



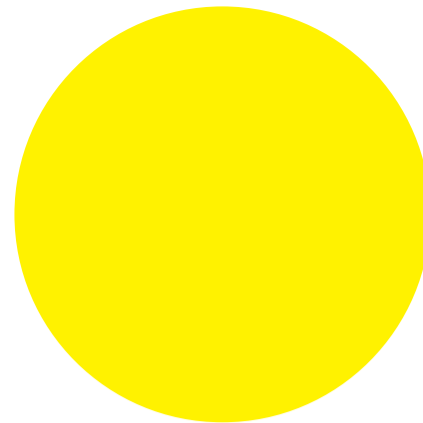
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# Iran Daily



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Vol. 7329 • Monday, July 3, 2023 • Tir 12, 1402 • Dhu al-Hajjah 14, 1444 • Price 40,000 Rials • 8 Pages

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### OIC: Measures needed to prevent desecration of Qur'an

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation said collective measures are needed to prevent acts of desecration to the Muslims' holy book, Qur'an, and international law should be used to stop religious hatred days after a copy of the book was torched outside a Stockholm mosque. The statement by the Saudi-based organization was issued after an extraordinary meeting in Saudi Arabia. The 57-member body met on Sunday to respond to the Wednesday's incident in which an Iraqi citizen living in Sweden, Salwan Momika, 37, set several



pages of the holy book alight. The OIC urged member states to "take unified and collective measures to prevent the recurrence of incidents of desecration of copies of the" Qur'an.

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### French court rejects US appeal over 1998 verdict against Iran

International Desk

The Supreme Court of France has rejected an appeal filed by a US court over its 1998 verdict against the Islamic Republic of Iran. On June 28, the French court dismissed the appeal filed by the US district court in Washington D.C., which had ruled in 1998 that Iran should pay \$247 million to the family of Alisa Flatow, a 20-year-old US citizen killed in a bomb explosion in Gaza in April 1995. The court claimed that Iran was responsible for her death because it provided funding to the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, which claimed respon-

sibility for the act. The family of Alisa had been seeking to implement the ruling in a European country. Back in March 2021, the Paris court of appeals turned down the verdict issued by the US court. However, the US court appealed against the Paris court's ruling. Flatow's verdict had earlier been rejected by Italian courts in 2013 and 2015. According to Iran's vice presidency for legal affairs, the US government has violated the judicial immunity of a few governments, including the Iranian government, contrary to the principles of international law.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran halts sending new envoy to Sweden: *FM*

**PRESS TV** – Iran has halted “administrative phases” to dispatch an ambassador to Sweden over the state-authorized desecration of the holy Qur’an in the European nation, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian declared Wednesday in a Twitter post. He also noted that he had held detailed discussions with Iran’s new envoy to Sweden, Hojatollah Faghani, on the latest events in the Scandinavian country.

Iranian-made smart munitions best in world: *Minister*

**MEHR** – Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Amir Mohammad-Reza Gharaei said Iran’s homemade smart ammunition is the best in the world. Addressing the scientists and military experts attended in a ceremony held at the defense ministry compound, Gharaei said “the defense ministry is ready to provide its scientific progress to other bodies and organizations”.

Tehran-Cairo détente to change region's balance: *Adviser*

**ISNA** – Ali Akbar Velayati, the senior adviser to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, welcomed the re-establishment of relations with Cairo, stressing that it will lead to the creation of a new regional balance that also includes Saudi Arabia. In an interview with Al Jazeera, Velayati emphasized that strategic relations between Iran, Russia, and China are gradually taking shape, and that differences between Tehran and Moscow do not affect these relations.

## EU to breach JCPOA with refusal to lift sanctions

European powers are expected to announce plans to breach the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), for the first time when they confirm they are not going to lift sanctions on Tehran’s use of missiles this October as required in the agreement. Donald Trump took the US out of the nuclear deal in 2018, but Germany, France, and the UK remained inside the deal, even though Iran eventually responded to the US walkout by breaching the agreed limits on the quality and quantity of enriched uranium, the Guardian wrote. The decision by European powers to also breach the deal represents a risk since it is not clear how Tehran will react at a time it is already close to being able to manufacture weapons-grade enriched uranium. The justification cited by EU and

British diplomats included Iran’s own breach of the accord, Iran’s alleged sale of drones to Russia for use in the Ukraine war, and the possible future transfers to Russia of Iran’s ballistic missiles. The head of the UN’s nuclear weapons inspectorate, Rafael Grossi, admitted last week that an agreement on monitoring the Iranian nuclear programme had become very limited and fragmented. Iranian MPs, on the other hand, have been objecting to the planned installation of about 10 security cameras in the centrifuge production workshop at a site in Isfahan. The EU sanctions are due to expire on 18 October under a UN resolution that enshrined the 2015 nuclear deal. The sanctions “called upon” Iran not to do anything to develop ballistic missiles that could carry nuclear weapons. They also barred anyone



France's President Emmanuel Macron (r) and Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak take part in a round table in Paris, France, on March 10, 2023. **EMMANUEL DUNAND/REUTERS**

from buying, selling, or transferring drones and their components capable of flying more than 300 kilometers to or from Iran

without prior authorization from the UN Security Council, permission that has not been granted. Both Tehran and the US

state department have said no deal is imminent, but the negotiation has been clouded by the US special envoy Rob Malley

being suspended without pay by the state department over the possible mishandling of confidential information.

