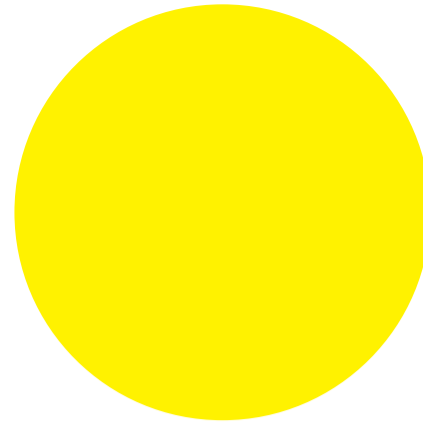


VP Mokhber to attend opening ceremony of China International Import Expo



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Regardless of Israel's brutal response, Hamas and resistance will emerge victorious

Israel Has

Failed

Anyway

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SPECIAL ISSUE

Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, given the scale of casualties and the surprise for the Zionists, is of the utmost strategic significance. This sudden attack not only exposed a resounding defeat but subsequently inflicted unprecedented human casualties on various elements of Israel's military and security apparatus. These casualties were more than twice the number of Israeli casualties in the 1967 war, most of which occurred on the first day of the operation. The security and military failures of October 7 far exceed Israel's losses in the October 1973 war (often referred to as the Yom Kippur War); hence, given the scale of casualties and the humiliating defeat of this regime, it cannot be compensated by the smallest member of the resistance's response to Israel.

Gaza genocide continues with Western support, Arabs' silence



By **Arafat Abu Zaid**
Lecturer in international relations

I have been unable to write in the past few days due to urgent circumstances, the most notable being the martyrdom of about 25 members of my family in the city of Rafah on the morning of October 17th, and also the aerial bombardment of my apartment in the city of Khan Yunis the next day on the morning of October

18th, where my wife and children were inside the apartment. My wife and some of my children were injured in the bombardment. If it weren't for the grace of God Almighty, I would have lost my wife and all my children in the bombing as well. As I was informed by the rescue teams who pulled them out from under the rubble, they did not believe until that moment that they had rescued them alive. Therefore, I have been preoccupied in recent days by staying with my wife and children while they receive treatment at hospital. The loss of my personal laptop during the treacherous bombing of my residential apartment has caused me to discontinue writing my articles and reports related to the aggression and genocide practiced by the Zionist occupation against children, women, and the elderly in the Gaza Strip. **Page 5 >**

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Iran imports basic goods worth over \$9b: **IRICA**



Economy Desk

Official statistics released by the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) indicate that in the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (started March 21), over 13 million tons of essential commodities of 20 different types were imported into the country, worth \$9.163 billion.

The imports of basic goods have experienced a 0.98% increase in terms of weight and a 4.97% decrease in terms of value compared to the same period last year, according to ISNA.

Corn, semi-solid and liquid edible oils, various types of oilseeds, rice, wheat, barley, chemical fertilizers, heavy rubber, soybean meal, raw sugar, printing and writing paper, paper pulp, dry tea, legumes, red meat, chemical technical poisons, chicken meat, various seeds, and newspaper paper were among the 20 essential commodities imported to the country.

Corn has secured the top position among essential imported commodities exceeding 4.9 million tons, worth more than \$2 billion. Semi-solid and liquid edible oils rank second, with over 1.1 million tons imported, valued at \$1.8 billion.

Red meat, chemical fertilizers, and barley have the highest increases in imports among the essential commodities while the imports of chicken meat, dry tea, raw sugar, and rice have decreased by 62% compared to the first seven months of the previous Iranian calendar year.

Figures by the 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 last week.

VP Mokhber to attend opening ceremony of China International Import Expo



CIIE, a great opportunity for development of Iran's int'l markets

Economy Desk

Iran's First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber will visit China to participate in the opening ceremony of the 6th China International Import Exhibition (CIIE), as he will negotiate with the officials of China and the countries present at the

event on the development of the international markets of Iran.

Announcing the above, Mohammad Jamshidi, the Iranian president's deputy chief of staff for political affairs added that the 6th CIIE will officially open on Sunday, with the presence of Chinese Prime Minis-

ter Li Qiang, as well as high-ranking officials from other countries, fvpresident.ir wrote.

At the official invitation of the Chinese premier, Mokhber departed Tehran for Shanghai to speak at the opening ceremony of the event, as he will conduct bilateral and

multilateral talks for the development of economic relations and finding new markets for Iranian goods in China and other countries.

Referring to China's great market, Jamshidi noted that the presence of other countries in the exhibition is a very good opportunity

for Iran to find new markets for Iranian goods and increase the export capacity of the country.

Also, with the presence of other high-ranking officials, Mokhber will inaugurate the pavilion of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Shanghai exhibition. The visit of traders and of-

ficials from other countries to Iran's pavilion will be a good opportunity to introduce Iran's economic capabilities, Jamshidi stated.

Over 50 companies as well as 250 Iranian businesspersons in different economic and commercial sectors will showcase their products at the exhibition.

China opens doors for imports by holding CIIE

China International Import Expo (CIIE) is a trade fair that has been held in Shanghai, China every year since 2018. The event is the first expo in the world at the national level with the subject of imports.

Various exhibitors from different businesses and countries as well as "Hongqiao International Economic Forum" are participating in the expo. The formation of the China International Import Expo was personally proposed, promoted and directed by the current Chinese President Xi Jinping.

The exhibition is jointly organized by the Ministry of Commerce of China and the Shanghai Municipal People's Government. The partners of the CIIE include the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the United Nations Industrial

Development Organization. The purpose of the CIIE is to introduce China's domestic market to foreign companies and strengthen domestic consumption. The exhibition has provided a platform for the cooperation of rich and poor countries as well as small and large economies in the form of win-win cooperation. It also allows companies and experts to talk closely to find their business partners.

China's open-door policy

Reviewing the past five editions of the CIIE, "open doors" and "sharing opportunities" have always been the keywords in the five inaugural speeches of Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

Xi Jinping has repeatedly emphasized that not only will China's doors not be closed, but they will become more open day by day. China will always provide a positive and stable driving force for the growth of the world economy, and will always be a large and dynamic market for countries looking for business opportunities. Parts of the Chinese president's speech last year are as follows:

•Opening up is an important driving force for the progress of human civilization and the only way for global prosperity and development. Currently, the world is undergoing major changes not seen in a century and the global economy lacks the momentum to recover. We should use openness to solve develop-

ment problems, use openness to bring together the power of cooperation, use openness to gather innovation momentum, and use openness to seek common interests. This action will benefit development results. It makes the people of all countries fairer.

