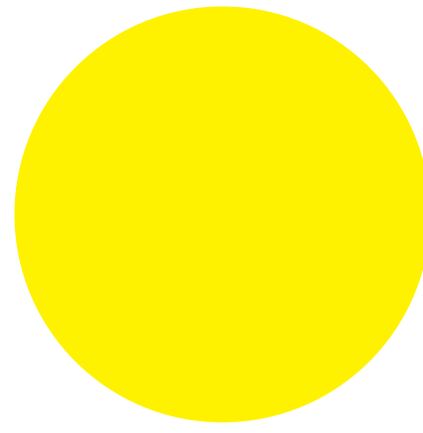


Israeli actions 'may force everyone' to act: **Raisi**



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Iran, China ink cultural exchange MoU

Iran and China have taken a significant step towards promoting stronger bilateral ties by signing a three-year cultural exchange memorandum of understanding (MoU).

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran to buy
791 railcars
from China

IRNA - A member of the Islamic City Council of Tehran said Sunday that the Tehran mayor had signed a contract for the purchase of 791 railroad cars to be used in the Metro during a recent visit to China.

Narges Ma'adanipour, the chair of the council's Cultural and Social Committee, said Mayor Alireza Zakani also secured a technology transfer deal for making the train drive system (bogie) to Tehran Wagon Manufacturing Company.

"These measures show the determination of Tehran's officials to develop the public transport fleet, she added.

Steel exports
rise 25% in H1:

IMIDRO

IRNA - The Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO) on Sunday announced that Iran's steel exports increased by 25.6% in the first six months of the current Iranian year (started March 21, 2023).

The major steelmakers in the country produced more than 15.4 million tons of semi-finished steel products (billet, bloom and slab) during the March 21-September 22 period, which shows a 0.2% hike compared to the same period last year.

Over 11.5m
tons of
basic goods
unloaded

IRNA - A sum of 11.52 million tons of basic goods were unloaded in Iranian ports in the first seven months of the current Iranian year, according to data released by the Ports and Maritime Organization on Sunday.

From March 21 to October 22, nearly 2.7 million tons of wheat were discharged in Iranian ports, while around 1.3 million tons of barley were unloaded during the period.

Six-month gas exports
up 125%

Economy Desk

Iran's natural gas exports in the first half of the current Iranian year (March 21-September 22) surpassed 2.2 billion, indicating a 125% jump compared to the corresponding period last year, Fars news agency said on Monday, citing data from the Trade Promotion Organization of Iran (TPO).

According to the TPO report, Iran's gas exports also grew by 102% in terms of weight in the same timeframe.

Figures provided by the Oil Ministry show that Iran exported each ton of natural gas at \$337 in that period, posting a rise of 11% compared to the opposite figure of last year. As per the TPO data, Iran's natural gas exports to neighboring Iraq increased by

221% in the first six months of the year versus the same time a year earlier.

Iran currently has three gas export contracts with Turkey, Iraq and Pakistan, to supply them with 10, 20 and eight billion cubic meters per year respectively. However, the gas deal with Pakistan has not been implemented since 2014.

Holding 18 percent of the world's gas re-

serves and its strategic position in the gas market, Iran can play an important role in the market and sign long-term strategic deals with natural gas customers.

Based on Iran's so-called Vision 2025, the country should increase its current share of the world gas market from 2% to 8-10%. However, a rampant gas shortage has not created a positive outlook for Iran.

Seven-month trade tops
\$64b with \$7.7b deficit

Figures by the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) show the country's foreign trade reached \$64.4 billion in the seven months to October 22 with a deficit of \$7.7 billion.

Iran exported 79.5 million tons of non-oil commodities worth \$28.3 billion from March 21 to October 22, IRICA head Mohammad Rezvani-Far said on Sunday, IRNA reported. He said that the seven-month non-oil export indicates over 29% rise in terms of weight, and less than 1% drop in terms of value, year



on year.

The official added that 20.9 million tons of non-oil goods worth \$36 billion were imported to the country during the period, with 6.2% growth in weight terms, and 12.6% increase in value, compared to the same period in the previous year.

The latest figures suggest a gap of more than 27% between exports and imports.

Rezvani-Far added that the country's seven-month non-oil trade stands at 100.4 million tons worth \$64.4 billion, with 23.7% rise in weight terms, and 6.2% increase in value terms, year on year.

He pointed to liquefied natural gas, liquefied propane and liquefied butane as the top exported commodities, naming China, Iraq, the UAE, Turkey and India as the main destinations of Iran's non-oil exports. The IRICA chief also referred to corn as livestock food, mobile phones and soybeans as the key imported goods and the UAE, China, Turkey, Germany and India as the main sources of non-oil imports of Iran in the seven months.

Iran's forex deposits
exceed \$20b: BIS

The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) in its latest report said on Sunday that Iran's foreign exchange reserves surpassed \$20 billion in the first six months of 2023.

The bank also pointed out that Iran's foreign currency deposits kept at foreign financial-credit institutes and banks registered an 11 percent growth from January to June 2023, Tasnim News Agency reported.

Of a total of \$20 billion of Iran's foreign currency deposits at the end of June 2023, more than \$11.49 billion were kept at foreign banks.

In addition, \$9.214 billion of the deposits are in euros while only \$465 million are in dollars, the BIS added. Such Iranian deposits had reached over \$18.63 billion from January to June 2022.

According to the report, Iran's total financial relations with 44 foreign banks in the first half of 2023 hit



\$21.85 billion, showing a 5% growth compared to the same period last year.

Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, the BIS was founded in 1930. It publishes reports entitled "International Banking and Developments of Financial Market" four times a year.

Daily oil output
hits 3.4m barrels

Iran's crude production has increased to 3.4 million barrels per day (mbd), despite US sanctions on its oil exports and the associated revenues, a spokesman for the Iranian Oil, Gas and Petrochemical Products Exporters' Union said on Sunday.