## Intelligence Ministry hails Albania action on MKO



Albanian police forces clash with members of the MKO during a raid into the terrorist cult's Camp Ashraf-3 in Tirana, Albania, on June 20, 2023. **FOX NEWS**

crackdown against MKO terrorists at their camp northwest of Tirana as a “step forward,” Tasnim news agency reported. In late June, Albanian police raided a camp hosting the MKO due to its engagement in “terror and cyberattacks” against foreign institutions. At least one MKO terrorist was killed and dozens of others were injured during the clashes at the camp, known as Ashraf-3, in the northwest of the capital Tirana. The statement cited authentic information as indicating that “under the direction and

pressures of the Zionist murderers, a series of notorious sponsors of terrorism in Europe and the US are seeking to give artificial respiration to and revive the terrorist MKO cult.” However, the ministry pointed out that just recently its forces have also carried out operations against MKO elements in different parts of Iran. The ministry gave assurance that it will proceed with tireless efforts to fully eradicate the terrorists that commit acts of sabotage against Iran as proxies for the Zionist regime, with the support of the enemies of Iran. The statement added that in its intelligence and security interactions with European intelligence services, Iran has given several warnings about the terrorist activities of the MKO from within

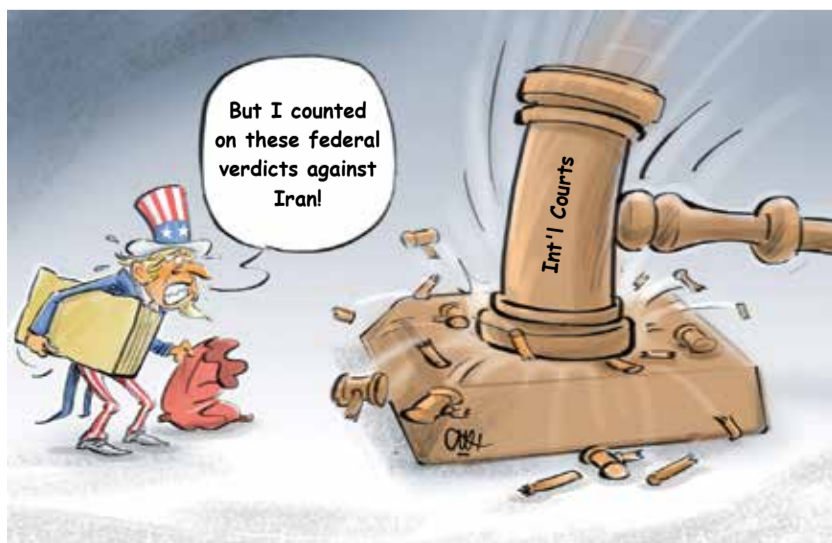
Western countries, particularly from their central camp in Albania. The anti-Iran group’s attempt at staging a rally in France in late June was foiled as the Paris police banned the event over security concerns. The decision later proved to be doubly wise as the French police were stretched thin by the nationwide rioting in the wake of the killing of a 17-year-old boy by an officer that saw hundreds arrested overnight, from Thursday to Friday. However, a week later, the Paris administrative court overruled the police ban, saying that it was “a serious and manifestly illegal attack” on the freedom of the terrorist cult to demonstrate. Mike Pence, former US vice president, who is now challenging his former boss Donald Trump

for the Republican nomination, attended the subsequent MKO demonstration. Trump’s former secretary of state, Mike Pompeo, another prominent supporter of the group, warned by video link against making any new deal with Tehran on its nuclear drive. MKO members spent many years in Iraq, where they were hosted and armed by the former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. They sided with Saddam during the 1980–88 Iran-Iraq war, and then helped him quell domestic uprisings in various parts of the Arab country. More than 17,000 Iranians, many of them civilians, have been killed at the hands of the MKO in different acts of terrorism including bombings in public places and targeted killings.

## International Desk

Iran’s Ministry of Intelligence praised the government of Albania for its recent action against the terrorist Mujahedeen Khalq Organization (MKO), noting that the Islamic Republic is seriously hunting hostile terrorists abroad. In a statement released on Sunday, the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence hailed the Albanian government’s recent

Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist



But I counted on these federal verdicts against Iran!

## Iran issues advisory against France travel

Iran’s Foreign Ministry has issued a travel advisory for Iranian nationals to avoid making “unnecessary trips” to France amid persisting protests against police brutality across the European country over the police killing of a teenager. Nasser Kanaani, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, made the remark in the early hours of Sunday as he called on the French police to exercise restraint in handling the nationwide protests sparked by the murder of 17-year-old Nahel M. on June 27 in the

western Parisian suburb of Nanterre, Press TV wrote. “Just like in the past, we advise the French government and police to heed the demands of the protesters while exercising restraint and avoiding violence,” Kanaani said. Rioting across France was less intense overnight, the French Interior Ministry said on Sunday, as tens of thousands of police were deployed, Reuters reported. The government poured 45,000 police onto the streets to try to keep a lid on

a fifth night of unrest after Saturday’s funeral of Nahel, who was shot during a traffic stop on Tuesday in the Paris. Since then, rioters have torched cars and looted stores, but also targeted town halls, police stations, and schools — buildings that represent the French state. President Emmanuel Macron postponed a state visit to Germany that was due to have begun on Sunday to handle the worst crisis for his leadership since the “Yellow Vest” protests paralyzed much of France in late 2018.

# Syria downs Israeli missiles as new raid targets Homs



## International Desk

Syrian air defenses have intercepted and shot down Israeli missiles after the regime carried out a new airstrike against targets near the western city of Homs, the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) quoted a military source as saying. The Israeli military staged the airstrike "from the direction of the northeast [of the Lebanese capital city] of Beirut targeting some areas in the vicinity of the city of Homs," the military source said, Press TV reported.

Following the strike, Syrian air defenses responded by intercepting the incoming Israeli missiles midair and shooting down most of them.

The air raid only led to some material damage, the source concluded.

In a brief statement early Sunday that did not mention the airstrikes, Israel's army said a Syrian anti-aircraft rocket "appears to have exploded in the air" in Rahat.

Several hours later the military claimed it had targeted "an anti-aircraft battery in Syria, as a response to the launch of an anti-aircraft rocket from Syria," AFP reported. Israel has carried out hundreds of strikes on targets in government-controlled parts of neighboring Syria in recent years, but it rarely acknowledges them.

The last Israeli airstrike on Syria was on June 14, near the capital Damascus that left one soldier wounded.

Israel has also targeted the international airports in Damascus and the northern Syrian city of Aleppo several times over the past few years, often putting it out of commission.

This photo released by SANA, shows missiles flying into the sky near the international airport in Damascus, Syria, on January 21, 2019.  
● SANA via AP

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### S. Korean president tells ministry to be less soft on North

REUTERS - Having appointed a new unification minister days earlier, South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol said on Sunday that the ministry had focused too much on providing aid for North Korea in the past and needed to change. "The Unification Ministry has been acting like the ministry of North Korea aid and it is wrong," Yoon was quoted as telling staff in a statement issued by his press secretary. "It's time for the unification ministry to change."