•China will encourage all countries to share opportunities for deepening international cooperation, participate fully and deeply in WTO reform negotiations, promote trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, and promote international macroeconomic policy coordination. , will jointly create a new impetus for global development, and will actively join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Digital Economy Partnership Agreement, expand the global network of high-standard free trade zones. It will strongly support and assist developing countries to accelerate their development and promote the construction of a society with a common future for mankind.

•China is willing to work with other countries to practice true multilateralism, build greater consensus on opening up, and overcome the difficulties and challenges facing global economic development and the opening brings a new bright future for global development.

Introduction of CIIE 2023

The first edition of the expo



was opened by President Xi Jinping in 2018. The 2019 Expo was also opened by Xi Jinping, while French President Emmanuel Macron was one of the honored visitors of the expo.

The fifth edition of the CIIE was held in 2022, with more than 2,800 booths and 100 countries as the turnover of the exhibition days last year was \$73.6 billion.

This year, the sixth edition (CIIE 2023) will be held in Shanghai on November 5-10. The exhibition consists of four sections, including national pavilions, commercial pavilions, international economy section and activities related to cultural exchange.

Guests from 145 countries and international organizations will participate in the event. More than 3,400 exhibitors and 394,000 professional visitors have registered to attend the exhibition, which shows a complete return to the pre-coronavirus level. Hundreds of executives from Fortune 500 companies are expected to attend the CIIE, which shows an increase

compared to previous years. A total of 15 major brands of the automotive industry, 10 major industrial power companies, 10 medical equipment manufacturers, three mining giants, four top grain trading companies and five top shipping companies have confirmed their presence in the exhibition.

The CIIE will be active in six major areas, including the following: Medical and health care equipment, food and agricultural products, smart industries and information technology, consumer goods, business services and automobiles.

Iran's pavilion at CIIE 2023

The Iran-China Trade Center is responsible for holding the Iran Pavilion at the CIIE 2023. The pavilion offers Iranian products to buyers in the following four areas: food products, smart industries and information technology, medical equipment and consumer goods. The invitation to participate in the exhibition was published by the Iran-China Trade Center in April,

and the companies applying to participate in CIIE sent their documents to the center. A conference as well as press meetings were held by the center to better explain the opportunities in the CIIE. Iran's trade pavilion in China is expected to provide opportunities for companies.

Officially invited by the Chinese prime minister, Iran's First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber will participate and give a speech at the opening ceremony of the exhibition. High-ranking officials of some other countries, including Germany, Australia and Cuba will be also present and deliver speeches at the opening ceremony.

The opening of CIIE 2023 will be held in the presence of the Chinese Prime Minister Li Qiang, and then all the officials will attend the national pavilions of the invited countries and inaugurate them. The presence of Iran's first vice president in the great event is a new opportunity for the development of Iran's international markets.



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Urgent need for conservation of Tappeh Hesar in Damghan



● IRNA

Iranica Desk

Tappeh Hesar of Damghan, in Semnan Province, is an expansive prehistoric site situated in northeastern Iran, covering a vast area of 12 hectares. Its historical significance dates back from the late 5th millennium BCE to the mid-2nd millennium BCE. This ancient Iranian heritage site served as a crucial center for production, particularly in the manufacturing of stone and metal objects, during the 4th and 3rd millennia BCE.

Regrettably, the survival of this 7,000-year-old civilization faces grave threats from the presence of two railway lines intersecting the area and the movement of approximately 80 trains daily along the Tehran-Mashhad route. In addition, the detrimental consequences of illicit excavations further contribute to the gradual erosion of this invaluable civilization, rendering it perilously close to the brink of irreparable destruction, IRNA wrote.

According to experts, the passage of trains through Tappeh Hesar would not leave any trace of this ancient heritage. Therefore, it is necessary to take action by re-

locating the railway line, or constructing a bridge for the railway in order to preserve and revive this national monument. Given the damage incurred to Tappeh Hesar due to previous excavations, serious cooperation between the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development, and the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts is necessary for the restoration of this ancient heritage.

Director-General of Semnan

Province's Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Organization Amir Karamzadeh said extensive studies have been conducted on the displacement of the railway, in collaboration with the Research Center of the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development.

Tappeh Hesar, a seven-thousand-year-old mound, was first explored by "Erich Schmidt," from the University of Pennsylvania, in the year 1912. Then, in 1955,

a team of archaeologists from the universities of Pennsylvania and Turin, and Iran's Center for Archaeological Research, led by Robert Dyson and Maurizio Tosi, conducted excavations in the area.

Based on extensive research, Tappeh Hesar has witnessed three prominent cultural phases, spanning from the late Neolithic period to the end of the Chalcolithic era. Excavations have revealed that settlement in Tappeh

Hesar endured for approximately 1,700 years BCE, forming a continuous presence. However, subsequent to this period, no further signs of habitation were found. Notably, during the Sassanid era, an impressive architectural structure, adorned with exquisite plasterwork, was erected around 200 meters from Tappeh Hesar.

In excavations carried out in 2006, a cemetery dating back to the Iron Age was discovered in

the western part of Tappeh Hesar. This finding revealed that contrary to previous assumptions, this area had been inhabited by various communities even after the Bronze Age.

Another fascinating detail about Tappeh Hesar is the burial of the deceased towards the east, facing the rising sun. This custom reveals the significance of the sun as one of the prominent deities in this culture. However, this tradition was disrupted with the introduction of black vessels, which deviated from the norm. Alongside the deceased, a variety of objects were placed, including pottery, bronze tools, utensils, and occasionally even weapons. Damghan, also known as the "City of a Hundred Gates" in history, is one of the ancient and historical cities of Iran. It was the capital of the Qumis during a period, and some consider it as the capital of the Parthian period.

Damghan, with a history spanning seven thousand years, boasts 2,000 historical and cultural treasures. Out of this remarkable collection, 400 have been identified and, thus far, 131 have been officially recognized as national heritage.



● visitiran.ir



● ILNA

Sassanid burial site discovered in West Azarbaijan Province

Iranica Desk

The first burial site of the Sassanid era in West Azarbaijan Province has been found at an ancient hill in Oshnavieh, marking yet another evidence of the region's antiquity, said the head of the city's Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Department.