"Given that previously sealed oil wells have returned to the production cycle, Iran will be able to increase its oil production to 3.8 mbd," Hamid Hosseini told IRNA.

"If we are to raise oil output from 3.8 mbd to 4.2 mbd as set in the 7th National Development Plan, we will need to invest an average of \$25,000 for each barrel of oil," he said, referring to a comprehensive government plan for economic development.

Hosseini also said that about 40,000 barrels per day have been added to the country's crude production from the Sepehr and Jofeir oilfields, which became operational last month.

Iran produced 3.058 mbd of crude oil in September, registering a 15,000-bpd increase compared to the previous month, according to OPEC's latest monthly report.

The Islamic Republic's average crude output for the third quarter of 2023 stood at 2.99 mbd, indicating a 292,000-bpd increase compared to the figure for the second quarter of the year, the report said.

Second Announcement


N.I.S.O.C
 NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
 AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0240002

National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends to purchase the following goods

Items	Material Description	Quantity
01	TUBING 1/5 IN. API GRADE I-80 SEAMLESS "HYDRIL CS" THREAD, RANGE 2 PSL: 2 X 1.90 OD X 1.462 ID, 4.19 PPF	4000 LE

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.nisoc.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 171,467/58 EURO or 67,379,044,448 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials thorough technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment Forms can be accessed via:

www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab
 ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P.,
 NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN.
 PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D., SUBSEQUENT TO
 NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management
 Complex, Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site),
 Ahvaz, Iran
 Tel. No.: 061 34 12 4644
 Fax No.: 061 34 45 74 37

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Travel: Connecting through nature and art



IRNA



IRNA



IRNA



IRNA

Iranica Desk

Embarking on a journey, immersing oneself in nature's beauty, marveling at artistic creations, and fostering a profound connection with the essence of life, all contribute to strengthening our well-being. This uplifting experience acts as a soothing balm for the pains that plague us — those born from solitude, mechanization, rampant consumerism, detachment from authenticity, and the absence of meaningful connections. Tourism, prescribed as a remedy, offers solace for all these human afflictions.

According to IRNA, tourism plays a pivotal role in cultural transformation, often serving as a catalyst for change. While it may occasionally give rise to social anomalies within cultures, it consistently fosters the dissemination and reinforcement of positive cultural elements in societies. Moreover, beyond any other aspect, the essence of travel lies in the profound and lasting

wave of personal and social connections forged by individuals, from the moment they decide to embark on a journey to long after they return. This industry has thrived and endured by virtue of robust and enduring foundations in transportation, telecommunications, social interactions, and, most significantly, human communication.

Generally, from the beginning to the end of a trip, there is a type of interaction between the tourist and other individuals who accompany them or provide necessary services, which depends on the power and skill of each party in establishing human connections. From the very initial stage of the journey, even before the tourist considers traveling and exploring, the first link of connection is formed, a connection with oneself. Based on an inner sense of need, the individual thinks about where to travel and how to go. These connections lay the foundation for establishing other connections and undoubtedly

create a wide range of interactions that result in effective interpersonal communication.

Now that they've become an aspiring traveler, they need to consider who they can embark on this journey with, and from whom they should seek the necessary services to kickstart their trip until they reach their destination. They'll also encounter individuals at their travel destination. This type of understanding and meaningful communication ensures a greater guarantee of success, as it allows the traveler's spirit of adventure and exploration to flourish, while enhancing their thought process in establishing and expanding a vibrant network of connections along the journey or at the destination.

Travelers, through their ability to establish effective communication, expand their circles of connection with fellow travelers, service providers, and the local community. This artistic ability not only elevates and enriches

travel from an individual act to a collective action, but also fosters a level of satisfaction with oneself, those around them, the destination community, and even their own local community.

You shouldn't overlook the type and purpose of tourism. The level of communication in nature tourism is definitely different from artistic tourism, or adventurous tourism is very different from medical tourism because the level of interest, motivation, interaction, empathy, collaboration, participation, and responsibility in each of these types of travel are completely separate from each other.

For example, consider a trip to a destination where the livelihood of the local residents is based on handicrafts and traditional arts. This purpose of traveling to a region with such characteristics requires more effective communication with the local community and their culture, history, social background, and economy. Similar to nature, art can reduce

human anxieties and concerns, distance individuals from social isolation, and awaken hope and joy in their hearts and souls. Travel companions on an art tour in a handicraft village will undoubtedly experience multiplied excitement compared to a region where its people are not particularly artistic.

For example, Iran, with a history and civilization dating back 10,000 years, with a long cultural and artistic background, attracts every art-loving tourist. This meaningful relationship between art, culture, handicrafts, and travel is the reason for attracting and connecting orientals from Europe to West Asia, especially Iran. And so far, every tourist has established their effective connection with the background and authenticity of these regions and destinations, even before embarking on their journey.

Art and travel have an incredible power to influence and leave a lasting impact. If art and artistic

creations lacked the ability to make a profound connection, they wouldn't entice people from far-flung places to seek and experience them. Every artist, driven by their own unique motivations, strives to forge a deep bond with the world around them through their creations. The more exceptional the artist and their masterpiece, the stronger the allure and the more profound the connection it fosters.

The beautiful outcome of reconnecting with nature, for which God is the ultimate Artist and Creator, or immersing oneself in an artistic journey supported by talented and imaginative individuals, is the profound refinement and tranquility it brings to the human soul and mind. It elevates positive energies within us while diminishing negative ones. At the core of art lies the ability to establish a deep connection with the audience, empowering humans to evolve and transcend, even in the role of mere spectators.

The plain of Qazvin is a geographically well-bounded region located some 150km west of Tehran in central north Iran, receiving an average annual rainfall of more than 300mm. To the north lie the Alborz Mountains and the Caspian Sea, and through the region runs a major route of communication connecting the western and eastern segments of northern Iran. The Qazvin plain is an important section of the route ultimately linking the highlands of Iran and Afghanistan, via the Zagros Mountain passes, with the lowland plains of Mesopotamia.