## Two dead, 28 injured at US mass shooting



A view of the scene where a shooting took place, in Baltimore, US on July 2, 2023  
● REUTERS

Police in the US city of Baltimore said that two people had died and 28 others were injured in a mass shooting early on Sunday morning at a housing block in the city. The city's police department said three of the injured were in a critical condition after the incident at 800 block in the Brooklyn neighborhood of Baltimore soon after midnight, Reuters reported.

MedStar Harbor Hospital's emergency department treated 19 patients on Sunday morning, all suffering varying degrees of injury from gunshot wounds after the incident, MedStar Health Baltimore told Reuters in an emailed response.

The police department said that at about 12:35 a.m. on Sunday officers responded to calls of a reported shooting at 800 block of Gretna Court.

Hundreds of people were gathered in the area for an event called "Brooklyn Day," a witness told TV station Fox 45, adding that they had heard 20 to 30 shots fired. CNN quoted Baltimore Police Acting Commissioner Richard Worley as saying there was as yet no information on suspects or a motive, but investigators were "working an extensive crime scene."

## Thousands rally across Australia in support of Indigenous reform

Thousands rallied in Australia on Sunday to back a campaign to recognise the country's Indigenous people in the constitution ahead of a referendum later this year, after a recent dip in support for the change.

The referendum, likely to be held between October and December, seeks to amend the constitution and establish an advisory body, called the Indigenous Voice to Parliament, to give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people a direct say in policies that impact them, Reuters reported.

Prime Minister Anthony

Albanese's centre-left Labor government backs the change, while the opposition Liberal-National conservatives urge a "No" vote.

On Sunday, an Australian Council of Social Service tweet showed Sydney rally attendees in T-shirts with the words "Vote Yes" and caps with the words "The Uluru Statement", referring to a key document that calls for an Indigenous Voice.

Yes23, the group behind more than 25 rallies nationwide, said the crowd in Sydney was around 3,000 and that it expected up to 25,000 people to

participate in total.

The day of action comes after support for the referendum appeared to be ebbing, according to a poll last month, which showed "No" ahead for the first time, 51% to 49%.

Opponents, including some Indigenous people, have said the proposal lacks detail and will divide Australians.

Indigenous Australians, who account for 3.8% of the population, face disadvantages including discrimination, poor health and education outcomes and high incarceration rates.

## Protesters keep pressure on Netanyahu over reform plan



AFP - Israelis protested again on Saturday against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's proposed judicial reform plans, days after he said he had dropped a key provision in the controversial project.

The demonstrators have kept up the pressure with weekly rallies against Netanyahu, who returned to power last December at the head of a coalition with ultra-Orthodox Jewish and extreme-right parties. As they have done every Saturday for months, protesters thronged the heart of Tel Aviv to demonstrate against his cabinet's judicial overhaul proposals.

## OIC: Measures needed ...

The body's secretary general, Hissein Brahim Taha, "stressed the need to send a clear message that acts of desecration" of the Qur'an are "not mere ordinary Islamophobia incidents," the statement said. "We must send constant reminders to the international community regarding the urgent application of international law, which clearly prohibits any advocacy of religious hatred."

The act outside the Stockholm Central Mosque prompted international condemnation. Several Muslim countries have also summoned Swedish ambassadors in protest. Swedish police had granted Momika a permit in line with free speech protections, but authorities later said they had opened an investigation over "agitation."



By Abolqassem Delfi  
Ex-Iran envoy to Paris

## OPINION EXCLUSIVE

Protests engulfing several cities in France, including Lyon, Marseille, and parts of Paris, have witnessed a disturbing surge of violence perpetrated by both protesters and law enforcement. However, such unrest is not an isolated incident within the country. Ever since France relinquished its colonies, particularly the brutal departure from Algeria, it has consistently grappled with protests of this nature. Presently, Macron's government finds itself caught in the crossfire, torn between the demands and pressure emanating from opposing factions. These conflicting demands encompass the rights of immigrants who, by virtue of their citizenship, are considered French nationals, as well as the grievances voiced by French citizens who oppose the presence of immigrants within the country.

The immigrant population in France comprises individuals mainly from North African countries such as Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia, predominantly pro-

fessing the Islamic faith. Another segment includes people from African nations commonly referred to as Black Africa. Additionally, France has seen an influx of immigrants in recent years, driven by the conflicts in the Middle East, particularly in countries like Syria and Lebanon.

Over the past few decades, successive French governments have struggled to transcend the immigrants' deep-seated animosity, fueled by France's colonial history. Presidents, including Macron, have undertaken numerous initiatives, such as his visit to Algeria, in an attempt to move beyond the contentious events of the past. However, thus far, their efforts have yielded limited success in achieving reconciliation. When the longstanding animosity is coupled with aberrant behavior exhibited by government institutions, it reignites the flames of historical grievances. This concerning pattern emerges once again, as exemplified by a recent incident involving the tragic killing of a 17-year-old Algerian boy at the hands of the French police.

Simultaneously, amidst the historical discontent and grievances expressed by immigrants toward policies and behaviors, we witness the emergence of a fac-

tion within France known as "White France." These French citizens vehemently oppose immigration policies and advocate for the implementation of more stringent measures. They

due to heightened security concerns. However, President Macron has thus far refrained from acquiescing to their demands.

Another significant aspect to consider is the tendency

## Forsaking moral high ground



predominantly align themselves with right-wing and far-right political parties. Of great concern is the escalating support for extreme right-wing ideologies, as evidenced by the substantial share of votes garnered in the last presidential election, amounting to approximately 47%. In the recent protests, this faction has exerted considerable pressure on the government to declare a state of emergency

of French security forces and police to exhibit heightened levels of violence when encountering immigrants, particularly Algerians. This behavior can be traced back to the remnants of the colonial era, and more specifically, the brutal clashes that ensued during the Algerian revolution. Reports suggest that the police officer involved in the assault on the 17-year-old boy harbored racist inclinations.

Against this backdrop, the French government finds itself grappling with both economic and security challenges. The aftermath of the war in Ukraine has exacerbated these problems and fueling growing dissatisfaction. These circumstances have provided fertile ground for opposition parties to challenge Macron and his party in the forthcoming elections.

