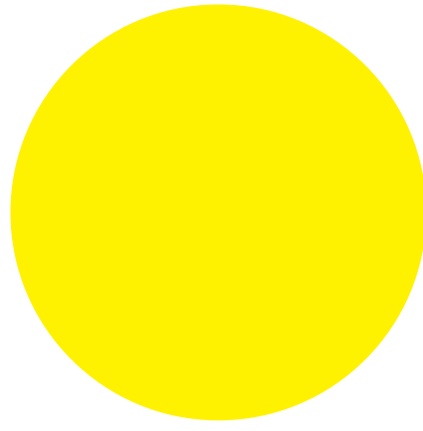


Iran's petroleum industry requires \$275b of investment: **NIOC**



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Leader: US Directly Involved in Masterminding Gaza War

Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said the United States is directly involved in masterminding the Israeli war on Gaza, stressing that the Tel Aviv regime is the real loser of the aggression against the besieged strip.



Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei (R) speaks to Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani in a meeting attended by Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi (L) in Tehran on November 6, 2023.

Sketching uncertain future for Zionists



By **Abed Akbari**
International affairs expert

EXCLUSIVE OPINION

The Friday evening speech by Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah regarding Palestine, particularly the developments in Gaza, contained noteworthy and unique insights about the war in the Northern Palestinian front, the resistance attacks, and all matters related to the Palestinian conflict. However, the Secretary-General of Hezbollah's perspective on the "future battle" with the Zionist regime stood out more prominently than other aspects.

Israel's recent engagement in clashes on the Northern front, especially the extensive Friday attacks on southern Lebanon, as well as the initiation of ground operations in the Gaza Strip, have crossed many red lines of the resistance axis. Resistance will not succumb to silence and Gaza's subjugation by Israel, even though, according to the predictions of the resistance front before Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, Israel aims to compensate for the heavy blows inflicted by Hamas through the occupation of the Gaza Strip. These two objectives are in direct opposition to each other and are not resolvable through any mediation or preconditions.

According to the Secretary-General of Hezbollah, the fate of this conflict will be determined on the battlefield and the resistance holds a pivotal role. Hezbollah has effectively entered the war, positioning itself at the center of the battle. Until now, it has been able to divert a significant portion of the logistic and operational capabilities of the Zionist regime to Lebanon. The continued targeting of non-combatants, whether in Gaza or Lebanon, leads the Northern front towards retaliatory actions. However, what was arguably more important in Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah's speech was his analysis of the United States' role in the crimes of the Zionist regime. He believes that in the event of the United States' entry into a war against the resistance, Hezbollah possesses the necessary weaponry to confront American warships in the Mediterranean.

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Iranian Javer opens up on emotional road to glory at Asian Games



EXCLUSIVE

Afghan refugees on agenda in Baradar's meeting with interior minister



Paintings by Irandokht Mohasses on display on her 92nd birthday



EXCLUSIVE

NEWS IN BRIEF

Belt and Road Initiative leads to Tehran-Beijing economic growth: Minister**Economy Desk**

China's Belt and Road Initiative offers many opportunities to develop Iran's infrastructure, including ports and railways, which can facilitate the development of Iran-China economic growth, said minister of industry, mines and trade. Speaking at the Iran-China business conference, Abbas Aliabadi noted that an agreement between Tehran and Beijing has paved the ground for the quick growth of bilateral ties, IRNA reported.

"In 2022, China's non-oil imports from Iran were \$6.35 billion, most of which were petrochemical, mineral and metal products, medicine, agriculture and fisheries."

China's exports to Iran hit \$9.44 billion last year, most of which were electronic, electrical and power plant equipment, transportation, various industrial and metal equipment, chemical products, plastic products, and textiles, the minister added. Aliabadi said Iran has significant experiences in the field of petrochemical and refinery products as well as some technology-based products, which can be attractive to Chinese businessmen.

WB says food inflation shrinks in Iran

The World Bank (WB) in its latest report said food inflation in Iran in the 12-month period to September 22 has dropped to about 37 percent.

In a report on "Inflation of Food in World," the bank pointed to a decrease in food inflation in Iran to 37.4 percent in the year to September 22, 2023, compared to the same period of last year, Tasnim news agency reported.

Also, the food inflation rate in Iran has relatively halved over the past year, as it was 71.4 percent in October 2022.

The price of food products considerably increased in Iran following the removal of the preferential currency set for importing basic goods (staples) into the country but the country has witnessed a declining trend of food inflation since May 2023.

Among countries in the world, Venezuela, Lebanon and Argentina are record-holders of skyrocketing food inflation, the World Bank added.

Iran's petroleum industry requires \$275b of investment: NIOC**Economy Desk**

Iran ranks first in the world in terms of oil and gas reserves, with about 340 billion barrels of crude oil, said the head of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), adding that these valuable reserves require an investment of about \$275 billion in the upstream and downstream sectors. In the upstream sector, we have an investment opportunity of about \$160 billion, to implement about 100 projects related to the development of oil and gas fields, noted Mohsen Khojasteh-Mehr, according to Shana.

The official added that there are investment opportunities of about \$35 billion for

petrochemical projects, and about \$80 billion in the refining sector.

Speaking at a meeting on the sidelines of the 6th China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, he noted that Iran's participation in the exhibition indicates the country's widespread economic interactions, especially in the field of energy and international trade.

The exhibition shows the commitment of Iran and China to develop bilateral cooperation and appropriate relations between Iran's domestic market and China's market, Khojasteh-Meh emphasized.

"We are seeking to set up a stable platform at a strategic

level and also create a proper market-based business environment in the international arena."

Trade and business between Iran and China are on an upward trajectory, he said, adding that Iran showed in practice that it has a safe, reliable and stable market in the field of energy trade.