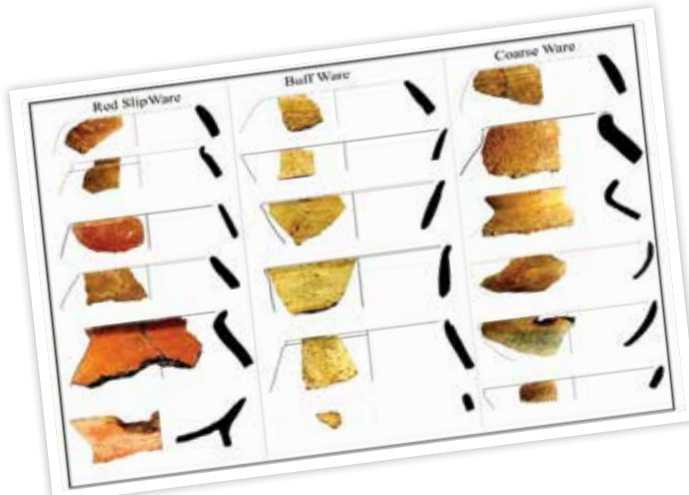
Ronak Tasa stated that in conducted studies, 11 historical sites within the vicinity of the Chaparabad Dam reservoir were identified, and underwent restoration operations. She added that the burial site from the Sassanid period was unearthed during the third sea-

son of excavation. Tasa emphasized the rarity and historical importance of this burial site, considering the Sassanid period's burial traditions. She noted that various artifacts, ranging from pottery vessels to stone and bone objects, were discovered and are currently being preserved in the Oshnavieh Museum.

She said the third excavation season at Chaparabad Hill, corresponding with the dam filling process, lasted for 50 days. Ten trenches of different sizes were examined, uncovering over 230 square meters of architectural remains from this prehistoric settlement

The three phases of excavation have unveiled a small village dating back to the second half of the fifth millennium BCE within Chaparabad Hill. Currently, there are 11 historical sites in the vicinity of Chaparabad Dam, with five ancient hills situated in a zone at high risk of being submerged, and six hills

on the dam's periphery. She said that the filling of the Chaparabad Dam started in early September of this year. As of now, the water level of the dam has covered the northern and eastern slopes of the site, but the exposed architectural remains on top of the hill remain uncovered.



● faradeed.ir

Israel has failed anyway

What will Israel face in Gaza?



By Seyyed Reza
Sadrolhosseini

Regional affairs expert

**EXCLUSIVE
OPINION**

After launching devastating airstrikes and bombardment on the Gaza Strip, the Israeli regime has carried out several ground operations in the Palestinian territory with no success so far.

It has been claimed that the Israeli army ranks fourth in the world and enjoys advanced equipment, but its grandeur has been tarnished by Hamas' October 7 Operation Al-Aqsa Storm. Now, Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli prime minister, and his army are trying to achieve some victory by committing more crimes.

With the support of the United States, Netanyahu is rejecting the calls for a cease-fire and trying to occupy parts of the Gaza Strip in order to have the upper hand in negotiations on prisoner exchange with the Hamas resistance group. However, the path ahead of him is not smooth.

It is predicted that the Israeli forces will face explosive traps, roadside bombs, snipers, and Palestinian fighters in Gaza. Hamas and other resistance groups in Gaza will certainly inflict a heavy blow on the Israelis at this stage of the war and will take even more prisoners from the Israeli military.

The continuation of Israeli attacks and the killing of innocent people in Gaza are aimed at strengthening the position of Netanyahu and the Israeli army. Facing internal pressure, especially from the families of the Israelis arrested by the Hamas group, Netanyahu pretends that he has not given up and is trying to secure the release of Israeli captives with the brutal attacks on Gaza.

However, the Israeli prime minister and his supporters have not paid attention to the fact that those people who surprised the Israeli army on the first day of the conflict now may have other plans to surprise them again during the ground invasion.

Despite Israel's widespread propaganda, threats, and heavy bombardments, the Gazans have not left their city and their homes because they want to defend their land. So, they have prepared to deal with the current situation.

In fact, the damage inflicted on the people of Gaza and the resistance fighters is one side of the story, and the remarkable achievements of the resistance against the Israeli regime are another side of it.

Since the Israelis lack enough power to face the ground forces of the resistance and the people of Gaza, they have resorted to airstrikes and bombings to create an intolerable situation for the people, but history has shown that Palestinians do not relinquish their legal and historical rights.

Therefore, the situation is not in favor of Israel and Netanyahu. Hamas and the people of Gaza have achieved great things, which will definitely benefit them after the cease-fire when the negotiations possibly begin. In fact, the Palestinian resistance groups achieved military success on the ground through Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, and they will have the upper hand in the negotiations that may take place after a cease-fire.

**Regardless of Israel's brutal response,
Hamas and resistance will emerge victorious**

The Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, given the scale of casualties and the surprise for the Zionists, is of the utmost strategic significance. This sudden attack not only exposed a resounding defeat but subsequently inflicted unprecedented human casualties on various elements of Israel's military and security apparatus. These casualties were more than twice the number of Israeli casualties in the 1967 war, most of which occurred on the first day of the operation. The security and military failures of October 7 far exceed Israel's losses in the October 1973 war (often referred to as the Yom Kippur War); hence, given the scale of casualties and the humiliating defeat of this regime, it cannot be compensated by the smallest member of the resistance's response to Israel.





Whatever the outcome of the Gaza war, it will have significant consequences for Israel's regime and society. These events not only lead to debates about who is responsible for this unprecedented failure but also undermine the confidence of the Israeli people in the army and the security system's ability to protect them.

As a result, the first blow was to the regime's Military Intelligence Directorate (Aman) and the Israeli Security Agency (Shin Bet), which could not predict or even obtain information about this operation. Moreover, in a regime that has built its global reputation on boasting about its security power and its technological and intelligence capabilities, the attack has inflicted an irreparable blow to Israel's security information system.

The second major failure is the wall that Israel has built around Gaza. Since its withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, Israel has constructed a fortified concrete wall around Gaza, approximately 65 kilometers in length, 7 meters deep, and 7 meters high. This wall is equipped with advanced sensors and is monitored by surveillance towers along its perimeter. Israelis easily believed that this wall would be sufficient to prevent Palestinian fighters from infiltrating the occupied territories, but a significant number of fighters managed to cross it and reach more than 20 points in the depths of the occupied lands. The third failure was the Israeli army's inability to secure its military base near the northern border of the Gaza Strip and the presence of multiple military points and observation towers along the border, as well as the army's inability to protect over 20 settlements surrounding Gaza. Hamas military units managed to take over this base and de-

feat the Israeli forces stationed there.