Since the 1970s archaeological studies of the Qazvin plain have been based on the investigation of the sites of Zagheh, Qabristan and Sagzabad in the Qazvin plain. The sites of Zagheh, Qabristan and Sagzabad are located approximately 60km south of the modern town of Qazvin 140km west of Tehran. The three sites are in close proximity with Zagheh lying 2km to the east of Sagzabad and Qabristan about 300m to the west of the latter. The re-excavations of Zagheh in 2001 and Qabristan in 2002 and systematic settlement survey of 2003 have supplemented earlier findings and provided new interpretations of the cultural sequence in this region of Iran.

The settlement system of the Qazvin plain has two important characteristics. First, there is highly shifting of settlement and inconsistency of site occupation. Settlement population

Archaeology and culture of Qazvin plain



IRNA

gradually grew and then suddenly decreased. Secondly, the largest settlement sizes are less than 10 ha and there is not a high archaeological visibility of settlement hierarchy. In fact, within

the region there is an extremely increasing of site number in each period.

Economy and Social Organization during the 5th Millennium BCE based upon the Zagheh

result the economic life of the Qazvin plain during this period was dominated by agriculture and husbandry of animals such as sheep, goat, pig and cattle. The results of the radiocarbon determinations taken from Zagheh excavation indicate that Zagheh was settled around 5370-5070 BCE and abandoned around 4460-4240 BCE. Dominating the settlement at Zagheh there is a large and well-appointed 'Painted Building' [or shrine] with internal features such as a large circular hearth and painted panels of wall plaster, as well as associated burials with red ochre and grave goods in the form of ceramics, beads, and ornaments of turquoise, agate, and lapis lazuli, and tools of copper, all support the interpretation of this building as having a non-domestic nature. Other structures and burials at Zagheh are of a less ostentatious character, arguing for a marked degree of social hierarchy at this early stage in the settlement of the Iranian highlands. Additionally, evidence for large-scale production of pottery has been recovered from trench K at Zagheh, including deeply stratified ash deposits, remains of pottery kilns, piles of prepared clay and crushed stone (for temper), lumps of red ochre, and production tools. Hundreds of spindle whorls indicate a highly developed textile industry and the presence of tokens may suggest a form of administration.

Israeli actions 'may force everyone' to act:

Raisi



Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi (R) is seen in an interview with Al Jazeera TV in Tehran on October 28, 2023.
● president.ir

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said on Sunday that Israel's ongoing bombardment of Gaza "may force everyone" to act in the latest warning issued by Tehran since the start of the Israel-Hamas conflict. "The crimes of the Zionist regime have crossed the red lines, and this may force everyone to take action," Raisi said on X, formerly Twitter. Also in an interview with Al Jazeera TV on Saturday, he slammed the United States' unbridled support for Israel in its war on Gaza, saying, "Washington asks us not to do anything, but they keep giving widespread support to Israel and this is not acceptable."

"The US sent messages to the Axis of Resistance but received a clear response on the battlefield," the president said.

Raisi added that the US and some European countries were trying to block the efforts made to establish a cease-fire in Gaza.

"This is a crime."

The president described US policies on the region as "totally wrong" and said, "Washington will not achieve its goal of creating a new Middle East."

Raisi pointed to Iran's "unwavering" support for Palestine, but noted that "the resistance in Palestine is independent and makes its own decisions without receiving any orders from Tehran."

He further said Israel would not be able to "uproot" Palestinian resistance despite US all-out support.



UN warns of 'more desperate' situation as Israel batters Gaza

International Desk Israel pounded Hamas-governed Gaza on Sunday in an escalating air and ground campaign as the UN warned the situation was "growing more desperate by the hour" in the besieged Palestinian territory. Despite calls for a humanitarian cease-fire and outrage across the world, Israel has intensified its campaign triggered by Hamas's unprecedented attack on October 7 that saw 1,400 people dead and 230 others captured, according to Israeli officials. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu steered Israelis for a "long and difficult war" ahead.

'Intolerable' human suffering

Mirjana Spoljaric, president of the Red Cross, voiced shock at the "intolerable level of human suffering" in Gaza and urged all sides to de-escalate.

"This is a catastrophic failing that the world must not tolerate," she said. Panic and fear have surged inside Gaza, where more than half of its 2.4 million residents are displaced, according to the UN, and thousands of buildings have been destroyed.

Thomas White, UNRWA director in Gaza, said the warehouse break-ins were "a worrying sign that civil order is starting to break down after three weeks of war and a tight siege on Gaza.

People are scared, frustrated and desperate," he said.

UNRWA provides basic services to hundreds of thousands of people in Gaza. Its schools across the territory have been transformed into packed shelters housing displaced Palestinians. Israel has allowed only a small trickle of aid to enter from Egypt, some of which was stored in one of the warehouses that was broken into, the agency said.

UN chief Antonio Guterres said the situation was "growing more desperate by the hour" as casualties increase and essential supplies of food, water, medicine and shelter dwindle.

"The situation in Gaza is becoming

Protesters wave Palestinian flags and hold signs as they take part in a demonstration in support of the Palestinian people, in Madrid on October 29, 2023.
● JAVIER SORIANO /AFP



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist





Women carry children as others check the damage in the aftermath of Israeli bombing in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip on October 29, 2023.
● MOHAMMED ABED/AFP

waste to entire neighborhoods in preparation for a broader invasion, the anguished families of prisoners are growing increasingly worried those aims will collide with devastating consequences.

