

Raisi: Terrorists supporters responsible for Syria's deadly attack



◀ Syrian soldiers carry caskets during the funeral of the victims of a drone attack targeting a Syrian military academy, outside a hospital in Homs Province, Syria, on October 6, 2023. **LOUAI BESHARA/AFP**

National Desk
Iran says foreign supporters of the terrorists in Syria, including the occupiers of the Arab country, are responsible for a terrorist attack in Syria which claimed the lives of scores of people. In one of the bloodiest single attacks on the Syrian

Army since the start of the foreign-backed war in the country in 2011, nearly 90 people, including women and children, were killed after explosive-laden drones targeted a graduation ceremony in the west-city of Homs. Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in a message to his Syrian counterpart Bashar

al-Assad said the continuation of terrorist attacks in Syria in recent months is rooted at the logistic, security and intelligence support of terrorists, with the aim of hindering efforts to establish stability and security in the country. Giving a breathing space to the Daesh terrorist

group, in which they will be able to survive and continue their terrorist attacks in Syria, is aligned with and complementary to the Israeli regime's aggressions against Syria's national sovereignty, Raisi said. The Iranian president added that Thursday's criminal act showed that

the opponents of security, stability and development in the region continue their terrorist and brutal approach in the country. Several other Iranian officials also sent condolence messages to their Syrian counterparts. Syria began burying its dead on Friday, when state media said that 89 had died, including 31 women and five children, with 277 others wounded. The government has declared three days of mourning starting Friday, with flags flying at half-mast. No group has claimed responsibility for the assault, but the Syrian Army has accused "armed terrorist organizations" of the attack with "explosive-laden drones", vowing to "respond with full force". Homs Province was a key opposition stronghold in the early days of Syria's conflict. The government regained control over the province in 2018. Swathes of Idlib Province and areas bordering the provinces of Aleppo, Hama and Latakia are controlled by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, led by Al-Qaeda's former Syria branch.

Putin voices Russia's will to boost Iran ties

Russian President Vladimir Putin lauded relations with Iran as "very good," voicing Moscow's determination to further develop ties with Tehran. "We have very good relations with Iran. And we will enhance them in every possible way... That is why we do our utmost in order to develop relations with Iran, and will keep this up in the future," TASS news agency quoted Putin as saying. Putin made the comment on Wednesday night in the resort city of Sochi while addressing winners and

finalists of a competition to choose the best teacher in Russia. Pointing to the establishment of educational institutions in Iran, as part of a broader goal to forge closer ties, Putin added that Moscow should "see interest" from countries "in order to establish educational institutions there." "However, the idea is a good one, since it implies soft power in the kindest and best sense of this word, the promotion of our culture and our education systems. We will

pull this over as well," the president emphasized. Iran and Russia, as two close and strategic allies, have over the past years deepened their relations in various fields, including military and defense, despite being under heavy Western sanctions. Heading a high-ranking military delegation, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu traveled to Tehran last month upon an official invitation by Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Mohammad Baqeri. In a meeting with the

Russian defense chief on September 20, Baqeri said Tehran and Moscow are working to draw up a long-term military cooperation agreement in the near future as the world moves towards an increasingly multipolar order. The top Iranian general stressed the need for enhancement of ties between the two countries. Shoigu's visit came a month after a visit to Moscow by a delegation, led by Brigadier General Kioumars Heydari, the commander of the Iranian Army's Ground Force.

Russian President Vladimir Putin addresses the final stage of the 3rd International Olympiad on Financial Security at the Sirius Park of Science and Art, Krasnodar region, Russia, on October 4, 2023. **GRIGORY SYSOYEV/POOL/AFP**



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Tehran, Riyadh calls for expediting cooperation in various fields

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and his Saudi counterpart have underlined the need to accelerate the development of bilateral cooperation in various fields, including economy and tourism. During a telephone conversation on Thursday night, Amir-Abdollahian and Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud exchanged viewpoints on multiple areas of common interest, highlighting that relations between the two countries are improving in all areas, Press TV reported.

They emphasized the need to speed up joint cooperation in various fields, including economy, commerce, investment and tourism. Amir-Abdollahian and his Saudi counterpart also noted the significance of bilateral cultural and sports cooperation in order to improve the atmosphere of friendship between the two nations. The two foreign ministers agreed to advise their respective sports institutions to resolve the dispute over the recent cancellation of the AFC Champions League

2023/24 Group C match between Saudi professional football club Al Ittihad and Iran's Sepahan through mutual respect, dialogue, and understanding. They underscored the importance of continued football matches between the two countries in order to strengthen all-out cooperation. Slated to be held on Monday in Isfahan's Naghsh-e-Jahan Stadium, the match was called off after the Saudi squad refused to take the field over unspecified reasons. The team left Iran hours later.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Belarus eager to use Iran experience on sanctions



IRNA - Belarus' Deputy Foreign Minister Evgeny Shestakov said his country is interested in using Iran's experience in dealing with sanctions. He made the remarks in a meeting with his Iranian counterpart Ali Bagheri Kani in Minsk on Friday. He also expressed hope that Belarus would become a member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and BRICS in the future to use the organizations' capacity to deal with the West's unilateralism.

Nothing could justify death of a child due to US sanctions



PRESS TV - Iran's deputy UN envoy vehemently denounced the US' unilateral sanctions against Iran and their role in preventing access to medicine by Iranian patients, including children, who face life-threatening diseases. "Nothing could ever justify such horrific measures against people," Zahra Ershadi said before the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday. "Nothing could justify the death of a child who could simply not have a medical product due to UCMS (Unilateral Coercive Measures)," she added.

Iran: West better to address own woes

PRESS TV - Tehran called on Western countries to be worried about a wave of strikes affecting their health sectors instead of making interventionist statements about Iran and voicing "insincere concern" about Iran's women. In an X post on Thursday, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said the United States, Britain and Germany had better be concerned about industrial actions by their medical staff. "Instead of interventionist & biased remarks & expressing insincere concern over Iranian women & girls, you'd better be concerned about US, German and UK healthcare personnel, patients & tackle their situation," he wrote.