The fourth failure was the security provision for a music festival hosting several thousand Israeli and foreign guests. This event was held in an open field a few kilometers from the Gaza border, near a military base, and the organizers were obligated to obtain security clearances. Moreover, this operation left the Israeli military establishment in a state of shock, unable to make decisions or respond to the security and military situation.

This sudden attack, with its audacious performance, organizational capabilities, and military experience of Palestinian fighters, paralyzed Israel's military and political leadership. The Israeli army had long boasted of its readiness to face any challenge and its ability to mobilize for quick response to any attack within hours. However, it not only failed to protect its military bases but also in rapidly regaining control of areas and military settlements.

The magnitude of the consequences after this round of conflict is different from the previous ones. The current conflict has dealt a timely blow to the position of the Israeli cabinet, both domestically and internationally. Compared to previous episodes, Israel's many shortcomings in its perspectives and security strategies, as well as its assessments of its adversaries' capabilities, have become apparent. This attack also places Israel in the face of a new stage of the Arab-Israeli conflict and assures the people that Israel's power boasts are nothing more than a big lie. Therefore, these issues force Israel to change its mindset and reconsider its calculations, which should include topics like the Palestinian government, urbanization, refugees, and Al-Quds; these discussions, in addition to exacerbating challenges internally and impacting Israel's normalization with the outside world, are significant.

After learning about the scale of Hamas's military operation, Netanyahu, following con-

sultations with military commanders and members of the security cabinet, declared that Israel was now in a state of war and called for an end to the social divide in Israel. Israel intends to inflict significant damage on the Palestinians in Gaza and actively seeks to carry out further massacres. This may alter the tone of the conflict for the major world powers that currently exhibit strong support for Israel. Israel attempts to displace the people through intense aerial bombardments and drive them against the leadership.

On the other hand, it must be noted that the resistance forces have achieved unprecedented gains and breakthroughs. Al-Qassam Brigades not only succeeded in breaching Israel's front line of defense but also pushed the battle deep into Israeli territory and even questioned the principle of Israel's invincibility. This has reached a point where Israeli authors describe Operation Al-Aqsa Storm as a shock and nightmare that terrified the entire regime and emphasize that this operation was a repetition of the Yom Kippur War in 1973, when Egypt liberated the Sinai Peninsula on October 7, 1973.

The consensus in Israel is that, unlike previous wars that began in Gaza, this time the Israeli army must aim to put an end to Hamas rule in Gaza. Nevertheless, this requires at least to some extent the occupation of Gaza, because no matter how many facilities and buildings Israel destroys and no matter how many massacres it commits, it cannot manage the war from the air. If Israel continues with a ground invasion, it will incur heavy casualties in urban warfare against Hamas, which excels in this type of combat.

It appears that in recent years, Israel has replaced its ground forces' development with investments in its air force, cyber capabilities, and information technologies. Therefore, it can be said that if the war concludes without ending the Hamas rule, Israel's leadership will add another catastrophic failure to its current list.

US directly participates in war against Palestinians



By Syed Ali Hassan

Iran Daily's correspondent in Pakistan

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian once stressed that resistance groups in Palestine and other parts of the region are ready to come to the aid of innocent Palestinians and face their common Israeli enemy. An Iraqi resistance movement has also announced that if Israel does not stop its aggression against Palestinians, it will target American interests in the region. On Friday, the Secretary-General of Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah also said that all options against Israel are on the table.

The goal of all the statements of the like is to address Israel in the only language that it seems to understand and ultimately, to put an end to the massacre of children and innocent civilians and ensure that humanitarian aid is delivered to the oppressed people of Gaza.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has refused the call from a long list of countries, including its closest ally, the United States, to accept a temporary ceasefire and allow the delivery of essential humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip.

Meanwhile, the US Department of Defence has acknowledged conducting unarmed UAV flights over Gaza to help Israel find its captives, effectively admitting to participating in the Israeli military attack against Palestinians considering how many civilians have been indiscriminately targeted by Israel in its desperate search. It is not difficult to come to the conclusion that while the US has as always talked a humanitarian talk since October 7, its actions actually fan the flames of war and make it complicit in Israeli crimes against humanity.

In his Friday address, Nasrallah warned the US that stopping a full-scale regional war depends on Gaza.

So, evidently, this is the last chance for the US to stop its bloodthirsty ally, Israel, from bombarding Palestinians and give them a chance to settle in their homeland. If the US fails, well, the writing is on the wall for it.

Gaza genocide continues ...

Their proportion has reached more than 73% of the total number of martyrs, which according to the statistics of the Health Ministry until October 30th, reached more than 9,000 martyrs. In addition, about 240 schools have been damaged, along with nearly 200,000 housing units partially destroyed, 32,000 housing units completely demolished, 47 mosques, 3 churches, and 25 ambulances destroyed. Furthermore, 25 hospitals were taken out of service due to the savage bombing that targeted their facilities and surroundings. In addition, more than 1,600 people are missing under the rubble, and the civil defense and medical units have been unable to reach them.

It seems that the occupation not only wanted to take our lives but also to erase our Palestinian narrative by bombing homes and assassinating writers, political analysts, and journalists. They aim to pass on their fabricated and false narrative. That's why they target our homes and threaten us with death, both ourselves and our families if we continue to reveal the truth to the world and the extent of the oppression practiced by the occupation against our people.

The occupation does not want us to find shelter for ourselves and our children as winter begins. They also destroy and bomb our children's memories, including their toys, photo albums, and bedrooms.

In the end, I realized that I must write and confront this crisis I'm going through. I wrote this article on paper and then sought out a friend inside the hospital, asking him to lend me his laptop for an hour to write this article on a Word

document on his laptop and send it to my colleagues at Iran Daily.

On the twenty-fifth day of the Zionist aggression on the Gaza Strip, the Israeli army began its ground incursion into those areas within the Gaza Strip classified as soft and empty agricultural lands that do not achieve any success for the occupying army. This truly pains the Israeli leaders as they haven't accomplished any achievements to boast about in front of the Israeli public to restore the image of deterrence that collapsed at the beginning of the Battle of the Al-Aqsa Intifada. This is especially evident in light of the legendary resilience of the citizens in Gaza, their unwavering support for the resistance, and their standing behind it.