Simultaneously, France not only faces internal turmoil but also encounters unfavorable circumstances within the broader European context. Consequently, external pressure is exerted, further stoking internal tensions. Opposition political parties predominantly align themselves with right-wing and far-right ideologies, alongside associated unions. Additionally, a fraction of the traditional left-wing parties, which have been marginalized in recent years due to the rise of "Macronism," also contribute to the opposition's ranks.

Meanwhile, it is worth noting that the far-right's influence has gained traction not only in France but also in several other European nations, including Italy, Greece, and even Britain. Macron's stance on the war in Ukraine and his attempts at engagement with Putin have garnered disapproval

from numerous European governments. Consequently, right-wing and left-wing factions in other European countries, leveraging their connections with Macron's political opponents, seek to instigate domestic opposition and fuel protests. The recent riots in France have received extensive coverage and prominence in European media, particularly within British outlets.

It is important to acknowledge that these observations do not diminish the issue of violent treatment by French security forces and police against protesters. However, there is a lesson here for Macron and other European leaders. In similar circumstances occurring primarily in non-European countries, Europeans often support opposition groups by interfering in those nations' internal affairs. They advocate for restraint against protesters, respect their freedom of speech, and champion their citizenship rights. Yet, when such incidents occur within their own countries, these leaders forsake their moral high ground and resort to responding with force. Macron should have anticipated such eventualities when he visited opposition leaders of other countries and posed for supportive photographs with them.

# Qom green domes representative of Iranian-Islamic architecture

## Iranica Desk

The Iranian city of Qom houses many historical monuments including three 14th century tombs. They are located in a small garden known as Gonbad-e Sabz (Green Dome). The conical turquoise domes stand out a mile in nearby streets and attract the attention of tourists due to their architectural value.

Kazem Fadaeian, a cultural heritage expert in Qom, has told Miras Aria news agency about the age of the tombs.

"According to existing inscriptions, this historical and cultural complex belongs to the 14th century, in the Ilkhanid period. It used to be known as Darvazeh Kashan (Kashan Gate)," he said.

He added that historical inscriptions also show that commanders from the Ali Safi household were buried in the tombs.

Fadaeian said people in Qom, however, believe these tombs belong to three great Arab personalities who revived Qom in the Islamic era.

He also attached significance to the architectural values of the structures.

"The architect of the building has considered a regular octagonal geometric design for this historical building. This design can

be seen from inside the building. A 16-sided dome can be seen above this building, which is like a beautiful cone and draws the attention of tourists."

Fadaeian noted that the complex is a manifestation of Islamic and Iranian architecture. He said the decorations of the monument are influenced by the art and architecture of their contemporary building, the Dome of Soltaniyeh in Zanjan Province.

Gonbad-e Soltaniyeh (Dome of Soltaniyeh) is also a 14th-century monument. It is highly recognized as an architectural masterpiece, particularly due to its innovative double-shelled dome and elaborate interior decoration. The dome stands about 50 meters tall from its base. Covered with turquoise-blue faience tiles, the stunning structure dominates the skyline of the ancient city of Soltaniyeh.

The monument is, in fact, the mausoleum of Oljaitu, also known as Muhammad Khodabandeh, who was the eighth Ilkhanid Dynasty ruler, from 1304 to 1316.

Fadaeian said Gonbad-e Sabz complex has been registered on the National Heritage List due to its historical antiquity and its Iranian-Islamic architecture.



● IRNA



● dobaresafar.ir



## Kerman, city of tastes



Qavoat  
● rasekhoon.net



Kolompeh (R)  
● badr24.com



Komach sehen (R)  
● ashpaizha.com



## Iranica Desk

All human creations, from historical monuments and handicrafts to cuisines and sweets contribute to the collective identity of a nation.

The cultural manifestations and lifestyle of people in each community are very attractive to tourists. The intersection of food and culture is a powerful force which is the root of identity and the place of connection in a community.

The southeastern province of Kerman, which hosts 25 percent of the horticultural fields of the country, has a great capacity in the fields of foodstuff production and processing. The agricultural crops cultivated in the province, including pistachios, dates, walnuts and citrus fruits can be used to introduce the food culture of its people to the world in the best possible manner, according to IRNA.

Kerman has very versatile souvenirs which are attractive to all travelers. The variety of souvenirs satisfies every taste, with every financial ability, and no one returns to his or her city empty-handed.

In fact, there are few tourists who travel to Kerman and haven't tasted *kolompeh* (a soft, golden cookie filled with dates, nuts and spices), *qavoat* (a nutrition-

ally-dense recipe made of powdered seeds, nuts, and sugar), *komach sehen* (a date pie made with high protein wheat flour, filled with dates and walnuts). From sweets and local breads to organic and natural products, you can find anything in Kerman.

Experts believe that the capacity of Kerman's food production and processing industry hasn't been used properly, thus more efforts should be taken to introduce the delicious foods and sweets produced in the land to the people across the country and worldwide. In order to achieve the target, 13 companies of the province participated in the 30th International Exhibition of Food, Food Technology & Agriculture (Iran Agrofood 2023), held at the Tehran International Fairgrounds, from June 16-20, 2023.

Deputy Head of Kerman Food Industries Association Hamed Badrabadi said Kerman Province has a great potential in the field of farming, and this causes the related industries to prosper significantly.

He said a number of the products made with pistachios and dates, cultivated in the province, were displayed in the expo, but more efforts should be made to encourage investors to invest more in the sector.

# Iran snooker passion grows as fans take cue from world-class Vafaei



● WST

AFP – A passion for snooker has swept Iran in recent years, a trend fans attribute largely to the country's first internationally renowned star Hossein Vafaei, known as the "Persian Prince". Ever more enthusiasts in the Islamic republic have taken to the cue sport played on a billiards table, and Tehran last week hosted an Asian regional tournament. "In the past, Iran did not have much of a place in the Asian and world champi-

onships in billiards and snooker," said referee Mohammad Afghil Morshedi, 34, of Iran's Bowling, Billiard and Boules Federation. But in recent years, said Morshedi, the sport – invented by British officers in colonial-era India – "has gained many enthusiasts... and now we are among the top three teams in Asia in winning titles and medals". Much of this is due to one man, he said: "Mr Vafaei is the brand of this sport in Iran.