Israel strikes near hospital

Early Sunday, Israeli warplanes carried out airstrikes near Gaza's largest hospital, which is packed with patients and tens of thousands of Palestinians seeking shelter. Israel has claimed Hamas fighters have a command post under the hospital, without providing much evidence. The Palestinian Red Crescent also said on Sunday it had received warnings from Israeli authorities to immediately evacuate Al-Quds hospital in the Gaza Strip, adding that raids conducted on Sunday had taken place just 50 meters from the facility. Head of the World Health Organization (WHO), Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said on social media platform X that the Palestinian Red Crescent report was "deeply concerning", adding it was impossible to safely evacuate hospitals full of patients. Residents said the latest airstrikes destroyed most of the roads leading to Shifa Hospital in Gaza in the northern half of the besieged territory, which Israel has told people to evacuate. Israel says most residents have fled to the south, but hundreds of thousands remain in the north, in part because Israel has also bombarded targets in so-called safe zones. Tens of thousands are sheltering in Shifa, which is also packed with patients wounded in strikes. "Reaching the hospital has become increasingly difficult," Mahmoud al-Sawah, who is sheltering in the hospital, said over the phone. "It seems they want to cut off the area." Another Gaza City resident, Abdallah Sayed, said the Israeli bombing over the past two days was "the most violent and intense" since the war started.

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Central Israel under rocket fire

As Israel is expanding the ground activity and the scope of forces in the Gaza Strip, central Israel also came under heavy rocket fire on Sunday, with sirens sounding in several major cities. Al-Qassam Brigades, the armed wing of Hamas, said on its Telegram account that it was "bombing Tel

Aviv in response to the Zionist massacres against civilians".

Calls for cease-fire

Western countries have generally backed what they say is Israel's right to self-defense. But there has been a mounting international outcry over the toll from the bombing and growing calls for a "humanitarian pause" to allow aid to reach Gaza civilians and ease the humanitarian crisis. Pope Francis on Sunday called for a cease-fire in the Gaza war and renewed his call for the release of all prisoners. The European Union appealed to all parties to allow unhindered humanitarian access to Gaza. "People in Gaza depend on humanitarian aid only to survive the day. The depth of their desperation is beyond words," the EU's aid chief Janez Lenarcic said. Meanwhile, in a phone call on Sunday, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and French President Emmanuel Macron expressed their concern about getting aid into Gaza, according to a readout by Downing Street. "The leaders stressed the importance of getting urgent humanitarian support into Gaza. They agreed to work together on efforts both to get crucial food, fuel, water, and medicine to those who need it and to get foreign nationals out," a spokesperson for Sunak said. "They expressed their shared concern at the risk of escalation in the wider region, in particular in the West Bank."

Worldwide demonstrations

The conflict has prompted large demonstrations worldwide in support of the Palestinians. Hundreds of thousands of demonstrators rallied in cities in Europe, the Middle East and Asia on Saturday and Sunday to show support for the Palestinians. On Sunday people staged a rally in the Lebanese capital Beirut to show solidarity with Gaza. More than 5,000 people protested in Athens on Sunday, police said, calling for an end to the "massacre" of Palestinians. About 3,000 protesters gathered in Belfast city center for a rally organized by the Ireland Palestine Solidarity Campaign on Saturday. Rallies also took place in other parts of the UK, including London, Manchester and Glasgow.

AFP, AP, Reuters, BBC, and euronews contributed to this report.



A man stands amid the rubble of a building in the aftermath of Israeli bombing in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip on October 29, 2023.
● MOHAMMED ABED/AFP

more desperate by the hour. I regret that instead of a sorely needed humanitarian pause, supported by the international community, Israel has intensified its military operations," Guterres said during a visit to Nepal, after a four-day trip to Qatar. He described as "totally unacceptable" the number of civilians killed and injured in the war.

Deaths top 8,000

According to the Palestinian Health Ministry in Gaza, the unrelenting bombardment has killed 8,005 people, mainly civilians and half of them children. The strikes over the weekend - described by Gaza residents as the most intense of the war - knocked out most communications in the territory late Friday, largely cutting off the besieged enclave's people from the world. Communications were restored to much of Gaza early Sunday. Hamas authorities reported Sunday that a "large number" of people were killed overnight in raids on two refugee camps in northern Gaza.

'Second stage' of war

Tanks and infantry pushed into Gaza over the weekend as Netanyahu announced a "second stage" in the war. The widening ground offensive came as Israel also pounded the territory from air, land and sea. The Israeli military raised the number of troops fighting inside the Gaza Strip, army spokesman Daniel Hagari said Sunday. The military has sought to assure the public it can achieve the two goals of its war on Hamas simultaneously - toppling the strip's resistance group and rescuing some 230 Israeli captives. But as the army ramps up airstrikes and ground incursions on the besieged enclave, laying



Protesters lift flags during a protest in Beirut, on October 29, 2023, in solidarity with the Palestinians in Gaza, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas.
● AHMAD AL-RUBAYE/AFP



Netanyahu's plights and the West plots



By Mohsen Pakaeen
International affairs expert

OPINION EXCLUSIVE

After Benjamin Netanyahu secured his second term as Israel's prime minister, it was expected that his radical policies would result in a

new war against the innocent people of Palestine. And it wasn't long before this prediction came true.

Netanyahu's insistence on the violation of international regulations and the United Nations' resolutions by the expansion of illegal settlements and the desecration of the Al-Aqsa Mosque caused the 193-member United Nations General Assembly to ask the International Court of Justice in December 2022 to give an advisory opinion on the legal consequences of Israel's occupation of the Palestinian territories.

The desecration of the Al-Aqsa Mosque by the Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, which coincided with the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, aroused anti-Israel and pro-Palestine sentiments during the event.

Israel's brutal attacks on the Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank in recent months and repeated deadly strikes on the besieged Gaza Strip led to the manifestation of the pent-up anger of Palestinians and the consequent crushing response of the resistance groups, including Hamas, to the regime's crimes.

Now, international experts are asking whether the US and the European countries have made a miscalculation by openly supporting the Israeli regime or they have deliberately encouraged Bibi to continue the conflict to eliminate him from Israel's political scene to secure their interests in the Middle East.

Some Israeli experts and even some members of the Knesset believe that Netanyahu's decision to enter into war with Hamas and exert more pressure on the Palestinians is aimed at distracting public attention from his domestic issues, particularly his corruption case.

