

NEWS IN BRIEF

Several
suicide
operations
discovered

IRNA – The information minister on Sunday announced the discovery of several suicide operations among the crowd on Saturday.

Esmail Khatib said the enemies were trying to carry out terrorist operations, adding that they were trying to assassinate several Sunni clerics, guards, judges, etc., to make the parties guilty of this incident and incite ethnic and religious sectarianism.

He clarified that the enemies are seeking to make the eastern borders unsafe, and it is necessary for Shia scholars, Sunnis and officials to be vigilant.

Raisi
encourages
further
Iran-China
cooperation

IRNA – Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, in a congratulatory message to his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, on the occasion of China's National Day (Oct. 1), regarded the progress of the 25-year comprehensive cooperation program between the two states as a beacon for future collaboration.

Raisi characterized the bilateral coordination on regional and international affairs, particularly Iran's accession to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and BRICS, as a new arena for cooperation between the two countries and the promotion of multilateralism.

Sweden
slammed
for inaction
on insult to
Qur'an

TASNIM – The Iranian Foreign Ministry slammed the Swedish government and police forces for their passive response to the repeated acts of desecration of the Holy Qur'an, reminding Stockholm that actions speak louder than words.

In a statement released on Sunday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani strongly condemned the most recent case of desecration of the holy book of Muslims in Sweden.

Raisi: Normalization with Israel
'a regressive move'

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi addresses the opening ceremony of the 37th International Islamic Unity Conference in the Iranian capital of Tehran, on October 1, 2023. president.ir

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi has censured the normalization agreements by certain Arab countries with the Israeli regime, underlining that the liberation of the occupied Al Quds is the "most important issue" in the Muslim world.

Raisi made the remark in an address to the opening ceremony of the 37th International Islamic Unity Conference in the Iranian capital of Tehran on Sunday. He further stressed that attempts to normalize relations with the Zionist regime are seen as a "retrograde step" for any gov-

ernment, as it is what the foreigners want, Press TV reported.

"The way to confront the enemy is not through compromise and surrender but through resistance and resilience," he noted.

"The option of surrender and compromise are by no means on the table; resistance and resilience against the enemy has paid off and will force the enemy to retreat."

"Becoming united does not only mean unity of religions or geography, it rather means to express cohesion and solidarity to safeguard

the interests of the Islamic Ummah," he said.

Resorting to foreigners and fulfilling their wishes is a "regressive" step, he added. "The liberation of Al Quds and Palestine is the most important indicator of the unity of the Islamic Ummah," Raisi said.

He praised the international conference on Islamic Unity in Tehran as an "anti-Zionism and anti-hegemony" event, saying that "Today's strategy of unity can fortify the Islamic Ummah against the enemy, and unity [works] against its hybrid warfare."

Raisi also called for further consolidation of the Islamic Ummah's unity in the face of threats posed by Takfiri terror groups.

"Takfiri groups' horrific crimes perpetrated in mosques and religious centers, explosions in Pakistan and Afghanistan, the massacre of people as well as crimes committed by the US and the Zionist regime's henchmen in various Islamic countries entail promoting unity among the Islamic Ummah to confront the Takfiri current," he added. He called on Muslim scholars and thinkers to prepare

themselves for assuming an important role in the new world order by promoting cohesion, unity, and proximity of faiths.

"Muslims and the Islamic world must establish themselves in the new order, disrupt the current unjust order, and create a just order in the world," he said, stressing that the Islamic Ummah will play a key role in the emerging world order.

Raisi said sacrilegious acts such as the desecration of the Holy Qur'an and the Prophet, heinous crimes by Takfiri terrorist groups, and normalization deals with the Israeli occupying regime as well as media campaigns spearheaded by the enemies are meant to deter the Islamic Ummah.

"The enemy intends to disappoint the Islamic Ummah about the future by propagating the idea that only everything it wants and wishes will happen, but the Islamic Ummah has foiled such plots," the Iranian president added.