"Whenever the name of Iran is brought up in snooker, his name will come up too. He's the flag-bearer of this sport in Iran." Vafaei, 28, is Iran's first professional snooker player, and the first to win a world ranking title, in 2022 in the English city of Leicester. "I'm happy to make history for my country, that was a very good moment for me and snooker," he said at the time. Vafaei, who hails from Abadan in the southwest-

ern province of Khuzestan bordering Iraq, said Iran has "very little snooker history", speaking last week with state news agency IRNA. He lamented that so far he had received little official support in his home country, complaining that "no one has done anything for me and I have not received any money or reward". On the subject of still lacking Iranian sponsors, Vafaei said that "it is not only about me, as most of our

athletes have the same problem". Nonetheless, he has received huge gratitude from Iran's snooker and billiards enthusiasts, including at the tournament that brought teams from the Persian Gulf, South Asia and as far as Malaysia and Hong Kong. "Reaching the position that Vafaei has attained is the ultimate goal of almost all Iranian snooker players," said Shirin Zarrin, 38, an employee at the Iran bil-

liards federation. "He has been very impactful," she said. "If you ask any Iranian snooker player, they will cite Vafaei as their role model." She voiced hope that Iranian women, too, would gain more prominence in the sport in the future. "If women can have more access to billiards clubs, more presence in this sport and the chance to practise better, they can progress significantly," she said.

# Djokovic hungry for more Grand Slams as he eyes number 24 at Wimbledon

REUTERS – Novak Djokovic is not resting on his laurels after claiming the all-time men's record with his 23rd Grand Slam title last month and the Serbian said on Saturday that he is already eyeing number 24 at Wimbledon where he is the defending champion.

Djokovic went past Rafa Nadal's tally of 22 Slams when he won the French Open last month and, though his old Spanish rival will not be challenging for titles this year due to injury, Djokovic has no plans to put his feet up and relax. The 36-year-old has won the last four Wimbledon crowns and is one shy of tying Roger Federer's men's record of eight titles at the All England Club. He also now sits just one Grand Slam behind Margaret Court who won a record 24.

"I don't feel more relaxed, to be honest. I still feel hungry for success, for more Grand Slams, more achievements in tennis," Djokovic told reporters. "As long as there's that drive, I know that I'm able to compete at the highest level. If that goes down,



● IANS

then I guess I'll have to face probably different circumstances and have a different approach. "So far there's still the drive. A few days after Roland Garros, I was already thinking about prepara-

tion for grass and what needs to be done. The tennis season is such that it doesn't really give you much time to really reflect or enjoy." Djokovic said that although he was proud of

his historic achievement, life as a professional player demands that kind of mentality and intensity as he looks to win as many majors as he can before his body can take no more. "If you really want to have

a chance and have a go at more slam titles, you need to maintain that concentration and devotion," he said. "I want to try to use every Grand Slam opportunity I have at this stage where

I'm feeling good in my body, feeling motivated and playing very good tennis, to try to get more." Djokovic comes into Wimbledon as the second seed this year with 20-year-old Spaniard Carlos Alcaraz now world number one after his first title on grass at Queen's. However, that does not faze the Serbian. "I think for someone his age, it's impressive, everything he (Alcaraz) is doing. With his team, of course, he's got Juan Carlos Ferrero, former world number one, in his corner who can guide him and mentor him," Djokovic said. "For me, I don't need to have Carlos or anybody else really to find that extra drive and motivation when I enter Slams because I know that I have to win seven matches to win a title. "So whoever I get to face across the net, it doesn't make a difference for me. I need to do what I need to do." Djokovic will begin his Wimbledon title defence against Argentina's 67th-ranked Pedro Cachin today.

## Iran's Fasihi shatters 100m national record in Kazanov Cup triumph



● GETTY IMAGES

### Sports Desk

Iranian women's 100m national record changed hands for a second time in just over a month as sprinter Farzaneh Fasihi set a new benchmark in Kazakhstan's Kazanov Cup. The 30-year-old crossed the finish line in 11.41 seconds to win the ultimate prize at the event and shatter the country's previous mark by 0.02 seconds. Fasihi's record will be officially registered after a negative test result by the National Anti-Doping Organization of Iran. Hamideh Esameilnejad had claimed the national record when she ran the 100m event in 11.43 seconds for the gold medal at the Erzurum Sprint & Relay Cup in Turkey in on May 30. Fasihi's benchmark means she is now a double national record holder in the female athletics – following her gold-winning campaign in February's Asian Indoor Championships in Astana, Kazakhstan, where she registered 7.25 seconds in the qualification heat before ultimately coming out on top in the 60m final.

## Esteghlal signs Iranian winger Mohammadi



● IRNA

### Sports Desk

Iranian winger Mehrdad Mohammadi is the first summer signing under new Esteghlal manager Javad Nekounam after joining the Persian Gulf Pro League club on a two-year deal for an undisclosed fee. Mohammadi, 29 – the twin brother of international fullback Milad – spent last season at Qatar Stars League, where he scored eight goals in 15 appearances for Al Saliya but could not help the club avoid relegation. Former Sepahan and Rah Ahan player will be back in the Iranian top flight after four years, having enjoyed decent spells with Portuguese side C.D. Aves and Qatar's Al Arabi.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## 'South Africa nearing end of daily power cuts'



REUTERS - South Africa's electricity minister said on Sunday the country was closer to ending daily power cuts as warmer weather returns towards the end of the year, but declined to give a specific date.

South Africa is on course to see its most blackout days in history this year with daily power cuts extending to almost 10 hours a day, affecting businesses and households in an economy already hobbled by high interest rates and inflation.

## Russian airline resumes regular flights to Cuba



CNBC - Rossiya Airlines, part of Russia's Aeroflot group, resumed scheduled flights to Cuba.

The first flight of what will begin as a twice-weekly service took off for the Cuban resort of Varadero from Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport on Saturday, Aeroflot said.

Russian airlines suspended flights to Cuba, Mexico and the Dominican Republic on Feb. 28 last year.

## Japan aims to become major offshore wind energy producer

AFP - Japan plans to become one of the world's top offshore wind energy producers, joining the likes of China and the United Kingdom, as it makes the transition to a zero-emission economy while also seeking greater energy security.

Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism finished accepting proposals for the second major round of offshore wind tenders to build 1.8 gigawatt capacity in four areas.

## Tehran ready to develop socio-economic cooperation with Beirut: Minister

Iran's Minister of Cooperatives, Labor, and Social Welfare Solat Mortazavi announced his ministry's readiness to transfer know-how in economic, social, and educational arenas to the Lebanese Ministry of Labor.

Speaking on the sidelines of the signing ceremony of a memorandum of understanding with Lebanese Minister of Labor Mustafa Bayram on Sunday, Mortazavi said the two sides prepared a cooperation agreement that will be inked to pave the way for extensive cooperation.

"So, we are ready to share our experiences with Lebanon," he said, according to IRNA.

Lebanon is an important part of the Islamic world, while Iran enjoys vast relations with Islamic countries, particularly the Arab country, the Iranian min-



Iranian Minister of Cooperatives, Labor, and Social Welfare Solat Mortazavi (R) speaks with his Lebanese counterpart Mustafa Bayram in Tehran on July 2, 2023.  
● mcls.gov.ir

ister said, adding that we consider Lebanon dear.

"So, defending the country is considered defending the Islamic Ummah."

Bayram, for his part, expressed gratitude to the Is-

lamic Republic for standing by other nations and for the price Iran pays for being subject to sanctions, but it has been able to turn sanctions into opportunities via embarking on resistance.

The Lebanese minister further stated, "Due to Lebanon's internal problems, we are under a cruel siege that has had economic and social impacts, but despite numerous woes, we are

trying to serve the people and, on this trip, we are looking for cooperation and use of the experiences of the Islamic Republic to turn threats into opportunities."

## Iran receives 5% more FDI in 2022: UNCTAD



● IRNA

The foreign direct investment (FDI) inflow to Iran increased by five percent in 2022 compared to the previous year, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said in its latest investment report.

The report put the country's FDI inflow at \$1.5 billion in 2022, while the figure stood at \$1.425 billion in 2021, IRNA reported.

According to the report, Iran was ranked fourth in the Middle East in terms FDI

inflow in 2022.

Saudi Arabia ranked first, with \$7.886 billion of investment, followed by Oman, with \$3.716 billion, and Bahrain, with \$1.951 billion. Based on the UNCTAD data, Iran had \$100 million in foreign direct investment in other countries in 2022, up from \$82 million in the previous year.

UNCTAD has put the global foreign direct investment in 2022 at \$1.294 trillion, indicating a decline of 13 percent compared to the

previous year.

Iran has been ranked 79th among the countries of the world in terms of attracting foreign investment in 2022. The US was in first place, with \$285 billion of FDI, followed by China, with \$189 billion, and Singapore with \$141 billion.

Established in 1964, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is an intergovernmental organization intended to promote the interests of developing states in world trade.

## NIDC drills 27 oil, gas wells



● IRNA

The National Iranian Drilling Company (NIDC) dug and completed the drilling operations of 27 oil and gas wells during the first 100 days of the current Iranian year (March 21-June 30), announced NIDC managing director.

According to Hamidreza Golpayegani, the drilled wells consisted of two development and 25 work-over ones, Shana reported.

Golpayegani had earlier declared the company's infrastructure improvement in line with the programs of the Oil Ministry as the most important achievement of NIDC in the past year.

The official said NIDC's performance in operational, techno-engineering services, and headquarters departments has been significantly improved in the previous year, compared to the preceding two years.

## TPO to finalize barter talks with Pakistan

## Economy Desk

Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) will soon invite Pakistani officials to finalize talks about an agreement on the process of barter.

Talking to IRNA, Hadi Talebian, who leads the South Asia Department of TPO, added that Tehran and Islamabad will start direct talks for a free trade deal in

September.

"If we can agree on free trade with this country this [Iranian] year, it will be a major accomplishment," the official noted.

Talebian said that a free trade deal with Pakistan will have its own complications because the balance of trade between the two countries is largely in Iran's favor.

Iran is currently in a preferential trade agreement



● IRNA

with Pakistan, under which the two countries have reduced tariffs on exports and imports of certain commodities. The two countries

have also defined a strategy to launch six major border markets to allow free trade between people living along their borders.

Second Announcement

## Tender invitation

Invitation to public tender for OP 8454/CORROSION & SCALE INHIBITOR // 10000 kg

Tabriz petrochemical company intends to procure its required quantity of OP 8454 for Utility production plant from reputable & reliable producer and supplier of said product. Interested suppliers should submit their request to below email in order to get tender documents until July 10, 2023.

Deadline for submission of offers for tender is: July 21, 2023.

Email: me.rahimi@tpco.ir Phone No.: +98-41-34282592

Tender	No	Quantity
OP 8454	PVS-0231020	kg 10000

Public Relations of Tabriz Petrochemical Company (Public Stock)

First turn published: June 28, 2023 Second turn published: July 03, 2023

# Iran launches research taskforce to combat cancer proactively

## Social Desk

In a significant stride towards comprehensive cancer research, Iran's National Committee of the Cancer Research Network has commenced operations under the aegis of the Deputy of Research and Technology of the Ministry of Health. The committee's primary objective is to establish research centers and amalgamate studies in the field of cancer, as reported by Fars News Agency. Younes Panahi, vice president of Research and Technology of the Ministry of Health and a spokesper-

son for the committee, underscored the urgency of addressing the global and national cancer crisis. He expressed optimism that the inception of the National Committee of the Cancer Research Network could mark a pivotal moment for integrated cancer research. Panahi emphasized the necessity of a preventive approach, which is currently a priority for the Deputy of Research and Technology of the Ministry of Health. The National Committee of the Cancer Research Network is tasked with consolidating the myriad studies conducted across various

universities and research centers. The ultimate goal is to utilize the findings for informed decision-making and policy formulation at a national level. The results will be presented to the Ministry of Health's Deputy for Treatment and Health in the form of executive instructions.