He has also refused to commit to setting up a commission of inquiry to investigate the failings that enabled the Hamas attacks.

Public opinion and many Israeli politicians believe that Netanyahu is responsible for all the consequences of the army defeat against Hamas. "After the war, everyone will have to give answers, myself included," Netanyahu said on Saturday. He also acknowledged that "there was an awful debacle."

Netanyahu's remarks have once again provoked public anger and different political parties believe that he is not still aware of the extent of the incident and the damage to the public's trust. The lack of trust in society against Netanyahu has also increased after the release of pictures of his son on the beaches of Miami and the stay of the prime minister and his wife at the house of an American billionaire to escape the Hamas attacks. Israelis and even some members of the Likud party believe that the prime minister is now only focused on the ground invasion of Gaza. By continuing attacks on civilians, he aims to disclaim responsibility for the intelligence failure, his cabinet's failure to normalize ties with the Arab countries, the regime's isolation in the international organizations as well as increasing inflation.

According to Israeli media forecasts, should the conflict conclude and a ceasefire be established, it is anticipated that Netanyahu's political career will come to an end, leading to the dissolution of his cabinet.

Khodabakhshi takes silver in world karate meet



● IKF

Sports Desk

Iranian Mahdi Khodabakhshi won a second medal for the country in the World Karate Championships in Budapest, grabbing a kumite silver in the men's -84kg weight class. Khodabakhshi overcame opponents from Qatar, Libya, Bosnia & Herzegovina, and Jordan before a last-four victory over Japan's Rikito Shimada but fell to a 9-2 defeat against defending champion Youssef Badawy of Egypt in the final showdown.

Reigning Olympic champion Sajjad Ganjzadeh got Iran off the mark in the event with a bronze in the +84kg contests on Saturday, thanks to a 1-0 win against Croatian Andelo Kvesic.

Meanwhile, Fatemeh Sa'adati was unlucky to miss out on a podium finish in the women's -55kg event after an injury ruled her out of the third-place bout against Ukrainian Anzhelika Terliuga.

Iran had to send a depleted squad to the Hungarian capital after the host country refused to issue entry visas for the male kata representative Ali Zand as well as the country's female kata trio and the whole para karate team.

Iran's Alipour eyeing Paris podium after reaching Hangzhou heights



Mahdieh Qazvinian
Staff writer

The speed climbing may not enjoy the level of publicity that football, basketball, tennis, boxing and etc. get in the world of sports, as far as television audiences are concerned, but the Iranians have been privileged to watch a fellow countryman ascend to a superstar status in the sport since his international breakthrough came a decade ago.

Reza Alipour first made a name for himself at the 2013 IFSC Climbing World Cup, though it was his world-record breaking performance at the event in Nanjing, China, four years later that earned him the nicknames of 'Persian Cheetah' and 'Usain Bolt of speed climbing' – when the footage of him scaling the 15-meter wall in 5.48 seconds went viral on social media.

However, a gold medalist at the World Championships and the Asian Games in 2018, the 29-year-old Iranian gradually faded away from the international stage over the course of the past five years.

"I guess the lack of climbing infrastructure and required facilities in the country made me lose my ambitions for further achievements," Alipour told Iran Daily. When Alipour stepped into the climbing competitions at the recently-finished Hangzhou Asian Games in China he was regarded as an underdog as there were some high-profile names of the sport in recent years



Iranian Reza Alipour celebrates winning the men's speed climbing gold at the Hangzhou Asian Games in China on Oct. 3, 2023.
● YANG GUANYU/XINHUA

competing for the top prize. Current world-record holder Vedriq Leonardo and his fellow Indonesian Kiromal Katibin, who shattered Alipour's four-year record, as well as the host's duo Long Jinbao – a reigning World Championships runner-up – and Wu Peng – a winner in September's IFSC World Cup – were clearly the favorites for the gold but the Iranian showed resilience to beat the odds and become one of the 13 Iranians in the 285-athlete delegation to leave the Games with the

coveted prize. "Climbing at the Asian Games is always considered among the top-notch events of the sport. It was really tough for my opponents to compete with me in Hangzhou and I'm so thrilled to have bettered my personal record for the gold," Alipour said.

Having finished fourth in the qualification round with 5.184 seconds, the Iranian stunned Leonardo, who slipped on the wall, in the semifinal before taking advantage of Long's fall in the

final showdown to defend his title, clocking 5.302 seconds.

Alipour was also a part of the Iranian trio in the speed relay contest, which, despite a third best qualification time, was unfortunate to finish its campaign empty-handed after a false start against Singapore in the last-eight round.

"That's what speed climbing is all about. Milliseconds can cost you dearly," added Alipour.

And now the Iranian says he will be looking to build on

the recent success in pursuit of the prize missing in his illustrious career: The Olympic gold.

"I'll participate in a tournament in Indonesia next month, where the winner will be granted a berth at the Paris Olympics. Six more quotas will be decided through three qualification events before the Games. I'm confident I will secure a place for Paris. My ultimate goal is to win the gold in next year. I'll give it my best shot and I'm sure God will help me toward that suc-

cess," added the Iranian. Alipour has headlined the Iranians' campaigns in the international events over the years but he believes there are plenty more of his compatriots, who could star on the global stage.

"Iran is among the top speed climbing countries in the world, pretty much owing to my achievements, but other Iranians – namely Elnaz Rekabi – are also capable of succeeding in boulder and lead competitions, should they be provided with the world-class facilities."

Ancelotti praises 'stupendous' Bellingham after Clasico double

Real Madrid's Jude Bellingham celebrates after a 2-1 victory over Barcelona in Estadi Olimpic Lluis Companys, Barcelona, Spain, on October 28, 2023.
● ALBERT GEA/REUTERS

REUTERS – Real Madrid manager Carlo Ancelotti hailed Jude Bellingham as 'stupendous' after the midfielder scored twice to earn his side a 2-1 fightback win at Barcelona in Saturday's LaLiga 'El Clasico'.

