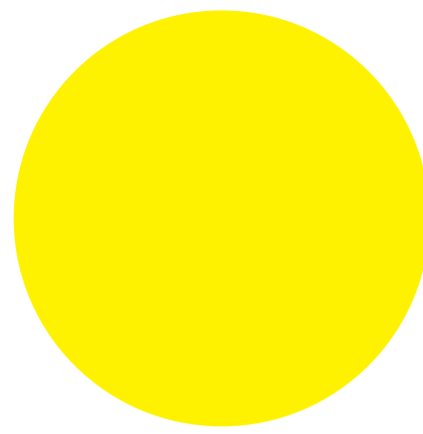


Days of Resistance

Reviewing the days of the war in photos on the occasion of the Sacred Defense Week

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Leader: Iran's Holy Defense Expands Border of Resistance

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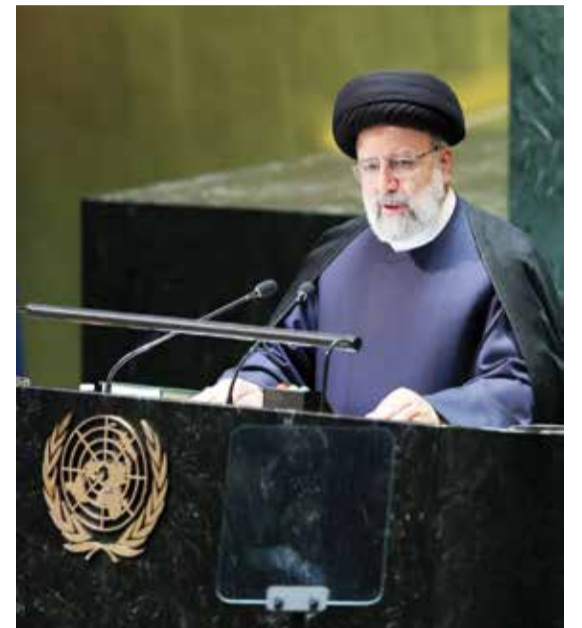
Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei addresses a group of war veterans and promoters of resistance in Tehran on Sept. 20, 2023. [khamenei.ir](#)

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei called the expansion of Iran's borders of resistance as one of the achievements of the "The Holy Defense" of the Iranian nation during eight years of Iraq's imposed war on Iran. "I don't mean geographical borders; we are not after that. It ex-

panded other borders, including the border of resistance," the Leader said while addressing a number of war veterans and promoters of resistance on Wednesday. Today, the element of resistance is rooted in the region, the Leader said, adding that the Holy Defense also introduced, promoted

and normalized the term of resistance in the world. "It may be hard for us to believe, but the acts of the Iranian nation have had an impact in distant countries. We know about this. Both in East Asia, Africa and Latin America, the acts of the Iranian nation have become a model."

The Leader touched on Iran's influence in the region, which has made the US uneasy. "The issue of Iran's presence in the region has exasperated America and some other countries, while we do not have a base in regional countries except for a moral presence." [Page 2 >](#)



Raesi: Discrimination in fighting terrorism amounts to giving terrorists a green light

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Iran's economy grew by 6.2% in first quarter: CBI

The Central Bank of Iran (CBI) reported that the economy grew by 6.2% in the first three months of the Iranian year (March 21 to June 21). Figures released by the CBI on Wednesday showed that the gross domestic product (GDP), the broadest measure of economic activity, reached 3,802.1 trillion rials, or about \$90 billion, in the first quarter, up 6.2% compared to the same period last year, IRNA reported.

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Technology can benefit learning

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Borrell:

EU ready to pursue resumption of nuclear talks



EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell expressed the bloc's readiness to pursue the resumption of talks on the revival of Iran nuclear deal.

After a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian in New York, Borrell posted a message on his X account, stressing the need to "find diplomatic solution to nuclear issue through JCPOA".

Azerbaijan, Armenian forces reach cease-fire deal

AP - Azerbaijan and Armenian forces reached a cease-fire deal Wednesday to end two days of fighting in the Nagorno-Karabakh region, officials on both sides said. Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said that the intensity of the hostilities in the region "has decreased drastically." Azerbaijani authorities said they had halted the military operation launched a day earlier once separatist officials said they were laying down arms.

Leader: Iran's ...

Ayatollah Khamenei recalled the years after the 1979 Islamic Revolution when all the big powers of the world, including the US, European countries and the East joined in the war against Iran.

"The achievements of the Holy Defense are not one or two. This would be a book with dozens of volumes. The whole world fought behind Saddam [former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein] to break this border and tried for eight years, but not an inch of this country's soil was lost," said the Leader. "The Iranian nation discovered the greatness of its capacities in the Holy Defense. The Iranian nation recognized itself in the Holy Defense."

The Leader explained that securing the country has been one of the achievements of the Holy Defense, which kept the country from possible future aggression to a great extent. "It showed that if the enemy initiates an offensive, it will not be the one to terminate it."

Ayatollah Khamenei said the "The Holy Defense" of the Iranian nation is a prominent moment in the history of the country.

Raeisi: Discrimination in fighting terrorism amounts to giving terrorists a green light



● president.ir

National Desk

Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi referred to the use of terrorism as a tool of foreign policy by some Western governments, saying rooting out terrorism requires comprehensive and targeted

efforts against its origins and manifestations, with unbiased punishment for terrorists worldwide. Addressing the 78th session of the UN General Assembly on Tuesday, Raeisi said the use of terrorism as a foreign policy tool by certain Western

governments undermines regional anti-terrorism efforts.

Operating and exploiting some Western security services from the base of extremist groups, especially the deliberate movement of foreign fighters across various geographical areas also fuels these concerns, he said.