Panahi further advocated for a shift from reactive to proactive strategies in cancer control, emphasizing the importance of prevention. He argued that a comprehensive and centralized policy is crucial to reducing infection rates and preventing disease. He then

stressed the importance of promoting health-oriented behaviors and a healthy lifestyle, asserting that policies based on scientific evidence have the most enduring impact on society. The Health Ministry official expressed hope about the potential positive outcomes of some studies in the field of medical sciences. He highlighted the potential effectiveness of modern sciences such as artificial intelligence, big data, and new health technologies like cell therapy and gene therapy.

Citing comparative research conducted globally

between 2009 and 2019 on various types of cancer, the deputy director of research and technology of the Ministry of Health noted an unfortunate increase in the growth, speed, acceleration, and diversity of the disease. However, he expressed optimism that comprehensive studies could yield favorable results for effective policy in reducing the growth of this disease. Panahi revealed that substantial financial resources have been allocated for cancer studies in the country. He mentioned that one of the actions of his office last year was to identify health

threats such as population youth, family, cardiovascular diseases, endocrine and metabolic diseases, environmental factors, air pollution, and common cancers. Each threat has been assigned to a medical science university in the country as a special and national research mission with financial resources. Panahi emphasized the interconnectedness of these projects, stating that controlling and reducing the growth process of each cancer play a role in increasing the health level of society. Looking towards the future, the medical expert

identified cancer as a critical issue for the health system. He highlighted the potential benefits of the P4 tool, which stands for "prediction," "prevention," "personalized treatment," and "participation," for disease management.

Panahi concluded by stating that accurate and forward-looking planning and policy in the field of cancer can change predictions. He stressed the need for up-to-date and aggregated data for cancer research, advocating for a shift from isolated activities towards the integration of cancer studies.

## Iran's 'tsunami of aging' a multifaceted challenge

## Social Desk

Saleh Qasemi, a prominent Iranian demographer, has issued a stark warning about impending "tsunami of aging" in Iran, a demographic shift he believes could pose a significant threat to the nation's economic, social, familial, political, and security structures. Qasemi underscored the urgency of comprehending Iran's demographic trajectory. He noted that approximately 12 percent of the nation's population is currently over 60 years old, a figure that is projected to surge to 30 percent within the next two decades, ISNA reported.

"This demographic shift will

transform Iran into one of the world's oldest nations," Qasemi said. "The rapid aging of Iran's population is a formidable challenge that will profoundly impact all facets of our society."

Ghasemi further elaborated that the aging phenomenon is a global trend. However, he pointed out that certain unique factors in Iran have amplified its potential damage. "The pace of aging in Iran's population is alarmingly high. The demographic transition that took other nations over a century will occur in Iran within just 30 years," he warned.

Another distinctive aspect of Iran's aging phenomenon, according to Qasemi, is its timing relative to

economic development. "Unlike other nations that experienced population aging after achieving economic growth, Iran is facing this demographic shift prior to substantial economic development, which exacerbates the potential damage," he explained.

To mitigate the challenges posed by the aging population, Qasemi advocated for the implementation of comprehensive measures, including the drafting of an "active aging" document. This document, which is prevalent in many developed nations, aims to ensure that the elderly population remains healthy, active, and socially engaged for an extended period.

"Such a strategy benefits not only the elderly but also society as a whole," Qasemi said. He lamented, however, that despite the recent compilation of such a document in Iran, it has not been seriously considered.

Drawing on the experiences of developed nations, Qasemi emphasized the importance of population policies and strategic planning in managing the aging phenomenon.

"Many developed nations have successfully navigated the challenges of an aging population through the implementation of population policies and the drafting of comprehensive aging documents," he concluded.

## Iran delegation visiting Cuba to strengthen environmental diplomacy in G77

## Social Desk

Iran's Vice President and Head of the Department of the Environment (DOE) Ali Salajegheh is leading a delegation from Iran to the Group of 77 and China's Ministerial Meeting on Environment, Science, and Technology.

The conference, scheduled from July 3 to 7, 2023, is taking place in Havana, Cuba, Mehr News Agency reported.

Cuba, the newly appointed chair of the Group of 77 and China, extended an official invitation to Iran to participate in the meeting. The conference will focus on two thematic areas: "Environment and Climate: Challenges of Science and Technology" and "Biological Connection, Biodiversity, and Shared Responsibility." These themes align with this year's motto of the International Convention on the Environment, promoting sustainable, inclusive, and resilient development through science and innovation.

The meeting aims to fos-

ter an atmosphere of opinion exchange on the role of science, technology, and innovation in driving balanced development and addressing environmental crises. It also seeks to strengthen solidarity, unity, and the spirit of cooperation among global south countries in the post-COVID-19 recovery phase, and to enhance dialogues on environmental issues among the G77 member countries.

Salajegheh will represent Iran's positions and actions in the fields of environment, science, and technology in line with the policies of the current administration. He will also seek to revive bilateral rela-

tions with the host country and other member nations in environmental matters.

Furthermore, the delegation will invite the members for participation in the "International Conference on Dealing with Dust Storms," scheduled for September 9 and 10 in Tehran later this year. This conference underscores Iran's commitment to addressing environmental

challenges and fostering international cooperation in this critical field.



## Iranian film 'Yasa' selected for Canadian festival



ILNA – The Iranian film 'Yasa,' helmed by director Mani Mehripour and produced by Armin Moradi, has secured a coveted spot in the ninth edition of the Gbeck Future Film Festival held in Quebec, Canada.

This achievement comes hot on the heels of the film's honorable diploma at the renowned Student World Impact Film Festival. Scheduled to unfold from September 8 to 10 on the picturesque Prince Edward Island in Canada, the Gbeck Future Film Festival serves as a platform for exceptional cinematic creations.

This eagerly anticipated event showcases a curated collection of innovative films crafted by gifted filmmakers from across the globe. The festival is especially dedicated to nurturing emerging talents in the realm of media and young auteurs, fostering a fertile ground for the growth of promising directors.

'Yasa' delves into the compelling narrative of a young girl entangled in the aftermath of a murder as she embarks on a quest for her father's approval, confronting numerous obstacles along her journey.