From our experience, our people have suffered from killing and destruction for 75 years. Now, all they have left is resilience and patience in the face of the Zionist arrogance and tyranny, especially in this legendary heroic battle of our people, who endure death, hunger, thirst, and homelessness. They bear the American and Western support for the Zionist entity and the silence and inaction of the Arab regimes. Some even align with the Zionist entity or seek normalization with it. But it's important to emphasize that the Palestinian people are aware and fully understand who stood by them and supported them and who stood against them and conspired against them. History and generations will record the honor roll of those who stood by our people and supported them, as well as the list of shame for those who stood against the Palestinian people and conspired against them.



Iranian Olfati on historic gymnastics medal at Asian Games



Mahdiah Qazvinian
Staff writer

Of the 285 Iranian athletes in the recently-finished Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, only 12 – along with the men's volleyball team – managed to walk away with the ultimate prize of their respective contests.

The outcome was probably not what the Iranian Sport Ministry and the National Olympic Committee had hoped for prior to the Games, as the number of golds was seven short of the figure the country bagged in Jakarta-Palembang 2018, being the lowest haul since 2006, when the Iranian athletes grabbed 11 golds in Doha.

Despite all the lack of success and below-par performances during the 15 days, the Iranian sport still reveled in some impressive achievements in Hangzhou, which could offer new sources of joy and glory in the future international events.

The Iranian five-man team notched up a first-ever chess gold

in the Games for the country, with Faranak Parto-Azar becoming the first Iranian woman over the 19 edition of the event to win a mountain biking medal – a cross country bronze.

A couple of men's team and doubles bronzes brought Iran's 65-year drought in the table tennis competitions of the Asian Games to an end, while Taraneh Ahmadi was an unlikely hero for the country by winning a roller-skating silver.

Mahdi Olfati was also a surprise Iranian medalist in Hangzhou, who, despite failing to finish his campaign with a gold, wrote his name into history books, when he snatched a maiden gymnastics medal for the country at the Asian Games by taking a precious silver in the men's vault competition.

"The Asian Games are among the most prestigious sporting events for every athlete and country in the continent," Olfati told Iran Daily, adding: "The gymnastics competitions were held at the highest level as some of the world-class con-



Iranian Mahdi Olfati is seen in action in the men's vault final of the artistic gymnastics competitions at the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, on September 29, 2023.
● ALI SHARIFZADEH/IRNA

testants took part at the event."

"China and Japan are among the gymnastics hubs in the world and had some top-ranked athletes in the Games. I'm thrilled to have competed with them in Hangzhou," said the 24-year-old Iranian, who scored 14.783 points to finish behind Japanese Wataru Tanigawa – a four-time world medalist and an Olympic silver winner in Tokyo two years ago. "We were barely regarded as the favorites for glory in the past, but now we are among the medal hopefuls at every tournament. I'm sure other Iranians also deserved to leave the Asian Games with a medal," Olfati said.

Olfati's silver sums up years of improvement and development in the gymnastics in Iran, headlined by Mahdi Ahmad-Kohani and Saeedreza Keikha, who have won multiple world and continental medals in recent years, with the latter having several moves named after him in the pommel horse category.

"I wish I can also register a couple of moves in the FIG's Code of

Points one day, just like Keikha did," Olfati said of his future ambitions. Next for the Iranian are the Olympic qualifying tournaments in the coming months before the main event in Paris next year.

"I'll participate in four Olympic qualification events, which will get underway in March and will be hosted by Egypt, Germany, Qatar, and Azerbaijan. An overall top-two finish across the four tournaments will secure a berth in the Olympics," added Olfati, whose ultimate goal is "to win a medal in Paris."

Having started in the gymnastics in the age of seven, Olfati joined the national team in 2017 and went on to represent the country at the Summer Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires a year later before grabbing a vault silver at the FIG World Cup series in Cottbus, Germany, earlier this year.

When asked about his future plans, Olfati said he would be looking to "open a top-notch gymnastics academy in my home town in Golestan Province [in northeast Iran]."

Iran completes lineup for world table tennis meet



Noshad Alamian (L) and Nima Alamian, pictured at the Hangzhou Asian Games, will represent Iran at the World Team Table Tennis Championships in Busan, South Korea, in February.
● IRNA

Sports Desk

Iran named the five-man squad for the 2024 World Team Table Tennis Championships – starting February 16 in Busan, South Korea.

Mohammad Mousavi and Matin Heydari finished as the top two after 13 rounds of matches in the national team trails to book a place at world event, which will also serve as part of the qualifiers for next year's Paris Olympics.

The Iranian duo will be joined by Amirhossein Hodaei, Nima Alamian, and Noshad Alamian, who will step into the competition fresh from an impressive run in the Hangzhou Asian Games in October, where they brought the

country's 65-year wait for a table tennis medal at the event to an end.

The trio finished second to Hong Kong in the group before defeating Vietnam and Japan – Olympic bronze winner on home soil two years ago – to progress into the semifinals.

A last-four defeat against South Korea saw Iran settle for a joint team bronze alongside the Chinese Taipei.

Alamian brothers then teamed up to beat the Japanese duo of Mizuki Oikawa and Taisei Matsushita in the men's doubles quarterfinals, but their fairy tale in Hangzhou came to an end in the semifinals, where a loss to the host's Fan Zhendong – a team gold medalist in Tokyo Olympics – and Wang Chuqin sealed bronze medal for Iran.

NBA roundup:

Warriors survive close call, edge Thunder

REUTERS – Stephen Curry scored 30 points, including the winning layup in the final second, to lift the Golden State Warriors to a 141-139 victory over the host Oklahoma City Thunder on Friday in an NBA in-season tournament game.

As Curry's ball was going through the basket, Draymond Green made contact with the rim. After a lengthy review, Green's contact was deemed "not to cause the ball to take an unnatural bounce" and the basket was counted.

Dario Saric added 20 points off the bench for the Warriors, who have won five consecutive games following an opening loss.

Luguentz Dort scored 29 points, making all six of his 3-point attempts, to lead Oklahoma City.

Elsewhere, Damian Lillard scored 15 of his team-high 30 points in the fourth quarter as Milwaukee Bucks beat visiting New York Knicks 110-105 in the teams' first game of the NBA's inaugural in-season tournament.

Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 22 points, Jae Crowder added 14, MarJon Beauchamp had 13 and Brook Lopez finished with 13 points and eight blocks for Milwaukee.

Jalen Brunson led the Knicks with 45 points. Brunson hit a 3-pointer with 1:10 left to give New York its first lead since early in the second quarter, but Lillard scored the next six points as the Bucks pulled away.