Main actors determine the future of the world's energy, the NIOC head said, adding that in Iran, as one of the main players, opportunities have been provided in the oil industry.

The 6th CIIE kicked off in Shanghai on Sunday and will wrap up on Friday. This is one of the biggest trade fairs in China.

**Technical details of Rasht-Astara railway project under discussion with Russia****Economy Desk**

About 70 percent of the technical issues regarding the Rasht-Astara railway project have been discussed and finalized with Russia, announced Kheirollah Khademi, the managing director of Iran's Construction and Development of Transportation Infrastructures Company (CDTIC).

"An agreement has already

been signed with Russia so that this country will provide us with a government loan for the construction and completion of the Rasht-Astara railway," said the official, according to IRNA.

The agreement includes the general terms of the contract, the employer's requirements, the funding methods, and the project implementation schedule,

Khademi explained.

"After many technical meetings by the experts of the two countries, the railway's blueprint was prepared with special amendments to increase the speed and capacity of the route."

Iran and Russia inked an agreement on May 17 this year on the long-stalled construction of a railway connecting the northern Iranian cities of Rasht and

Astara.

The railway has a key role in the International North-South Transit Corridor (INSTC).

With a total length of 162km, the railway is a crucial element of the INSTC. The corridor integrates road, rail, and sea transportation, facilitating the movement of goods between Russia and India via Iran.

**Iran's oil sales can return to pre-sanctions levels via Venezuelan refineries****Economy Desk**

Iran has the potential to rejuvenate its oil exports to Venezuela by refurbishing the Paraguana refinery and boosting its daily oil exports to the country to a total of 860,000 barrels. Paraguana, Venezuela's

largest refining facility, with a daily capacity of 955,000 barrels, is currently running at about 10% of its total capacity following the closure of two distillation units due to a fire and lack of essential raw materials, according to Fars news agency.

Due to U.S. oil sanctions imposed in 2019, the Venezuelan oil sector has faced technical and engineering limitations, resulting in shutdowns. The situation can provide Iranian engineers with a chance to engage in the revitalization of Venezuela's oil industry, including the restoration of the Paraguana refinery and Iran's oil exports.

Over the past two years, Iran's presence in 17 overseas refineries has been raised. So, it contributes to the revitalization of the partially active extraterritorial refineries by offering technical and engineering services and taking a stake in them. As a result of the revival,

the country then exports its own oil in accordance with the increased capacity.

Among the projects, the reconstruction of the 140,000-barrel El-Palito refinery in Venezuela is in its final stages of completion.

Before the arrival of Iranian engineers, the refinery had a mere 10,000 barrels-per-day capacity. From the beginning of the previous Iranian year (started March 21, 2022) a contract valued at €110 million was inked between the National Iranian Engineering Construction Company and the Venezuelan oil firm.

Two years after the contract was signed, the

El-Palito refinery is now operating at its full capacity, resulting in a daily oil export volume of 100,000 barrels for Iran. The successful execution of this project offers valuable insights for Iran's participation in other refinery reconstruction initiatives in Venezuela, such as the Paraguana refinery.

Currently, the Paraguana crude oil refinery complex in Venezuela, consisting of Cardon refinery, Amuay refinery, and Grande refinery, is running at less than 10% of its potential capacity due to a shortage of technical equipment. By renovating and restoring 90% of this complex's capacity, equivalent to over 860,000 barrels of oil, Iran

could have the capability to export roughly one million barrels of its own oil to Venezuela every day.

Presently, Iran is exporting around 1.2 million barrels, out of its total oil export capacity of 2.2 million barrels, to China. By reviving the Paraguana refinery and increasing Iran's current oil exports to Venezuela by 860,000 barrels, it will raise Iran's total oil exports by approximately one million barrels.

Iran's daily average oil exports to China during the first 10 months of 2023 have reached 1.235 million barrels, marking an 84% increase compared to the same period last year, according to Kpler.



Negarestan Museum Garden: A tranquil oasis of art and history



IRAN DAILY



By Yeganeh Kiani
Staff writer

Tucked away in the heart of Tehran lies the Negarestan Museum Garden, a hidden gem that combines art, history, and natural beauty in a unique and enchanting way. Negarestan Museum which is on Shariat Madar St., Baharestan, Tehran, spreads across 13,000 square meters. Negarestan Garden offers a serene escape from the bustling city, inviting visitors to explore its rich cultural heritage while enjoying the tranquility of lush greenery and artistic treasures.

Historical significance

Negarestan Garden has a rich history dating back to the Qajar period in the 19th century. Originally conceived as a royal garden by Fath-Ali Shah (Iran's second Qajar Shah, 1797-1834), it was later expanded during the reign of Nasser al-Din Shah (Iran's fourth Qajar Shah, 1848-1896). The garden served as a retreat for

the Qajar rulers, offering them a peaceful sanctuary away from the complexities of political life. During the Pahlavi era, the garden underwent significant changes, transforming into a museum and cultural center. Today, it stands as a testament to Iran's historical evolution, providing a glimpse into the country's past.

Architectural beauty

The garden's architecture is a fusion of traditional Persian and European styles, making it a splendid visual experience. Visitors can explore intricately designed buildings, arches, and fountains that reflect the elegance of Persian architecture. The garden's main building, adorned with stained glass windows and ornate tile work, showcases the blend of Persian and European artistic influences.

Artistic treasures

Negarestan Museum Garden is not only a feast for the eyes but also a haven for art enthusiasts.

The museum's collection includes a diverse range of Persian and Western art pieces, such as paintings, sculptures, and manuscripts. The extensive assortment of art offers an educational journey through different periods and styles, from traditional Persian art to contemporary works. Visitors can admire the mastery of Persian miniature painting, the intricate calligraphy, and the exquisite craftsmanship on display.