Some European countries need to answer why, despite claiming to combat terrorism, they have become safe havens for a terrorist group responsible for the deaths of over 17,000 Iranian citizens on the streets, referring to the Mujahedin-e-Khalq Organization (MKO). Discrimination in the fight against terrorism means giving a green light to terrorists.

Global Americanization failed

"The project to Americanize the world has failed," Raeisi told the session in New York.

"Thanks to the Islamic Revolution, the Iranian nation prides itself on playing the biggest role in unmasking imperialists in the East and the West," said the president, according to Press TV.

"The world is irreversibly transitioning into a new order. The Western domination equation does not

work for the world anymore, and the old liberal order that used to serve the interests of imperialists and insatiable capitalists has been brushed aside," he said.

Iran's foreign policies

Elsewhere in his remarks, the president noted that Iran had opened up a new chapter of mutually beneficial relations with its neighbors.

"The Islamic Republic's good neighborly policy is a benevolent policy for the region. We firmly clasp any hand that is extended in friendship," Raeisi said.

The Islamic Republic supports maximal intra-regional and inter-regional economic and political convergence, and is interested in interaction with the entire world, on the basis of justice, he stated.

Desecration of Holy Qur'an

Meanwhile, the president condemned the desecration earlier this year of the Holy Qur'an in Sweden and Denmark.

"What defines humanity and elevates human values better than God Almighty's word?"

"The Qur'anic teachings for human communities shall never burn, while the flames of insult and dis-

ortion shall be no match for the truth," he said.

Iran against division of world into new 'East-West'

Now that the world's independent countries are moving towards further cooperation and convergence, Raeisi said, "We are witnessing endeavors on the part of some powers towards kindling the flames of conflict across various regions."

Maintaining a Cold War mentality, these powers are after dividing the international community into its former blocs, he said.

"This measure is reactionary and does disservice to nations' security and welfare. The Islamic Republic firmly believes that no new East-West dichotomy should be allowed to take shape [across the world]."

Victory against foreign plots

Raeisi hailed that last year, the Iranian nation managed to overcome "the biggest media offensive and psychological warfare in history."

He was referring to the incessant media and political campaign that followed the unfortunate death in police custody of a young Iranian woman, Mahsa Amini.

The president said certain

Western countries and their intelligence services had committed a "miscalculation" by underestimating the Iranian nation's strength.

'Israel cannot be a partner to peace'

The Iranian president considered the Israeli regime to be the world's last entity "based on apartheid and racism, which has been founded on the basis of war, occupation, terrorism, and violation of peoples' rights." Such an entity "cannot be a partner to peace," he asserted.

"Has not the time come for putting an end to 75 years of occupation of the Palestinian land and oppression of its people and massacre of its women and children, and for the Palestinian nation's rights to be recognized?"

Ukraine war

Raeisi reasserted Iran's opposition to the ongoing war in Ukraine.

"We do not consider warfare in Europe to be in the interest of any European party," he said.

Iran welcomes any initiative that is aimed at ending the conflict and initiation of the political process, he said, and voiced the Islamic Republic's readiness to play a constructive role towards the cessation of hostilities.

Russian defense minister: Ties with Iran reach new heights despite sanctions

Russia and Iran's ties have reached a new level in spite of the opposition from the US and its Western allies, Moscow's Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said on Wednesday.

"We are determined to implement the entire set of our planned activities despite opposition from the US and its Western allies. The pressure of sanctions on Russia and Iran is proving to be futile, while Russia-Iran cooperation is reaching new highs," Shoigu said at negotiations with his Iranian counterpart Brigadier Gen-

eral Mohammad Reza Ashtiani, as cited by state news agency TASS.

"Today, we have an opportunity to discuss in detail topical issues of bilateral military cooperation. Iran is Russia's strategic partner in the Middle East," he said. Shoigu stated that Moscow was ready "to take further joint steps to strengthen stability and security in the Middle East." He added: "We are pleased to note that Russia-Iran dialogue has been particularly intense recently."

"The high intensity of meet-

ings confirms our common determination to continue boosting strategic defense partnership," said Shoigu.

Ashtiani, for his part, said that Iran-Russia cooperation in regional and international arenas can guarantee the interests and security of both states, Press TV reported.

"Dealing with common challenges, including US unilateralism, is one of the important and strategic issues regarding the joint cooperation."

Ashtiani described as successful bilateral cooperation in the counter-terrorism

fight in West Asia, saying military and defense ties will definitely continue within the framework of international peace and security.

The Iranian defense minister also expressed his opposition to the presence of extra-regional forces in West Asia.

"Preserving the territorial integrity of regional countries and international borders is among the red lines of the Islamic Republic," he said.

"In this regard, we consider the proposed 3+3 format a strategy for the peaceful res-



● IRNA

olution of problems in the Caucasus region," he said, referring to the cooperation mechanism that features the

three South Caucasus countries of Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan, plus Russia, Turkey, and Iran.



President Ebrahim Raeisi (R) hold talks with Prime Minister of Pakistan Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on the sidelines of the UNGA summit in New York, on September 19, 2023.

● IRNA



During a meeting with Iranians residing in the United States at the conclusion of his second day in New York, Raeisi emphasized Iran's significant accomplishments in technology, medicine, industry, defense, and security. He underscored the essential requirement of keeping Iranians abroad informed about the nation's advancements and proceeded to cite specific achievements and initiatives across various scientific domains.

● president.ir



President Raeisi meets his Tajik counterpart Emomali Rahmon on the sidelines of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, US, on September 19, 2023.

● IRNA

Insect Museum: A hub for insect classification and biodiversity preservation

Iranica Desk

The Insect Museum, located in district 1 of Tehran, is affiliated with the Agricultural Research, Education, and Promotion Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture. It proudly showcases a collection of 4.5 million identified and unidentified insect specimens, encompassing a staggering 25,000 varieties.