Ancelotti said the 20-year-old Englishman kept surprising him with his maturity and that he gave Real the spark they needed to recover against a Barcelona side who dominated proceedings before succumbing due to two late stunners.

"(Bellingham) looks like a veteran out there because of his attitude. His first goal changed the dynamic completely of what was a difficult game for us," Ancelotti told a press conference.

"I can't deny that we are all surprised with his vein of form, especially with his

level and his effectiveness. He is everywhere on the field.

"Today he was stupendous and shocked everyone with his wonderful goal from the edge of the area."

Bellingham, LaLiga's top scorer with 10 goals, has made a smooth transition to Spanish soccer since his arrival from Borussia Dortmund in June.

"Bellingham's ceiling is easily scoring 20 or 25 goals this season," Ancelotti said.

"Even though we don't think of him as a goal scorer, at the moment he is scoring a lot of goals but we are expecting goals from the strikers as well."

Midfielder Luka Modric, who provided the assist to Bellingham's winner, also praised his team mate after another masterful performance.

"It seems like he's been here a long time, not three months. As they say in Spain, he landed on his feet. He exudes personality, character. It's no coincidence that he has adapted so well," Modric told DANZ.

"He's a top boy, with an extraordinary talent. I don't think even he can believe he's scoring so many goals... I congratulate him and I hope he keeps going, he can't slow down!"

Fury survives knockdown in controversial win over Ngannou

WBC heavyweight champion Tyson Fury (R) is knocked down by Francis Ngannou during round three of a non-title fight in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on October 28, 2023.
● GETTY IMAGES



BBC – WBC heavyweight champion Tyson Fury claimed a controversial split decision victory over former UFC fighter Francis Ngannou in Saudi Arabia.

Ngannou, 37, put Fury on the canvas in round three after connecting with a left hook. But while one judge scored it 95-94 in favour of Ngannou, two gave it to Fury at 96-93 and 95-94.

Fury's WBC heavyweight belt was not on the line.

"That definitely wasn't in the script," Fury told TNT Sports.

"I got caught round the back of the head [for the knockdown]. I wasn't hurt. I got up and got back to my boxing.

"He's an awkward man and a good puncher and I respect him a lot. He's given me one of my toughest fights of the last 10 years."

Fury's victory means a blockbuster bout with fellow heavyweight champion Oleksandr Usyk – who holds the WBA, WBO and IBF titles – which was agreed earlier this month, remains on the horizon.

An undisputed heavyweight contest, the first in the four-belt era, has been mooted for 23 December, but a cut and bruised Fury might struggle to recover so quickly.

Religious leader of Iranian Jews: Occupation of Al-Quds not a Jewish teaching



Social Desk

Due to the teachings and the belief system of Judaism, all Jews have a special interest in the land of Al-Quds because it is their sacred land, stated Rabbi Younes Hamami Lalehzar, the religious leader of Iranian Jews. "However, it is not mentioned in any of the teachings of Moses that it should be taken by force," he said, according to IRNA.

Hamami Lalehzar discussed the recently published teachings of the Jewish religion in cyberspace. He stated, "Jewish teachings are derived from the Torah, which is also translated into Farsi. However, many of the materials published online regarding the teachings of Judaism are fakes without any source." He went on to mention that according to the Talmud, "One of the Jewish beliefs is that salvation does not solely depend on the Jewish faith and that pious people from other nations will be saved in the next world." The Rabbi mentioned another Jewish belief, saying, "Even when the Promised Savior appears, it is not necessary for all people in the

world to be Jews. During that era, Jews would be free to practice their religion, and all people of the world would be united, with monotheism prevailing. This is quoted by the Prophet Zechariah, and Judaism considers the right to life for other nations based on this belief." Hamami Lalehzar also discussed the historical sources of the Jewish religion. According to him, Jews had formed a country and a government during eras like that of Prophet David or Prophet Solomon. "Especially the period of Prophet Solomon was characterized by peace and tranquility in the region. Although many people in the surrounding countries were

idolaters at that time, the Jews did not consider it their duty to destroy the idolaters. The belief of the Jews is based on the idea that all people, while respecting the rights of Jews, should peacefully coexist and strive for godliness, not necessarily Judaism." The religious figure further emphasized that many of the things expressed online are misleading, and stated, "Similar to the time of Daesh, where some Muslim people were attacked, this diversion aims to give the struggle a religious aspect and create divisions among Muslims. In the case of Jews and Zionists, they aim to create differences between Islam and Jews, while Jews and Muslims have lived together peacefully and

supported each other in many parts of the world, including Iran." Referring to religious and political Zionist divisions, the religious leader of the Iranian Jewish population said, "The concept of Zionism means being interested in Zion. Every Jew has a special interest in Al-Quds because it is our sacred land, and we pray in that direction. Many of the tombs of our prophets are located there, and according to our beliefs, it is considered a holy land.

However, this does not mean that it should be taken by force. Jews believe that this divine promise will be fulfilled during the time of the Promised Savior. However, one of the aspects of the Savior is justice and fairness, which will be established at that time." Referring to the characteristics of the Savior in the Jewish religion, he said, "One of the principles of Judaism is the belief in the Promised Savior, which complements the principle of faith in God. Just as no wise person does anything without a specific goal and purpose, God has created this world with a specific purpose that will ultimately be accomplished through the Promised Savior." Hamami Lalehzar added, "According to Jewish belief, the Promised Savior is a descendant of prophets David and Solomon, who held positions of prophethood and formed a government. The Promised Savior will establish a divine government and invite all people to worship God. At that time, peace, tranquility, justice, and fairness will be established worldwide, bringing goodness and blessings for everyone."



Notice Of international tender for export sale No 1402/11

MINAKAN Co.