One of the museum's prized possessions is the famed painting "Nurse with a Child" by Kamal-ol-Molk, an iconic Iranian painter of the Qajar era. This masterpiece serves as a window into the talent and artistry of the time, depicting a poignant scene of a mother's love for her child.

Cultural and educational hub

Negarestan Garden has a commitment to education and culture, offering a wide array of

workshops, exhibitions, and events throughout the year. It is a place where visitors can engage with the history and heritage of Iran, from calligraphy workshops to lectures on Persian art. The garden serves as a platform for both local and international artists to showcase their talents and interact with the community.

Serene oasis

What truly sets Negarestan Museum Garden apart is its serene and tranquil ambiance. Strolling through the garden, visitors are enveloped by the soothing sounds of trickling fountains and the gentle rustling of leaves in the wind. It's a peaceful refuge in the midst of a bustling city, where one can escape the urban cacophony and find solace among the flora and artistic wonders.

The garden's green expanse provides an ideal setting for a leisurely picnic or a quiet moment of contemplation. Shaded by tall trees, visitors can relax on benches or spread out a pic-

nic blanket on the lush grass, all while admiring the artistic marvels that surround them.

Local and international appeal

Negarestan Museum Garden has garnered attention and admiration from both locals and international tourists. Iranians appreciate its historical and cultural significance, while international visitors are drawn to its unique blend of art, history, and natural beauty. It serves as a bridge between different cultures, connecting people through the universal language of art.

Preserving Iran's heritage

This enchanting garden plays a vital role in preserving Iran's cultural heritage. It houses invaluable artifacts and documents that educate visitors about the country's rich history and artistic achievements. Moreover, it promotes the importance of art and culture in modern society, reminding everyone of the significance of

preserving and celebrating the past.

The future of Negarestan Museum Garden

As Negarestan Museum Garden continues to evolve, it remains a vital part of Tehran's cultural landscape. The garden's commitment to education, art, and history ensures that it will remain a relevant and cherished institution for generations to come. Its potential to become a hub for international cultural exchange further cements its importance in the global community.

Negarestan Museum Garden is a cultural oasis that encapsulates the heart and soul of Iran. It blends history, art, and natural beauty in a way that captivates the mind and spirit. Whether you are an art aficionado, a history enthusiast, or simply someone seeking a peaceful escape, Negarestan Garden welcomes all to explore its wonders and immerse themselves in the rich tapestry of Iran's heritage.

Bird's autumn migration, a wonder in Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province

Iranica Desk

The migration of Asian birds to the natural and man-made wetlands of Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province has created an extraordinary spectacle for autumn exploration in this region, said deputy head of the province's Department of the Environment.

Mohsen Pakbaz added that various species of water birds and shorebirds from the cold regions of Asia and the northern parts of the country have gracefully migrated to this province, finding solace beside its abundant water sources, chntn. ir wrote.

He added that the migration of these birds takes place in both short- and long-term periods. He said during short-term mi-



yjc.ir

grations, birds rest for a few days to relieve fatigue and then migrate towards Khuzestan or Bushehr provinces. Long-term migrants, on the other hand, stay near the lake and rivers of the province until the end of winter.

"The rivers of Bashar, Maroun, Zohreh, Tang-e Sorkh, Sepidar, and Barm Alvan Wetland are magical places that warmly welcome migratory Asian birds every year from late September until the end of winter," he added. Pakbaz stressed that simulta-



IRNA

neously with the migration of water and shoreline birds to the province, environmental protection forces are increasing their control patrols along the riverbanks. Kohgiluyeh and Buyer-Ahmad Province, located in the south-

west of Iran, is a mountainous region where the majestic Zagros Mountains dominate the northern and eastern parts. The province's highest peak is Dena Mountain, soaring at an impressive height of 4,409 meters above sea level.

Due to its unique geography, the province exhibits varying characteristics as you travel from the northeastern mountains to the southwestern areas. The mountain heights diminish and the weather becomes increasingly dry, resulting in two distinct regions: The cold and elevated Boyer-Ahmad, and the hot and lower-lying Kohgiluyeh regions. Barm Alvan Wetland, situated at the outskirts of Kohgiluyeh, covers an area of approximately eight hectares. It serves as an important habitat for both resident and migratory bird species, adding to its allure as a natural haven for avian enthusiasts and nature lovers. Don't miss the opportunity to witness the vibrant birdlife and immerse yourself in the tranquil beauty of the wetland.

Leader: US directly involved in masterminding Gaza war



Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said the United States is directly involved in masterminding the Israeli war on Gaza, stressing that the Tel Aviv regime is the real loser of the aggression against the besieged strip.

He made the remarks in a meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani in Tehran on Monday. The Leader expressed confidence that the Americans are definitely complicit in the Israeli regime's crimes in Gaza.

"Since the very first days of the Zionist regime's attacks, all the evidence and indications show the direct involvement of the Americans

in running the war," he said. As the war goes on, Ayatollah Khamenei added, the reasons behind the US's direct role in leading Israel's crimes would become more explicit.

The Leader stated that the Israeli regime cannot continue the war if the US does not provide it with military and political aid.

Despite the massacre of Palestinians in Gaza, the Israeli regime is the "main loser" of

the ongoing war because it has failed to restore its lost reputation and would be unable to gain it in the future, he asserted.

Ayatollah Khamenei also hailed the "good and strong" stance of the Iraqi government in supporting the Palestinian people in Gaza and urged the Muslim world to exert political pressure on the US and Israel to end the killing of the civilians in the besieged strip.

As an important country in the region, Iraq can play a special role in this regard and form a new front in the Arab and Muslim world, he said.

The Iraqi prime minister, for his part, said Hamas' Operation Al-Aqsa Storm was a heroic operation that brought happiness to all the free people of the world. Sudani lamented Israel's brutal attacks in Gaza which he described as a "collective

revenge" against the people of the small area.