At the Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection, there are two departments dedicated to the study of insects. In the Agricultural Entomology Department, research focuses on the biological taxonomy of these organisms to control various pests. However, the second one named "Insect Classification Department" is engaged in the identification of different insect species and their classification.

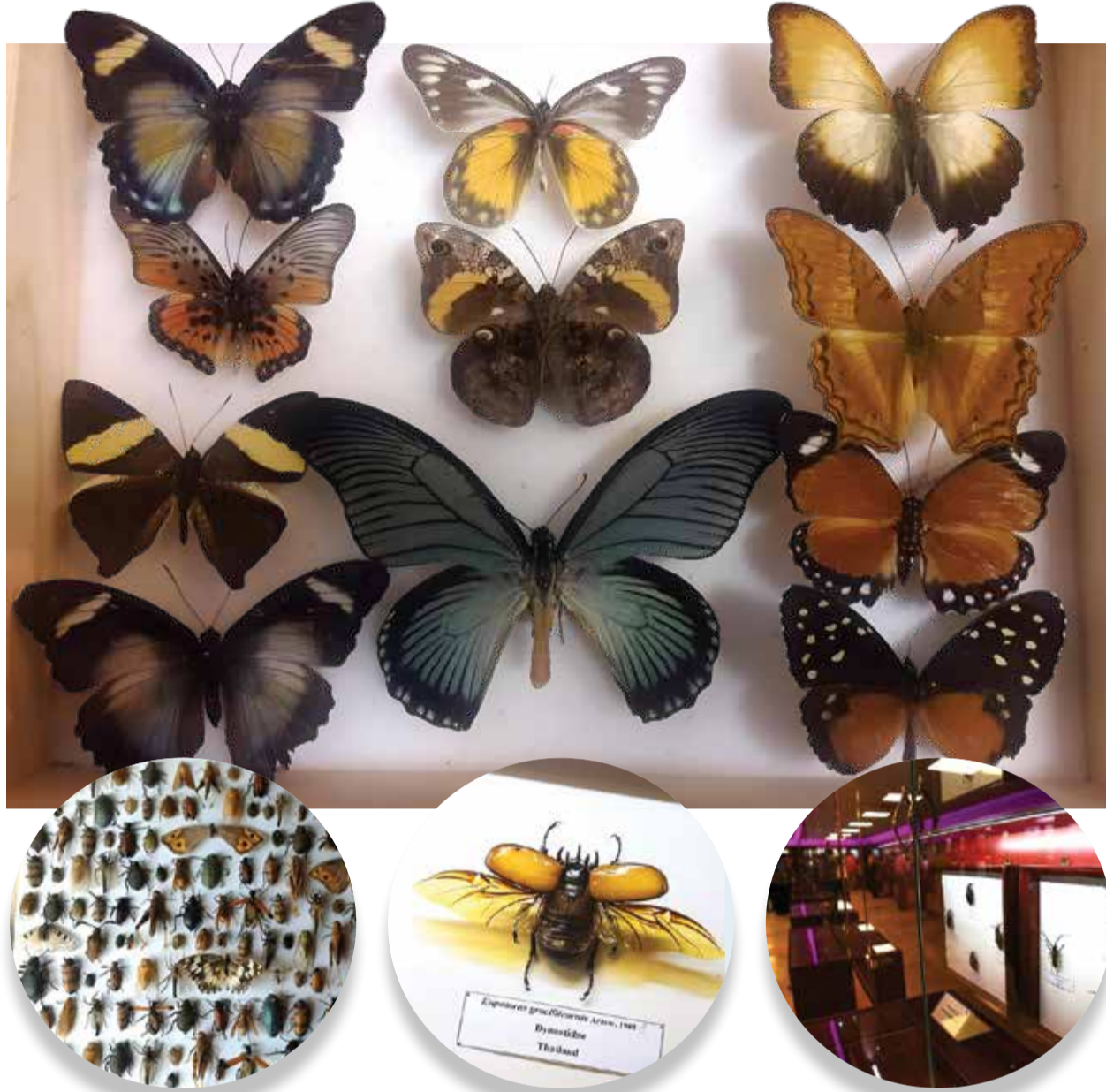
Shahab Manzari, the head of the Insect Classification Department, declared that this department is the sole authoritative source for identifying insects in the country. He stressed that precise insect identification and dedicated research play a significant role in helping related authorities effectively control pests, Mehr news agency reported.

He added that preserving biodiversity is one of the important goals to which countries commit, based on an international treaty. Don't forget, insects and pests are beneficial for the survival and health of the environment.

He noted that so far, 300 species of insects have been identified in Iran, and the recognition of 1.5 million butterfly specimens has resulted in the discovery of 1,000 species of these insects.

According to available documents, the collection and identification of insects in Iran started in the late 18th and early 19th centuries by Russian and European entomologists.

The specimens collected and identified by these entomologists are still present in some foreign museums, particularly in St. Petersburg, Paris, and London.



In 1919, teaching and research in the field of entomology and zoology began in Iran. In 1923, the first unit called "The Local Pest Diagnosis and Control

Department" was established, marking the official start of research and practical work in the discovery and collection of insects by Iranians themselves.

During the next decades, thanks to the extensive efforts taken by local entomologists for collecting, studying, and identifying Iran's insect population, an

impressive museum was established in the country.

With the official inauguration of the Plant Pests and Diseases Research Institute in 1963, the Insects Classification Department was established as one of the crucial divisions of the institute.

A new generation of graduates in the field of pest control (entomology) from the Faculty of Agriculture in Karaj joined the institute in 1964. With the arrival of these young talents who were eager and ambitious, the collection and identification of insects in Iran experienced an unprecedented leap. Long scientific expeditions were carried out by them with the aim of collecting insects from various parts of the country.