Minakan Co. announces selling and export 3000 metric tons of Copper-Gold Concentrate (Sulfide) on basis of F.O.B at Bandar Abbas- Iran. Interested bidders should contact with the email info@minakan.ir regarding tender documents. The deadline for obtaining documents is Sunday 12/11/2023. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 14:00 P.M. on 29/11/2023 to Minakan Co. in Birjand Province. Bidders are invited to the transactions commission of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 16:00 P.M. on 29/11/2023 at the office of the Seller.

Content /item	Analysis Range
Cu%	15%-17%
Au, g/MT	Min 4ppm
Ag, g/MT	Min 300ppm
Pb%	Max 6%
S%	Min 25%
As%	Max 0.25%
Cd	Max 0.05%
F%	Max 0.1%

MINAKAN Co.

International lawyers to take legal action against Israeli crimes

Social Desk

A network of international lawyers was established to legally pursue the crimes committed by the Zionist regime in the wake of a meeting held by the Central Headquarters of Legal Support for Palestine. The meeting, which took place on Sunday, October 29, was organized by the International Law Association of the Basij Lawyers Organization and aimed at exploring legal assistance solutions for the Palestinian people, Tasnim News Agency reported. During his speech at the meeting, Hassan Abdolianpour, the head of the Center for Lawyers, Official Experts, and Family Advisors of the Judiciary, expressed the concerns of lawyers from Islamic countries regarding the underutilization of their legal capabilities in addressing the Palestine issue. He mentioned that the Judiciary Lawyers Center, in collaboration with the Basij of Lawyers Organization, has been actively engaged in this matter for many years, yielding positive outcomes. Abdolianpour further stated that a network of jurists and lawyers, who are deeply concerned about the oppressed people of Palestine and eager to take action, has been formed. "This network, consisting of more than 40 lawyers specializing in international law, marks a promising beginning and is expected to lead to significant legal advancements," he said. In addition, the legal practitioner highlighted that during the meeting at the Human Rights Headquarters, the committee of virtual courts was entrusted to the Center of Lawyers of the Judiciary. He emphasized that the symbolic court held on the last Quds Day received 12 complaints against the crimes of the Zionist regime, resulting in the formation of a people's court based on those complaints. "The symbolic court, which has garnered media attention, has played a crucial role in documenting the crimes committed by

the Zionist regime," he said. In other news, the head of the Iranian Red Crescent Society condemned the direct targeting of medical staff and aid workers by the Israeli forces following the attacks on Gaza. "Such actions are deemed illegal, inhumane, and warrant prosecution. In light of this, a draft complaint has been prepared at The Hague Court, in collaboration with other countries and national societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, through the utilization of the capacity of the National Committee for Humanitarian Rights. The purpose of this complaint is to denounce the targeting of rescuers and medical staff," said Pirhossein Kolivand, according to ISNA.



A man holds a child as they receive treatment at a trauma ward in Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis, Gaza, while UNICEF warns "Almost every child in the Gaza Strip has been exposed to deeply distressing events and trauma." **GETTY IMAGES**

Notice of tender for export sale No. 13/1402/Z

Hereby Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 140,000 metric tons of Iron Ore pellet (%Fe:65.00) on basis of F.O.B at Barco Jetty Bandar-Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgohar website: ww.gog.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 14:00 P.M. on 6th Nov. 2023 to the Golgohar complex in Sirjan. (50 km in Shiraz road) Bidders are invited to the transactions commission department of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 10:00 A.M. on 7th Nov. 2023 at the office of the Seller.

Analysis %		
Min	65.00	Fe
Max	1.2	FeO
Max	0.05	P
Max	0.01	S
Max	3.5	SiO2
Max	0.7	Al2O3
Max	0.9	CaO
Max	2.5	MgO
Ave 250		CCS(kg/p)
Min 90		8-16 mm%
Ave 5		-6 mm%
Max 4.0		A.I%
Min 95		T.I%
19-24		Prosity%
Min 90		Reducibility%

GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.

Tehran to host Iran-China pottery exhibition



ISNA – The Iranian Academy of the Arts and the China Academy of Art are slated to hold a pottery exhibition and a meeting to discuss the expansion of artistic relations between the two countries.

An exhibition featuring Chinese pottery and porcelain will be held on the sidelines of the exhibition at the Saba Cultural-Artistic Institute. The meeting will feature speeches from figures, including Majid Shah-Hosseini, the President of the Iranian Academy of the Arts, Mohammad-Ali Rajabi, a member of the Iranian Academy of the Arts, Chen Dingxiang, the Deputy Mayor of Ningbo, and Lu Yingchuan, the Deputy Minister of Culture and Tourism of China and the head of the China Academy of Art. The program includes the screening of music videos titled 'Maritime Silk Road', 'Introduction to the Culture and Tourism of Ningbo - Eastern Civilization (Maritime Silk Road - Chinese Humanities and Pottery Production)', 'shedding light on the rich cultural heritage of Ningbo and its role in pottery production. Additionally, another documentary titled 'Introduction to the Culture and Tourism of Ningbo - Human Creativity (Art of Construction)' will be showcased. The Chinese pottery and porcelain exhibition will be open for public viewing at the Saba Cultural-Artistic Institute from October 31 for one month.

Iranian short films to shine in Australian festival



ISNA – The 28th Canberra Short Film Festival (CSFF) in Australia has dedicated a special program to showcase Iranian short films. This program, titled 'Nights of Iran,' features a selection of Iranian short films, including 'I Won't Remain Alone' directed by Yaser Talebi and 'Hands' directed by Bahman Javanshir and Ramin Pirzadeh. The 28th Canberra International Short Film Festival, scheduled to run from November 10 to 26, continues to be a platform for celebrating the art of short filmmaking from around the world. The CSFF includes a filmmaker networking event to help bring producers, directors, actors and other craft specialists together.