The Iraqi government has made great political efforts to put an end to Israel's crimes in Gaza and send food and medicine to its people, he said.

Sudani-Raisi meeting

Earlier in the day, the Iraqi prime minister held separate talks with Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi. Raisi said the Israeli re-

Gaza death toll surpasses 10,000



A Palestinian child sits next to the wrapped bodies of those killed in Israeli bombardment, prior to the corpses being taken from the Shuhada Al-Aqsa hospital for burial, in Deir el-Balah, in the central Gaza Strip on November 6, 2023.

● MAHMUD HAMS/AFP





The picture released on November 5, 2023, shows Israeli tanks and soldiers stationed at a location in the northern Gaza Strip as battles between Israel and the Palestinian Hamas movement continue.

● ISRAELI ARMY/AFP

Public opinion, Western gov'ts diverging



By Emad Abshenas
Middle East affairs expert

OPINION EXCLUSIVE

In recent days, particularly on Sunday, significant marches and large gatherings have taken place in Western countries, showing support for the oppressed people of Gaza. Participants in these marches called for an end to the war and the killing of unarmed Gaza residents. These large-scale protests indicate that the global public sphere is no longer under the control and exclusive influence of Israeli media and Western lobbies. Non-mainstream media and social networks have transformed into tools that break the monopoly on information dissemination. Western nations initially created the virtual space as a tool for spreading their culture and hegemony in other countries. However, it now seems that this virtual space has turned against them, exposing their falsehoods and unfounded claims. Supporters of the Palestinian people, including Palestinians themselves, have successfully challenged the dominance of Western media, which supports Israel, and conveyed their message of suffering, along with images of Israel's crimes, to the entire world. Naturally, people across the world do not accept this mass killing by Israel for any reason. Although Western governments support Israel, public opinion worldwide opposes the killing of innocent civilians and violations of international law. The systematic massacre in Gaza is a blatant violation of human rights and human dignity and touches the heart of every human being.

Public awareness about what is happening in Gaza is being raised, and the contradictory approaches of Europe and the United States in dealing with this war are being revealed. So, Western policymakers should reconsider their policies since people have lost trust in their positions. These policymakers need to understand that their unwavering support for Israel does not benefit them anymore. If this trend of support continues, they and their parties might face defeat in future elections.

If we look at the votes recently cast in the United Nations General Assembly regarding the condemnation of the massacre in Gaza, the phenomenon of abstention becomes noteworthy. Most European countries that support Israel abstained from voting, while very few opposed it. Diplomatically, abstaining from a vote is considered a form of positive support. This demonstrates that the positions of Western policymakers regarding Israel are gradually changing.

In the past few weeks, we witnessed strong stances taken against Israel in the European Parliament, as well as cries of protest against Israel in the parliaments of European countries and even in the US Congress. Some American senators, including Bernie Sanders, raised objections because they believed Israel's heinous acts, under the leadership of Netanyahu's hawkish cabinet, would lead to global hatred against the Jews, and the Jewish people would have to pay for the war-mongering policies of Netanyahu's cabinet. All of these signs indicate that, unlike the past, the world and its events are no longer interpreted and analyzed according to the wishes and views of Western mainstream media, which support Israel. People worldwide are concerned and upset about what is happening in Gaza, and this global outcry against the mass killings of the people of Gaza is heard from the streets of Washington, London, Paris, and Berlin.

If there is a Western statesman who listens, they should know that it is time for them to stop squandering their credibility and prestige by blindly supporting Netanyahu's crimes and to see the reality as it is. The world is taking a stand against Israel's atrocities and so should they.

gime, heavily backed by the US and certain European countries, is committing heinous crimes against humanity and genocide in Palestine, particularly against children.

"We believe that the [Israeli] bombardments [against Gaza] must be stopped as soon as possible and a cease-fire must be established," he said. He emphasized the need

to send aid to the "oppressed" yet "powerful" people of Gaza as soon as possible.

The president further said Iran cooperates with and supports any measure by the Muslim, regional and international countries aimed at deterring the Israeli regime and the US from massacring the innocent people of Gaza.

Raisi noted that Tehran and Baghdad have a com-

mon stance on the Palestinian issue.

The Iranian president rejected as "sheer lie" the US claims about sending aid to Gaza and announcing a cease-fire in the war-stricken strip, saying such claims do not match the Americans' actions.

"Unfortunately, the US provides arms, intelligence and financial aid to the Zionist regime to brutally kill the Palestin-

ian people and it actually encourages the [Israeli] regime," he said.

The Iranian president noted that the US vetoed a draft resolution presented by Brazil to the United Nations Security Council on the establishment of humanitarian pauses in the war on the blockaded Palestinian territory.

This would in fact pave the way for the Israeli regime to carry out more acts of

murder, he added.

Raisi said the battle of the resistance front against Israel and the defeat it has inflicted on the regime have crumbled the Israeli regime.

He noted that Muslim nations and those regional and global countries that believe in God cannot justify their silence vis-à-vis the ongoing crimes against the Palestinian people.

International Desk

The Health Ministry in the Gaza Strip said Monday the death toll from the Israeli bombardment of the Palestinian territory had surpassed 10,000, nearly one month after the start of the conflict.

The toll of 10,022 deaths was announced in a press conference in Gaza by Health Ministry spokesman Ashraf al-Qidreh. He said at least 292 Palestinians were killed overnight from Sunday into Monday in intense bombardments by the Israeli Army, which he accused of "perpetrating 19 massacres in the last hours". The majority of those killed in Gaza since the start of the war have been civilians, including more than 4,000 children.

The war in Gaza was triggered by the October 7 Hamas attacks, which killed 1,400 in southern occupied territories.