A few years later, some foreign entomologists joined this department intermittently, and some collaborated with this department by undertaking travels. The result of all these activities was the expansion of the department, the establishment of a museum, and its recognition abroad as the "Evin Insect Museum" or Plant Pests and Diseases Research Institute (PPDRI).

In the 1970s, the large building of the museum was completed on a 15-hectare site of the institution, and several departments, including the insect classification department, the botany department, and the agricultural zoology department, were transferred to it. The second floor of the building was assigned to the insect museum and the workplace of the staff.

In the span of the next two decades, a formidable surge of young and energetic talents flocked to this department, propelling its advancements. The collection of insect specimens in the museum has experienced an exponential growth. Presently, within the esteemed confines of the Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection, this department is considered as one of the most influential parts.

Old dams in ancient Iran

On the contrary to industry or qanat technology, the thought and design of small and large dams in proper places, down the valleys did not just belong to Iranian. As a matter of fact, some other developed countries must have implemented these types of water structures before us. However, Iran is historically considered at the top of the past dam builders.

Agriculture, industry and civilization are partially dependent on dam construction, so it is necessary to indicate the background of dam construction briefly in the world.

Ancient era: About 2900 BCE, M. Menes the founder of the first Egyptian dynasty of kings constructed a dam to control the Nile River in Koshish in order to erect his capital city Memphis 20km downstream of the dam. The height and width of the dam were 15 & 450 meters respectively. Koshish Dam was a rock-fill dam.

There was another dam 30km South of Cairo near Qaravi village (2650-2465 BCE). The reservoir named Moeris it was very extensive, located in Fayum district and its upstream canal was about 400km. This reservoir could control the Nile flood. It had two moveable gates and an earth-fill diversion dam, which delivered water to the farms on the west part of the riverbank. The area of the reservoir was



about 2000 square kilometer with the capacity of 12×10⁹ M3.

There were some old dams constructed on Tigris River about 600 to 700 BCE. Here is a historical report about the subject. When Cyrus the Great defeated Babylonia, he ordered to construct some new water structures in this region. Herodotus stated that Cyrus the Great built a dam on Gyn-

des River which was one of the Tigris branches and diverted water to 60 canals.

In the new era of Babylonia, when Nebuchadnezzar II (605-562 BCE) heard Darius The Great had ordered to construct three dams on Kor River to supply his Capital City Persepolis, he started to build a dam on Abo Habeh in south of Bagdad in order to compet-

itive with the Persian king. Any way dam construction technology flourished by Sassanid kings especially during Shapour the First monarchy.

Middle Ages

It is not so easy to explain the details of dam construction technique in the other countries during the Middle Ages. According to the statements of histo-

rians and foreign scientists, dam construction technique flourished during the end of middle ages. As the first arch dam was Kobar constructed in 14th century between Qom and Kashan.

Dam construction concepts in ancient Iran

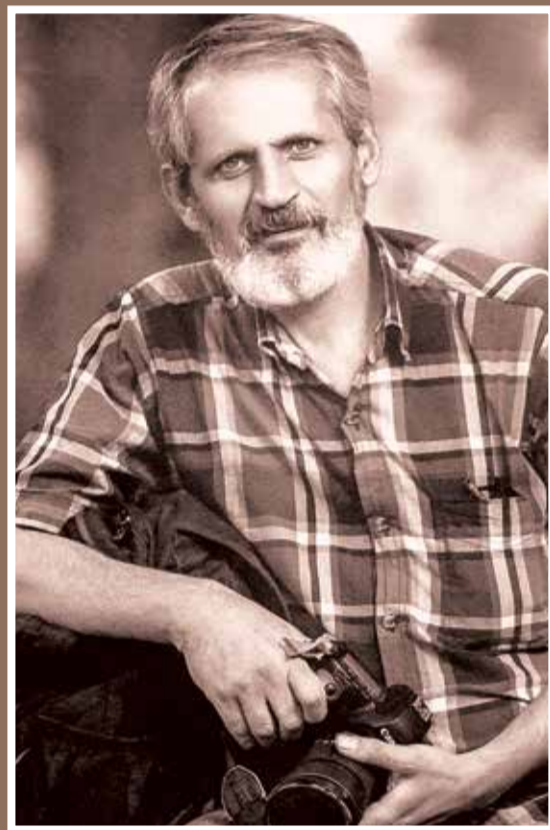
First of all, it is necessary to indicate the technical matter related to dam construction. As it was already mentioned, dam construction technique started in ancient era. The Persian term of weir is "Band". The purpose of "Band" is to raise water level in order to divert water to the left and the right riverbanks. The foreigners call it "weir", "wehr" and "deversoir". The old term for weir in ancient Iran was "Shadrarvan".

Weirs in ancient Iran

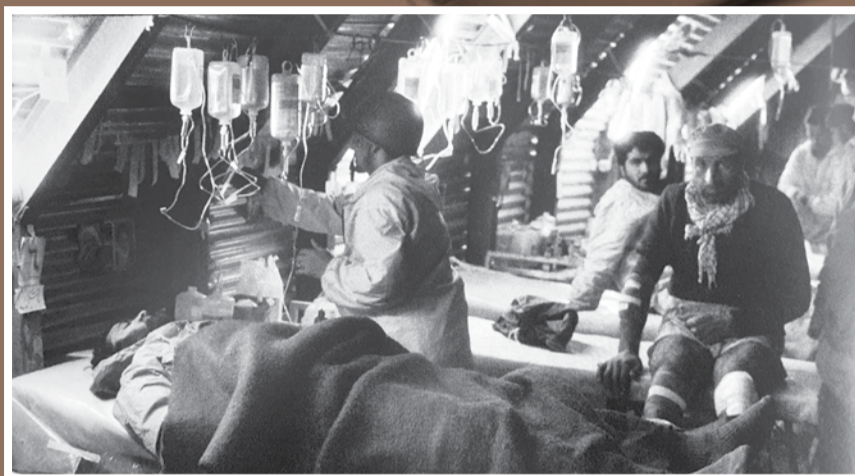
As far as the irrigation development is directly related to improvement and progression of nations, it would be very interesting to determine date of construction of various weirs in ancient Iran, which have been remained so far. Although it is very difficult, by studying the history books, testing the materials, comparing their kinds and qualities we can approach to the aim. As it was indicated, the age of dams in Iran can't be accurate unless the future investigation approve it.

