctive fabric. Explaining the process of Darayi fabric production, he reveals that weaving Darayi fabric is accomplished using a handloom - a practice that has been ongoing for over 800 years in Yazd. Once the fabric design is

established on the threads, the spindle is placed within the loom, allowing the weaver to skillfully move the threads from one side to the other. The weaver's feet operate four pedals, enabling the weaving of straight, diagonal, or diamond patterns by adjusting their positions.

Discussing the designs found in Darayi fabrics, he notes that these creations are adorned with intricate geometric patterns and motifs rooted in the culture, climate, customs, and traditions of desert-dwelling communities. A vivid and vibrant array of colors is skillfully employed throughout the weaving process.

In this weaving art, conventional thread knotting techniques are eschewed, as

they diminish the fabric's quality. If necessary, apricot tree resin is utilized to bind the threads together.

Regrettably, despite its longstanding presence, Darayi-Bafi remains relatively unknown on a national scale, risking gradual disappearance.

Malek-Sabet emphasizes that Darayi-Bafi demands tremendous labor and presents considerable challenges, thereby garnering limited interest among younger generations. To ensure the vitality and continuity of this craft, he calls upon the government and the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts to provide the necessary support and create an enabling environment for those involved in this field.

Iran, Qatar pledge to strengthen cultural diplomacy

Officials from Iran and Qatar underscored the importance of bolstering cultural diplomacy between the two nations, with a focus on fostering closer ties through arts and culture. Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al Thani, the Minister of Culture of the State of Qatar, made these remarks during a meeting with Yaser Ahmadvand, Iran's Deputy Minister for Cultural Affairs, held on the sidelines of the 32nd edition of the Doha International Book Fair, Mehr

news agency reported. Highlighting this year's participation of Iran in the book fair, the Qatari minister acknowledged a notable difference compared to previous editions. He proposed the organization of a cultural week in both countries to enhance collaboration and expand cultural relations. Ahmadvand, in turn, emphasized Iran's significant cultural potential for cooperation with Qatar, particularly in the field of book publishing. He

stressed the need to develop cultural relations between the two nations. The Iranian official expressed appreciation for Qatar's hospitality towards the Iranian delegation and for hosting various cultural meetings and programs. He also expressed gratitude for Qatar's presence as a special guest at the 33rd Tehran International Book Fair. The Doha International Book Fair, known for being one of the oldest and largest international book fairs



in the region, enjoys a stellar reputation, attracting significant interest from Arab and foreign countries.

The fair is currently taking place at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center from June 12 to 21.

PIC OF THE DAY

The 10th Digital Printing Exhibition is currently taking place at the Goftegoo Park's Permanent Fairground, organized by Tehran Municipality.