'Enough is enough'

As the conflict between Hamas and Israel deepens,

especially after Israel's brutal attacks on the Gaza Strip, the heads of several major UN bodies made a united call for a humanitarian cease-fire in Gaza.

"An entire population is besieged and under attack, denied access to the essentials for survival, bombed in their homes, shelters, hospitals and places of worship. This is unacceptable," the UN chiefs said in a joint statement.

"We need an immediate humanitarian cease-fire. It's been 30 days. Enough is enough. This must stop now." Israel has rebuffed mounting international pressure for a cease-fire, saying captives taken by Hamas fighters should be released first. On average, a child is killed and two are injured every 10 minutes during the war, the UN relief agency for Palestinians said.

Diplomatic efforts

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, whose country is the biggest supporter of the Israeli war on Gaza, arrived in Turkey on the early hours of Monday, following a whirl-

wind tour of the Middle East during which he heard a chorus of Arab calls for an immediate cease-fire.

Blinken held 2.5 hours of one-on-one talks in Ankara with Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan, who pressed the US official to support an "immediate" cease-fire.

Blinken said that Washington was working "very aggressively" to substantially expand the amount of aid reaching trapped civilians in Gaza.

EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell also on Monday suggested a plan under which Israel could suspend its military operation in Gaza in return for the Red Cross getting access to captives held by Hamas.

"Call it a truce, window, whatever, but we need that violence recedes and that international humanitarian law is being respected," Borrell said.

Borrell warned that an "over-reaction by the Israelis in the end makes them lose the support of the international community".

"There is no military solution to the conflict," Borrell said.

"Even if Hamas is uprooted in Gaza, this will not solve the problem of Gaza."

Risk of broader war

Russia on Monday called for an end to the fighting in Gaza and said a resumption of Palestinian-Israeli negotiations was essential to avoid the risk of a broader war and an increase in "terrorist activity".

"The priority today is the speedy cessation of hostilities in Gaza," Russia's Foreign Ministry said. "If not, we will face the risks of radicalization and an increase in terrorist activity and the danger of the conflict expanding its geography."

Anti-Israel sentiments

Anti-Israel sentiments are rising across the world following the regime's killing of innocent civilians in Gaza. Cities across the world are the scene of demonstrations in support of Palestinians. Many countries have also taken some measures to show their anger at the regime's actions in Gaza.

On Monday, the South African government said it would re-

call all its diplomats from Israel to signal its concern over the situation in Gaza.

Many countries including Turkey, Chile, Colombia, Jordan, Bahrain and Honduras have also recalled their envoys. Meanwhile, Bolivia became the first nation to sever diplomatic ties with Israel over its "disproportionate" attacks in Gaza. South Africa said the position of the Israeli ambassador to the country was becoming "more and more untenable", accusing the diplomat of having made "disparaging remarks" about people criticizing Israel.

"The South African government has decided to withdraw all its diplomats in Tel Aviv for consultation," Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, a minister in the president's office, told a press briefing without providing further details. Pretoria has long been a vocal supporter of the Palestinian cause, with the ruling African National Congress (ANC) often linking it to its own struggle against apartheid. Numerous pro-Palestine protests have taken place across South Africa over the past month.

Iranian Javer opens up on emotional road to glory at Asian Games



Mahdieh Qazvinian
Staff writer

September's rowing contests at the Hangzhou Asian Games in China saw Iranian girl Mahsa Javer take her personal tally in the history of the prestigious event to four medals.

A lightweight quadruple sculls bronze medalist in Incheon 2014, Javer was part of the Iranian team that finished as the runner-up in the category in the cohost Indonesian city of Palembang four years later, before taking credit for two of the seven Iranian female silvers in Hangzhou.

Javer teamed up with Zeinab Norouzi to finish second in the women's double sculls final and the Iranian duo then repeated the success, along with Nazanin Malaei and Fatemeh Mojallal, in the quadruple event.

The buildup to the Games, however, was not an easy experience for Javer at all, for personal reasons, she told Iran Daily.

"We had a 30-day training camp in Russia and then I was in Iran for two or three days before spending 10 days in China for the Asian Games. I had to be



Iranian rower Mahsa Javer (l.) celebrates with Zeinab Norouzi after winning the women's double sculls silver at the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, on September 24, 2023.

away from my six-year-old daughter and my eyes filled with tears every time I saw a little child during that period. I've always done my best to have some time for my daughter but hours of training sometimes take your energy away," said the Iranian. Javer says she was still

thrilled to see all that hard work eventually pay off when she and her doubles partner won a first medal for Iran in Hangzhou.

"We trained for hours on a daily basis in Russia. Zeinab and I bettered our personal record on several occasions in the training sessions and our coach believed those

records would be enough for us to compete with the best in the continent at the Asian Games," Javer said. "We put in all our efforts to overtake the Chinese teams in both finals, but in rowing, you can't expect to do exceptional things in a single race. You can't reach beyond your personal re-

ords." China grabbed 11 of the 14 gold medals up for grabs across the male and female contests, including the ultimate prize of the women's quadruple sculls final for Chen Yunxia, Zhang Ling, Lü Yang, Cui Xiaotong, who stepped into the event on home soil as the reigning

Olympic champions. Uzbekistan also enjoyed a couple of final victories in Hangzhou, with the other gold going to Hong Kong. "I was still thankful to God that all those hours of training and the long time away from my child eventually yielded success at the Asian Games. I want my daughter

to be proud of her mother's achievements when she is a grown-up," said Javer, who shed tears when speaking about her daughter, Melin, during a TV interview after receiving the double sculls silver.

"I could only count the minutes to return to Iran after my campaign in Hangzhou was finally over. You can not imagine how I felt when I saw her in the airport. She told me: 'What took you so long to come back, mom? Now you'll have to take me to the park.' We were literally inseparable for a week as it was the time for me to resume my motherhood duties," added Javer, who is full of gratitude for her mother for being with her through all her training sessions in Iran just to look after Minel.