Days of Resistance

Reviewing the days of the war in photos on the occasion of the Sacred Defense Week



Sasan Moayedi (born July 8, 1959, in Tehran) is a documentary and war photographer from Iran. He is best known for his photos taken during the Iran-Iraq War. Moayedi, along with Ahmad Nateghi, were among the first photographers to capture images of the chemical bombing of Halabja. His photography career began in 1976 in the public relations department of Iranian television. The published works of his photographs from the eight-year Iran-Iraq War immediately direct the viewer's mind towards the imposed war collection, which was published in six volumes between 1982 and 1988. These books were valuable and exquisite works that were collected and published in six volumes in Germany. In 2020, he won the Alfred Fried Peace Prize in Vienna, Austria, as the first Iranian with the "Love's Tale" series.



Initial treatment of soldiers wounded during Operation Karbala 5 in a field hospital in eastern Basra, Iraq, on December 1986.



Donation of students' savings piggy banks as a symbolic support for the continued defense against Iraq's aggression, Mofateh Street, Tehran, in February 1987.



A rescue team looks for victims of an Iraqi missile attack which hit the Naser Khosrow Street in Tehran, Iran, in April 1988.



The photo shows chemical attacks on the defenseless people of the Iraqi city of Halabja by the Iraqi army in March 1988.



Transport and distribution of supplies to individual combat posts in Operation Karbala 5, eastern Basra, Iraq, in December 1986.



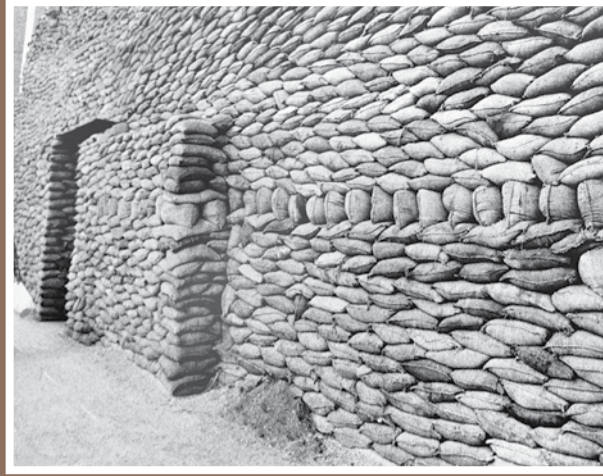
Rest and preparedness for a potential Iraqi attack, eastern Basra, Iraq, in December 1986.

The visit of Secretary-General of the United Nations Perez de Cuellar following chemical bombings by Iraq on Iran's Kurdish city of Sardasht, Kurdistan Province in April 1988.

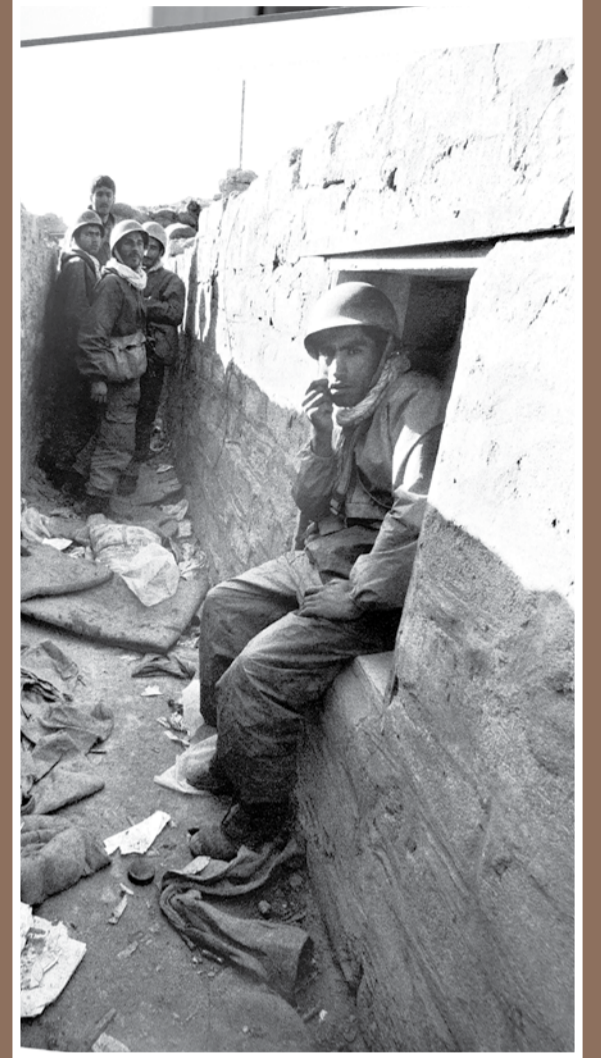




⤴ The construction and establishment of shelters on streets to protect people from Iraq's missile attacks in Tehran's Imam Hussein Square in March 1988



⤴ Non-lethal defense measures in government buildings to protect people from potential Iraqi missile attacks in Seventh of Tir Square, Tehran, Iran, in March 1988



⤴ The readiness of soldiers at the "Daryacheh Mahi" canal to confront a potential Iraqi attack in eastern Basra, Iraq, during Operation Karbala 5 in December 1986



⤴ The transfer of Iraqi prisoners of war to the support line of Operation Karbala 5 in eastern Basra, Iraq, in December 1986

⤴ The discovery of unexploded missile remnants after Iraq's strikes on residential areas in Tehran's Afsarieh neighborhood in 1988.