Myles Turner went for a season-high 27 points, Tyrese Haliburton buried a long-range 2-pointer with 17.7 sec-



Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) shoots a three point basket during a victory over the Thunder in an NBA in-season tournament game in Oklahoma City, OK, US, on Nov. 3, 2023.
● ALONZO ADAMS/USA TODAY SPORTS

onds remaining and hosts Indiana Pacers beat Cleveland Cavaliers 121-116 in Indianapolis to become the first winner in the NBA's new in-season tournament.

Cavaliers' Donovan Mitchell led all scorers with 38 points to go with a team-high nine assists. He shot 4-for-7 on 3-pointers, but the Cavaliers were outscored 45-24 by the Pacers from beyond the arc.

Nikola Jokic had 33 points, 14 rebounds and nine assists, Michael Porter Jr. scored 24 points and grabbed nine rebounds and hosts Denver

Nuggets beat Dallas 125-114 in the in-season tournament opener for both teams.

Jamal Murray logged 18 points and 13 assists, and Aaron Gordon also scored 18 points for the Nuggets. Luka Doncic had 34 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists, while Kyrie Irving scored 22 points in his return to the lineup for the Mavericks. Dallas was without head coach Jason Kidd, who didn't make the trip due to a non-COVID illness. Assistant Sean Sweeney served as the acting head coach.

Iranian satellites to contribute to environmental pursuits

Social Desk

Iranian Space Agency (ISA) provided satellite images of the Kajaki Dam sources in Afghanistan to the country's National Dust Control Headquarters, announced Ali Sadeqi Naeini, the representative of the ISA at the headquarters.

"These images serve as valuable resources for Iranian representatives at the Hirmand Water Commissionerate to facilitate negotiations with the Afghan delegation," he said, according to Tasnim News Agency.

One of the fields in which satellite images play an important role is environmental monitoring. Satellite images with a wide view provide users with the ability to monitor various aspects such as dust paths, water sources, and subsidence rates. The impact of satellites on improving the quality of human life is widely acknowledged. Satellites, including



those used for sensing and telecommunication purposes, operate in different orbits around the Earth and have diverse applications. These effects can be observed in various fields such as weather forecasting, Earth resource observation, satellite-based communications, and aerial photography. Environmental monitoring is a crucial area where satellite images play a significant

role. These images, offering a broad perspective, enable users to monitor dust paths, water resources, subsidence rates, border surveillance, and boundary mapping. In our country, satellite images are also employed for environmental protection purposes, as previously illustrated.

These satellite images have also contributed to the creation of dust maps, aiding

in the identification and control of both internal and external dust sources. Given the water disputes between Iran and Afghanistan, these images provide crucial support to Iranian representatives, equipping them with valuable evidence during negotiations.

Another illustrative example of the impact of satellite images can be observed through the words of Jabbar



TASNIM

Vatan Fada, Director General of the Border Rivers Office at the Ministry of Energy.

"When the Taliban claimed there was a water shortage due to reduced rainfall, we presented satellite images from the past five years, including the most recent ones, demonstrating that the current year had witnessed more rainfall than the previous two to three years," he said.

These images served as undeniable proof of the water availability behind the dam. While monitoring dust and water resources is one of the key environmental functions of satellite images, these images have versatile applications in other fields as well. In addition to Iran, many countries in the region also face environmental challenges.

"Iran's satellite images can assist these countries in

monitoring and addressing such problems. For instance, countries like Iraq and Syria, which, like Iran, confront issues related to dust and water disputes with neighboring nations, can benefit from the use of satellite images," he said, adding, "The availability of accurate information through these images holds significant value for both these countries and Iran."

Mahdieh Qazvinian Staff writer

After I got sober, I only pedaled. There are countless individuals around the world who, despite enduring the harrowing experience of drug addiction, have managed to break free from its clutches and reintegrate themselves into society. Unfortunately, addiction rates in Iran have reached alarming levels, with an estimated 15 million people affected in 2022. However, amidst this bleak scenario, there are still glimmers of hope.

For over two decades, addiction treatment centers have been actively working in Iran, alongside a comprehensive prevention program that has been in place for 15 years. One shining example of triumph over addiction is Hamid Reza, a recovered addict who now serves as a member of the Cycling Federation of Tehran Province. A devoted father of two, he stands tall as a living testament to the power of resilience and a healthy lifestyle.

At the tender age of 13,

Hamid Reza's curiosity, ignorance, and peer pressure led him down a dangerous path of smoking and drug experimentation. Sadly, this ill-fated decision robbed him of 17 precious years of his life. Today, 18 years have passed since his liberation from addiction, and he has not only overcome this debilitating disease but has also embraced sports, a healthy lifestyle, charitable work, and public service, inspiring others along the way.

From the depths of addiction to the sweet taste of freedom, 49-year-old Hamid Reza reflects on his tumultuous journey. "Like so many other addicts, I took my first step towards drug consumption with a single cigarette, only to find myself trapped in the clutches of various drugs, from opium and morphine to alcohol and hashish," he shares. "I reached the lowest point in my youth, consuming substances in the most destructive ways imaginable."

Hamid Reza continues, "I felt an emptiness within me, believing that excessive drug use would fill the void.

Insights from a recovered drug user

'Our future is not defined by our past'



However, instead of finding solace, smoke and intoxication cast a shadow over my eyes, blinding me to the truth."

By the grace of God, 15 years ago, during a period of complete despair and physical exhaustion, Hamid Reza found solace in Narcotics Anonymous, right in the same park where he once indulged in his addiction. Since then, his life has

undergone a remarkable transformation. Hamid Reza attributes this miraculous turnaround to the grace of God, as well as the unwavering support and efforts of his brother and wife.

"The power of drugs is insidious, compelling addicts to do anything to sustain their habit and descend further into self-destruction," he confesses. "I, too, reached the precipice of ruin. Yet, thanks to the grace of God, the guidance provided by Narcotics Anonymous, and the unwavering support of my family, particularly my brother and wife, I managed to break free. For the past 18 years, I have lived a drug-free life and cherished every single moment."

Hamid Reza's journey from the depths of addiction to a life of purpose and fulfillment serves as a beacon of hope for countless others who find themselves ensnared by the grip of addiction. His story reminds us that with determination, support, and a commitment to a healthier existence, liberation from addiction is possible.