The professional career, meanwhile, remains a priority for Javer as she is back in training ahead of next May's Olympic qualifiers in South Korea.

A medal in the Paris Olympics might be far beyond the Iranian girl's reach, given "the lack of proper sculls, oars, and rowing lakes in the country," she says, but Javer will still be looking to exceed her own personal best time in the French capital.

Azmoun off the mark in Serie A, spearheads Roma's dramatic win



AS Roma striker Sardar Azmoun (l.) celebrates with Argentine Paulo Dybala during a 2-1 victory over Lecce in Serie A at the Stadio Olimpico, Rome, Italy, on November 5, 2023.

Sports Desk

Sardar Azmoun opened his account for AS Roma to help the Italian club come from behind in the stoppage time and beat Lecce 2-1 in Serie A.

The Iranian striker came off the bench with 17 minutes left on the clock at the Stadio Olimpico to bag the equalizer for Jose Mourinho's men with a thumping header from near the penalty spot in the 91st min-

ute, canceling out Pontus Almquist's 71st-minute opener for the visiting side. This was a first club goal since April 8 for the Iranian international, who joined AS Roma on loan from German top-flight club Leverkusen in the summer but has seen his contribution in the new season limited to six cameo appearances.

Romelu Lukaku's left-footed effort from the center of the box found the top corner in the fourth min-

ute of added time as Roma salvaged the maximum points - bringing a sigh of relief for the Belgian, who had been denied from the spot by Lecce keeper Wladimiro Falcone early in the first half.

"We knew it was going to be difficult today, but we were focused until the end so as not to lose. We showed character, it's the right reward for our hard work," an ecstatic Azmoun told DAZN after the game.

"Scoring my first goal was an incredible moment. I've been waiting for this moment. I worked a lot to be ready tonight. I love this team and this city; my daughter was born here," added the Iranian, who dedicated his first Serie A strike to "my parents and my wife."

"We took the old philosophy that losing by one or 10 is the same," Portuguese Mourinho told DAZN.

"In the first half the game could have been almost over for us, but in the end the team had put in the heart and responded to a very risky situation.

"These three points were really important for us, now we are closer to the others." A fifth victory in 11 league outings took the Giallorossi's tally to 17 points for the season, leaving Mourinho's side seventh in the table - four points adrift of the Champions League qualification zone.

Inter is on top with 28 points - thanks to Saturday's 2-1 away victory over 10-man Atalanta - followed by Juventus, which walked away with a 1-0 win at Fiorentina on Sunday. Milan is third on 22 points and fell further off the pace after a 1-0 setback against Udinese at San Siro, with Napoli overtaking Atalanta for the fourth spot after a 2-0 win at Salernitana.

Tola crushes competition in men's NYC Marathon, Obiri wins women's race



Ethiopian Tamirat Tola crosses the finish line in the men's race of the New York City Marathon on Nov. 5, 2023.

CRAIG RUTTLE/AP

REUTERS - Ethiopian Tamirat Tola crushed the competition to win the New York City Marathon in a course record two hours, four minutes and 58 seconds on Sunday, while Kenyan Hellen Obiri won the women's race in 2:27:23. The 2022 world champion left no doubt that the win was his as he built a nearly two minute lead by the 40-kilometre mark. Kenyan Albert Korir finished second in 2:06:57, while Ethiopian Shura Kitata was third in 2:07:11. Competing in perfect conditions, Tola exorcised the

disappointment of two prior fourth-place finishes in New York, relying on the boisterous Big Apple crowd for motivation as he ran on his own for several kilometres.

"The people of New York (are) amazing," said Tola, who hoisted his arms aloft as he claimed his first World Marathon Major title after taking third in London earlier this year. "I work hard training so it is confidence for me." Obiri produced an extraordinary final kick in the women's race to outlast Ethiopian Letesenbet Gid-

ey, who crossed the finish line about six seconds behind, as last year's winner, Kenyan Sharon Lokedi, finished third in 2:27:33.

"My first debut here was terrible for me," said Obiri, after finishing sixth last year. "Sometimes you learn from your mistake... Finally, I made it."

The star-studded women's field began at a surprisingly slow pace, as a crowded lead pack kept together through the 30-kilometre mark, before the tempo picked up considerably with less than eight kilometres to go.

Afghan refugees on agenda in Baradar's meeting with interior minister

International Desk

Iranian Minister of the Interior Ahmad Vahidi and Afghanistan's Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar held discussions on Afghan refugees in Iran, border security, counterterrorism efforts, and expanding trade relations in a meeting in Tehran on Monday. The return of Afghan refugees to their homeland was among the key discussions held on Monday during the country's high-ranking delegation's meeting, IRNA reported. In the meeting, where the two sides discussed the latest developments and cooperation fields, Vahidi stressed that Iran is ready to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Afghan side in the fields of mutual interest, stating that the water issue is on the mid-term and long-term plan of the two countries. He said the issue has affected bilateral cooperation, stressing that it must be resolved. Iran and Afghanistan had been in disagreement over the allocation of shared water resources. Iran has reiterated the country's call to secure its water rights in the Hirmand River and its sources in Afghanistan. Meanwhile, Baradar's office said on

Monday that during the meetings with Iranian top officials, key discussions were held on political and economic relations, "effective" coordination between their respective nations, water resource management, transit agreements, and enhancement of Afghanistan's imports and exports through Iran, Anadolu Agency reported. Expressing gratitude to Tehran for hosting Afghan refugees, Baradar acknowledged Iran's "commitment to Islamic values, humanitarianism, and the rights and norms concerning refugees." Baradar, who arrived in Tehran on Saturday, has also held talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, and Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) Ali Akbar Ahmadian. The Taliban statement quoted Ahmadian addressing the visiting Afghan delegation that Iran and Afghanistan "play a crucial role in China's One Belt One Road Initiative." "Both sides agreed to capitalize on the opportunities at hand and ensure that no external factors negatively impact the strong relationship between Iran and Afghanistan," the statement said. During the Sunday meeting, the SNSC chief said Iran supports Afghanistan's