⤴ The transfer of a child injured in an Iraq's missile attack to medical facilities in Tehran, Iran, in March 1988



⤴ Evidence of the aftermath of and Iraqi army's invasion in Iran's city of Khorramshahr, in July 1982



Jahanbakhsh, Taremi on target in UCL



● REUTERS

Sports Desk

Iranian internationals Alireza Jahanbakhsh and Mehdi Taremi were both on the score sheet on the opening night of the group stage at the UEFA Champions League.

Jahanbakhsh smashed home from inside the box with 14 minutes left on the clock on his debut at the competition as Feyenoord defeated nine-man Celtic 2-0 at home to go top of Group E.

Calvin Stengs got the Dutch champion off the mark deep into stoppage time in the first half before Celtic's Gustaf Lagerbielke and Odin Thiago Holm received their marching orders in the space of five minutes after the interval. Lazio and Atletico played to a 1-1 draw in Rome in the other match of the group.

In Hamburg's Volksparkstadion, Taremi scored a third goal for Porto, tapping in with a delicate effort on the half-hour mark, to help Porto beat Shakhtar Donetsk of Ukraine 3-1 in Group H. Brazilian Galeno scored twice either side of a Kevin Kelsy's equalizer for the Ukrainian side.

Elsewhere in the group, Joao Felix bagged a brace as Barcelona thrashed Belgian club Antwerp 5-0 at home.

Wrestling World Championships: Iran finishes runner-up after mediocre freestyle campaign

Sports Desk

A total of four medals saw Iran's freestyle team finish an average run at the Wrestling World Championships in the second place.

Rahman Amouzad, the last Iranian in action, summed up a forgettable campaign for the country on Tuesday as he failed to stand on the podium after an 8-6 defeat against Russian Shamil Mamedov, representing the Individual Neutral Athletes, in the third-place bout of the 65kg weight class.

Thoroughly tipped for a second successive world gold before the event, Amouzad still bounced back to outmuscle Moldovan Maxim Sacultan 10-0 to secure a wrestling berth for Iran in next year's Paris Olympics.

Of the country's 10-man squad, only one, Amirhossein Zare', managed to leave the Serbian capital with a gold, thanks to a technical-fall victory over Georgian Geno Petriashvili in the 125kg final.

Hassan and Amirmohammad Yazdani, meanwhile, came short in the show-downs with the American opponents to settle for the silver medals of their respective weight classes. Hassan Yazadni suffered a fifth loss in the sixth head-to-head with his familiar foe David Taylor when he was pinned in the final seconds of the 86kg final to extend his personal tally to a national-high nine major medals.

Amirmohammad looked in impressive form before the 70kg showpiece



Iran's Hassan Yazdani (red) is in action against American David Taylor in the freestyle 86kg final at the Wrestling World Championships in Belgrade, Serbia, on September 17, 2023. ● UWW

with Zain Retherford, but clearly ran out of steam toward the end of the contest to concede an 8-5 setback – a second world silver in three years for the Iranian. With six-time champion Jordan Burroughs absent at this year's event, Mohammad Nokhodi, beaten by the legendary American in the previous two finals, arrived in Belgrade as the favorite to walk away with

the ultimate prize of the 79kg weight class, but he eventually finished with a consolation bronze after an emphatic win against Azerbaijan's Orkhan Abasov. Milad Valizadeh (57kg), Reza Atri (61kg), Younes Emami (74kg), Amir-Ali Azarpira (92kg), and Mohammad Goleij (97kg) all left Serbia empty-handed. Team USA was crowned the freestyle champion for a second year in a row, collecting

148 points – 38 clear of the Iranian squad – with Georgia in third on 80, while the Russians' results were taken out of the equation in the team table. The runner-up finish for the five-time champion, which is yet to lift the team trophy since the 2013 glory, might go down as a decent outcome but the results in Belgrade indicated that more work needs to be done for the Iranian

to match the level of their opposite numbers in the American and Russian teams, who shared 13 medals, including five golds, between them. Eight bouts saw Iranians square off against either an American or a Russian opponent, with Amouzad the only one to come out victorious – a 7-4 win against American newcomer Nicholas Boone Lee. For all the criticism aimed

at the Iranian federation chief Alireza Dabir in recent days – some of which have unfairly been politically motivated – the former Olympic champion could still boast about a brighter future for the sport in the country after the Iranian teams made a clean sweep of the freestyle and Greco-Roman titles in the world cadet and junior championships earlier in the summer.

AFC Champions League: 10-man Persepolis succumbs to star-studded Al Nassr

Sports Desk

Persian Gulf Pro League champion Persepolis got off to a disappointing start in the new AFC Champions League season, suffering a 2-0 home defeat against Saudi club Al Nassr in Group E. Perhaps too much respect for Al Nassr's global stars in Cristiano Ronaldo, Sadio Mane, Marcelo Brozovic, Otavio, and Aymeric Laporte eventually cost the Tehran Reds as they overlooked the Saudi products on the pitch, who made the difference at the game played behind the closed doors at Tehran's Azadi Stadium – due to an AFC ban imposed on Persepolis two years ago being enforced.

An effort by Abdulrahman Ghareeb led to an own goal by Persepolis fullback Da-

nial Esmailifar in the 62nd minute – 10 minutes before the Saudi international set up Mohammed Qassem, who lashed home from an acute angle to double the lead for Al Nassr.