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Iran, China ink cultural exchange MoU

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran and China have taken a significant step towards promoting stronger bilateral ties by signing a three-year cultural exchange memorandum of understanding (MoU). The agreement was signed at the headquarters of Iran's Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO) in Tehran, with the presence of Mohammad-Mehdi Imanipour, the Head of ICRO, and Lu Yingchuan, Deputy Minister of Culture and Tourism of China, as reported by IRNA. Yingchuan, heading a delegation has come to Tehran to participate in the second joint culture committee of Iran and China. Imanipour, in his remarks during the signing ceremony, emphasized the shared enthusiasm of both nations to enhance their ties and expressed his hopes that the cultural exchange MoU would lay the foundation for expanding cooperation in various areas. The formation of a joint cultural committee was highlighted as a positive development reflecting the growing relations between the two countries. Imanipour also expressed his optimism that more frequent meetings and interactions would contribute to the ongoing improvement of their relationship. Lu Yingchuan also expressed

his hope for the future phases of mutual cultural exchanges to further advance cultural and artistic collaborations between Iran and China. He stressed the importance of carrying out various projects before organizing the joint committee to deepen their relations. Prior to the official signing of the MoU, representatives from both sides engaged in discussions within the framework of a joint cultural committee. The discussions focused on the content and agreements within the MoU, highlighting the commitment of both nations to strengthen cultural cooperation. Hossein Rouzbeh, Deputy for International Cultural Relations Development at ICRO, underlined their determination to promote cultural collaborations across various domains, including cultural, artistic, and cinematic exchanges. Lu Yingchuan affirmed the need for the two sides to engage in several projects before the joint committee meeting, indicating that this proactive approach would pave the way for comprehensive cultural cooperation between Iran and China. The official signing of the three-year cultural exchange MoU represents a significant milestone in Iran-China relations. Both countries expressed their readiness to embark on a



new era of cultural collaboration, with the belief that this expanded cultural cooperation would serve as a catalyst for enhanced ties in all fields. In a joint press conference following the signing ceremony, Imanipour stated, "The three-year cultural cooperation agreement between Iran and China offers the potential to greatly advance our bilateral relations in all areas." Imanipour added, "We have passed the US order for the world, the two countries can create a new world order with new cooperation." Imanipour stressed the

broad spectrum of collaborative opportunities, noting, "In all sectors, including tourism, culture, the arts, and cinema, both sides have engaged in discussions, and we will witness the expansion of our relations." Lu Yingchuan reiterated his commitment to strengthening cultural ties between Iran and China, saying, "Through the joint efforts of both sides, we can develop our relations in all areas, foster closer ties between our nations, and promote mutual cultural understanding. We hope for even greater successes in the future."

Yingchuan concluded by highlighting the importance of the joint cultural committee and expressing gratitude for the extensive efforts that were made to bring the agreement to fruition. He expressed his hopes that this cooperation would lead to deeper cultural and artistic collaborations between the two countries. The visit of the Chinese delegation to Iran included meetings with Iranian officials, including the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, as well as discussions with the head of the Cinema Organization of Iran.

Head of Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO) in Tehran Mohammad-Mehdi Imanipour (R), and Lu Yingchuan, Deputy Minister of Culture and Tourism of China shake hands, while holding a three-year-old cultural agreement signed at ICRO headquarters in Tehran on October 29, 2023. ● ICRO

Tehran to hold Japanese Cinema Days

Arts & Culture Desk

Japanese Cinema Days, featuring three contemporary Japanese films, will be held at Freydoun Naseri Hall in Iran's Artists' Forum from October 31 to November 2. According to IRNA, the event will be held in collaboration between Iran's Artists' House and the Japanese Embassy as part of the Japanese Cultural Month event. As per the schedule, the films 'Somebody's Flowers,' directed by Yusuke Okuda, will be shown on October 31, 'A Long Goodbye,' directed by Ryota Nakano, on November 1, and 'The Lone Ume Tree,' directed by Wajima Kotaro, on November 2. 'Somebody's Flowers' tells the story of a young man

named Takaki, who has lost his older brother and goes to visit his parents. At the same time, a flowerpot from the top of their building falls on their neighbor's head, resulting in his death. Takaki tries to figure out if his father had any role in this incident. 'A Long Goodbye' portrays the members of the Higashi family who have come together from near and far to celebrate their father's 70th birthday but learn of their father's illness. The mother and two daughters discover that their father has the ability to recall memories that they had long forgotten. 'The Lone Ume Tree' depicts the life of an elderly woman named Tamako, who lives with her 50-year-old autistic son, Tadao. In their home, there is a tree whose branches create a disturbance for the neighbors, but Tadao has a strong attachment to this tree.



Pakistani envoy praises Iran's support for Kashmir



Pakistani Ambassador to Iran Muhammad Mudassar Tipu gives a speech at the Pakistani Embassy in Tehran on October 29, 2023, to commemorate Kashmir Black Day. ● IRNA

Pakistani Ambassador to Iran Muhammad Mudassar Tipu has appreciated Iran's support for Kashmir. "We are very grateful to the Iranian nation and leadership especially Supreme Leader (of the Islamic Revolution) Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei for constant support to the freedom struggle in Kashmir and insistence on resolution of the issue to the will of the people," Mudassar Tipu said on Sunday. The envoy made the remarks while addressing a ceremony in the Pakistani Embassy in Tehran to commemorate Kashmir Black Day, an occasion used by the Pakistani people and government to support Kashmir's struggle to become either independent from India or to join Pakistan. "Pakistan is committed to the Kashmir

cause and we honor their sacrifices," he noted. "We have sensitized the issue of Kashmir with comity of nations, think tanks, opinion makers, and civil society. We have raised the voice of our Kashmir brethren at multiple fora and have repeatedly appealed to the international community to address the disturbing situation in Jammu and Kashmir," said the diplomat. The envoy referred to a meeting held earlier this month between Pakistani Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani and his Iranian counterpart Hossein Amir Abdollahian in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, saying that the two countries have a lot in common with regard to the conflict in Palestine where the Israeli regime has been attacking the civilians in Gaza for the past three weeks.