Iranian Minister of the Interior Ahmad Vahidi (2nd R) and Afghanistan's Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar (L) are seen ahead of a meeting in Tehran on November 6, 2023. *molir*

independence, stability, security, and development, Press TV reported. The Taliban official said Kabul is determined to fight terrorism and increase security along the border. Afghanistan will pose no threat to any of its neighboring states, he added. Baradar called for the improvement of trade and economic cooperation with Iran, particularly in the sectors of transit and air transportation. He reiterated Afghanistan's commitment to the implementation

of treaties it has signed with Iran, especially in the water sector. In a meeting with the Iranian foreign minister, Baradar discussed Afghanistan's "engagement with regional and global partners through Iran". Besides discussing investment prospects for Iranian investors in Afghanistan, he highlighted the need for "streamlining visa issuance for Afghan citizens, and addressing the challenges faced by Afghan refugees residing in Iran."

Sketching uncertain future...

While the strategy of the resistance front seems to continue to be one of "ambiguity about the future," Nasrallah's repeated references to other resistance groups imply that, from now on, the "risk distribution" strategy will be pursued as the second central strategy in the face of ongoing Zionist aggressions. This means that the attacks of Iraqi and Yemeni groups will expand along with Hezbollah's operations, and the risk of attacks on different fronts will be distributed. This development has raised significant concerns in the United States and occupied territories. The greatest concern is the possibility of opening a new front in Lebanon, reminiscent of the 33-day war between Hezbollah and Israel in 2006. Simultaneously, the Zionists are concerned about Hezbollah's precision-guided missiles, which are believed to be targeting strategic assets in Israel, such as gas facilities and power plants. The resistance front has also grown stronger after years of involvement in the Syrian war and its cooperation with the Syrian army against terrorism. Moreover, Hamas and Hezbollah have become closer in recent years with the relocation of the leaders of the Palestinian group to Beirut. In any case, even though Hezbollah has not yet significantly intervened in the war between Hamas and Israel, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah's statements indicate that Israel's ground assault on Gaza could force them to open a new front along the northern borders of the occupied lands, distributing the risk of insecurity to the residents of the occupied territories. According to Itamar Ben Gvir, Israel's Minister of National Security, who himself resides in one of the Israeli settlements, the settlers have armed themselves with 10,000 rifles. United Nations figures show that the daily attacks by these settlers, who have been militarized against unarmed Palestinians, have more than doubled since October 7 on the Western border.

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First Announcement

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

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0040006

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

items	Material Description	Quantity
01	TUBING 3-1/2 IN. API GRADE P-110 SEAMLESS " VAM FLUSH JOINT" THREAD, RANGE-3 (MAX. LEN: 40.6 FT) 9.3 PPF	700 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 15,597,47 EURO or 6,129,102,264 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials through 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.

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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

Public Relations
WWW.SHANA.IR WWW.NISOC.IR <http://IETS.MPORG.IR> 1598529

First Announcement

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

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0140006

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

items	Material Description	Quantity
01	TUBING 4-1/2 IN. API GRADE L-80 SEAMLESS " VAM", "N.VAM", THREAD, 16.1 PPF	3000 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.

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European values abandoned for Israel



Europeans have adopted a contradictory policy in the face of the recent Middle East clash. On one hand, the policy conflicts with the professed values of European countries regarding human rights, and on the other hand, it conflicts with their positions regarding the Ukraine War. European countries, like the United States, strongly condemned Hamas' attack on occupied territories but remained silent in the face of Israeli atrocities in Gaza, even supporting Israel's mass killing policy. Some European leaders and officials visited Tel Aviv to show support for Netanyahu, despite his inhumane actions against the people of Gaza, which range from cutting off water and electricity to bombing hospitals, mosques,

churches, and the massacre of women and children. Europeans not only remained silent in the face of atrocities on this scale, but some European officials also justified this massacre, which indicates a significant contradiction in their positions. They claim to uphold human values and human rights in the world, but now, their biased positions against Israeli crimes have dealt a major blow to the European values of human rights. These positions of the Europeans are also in contrast to their entirely different stance on the Ukraine conflict. Even their own media has repeatedly pointed out to European leaders that they labeled Russian President Vladimir Putin as a war criminal but ignored the massacre of around 10,000 people in Gaza at the hands of Israel and Netanyahu. A question arises here: Why did both Europe and the United States choose Israel over their professed fundamental Western values

such as human dignity and human rights? It seems that both Europe and the United States felt that the existence of Israel was in danger. The European people quickly became aware of this contradictory policy and reacted to it. In many European cities, large protests were held in support of the people of Gaza, which, in fact, turned to openly protesting their governments' policies. These people did not expect their governments to be so indifferent to the massacre of the people of Gaza — referred to as the second Holocaust by some media — and the violation of European values. Europe and the United States preferred to support Israel over their self-professed values of human dignity and human rights. Therefore, one should not expect any other government or nation to take their claim to promote or defend human rights seriously anymore. This is a great embarrassment for European governments.



Qorbani's concerts get kudos in Canada



IRNA - Iran's traditional vocalist Alireza Qorbani began his international tour concerts in Calgary, Canada, on November 3. The Iranian music performances were met with a remarkable reception from the enthusiastic audience. On November 5, Qorbani continued his tour in Vancouver, B.C., where once again, his music captivated the Canadian audience. According to IRNA, following several performances in different Canadian cities, the tour is set to journey through various European cities, the details of which will be announced in due course. In the upcoming concerts, Qorbani will grace the stage in Toronto on November 10, and Montreal on November 11, further attracting his fans with his traditional performances. The artistic management of these concerts is in the capable hands of Hesam Naseri. During his recent concert in Vancouver, B.C., Qorbani paid a heartfelt tribute to the late traditional singer Akbar Golpayegani, known as Golpa, who died on November 4.