The Saudi giant enjoyed a one-man advantage for the best part of the second half, courtesy of Reds midfielder Milad Sarlak receiving his marching orders seven minutes after the break for a second bookable offence.

The buildup to the contest had been dominated by the viral scenes of thousands of the football-mad Iranians following Al Nassr's bus from the airport to the hotel just to get a glimpse of Portuguese superstar Ronaldo.

However, the five-time Ballon d'Or had a quiet debut at the Asian elite



Al Nassr captain Cristiano Ronaldo (L) is tackled by Persepolis center-back Morteza Pouraliganji during an AFC Champions League game at the Azadi Stadium, Tehran, Iran, on September 19, 2023. ● MAHDI MARIZAD/FARSNEWS

clubs competition as he managed a single shot on target during the course of the 90 minutes – a point-blank header in the first half which drew a superb save from international keeper Alireza Beiranvand. On the other side of the ground, meanwhile, Persepolis looked toothless, failing to create a clear-cut chance all night, except for Shahab Zahedi heading wide a Saeed Sadeqi's set-piece on the hour mark. For all the quality Al Nassr players dictating the tempo of the game, Persepolis head coach Yahya Golmohammadi still believed a couple of incidents, including an eighth-minute injury for key winger Mehdi Torabi, led to his side leaving the pitch empty handed. "The game was affected

by unfortunate events for us, first Mehdi Torabi's injury, then the dismissal of Milad Sarlak," said Golmohammadi, who steered Persepolis to the 2020 showdown, thanks to a shootout victory over Tuesday's opponent in the semifinals. "After that (the sending off), we conceded and couldn't find a way back. "We started the second half better, but Sarlak's red card worked against us. Congratulations to Al Nassr but for us, these big games help identify our weaknesses so that we can become stronger." Next for Persepolis is an away fixture on October 2 against Qatari champion Al Duhail, which shared the spoils with Istiklol in a goalless stalemate in Dushanbe.

Technology can benefit learning



Social Desk

Benefiting from technology in education can ease the troubleshooting of teaching methods. It can also offer both teachers and students quicker solutions to learning more effectively and mastering school subjects at a very fast pace since, currently, about 97% of teenagers and 66% of children are using mobile phones and tablets.

There have been several issues with traditional education that have led to many serious challenges that resulted in poor productivity of students at schools. In simple words, in today's technology-driven world, traditional education is not enough and does not pay off, IRNA reported. Technology in the educational

system means applying scientific knowledge to learning to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of teaching and learning through new technological methods.

The digital revolution has created a whole new world where billions of hours of content on just about any topic are available for anyone's use at any time. All that is needed is an internet connection which allows online learners not to be limited to scheduled semesters of online training programs, but they can now learn after work, or on the weekends as well. In short, it provides flexibility, and in today's busy world, we need it!

Lessons can begin and end within one online learning session, which allows students to roll out quicker and sooner, for students

who are looking to gain knowledge of the particular subject as fast as possible. Students don't have to keep the same pace as their peers; they can speed up the video if needed. It reduces or completely eliminates travel time, as students no longer need to commute to school or class. They can learn from the comfort of their homes.

Utilizing technology can overcome the low quality of education, which occurs in classes with a high number of students. Most of the time, as the number of students who are in class becomes greater, the teacher is unable to attend to each student, and thus the quality of education falls. This can cause many obstacles for both students and teachers. The quality of education should be the concern of

anyone who works in an educational system, because the lower the quality becomes, the more it demotivates students and may cause them to quit. Usually, students quit school when they lose motivation. And this discouragement and lack of motivation causes them to fail.

When students with disabilities are frustrated in learning or believe that due to their disabilities, are not capable of progressing and learning in a traditional educational setting, technology can help motivate them through a variety of technological tools. In today's world, where most people are looking for high-quality education while also having fun, it is no longer possible to educate students with traditional and outdated

methods.

The benefits of technology in learning are:

Faster access to information, a wider variety of learning materials, increasing the scope for distance learning, convenience in teaching methods, improving learners' communication skills in schools, making studying enjoyable, helping learners to acquire new skills and knowledge, keeping students updated with the latest technological advancements and making teaching easier and more productive, helping teachers to track students' performance and progress, limiting external distractions as much as possible, improving collaboration between students and teachers, personalizing learning experiences and gamification that motivate students.

A teenage boy who masters both music and sports

Mahdieh Qazvinian
Staff writer

Sports pertain to any form of physical activity or game, often competitive and organized. It is considered a social phenomenon that not only aims to use, maintain, or improve physical skills, but also provides enjoyment to participants and, in some cases, entertainment for spectators. Sporting competitions and tournaments can break down barriers. Sports provide a neutral environment where everyone follows the same rules and no one is judged according to their background. It allows friendships to form and prejudices to be over-

come. Sports are and will always be connected to art. It is an expression of the human spirit. It is human nature to be willing to compete and test one's limits. Ahoura Bigdeli is a teenager who has been able to master martial arts and, currently, has been showcasing his abilities through a variety of medals.

Ahoura was born on August 11, 2008. His father is a journalist and an athlete, and his mother is fond of reading books and loves Persian literature – a mother who encouraged her son to read books and memorize Rumi's poems, and a father who trained him to learn karate professionally. When he was seven years old, he won first place in a poem-reciting competition among Tehran schools; and when he was eight years old, he had the honor of memorizing and reciting Rumi's poems for seven continuous minutes in an international conference hall.

Ahoura started karate at the age of four and started learning kata professionally when he was nine.