Cycling from Amol to Mashhad in 11 days

Eighteen years have passed since Hamid Reza's last high, and during this time, he has turned to professional cycling to fill the void in his life and overcome the temptation of drugs. He firmly believes that the sense of liberation he once found in drugs is now replaced by the exhilaration and freedom he experiences while cycling. It's a feeling akin to flying through the air, transcending boundaries and limitations. This recovered addict has not only become a member of the federation but has also embarked on remarkable cycling journeys across intercity roads, including Amol, Nowshahr, Royan, and a challenging 800 km route from Amol to Mashhad in August 2019.

Reflecting on this journey, he shares, "On the auspicious day of Ghadir Eid, I embarked on a pilgrimage from Amol to the holy city of Mashhad. After 11 days of taxing pedaling, I finally arrived in Mashhad, eager to visit Imam Reza (PBUH)." Hamid Reza, an individual

with a remarkable story, is actively involved in charitable activities. He states, "In the Narcotics Anonymous, I learned that true happiness stems from helping others selflessly. I now teach and share my experiences with fellow patients in two recovery houses in Tehranpars and Lavasan."

Exercise as an alternative to drugs

After his recovery, Hamid Reza dedicated his time to working in various addiction treatment centers. With his affairs in order, he is determined to prepare himself for cycling adventures beyond borders. He emphasizes, "Cycling offers a profound sense of freedom. Additionally, traveling by bicycle is not only more affordable but also immensely enjoyable compared to using a car. Therefore, I have decided to travel from Turkey to France, covering about 3700 km. My aim is to spread the message of wellness and freedom from addiction across borders."

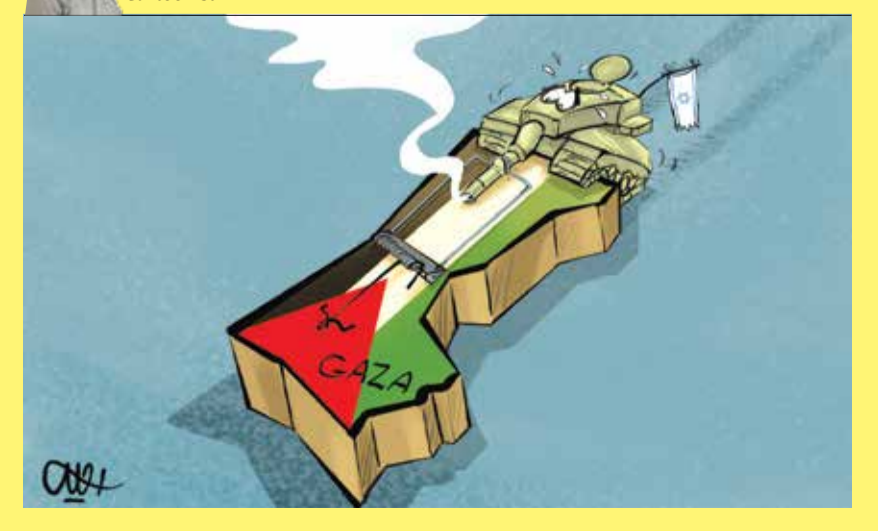
Hamid Reza encourages individuals who have experi-

enced the joy of liberation from addiction to embrace sports, affirming, "Although life presents us with numerous challenges, I implore my fellow human beings to resist temptation and engage in physical activity for at least one hour a day. Walking and running are the most accessible sports, and even without a bicycle or sports equipment, one can shine in these activities with a little determination. The future of a person should not be defined by their past; rather, by the will to change their present and future."

12-step program

Hamid Reza has discovered newfound purity through the 12-step program. He explains, "This program, consisting of twelve steps, provides individuals with self-awareness and a deeper understanding. It revolves around three fundamental principles: honesty, insight, and desire. This program has helped individuals like us who struggled with addiction to stop hiding and confront this disease. It has greatly facilitated our personal relationships and self-discovery." Speaking further on the program's nature, she shares, "The 12-step groups have a strong spiritual orientation. They provide a safe, healthy, and supportive environment for individuals who have relinquished their addictive behaviors. Anonymity is highly respected within these groups, ensuring that the words spoken by group members remain confidential, not to be shared outside. In this program, we express gratitude to God at every moment and in every step we take."

Mohammad Ali Rajabi Cartoonist



Iran's 'Okht-o-Reda' warmly welcomed in Pakistan



IRNA - The Iranian film 'Okht-o-Reda' ('Reza's Sister') directed by Mojtaba Tabatabai, was screened in Pakistan's city of Quetta and was warmly received by the Pakistani people. The film's director is renowned for directing acclaimed documentaries like 'Cloudy Sky' and 'The Footsteps of Water'. The film narrates the journey of Hazrat Masumeh (PBUH) from Medina to Qom. Produced by Soureh Cinema Organization, the film has not only been available for viewing in cinema theaters over the past month but has also been screened at special locations as part of mobile screenings. After watching the film, Pakistani audiences expressed their delight at the screening of 'Okht-o-Reda' and extended their gratitude to the filmmaker. They praised the film, stating that it ranks among the finest works they have seen, following TV series like 'Mokhtarnameh' and 'Prophet Joseph'.

Iran's 'Mr. Babak's Family' selected for Polish film festival



IRNA - The Iranian short film 'Mr. Babak's Family', directed by Aminreza Alimohammadi and produced by Amin Rafiei, is slated to be screened at the 17th Lublin Film Festival in Poland. The film, co-written by Solmaz E'temad and Aminreza Alimohammadi, marks its ninth international appearance at global film festivals. The cast of 'Mr. Babak's Family' includes Afshin Hasanloo, Touran Ramezani, Abbas Imani, Amir Moqimi, Leila Hosseinzadeh, and Saeed Karimi. The Lublin Film Festival, scheduled from November 17 to 26 in Lubelskie, Poland, features a selection of 1,700 films, with awards and trophies being presented to the top 12 films. Previously, 'Mr. Babak's Family' participated in the 7th edition of the Shibuya TANPEN Film Festival in Japan from December 22 to 24.

