

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran
opposes any
geopolitical
change in
region

IRNA – Iranian Foreign Ministry's Spokesman Nasser Kanaani reiterated Iran's position over developments in the Caucasus region, saying that Tehran opposes any change in the geopolitics or boundaries of the region.

He stressed the need to use the capacities of neighbors to establish peace and stability in the region, which has been the scene of conflicts between Armenia and Azerbaijan in recent months.

Kanaani also said that Iran opposes the presence of outsiders in the region.

Iran's
nuclear tech
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serve people

IRNA – The head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran Mohammad Eslami said the country's nuclear technology is developed to serve people. Addressing a group of attendees of the 37th International Islamic Unity Conference, Eslami said Iran does not seek nuclear weapons and has always pursued peaceful nuclear energy. He said Iran is ready to share its nuclear achievements with other countries.

Judiciary
official's sons
arrested on
corruption
charges

TASNIM – Two sons of the First Deputy of the Iranian Judiciary Mohammad Mosaddeq have been arrested over links to a corruption case amounting to nearly five million dollars.

The suspects are involved in a case of large-scale embezzlements from banks that started eight months ago, the news agency reported, adding eight people linked to the case have so far been arrested.

Leader: Normalization with Israel 'betting on a losing horse'



Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei (L) meets with a group of Iranian people and officials, as well as ambassadors from Muslim countries, and participants at the 37th International Islamic Unity Conference in Tehran on October 3, 2023. khamenei.ir

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei rebuked countries seeking to normalize relations with Isra-

el, saying that "the Zionist regime is perishable".

"The Islamic Republic's definite position is that the governments that use the normalization gamble with the Zionist regime as a model for themselves will lose and the loss awaits them," Ayatollah Khamenei said on Tuesday, Press TV reported.

"They are making a mistake and, as the Europeans say, they are betting on a losing horse," he told a

group of people, government officials, ambassadors of Islamic countries and guests of an international unity conference in Tehran.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the situation in Israel is not one of the kind to encourage closeness and countries "should not make this mistake".

"Today, the Palestinian movement is more cheerful than ever in the past seventy and eighty years,

and the Palestinian youth and the anti-usurpation, anti-oppression and anti-Zionism movement are more cheerful, more lively, and more ready than ever, as you can see.

"And God willing, this movement will come to fruition, and as the late honorable Imam [Khomeini] described the usurping regime as a cancer, God willing, this cancer will be eradicated at the hands of the Palestinian people and

the resistance forces in the entire region."

Ayatollah Khamenei said Israel holds malice against Muslim countries.

"The Zionist regime is full of hatred and anger, not only toward us, but also other countries. It is not like the Zionist regime is happy with the countries far and around it. They also hate Egypt, Iraq and Syria. "Why? Because their goal was from the Nile to the Euphrates and this did not happen. These countries did not allow it for different reasons," the Leader said.

Hostility toward Islam

Ayatollah Khamenei said hostility toward Islam is more obvious than ever now, citing the desecration of the Holy Qur'an in the West as an example.

"An ignorant idiot insults and a government supports it, which shows that the issue is not just a staged and insulting act," he said.

"We have nothing to do with that ignorant and oblivious person who condemns himself to the most severe punishments and execution in order to fulfill the objectives of the behind-the-scenes elements. The discussion is about the

designers of these crimes and hateful acts.

"They think they can weaken the Qur'an, but they are wrong and they ruin themselves," the Leader added. Ayatollah Khamenei said the idea of weakening the Qur'an with such acts is delusional, which only exposes the inside of the enemies of the Holy Book. "The Qur'an is a book of wisdom, knowledge, humanization and awakening, and hostility with the Qur'an is actually hostility with these lofty concepts. Of course, the Qur'an is a threat to the corrupt powers because it both condemns oppression and blames the oppressed people who succumb to oppression."

Also, Ayatollah Khamenei said the justification of desecrating the Qur'an under the "trite, false and wrong" moniker of freedom of speech only disgraces the justifiers.

"In the countries that allow insulting the Qur'an under the pretext of freedom of speech, do they also allow attacking Zionist symbols? What language can be used to prove more clearly that the countries in question are under the domination of the cruel, criminal and plundering Zionists of the world?"