In the meantime, Ahoura won many karate matches, and when he was 12, his mother motivated him to learn to play the piano. Ahoura is fond of listening to the sounds of birds and nature. His favorite bird is the cuckoo. "The combination of art and sports has been very effective in my life. When I play the piano, I feel so strong as if there is a magic power in my fingers and wrists," Ahoura Bigdeli said. "I have never gotten tired of playing the piano. I mentally revise the techniques of kata while playing the piano. One time I was imagining myself performing kata techniques while playing Franz Liszt's La Campanella, and that memory gives me a good feeling, like a sense of achievement in both piano and karate," Ahoura noted.

Ahoura won first place in piano in the Salam Cup National Festival, and second place among all schools in Tehran Province. Ahoura won first place in the country's biology scientific competition by presenting an article on brain and nerves about people's memory and emotion. Also, he won first place in the international mathematics competition called 'Kangaroo'.

I do karate to improve my health and strengthen my self-defense.

Karate is a philosophical sport. True karate is the positive training of both mind and body. Correct karate training raises the instinct of self-preservation. Martial artists are not necessarily violent and aggressive; on the contrary, they are patient and trained to control their temper.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran selects 'The Night Guardian' for 2024 Oscars



IRNA – Iran has chosen 'The Night Guardian,' directed by Reza Mirkarimi, as its official submission for the Best International Film category for the 96th Academy Awards.

'The Night Guardian' made its debut last year at the Fajr Film Festival, where it received significant attention by winning nine nominations and ultimately winning the Best Director Award.

The announcement regarding the selection was made by the Farabi Cinema Foundation, which had to make a tough decision among a pool of 42 eligible Iranian films. Eventually, a shortlist of 15 films was compiled and, from these, 'The Night Guardian' emerged as one of the top three contenders for the coveted Oscar submission, alongside 'Conjugal Visit,' directed by Omid Shams, and 'The Town,' directed by Ali Hazrati.

Written by Reza Mirkarimi and Mohammad Davoudi, 'The Night Guardian' narrates the life of a rural worker named Rasool. The film explores Rasool's challenges as he grapples with his trust in an engineer overseeing a construction project.

A shortlist of 15 films in the category will be announced on December 21. Final nominees will be announced on January 23, 2024, and the main Oscars event will take place on March 10, 2024.

Sacred Defense exhibition to open in Tehran

TASNIM – In celebration of Sacred Defense Week, the Cinema Museum of Iran will host an exhibition titled, 'Sacred Defense in Cinematic Frames,' featuring behind-the-scenes photographs from films centered on resistance and the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war.

The museum is organizing the exhibition, which runs from September 22 to September 29.

The exhibition showcases behind-the-scenes images from cinematic works, including 'A Boat to the Beach' directed by the late Rasoul Mollagholipour; 'Migrant'; 'Minoo Watch Tower'; and 'The Glass Agency,' directed by Ebrahim Hatamikia; and 'Kimia and the Devil,' directed by Ahmadreza Darvish.

Contract on development of joint Azadegan oil field to be signed soon



A contract on the integrated development of the joint Azadegan oil field will be signed within a month, said the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) director of investment and business development on Wednesday. Fereydoun Kord-Zan-ganeh, who made the announcement at a meeting between NIOC and insurance companies, added that a memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed, and Dasht Azadegan Arvand Company was set up with a \$7-billion investment made by two Iranian exploration and production (E&P) companies and eight banks to implement the project, Shana reported. Foreign investment in Iran's projects has been limited due to sanctions in recent years, said the official, adding that NIOC has made every effort to carry out projects through utilizing domestic capacities. A country's economic development demands appropriate management of projects, he underscored.

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Iran's economy grew by 6.2% in first quarter: CBI

The Central Bank of Iran (CBI) reported that the economy grew by 6.2% in the first three months of the Iranian year (March 21 to June 21). Figures released by the CBI on Wednesday showed that the gross domestic product (GDP), the broadest measure of economic activity, reached 3,802.1 trillion rials, or about \$90 billion, in the first quarter, up 6.2% compared to the same period last year, IRNA reported. The non-oil sector of the economy expanded by 5.2% in the first quarter, compared to the same period last year, the data showed. The CBI uses 2016 as the base year for its calculation of GDP data. In the first quarter, the oil and gas sector boasted the highest growth rate, at 16.4%, followed by the

services sector, at 6.2%, industries and mining, at 3.7%, and agriculture, forestry and fishing, at 2.2%. This indicates an improvement in the value-added growth of all economic sectors compared to the first quarter of the last Iranian year. The economic growth in the first quarter of this year was a continuation of the upward trend seen over the past three years. According to the World Bank data, Iran's economy experienced a 2.9 percent growth in 2022; the average growth rate in West Asia and North African economies in 2022 was 5.9 percent. In the previous year, from the first to the fourth quarters, ending on March 20, the economic growth rates stood at 1.9%, 3.9%, 4.9%, and 5.3%, respectively.



Vietnam's construction industry open for Iranian firms: Envoy

Economy Desk

Iran has been very successful in the construction industry, said Vietnamese Ambassador to Iran Luong Quoc Huy, adding that Iranians can trade with his country in this field. On the sidelines of a visit to the Specialized Exhibition of Tiles, Ceramics, Stone and Sanitary Porcelain in Qazvin on Tuesday evening, the diplomat said, "I saw good capabilities in the field of construction, which I think can be used to increase trade relations between the two countries," IRNA reported. He added: "Fortunately, there are very good relations between Iran and Vietnam now, with a cooperation approach in the field of construction industry, these relations can be strengthened more than in the past." "Vietnam is one of the developing countries in the field of construction, and considering po-



tentials in Iran, we can have serious collaborations in the field of trade in the near future." I am very happy that I have traveled to Qazvin for the first time, the Vietnamese ambassador said, "I was also very impressed by the booths that were set up in the exhibition." In the four-day exhibition, over 30 manufacturing units are showcasing their products.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