Iran's actress Elham Shakib dies at 45



IRNA - Iranian actress Elham Shakib, renowned for her performances in theater and cinema, died at the age of 45 after a battle with illness. Shakib made a significant mark in Iranian cinema and theater, leaving a lasting legacy through her roles in various film productions, including 'Mini Bus,' 'Shatere,' 'Strawberry Dessert,' 'Examination Day,' and 'Interrogation in Tehran Café.' Her talent as an actress was further highlighted in her role in the television series 'Khatoon.' Born in 1978, Shakib held a bachelor's degree in theater with a specialization in stage design. While her acting career was her primary focus, she also tried directing, showcasing her talents by directing productions like 'La malattia della famiglia M.' In the world of theater, Shakib collaborated with great directors such as Ali Rafiei and the late Atilla Pesyani. Her theatrical repertoire included performances in various plays like 'The Hoopoe Bride.'

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Paintings by Irandokht Mohasses on display on her 92nd birthday



● IRAN DAILY

By Sadeq Dehqan
Staff writer

Irandokht Mohasses, a pioneer painter and researcher in the field of visual arts, celebrates her 92nd birthday by unveiling her solo exhibition at Laleh Art Gallery in Tehran. Renowned as the most significant figure in the world of Iranian cartoon and caricature, she has left an unforgettable mark on the nation's artistic landscape. Mohasses embarked on a journey in the realm of cartoon, tirelessly contributing her talent to Iranian publications from 1966 to 1978. Her works introduced numerous artists to the Iranian cartoon and caricature community during this period. After completing her primary studies in Rasht and Tehran, she graduated in the field of painting from the University of Tehran in 1964. She continued her education in Paris and later returned to the University of Tehran to become an art instructor. Irandokht Mohasses is the sister of Ardeshir Mohasses, a prominent Iranian caricaturist. Together, they published a book in 1973 titled, 'Selected Works of French Caricaturists,' which was a summary of

a French book, via Amir Kabir Publication. Ardeshir made selections from the book, while Irandokht handled the translation. This book played an important role in shaping the Iranian cartoon scene of that era. Irandokht is the first person to find an equivalent term for "cartoon" in Iran, calling it "graphic humor". Although not commonly considered a cartoonist, Irandokht Mohasses undeniably influenced the world of cartoon. Her efforts in translating books by renowned cartoonists from around the world and introducing them to Iranian society, particularly art enthusiasts, have been invaluable in familiarizing the younger generation with the history and evolution of cartoon art in Iran. Furthermore, Irandokht's fame was not limited to writing numerous articles in reputable art publications but she is also a pioneering figure in publishing specialized art books. Mohammad Ali Saeedi, the director of Laleh Art Gallery, shared his views about Irandokht Mohasses' exhibition with Iran Daily. Irandokht Mohasses is the sister of Ardeshir Mohasses, a prominent Iranian cartoonist, and the cousin of Bahman Mohasses, a leading Iranian painter, sculptor, and translator.

The Mohasses family has played a "pivotal role" in the Iranian visual arts scene, he added. "Irandokht Mohasses was actively teaching visual arts in universities during the 1980s and 1990s. Many current professors in universities were once her students. It has been several years since she last held an exhibition, and her contribution to contemporary Iranian art, especially in the context of modern Iranian art, has not received the recognition it deserves." Therefore, "a solo exhibition of her paintings" was required to introduce her art to

the younger generation, he noted. In this exhibition, a selection of 33 of her works, from the 1930s to the 1950s, which have significantly contributed to introducing modern Iranian art are on display. Some of these paintings were created in Iran, while others were crafted during her time in France." He further noted, "Her Iranian paintings depict an intimate atmosphere and portray aspects of rural life in Iran, showcasing artistic excellence and nostalgic charm, greatly appealing to both art enthu-

siasts and painters." The director of Laleh Art Gallery emphasized that Irandokht Mohasses played a crucial and fundamental role in shaping modern Iranian art. Saeedi concluded that while the number of Irandokht Mohasses' paintings is not many, their importance in "shaping modern Iranian art" cannot be overstated. Her contributions have been invaluable in fostering a deeper appreciation of this art form. The exhibition of Irandokht Mohasses' paintings will be open to the public from November 4 to 21, except on holidays.



The picture shows Iran's cartoonist Irandokht Mohasses and Mohammad Ali Saeedi, the director of Laleh Art Gallery at the artist's exhibition at the gallery. ● IRAN DAILY

Iran's 30th Book Week unveils themed days



● ISNA

Arts & Culture Desk
The names and themes of the days for Iran's 30th Book Week, which coincides with the final week of the eighth month of the Persian year, have been officially announced. This cultural event will take place nationwide from November 14 to November 21. According to IRNA, in a tradition maintained from previous years, each day of the week

during this book week will be dedicated to a specific theme. The week will begin on November 14, which has been named, "Books; Children, Adolescents, and Students" on the Iranian calendar. "Books; Reading and Librarians" is the name of the second day of the week, while the third day is named "Books; Promotion and Public Centers". "Books; Families and Social Joy"; "Books; Mosques and Palestine";

"Books; Art and Media"; "Books; Publishers and Publishing Industry"; and "Books; Iran and the Future" are the titles of the other days of the week. The 30th Book Week of the Islamic Republic of Iran will carry the theme "The Future Is Readable". This year's event promises to celebrate the significance of literature and reading, inviting people of all ages to explore the world of books and their role in shaping the future.