Iran's Army launches large-scale drone drill

The Iranian Army on Tuesday launched a massive drill involving a broad range of military unmanned aerial vehicles. Troops from the four units of the Army, namely the Ground Force, Navy,

Air Force, and Air Defense Force participated in the military maneuver, Tasnim News Agency reported. Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari, the deputy chief of the Iranian Army for

Coordination, said nearly 200 drones covered strategic waters of the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman, as well as all four corners of the country

and its central part.

He noted that the patrol and reconnaissance drones carried out missions along the country's borders on Tuesday morning and took images from the drill zones.

Sayyari said the surveillance drones successfully carried out their intelligence-gathering and patrol missions on the first day of the Army's 1402 joint drone military exercise.

The Army has flown diverse homegrown drones, including Chamrosh, Yashir, Sadeq, Pelican, Ababil,

Kaman-12, Yazdan, and Mohajer to control the country's land, sea, and air borders as well as the international waters, the general said.

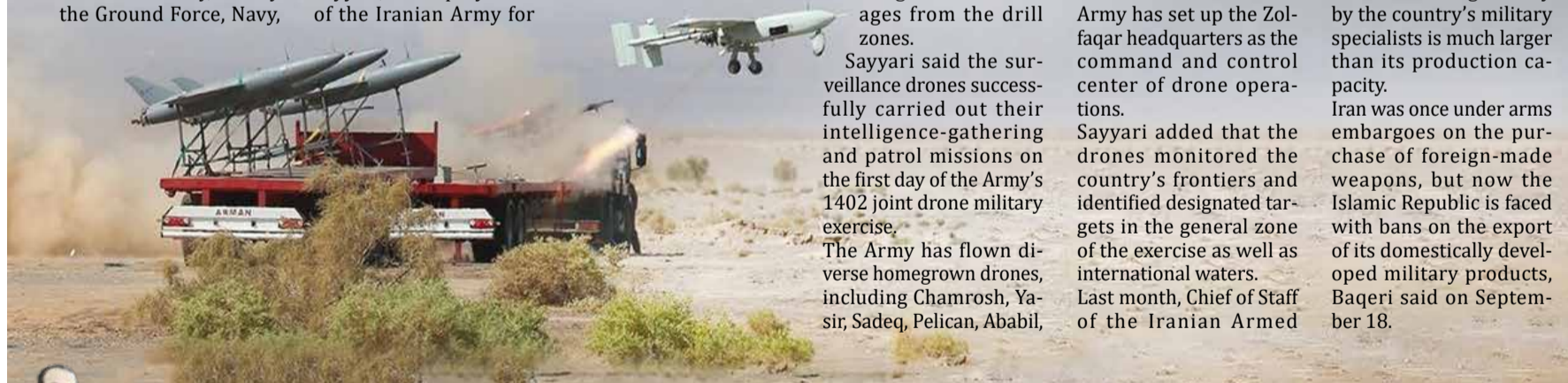
He also noted that the Army has set up the Zolfagar headquarters as the command and control center of drone operations.

Sayyari added that the drones monitored the country's frontiers and identified designated targets in the general zone of the exercise as well as international waters.

Last month, Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed

Forces Major General Mohammad Baqeri said the scope of foreign demand for sophisticated unmanned aerial vehicles developed and manufactured indigenously by the country's military specialists is much larger than its production capacity.

Iran was once under arms embargoes on the purchase of foreign-made weapons, but now the Islamic Republic is faced with bans on the export of its domestically developed military products, Baqeri said on September 18.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



NAM rejects use of force against states on pretext of fighting terrorism

Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations Zahra Ershadi said the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) rejects the use of force by any country against any NAM member state under the pretext of fighting terrorism.

Ershadi made the remarks in a statement on Monday on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement before the Sixth Committee of the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on "Measures to eliminate inter-

national terrorism", IRNA reported. She said that the NAM unequivocally rejects terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as all acts, methods and practices of terrorism.

"We would like to stress that terrorism should not be equated with the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation, for self-determination and national liberation. The brutalization of peoples remaining under foreign occupation should continue to be de-

nounced as the gravest form of terrorism, and the use of state power for the suppression and violence against peoples struggling against foreign occupation in exercising their inalienable right to self-determination should continue to be condemned," she said.

Ershadi said that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group, and these attributions should not be used to justify terrorism or counter-terrorism measures.