● 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



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# Iran Daily

62607571900044 > irandaily.ir | newspaper.irandaily.ir

Vol. 7330 ● Monday, July 3, 2023 ● Price 40,000 Rials ● 8 Pages

# Festival puppets pulling at heartstrings in Tehran



### Arts & Culture Desk

The 19th Tehran-Mobarak International Puppet Festival is currently underway in Iran, drawing attention from puppet show enthusiasts. The event stands out for its well-planned schedule, precise execution, and diverse sections. Lasting

for ten days, from June 29 to July 8, the festival offers over 10 shows daily across Tehran's famous venues like the City Theater Complex, Molavi Hall, Honar Hall, and Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults. Notably, the outdoor area of the City Theater has wit-

nessed a remarkable turnout, with thousands gathering to see captivating street performances, infusing the complex with an artistic ambiance.

The festival's inauguration was graced by ambassadors and cultural attachés from six nations at the City Theater and Honar Hall.

Hadi Hejazifar, the festival's secretary, has announced a groundbreaking development in the theater festival landscape. In a first-of-its-kind move, participating directors will serve as judges, each responsible for voting on 12 other productions. This innovative approach ensures that all directors have the opportunity to watch every show, fostering an exchange of experiences among puppetry enthusiasts.

Hejazifar underscores the significance of festivals

as platforms for creating new works, particularly in puppet theater, which faces high costs and limited dedicated venues and support. This year's festival boasts a participation of 58 performing groups. Among them are seven productions from Brazil, Georgia, Peru, Mexico, Turkey, and Armenia. Standout entries include 'Treasure Island' directed by Fabio Superbi from Brazil and 'Magic Lamp' directed by Cengiz Ozek from Turkey.

While discussing the International Section, Hejazifar highlights the festival's efforts to minimize expenses. Despite encountering setbacks such as a show cancellation and visa issues, the organizers have maintained a diverse range of techniques. However, logistical challenges led to the unfortunate loss of sev-

eral talented groups. The puppet festival in Tehran serves as a fertile ground for the growth and advancement of puppetry art, providing a platform for Iranian artists to showcase their talents and creations. Artists express their desire for puppetry to regain its place in theaters beyond children's entertainment, highlighting its universal language and cultural significance.

Support for puppet shows is crucial due to the high cost of puppet-making tools, and it also contributes to the education of future generations. The festival aims to facilitate roundtable discussions among artists, audiences, and puppets, capturing diverse narratives depicting human conditions. Moreover, it strives to promote harmony and happiness within society.

# Preserving industrial heritage a necessity



By Sadeq Dehqan  
Staff writer

Industrial heritage and monuments in Iran should be preserved as a symbol of the country's industrial transformation, Abdulmehdi Hemmatpour, the director of Shahr-e-Rey National Heritage Site, told Iran Daily in an exclusive interview.

He added that outstanding examples of full-scale industrial buildings have remained in Shahr-e-Rey which pertain to early industrial era in Iran. Shahr-e-Rey is a town located in the south of the capital Tehran. Hemmatpour described

industrial heritage as an integral part of cultural heritage.

"Industrial heritage is defined as the remains of industrial culture with scientific, social, technical, historical and architectural values. These include buildings, machines, workshops, factories, mines, processing sites and refineries, warehouses and reservoirs, transportation and all its infrastructures. Places that were used for collective activities related to industry, such as residence, worship and education are also included," he added.

Hemmatpour said indus-

trial buildings have undergone transformation like cultural heritage sites. He noted that these buildings are at the risk of destruction and have also turned into a symbol of urban chaos.

He said the first industrial buildings in Iran had beautiful architecture but their European counterparts had poor and inappropriate architecture. Hemmatpour pointed out that industrial structures in the late Qajar era and early Pahlavi era symbolized industrial transformation.

"The number of Iran's manufacturing factories exceeded 20 between

1890-1900. These included sugar, textile, match, flour, glass, ammunition, tobacco and leather factories."

He added that industrial heritage has environmental, historical and architectural dimensions which necessitate the preservation and renovation of industrial heritage sites.

"Industrial archeology can be employed to renovate industrial buildings," Hemmatpour said Shahr-e-Rey Cement Factory can be the focus of industrial archeology studies.

This factory was launched in the 1930s and is considered as one of the oldest factories in Iran and

the first cement production line in the country. He noted that the factory not only has historical and architectural values but is also a symbol of transformation.

"This factory symbolized industrial heritage based on brutalist architecture." Brutalist architecture is an architectural style that emerged during the 1950s in the UK, among the reconstruction projects of the post-war era.

Brutalist buildings are characterized by minimalist constructions that showcase the bare building materials and structural elements over decorative design.

# Italian Embassy in Tehran revives Vico Magistretti's legacy

### Arts & Culture Desk

The Italian Embassy in Tehran, in collaboration with the Magistretti Foundation, has undertaken the task of resurrecting the various stages of the 1974 "Parc des Princes" project in Tehran. This project, designed by acclaimed Italian architect Vico Magistretti, has been recreated through a new exhibition at Ambassador Giuseppe Perrone's Residence, as reported by ILNA. The exhibition showcases the evolution of the Magistretti project, featuring original designs, sketches, architectural plans, vintage photographs, and ar-

tifacts dating back to the construction era.

Notably, a remarkable model of the residential complex, along with visually appealing brochures illustrating the housing units, captivates visitors. The residential complex, which comprises 333 units, is located in the vibrant Vanak district of the Iranian capital and continues to provide excellent living conditions for over 1,500 inhabitants. During the inauguration ceremony, Ambassador Giuseppe Perrone expressed the profound connection between Italian and Iranian architecture, partic-



ularly during the fruitful period spanning the 1950s to the 1970s. Notable projects such as Gio Ponti's Villa Namazi, Vico Magistretti's "Parc des Princes," and Gaetano Pesce's National Library epitomize the pin-

nacle of this enduring architectural alliance. Additionally, the exhibition unveils Magistretti's architectural skill through his original designs and sketches for the 1881 Ceruti showroom on Vesal

Shirazi Street in Tehran. The showroom showcases Magistretti's artistic vision, featuring remarkable architectural elements such as a spiral staircase at the heart of the space, as well as meticulously crafted tables and furniture.

Ambassador Perrone concluded his speech, stating, "This exhibition provides us with an extraordinary opportunity to present Vico Magistretti's exceptional contributions to the development of Tehran during its rapid period of growth, characterized by simplicity, elegance, and sophistication, to the people of Iran."