The 37th International Islamic Unity Conference kicked off in Tehran on Sunday with the participation of hundreds of guests from dozens of Islamic countries. The annual conference is organized by the Iran-based World Forum for Proximity of Islamic Schools of Thought during the Islamic Unity Week which coincides with the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) tomorrow.

SNSC urges full implementation of security
deal with Iraq

National Desk

The secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council emphasized the precise and complete implementation of the security agreement with Iraq.

In a meeting with Iraq's national security adviser in Tehran on Sunday, Ali Akbar Ahmadian stressed that the security agreement between the two countries serves as a guarantee for the security of their borders and provides a reasonable and suitable roadmap for eliminating destabilizing factors in both countries and the region, IRNA reported.

The security agreement, signed in March, commits Iran and Iraq to safeguarding the principles of good neighborliness and protecting the common border.

"This agreement guarantees the security of the common border and is a rational and appropriate road map to the elimination of factors that create insecurity in the two countries and the region," the top Iranian security official stated.

Iran had set a deadline of September 19 for the Iraqi-Kurdish authorities to take action against secessionist anti-Iranian groups stationed in northern Iraq along the common border. The agreement was

made for disarmament and expulsion of terrorists from the Kurdistan Region in northern Iraq.

As a part of the security agreement, the armed Kurdish groups in northern Iraq started pulling out from areas near the border with Iran on September 9, as Baghdad faced the deadline to disarm the groups.

Ahmadian also noted that there are ample opportunities for closer cooperation between the two neighbors in various fields, particularly in economic relations. For his part, Qasim al-Araji reaffirmed Iraq's determination to carry out the security deal with Iran.

He also noted that Baghdad would take every opportunity to strengthen relations with Tehran.



TASNIM

Sabalan destroyer equipped with record
number of cruise missiles: Cmdr.

Iran's Navy Commander Rear Admiral Shahram Irani said his forces have managed to furnish the Sabalan destroyer with 12 anti-ship cruise missiles, breaking the record for the number of guided missiles installed on Iranian vessels.

Speaking to Tasnim news agency on Sunday, Irani said that the missile-equipped destroyer will be unveiled soon.

Sabalan is an Alvand-class frigate of the Islamic Republic of Iran Navy. It was damaged in an encounter with the US Navy in the Persian Gulf during the Iraqi-imposed war in the 1980s, Press TV reported.

After a few years, the 1,500-ton destroyer was repaired by domestic experts.

Previously, Sabalan was furnished with four anti-ship cruise missiles and took part in 13 Iranian naval fleets.

Iran's Sahand and Sina frigates have each been equipped with eight cruise missiles. The Iranian Navy has in recent years achieved self-sufficiency in manufacturing equipment.

It has also increased its presence in international waters to protect naval routes and provide security for merchant vessels and tankers.

On Saturday, during a ceremony in commemoration of the anniversary of the

Iraq-imposed war, Irani said the navy will also take delivery of a new domestically-designed and developed destroyer in the near future, which is furnished with much more advanced and elaborate systems compared to the military vessels already unveiled.

He said that the homegrown military vessel, dubbed Deylaman, will soon join Iran's naval fleet.

Iran also said that the Iranian Navy plans to set up a base in Antarctica.

Iran's southeastern Makran coast is directly connected to the South Pole and the deployment of Iranian servicemen in that region would be of a practical nature, he added, saying that Antarctica is the best place to control the cruise of ballistic missiles.



MOHAMMAD NAJIB/YJC

Iran to deal with huge presence of Afghan migrants

Iranian parliamentarian Fadahosseini Maleki said a program is underway to deal with the huge presence of Afghan refugees in the country.

"We are seriously pur-

suing efforts to organize them," Maleki said, IFP reported.

This comes as public concern has grown over the huge presence of Afghan refugees in Iran, especial-

ly after the Taliban group took power in Afghanistan in 2021.

People argue that the presence of Afghan nationals has not only increased costs of public

services, but also undermined security in the country.

Last week Ahmad Vahidi, the Iranian Interior Minister said currently there are five million Afghans

in Iran.

The influx of Afghan refugees into Iran sped up following the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan almost two years ago.