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Iran, Pakistan collaborate on joint film project celebrating Iqbal

The Minister of Culture of Pakistan, Jamal Shah, lauded the dynamism of Iran's cinema industry and announced the collaboration between Iran and Pakistan on a joint film project, including one that pays tribute to Allama Muhammad Iqbal, known as Iqbal Lahori. This announcement comes as part of Pakistan's commitment to strengthening cultural and artistic ties with Iran. In an interview with IRNA, Jamal Shah revealed Pakistan's determination to develop cultural and artistic connections with Iran. He highlighted the recent meeting with his Iranian counterpart on the sidelines of the Conference of Ministers of Culture in the Islamic World in Doha, expressing Pakistan's eagerness to host an Iranian film festival. The Iranian Minister of Cul-

ture and Islamic Guidance, Mohammad-Mehdi Esmaeili, and the Director of the Cinema Organization of Iran, Mohammad Khazaei, were invited to visit Islamabad to attend this festival. Furthermore, Minister Jamal Shah disclosed that several Iranian officials, including directors and filmmakers, are scheduled to participate in the festival in Islamabad. This gathering aims to facilitate the exchange of experiences and negotiations towards the finalization of the joint production of a film on Iqbal Lahori. Jamal Shah underscored that Iqbal Lahori is an important cultural and shared heritage of both Pakistan and Iran. He also expressed Pakistan's readiness to provide the necessary facilities for the development of other collaborative cultural and artistic productions and

films. The Pakistani official praised the progress made by Iran in various cultural fields, particularly in music, filmmaking, and visual arts, after the Islamic Revolution. He underlined the honor it brings to the Islamic community, making special note of Pakistan's keen interest in mutual exchange and joint production in the film and cinema industry. "We are eager to not only benefit from Iran's achievements in various cultural fields, but also to utilize their experiences in the field of film," said Jamal Shah. He further announced Pakistan's Ministry of Culture's readiness to collaborate with the Cinema Organization of Iran for the joint production of films, emphasizing the role such projects play in deepening cultural ties between the

two countries. He expressed Pakistan's enthusiasm for hosting an Iranian film festival as proof to the strength of Iran's cinema industry. Minister Jamal Shah highlighted the long-standing and strong cultural, historical, religious, and geographical ties between Iran and Pakistan. He recalled that these relations came before Pakistan's establishment, dating back to a time when this region was under Persian rule. In conclusion, Jamal Shah stressed the need to promote multifaceted cultural, artistic, educational, and literary cooperation between Iran and Pakistan. He called for immediate action to prevent the ongoing Israeli atrocities against Palestinians in Gaza, and for the world community, Islamic nations, and leaders to join forces in sup-



● IRNA

porting the defenseless people of Gaza against the relentless Israeli aggressions. Iran's Ambassador to Islamabad Reza Amiri-Moqaddam expressed satisfaction with the strong people-to-people relations between the two neighboring countries and emphasized the importance of diversifying cultural ex-

changes. He confirmed Iran's willingness to expand comprehensive cultural, artistic, and cinematic cooperation with Pakistan. During their meeting, Esmaeili and his Pakistani counterpart agreed on the organization of a joint cultural week celebrating the cultural heritage of both nations in Islamabad.

Fath-Ali Shah Qajar relief partially saved from destruction



By Sadeq Dehqan
 Staff writer



● WIKIPEDIA

In the wake of official registration on Iran's National List for Cultural Heritage, the only section of the last bas-relief of Fat'h-Ali Shah Qajar, a prominent figure from the Qajar era, has been saved from complete destruction. The Fat'h-Ali Shah relief, dating back to 1869, features an impressive depiction of the Qajar king mounted on a horse, engaged in a hunt for a brutal lion. This massive relief, covering an area of approximately 30 square meters, was intricately carved into the side of Sorsoreh Mountain, located in Shahr-e Rey, in southern Tehran. Regrettably, around half a century ago, this historical masterpiece was subjected to severe damage and destruction as it became the raw material for the local Shahr-e Rey Cement Factory, which was established in there. However, small remains of this exceptional relief, as well as some inscribed panels in nasta'liq script, managed to survive, preserving the memory of the dramatic encounter

between the Qajar king and the lion. Qadir Afrund, the director of Shahr-e Rey's National Cultural Heritage Base, in an exclusive interview with Iran Daily, shed light on the historical significance of this relief, saying, "During the Qajar dynasty, the Qajar kings had two significant hunting grounds in the Shahr-e Rey area, one extending along the western slopes of the Bibi Shahrbanu Mountain range, part of which leads to Rashkan Castle. Another part of these hunting grounds stretched towards Naqareh Khaneh Mountain (also known as Tabarak Mountain). The Sorsoreh Mountain, where the iconic relief of Fat'h-Ali Shah was carved, was an integral part of this landscape." Afrund emphasized that both Tabarak and Sorsoreh mountains had been almost entirely consumed as

building materials by the Shahr-e Rey Cement Factory. He elaborated, "Another Qajar king's hunting ground was located in the Cheshmeh Ali region in Shahr-e Rey, where Fat'h-Ali Shah ordered the construction of another impressive stone relief, known as the Fat'h-Ali Shah relief, or Cheshmeh Ali relief, which still stands intact. This relief has a history of approximately 180 years, while Cheshmeh Ali itself dates back to eight thousand years ago." Speaking about the fate of the Fat'h-Ali Shah relief on Sorsoreh Mountain, Afrund provided a historical account, saying, "The Shahr-e Rey Cement Factory was inaugurated in 1933, and in 1934, an American archaeological team began its fieldwork on the southern slopes of the Rashkan Castle and Sorsoreh Mountain."

Afrund added, "During that time, the Ministry of Industries sought to establish Iran's first modern industrial cement factory, the Shahr-e Rey Cement Factory, to supply cement for the construction of the North-South Railway. Simultaneously, the Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Science, Research and Technology signed a contract for archaeological excavations with the American team."

He said that professor Smith, the head of the American team in the archaeological project, had objected to the destruction of historical artifacts by the cement factory but, in 1936, during the first Pahlavi era, sections of Tabarak Mountain and Rashkan Castle, dating back to the Al-Buwayh and Seljuk periods, were razed, and their stones were utilized in the cement factory. Afrund added, "The

Fat'h-Ali Shah relief on Sorsoreh Mountain was situated in an area that essentially served as a backdrop for a recreational site during the Qajar period, which the Qajar royal family used as a secluded and recreational place. Eventually, only small parts of this iconic relief survived. Recently, with the efforts of history and culture enthusiasts in Shahr-e Rey, this part of the stone relief has been registered

as a national heritage in Iran, and although most of it has been lost, what remains is a priceless and unparalleled historical artifact." The preservation of this significant relic offers a glimpse into Iran's rich cultural heritage and the efforts to safeguard its historical treasures, ensuring that these remnants of the past continue to be celebrated and protected for future generations.



PIC OF THE DAY
 Iranians from all walks of life take to the streets nationwide on November 4, 2023 to mark the National Day against the Global Arrogance as well as the 44th anniversary of the takeover of the US embassy in Tehran, commonly known as the Day of Espionage in the country.
 ● FARS