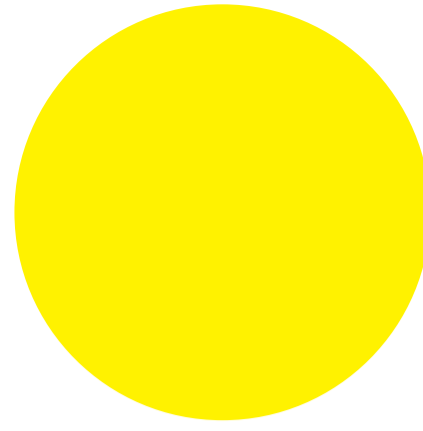




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# Iran Daily

## Blinken on peace mission amid US arms flow to Israel

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*US macro policy:* Restraining Iran while containing China

### New York Jews control Tel Aviv Jews



By **Ebrahim Beheshti**  
Staff writer

#### INTERVIEW

Antony Blinken is visiting the West Asia region for the fifth time over the past months. Following his meeting with Saudi and Egyptian authorities, he was to visit Qatar, Israel, and the West Bank. Simultaneously, media outlets have reported progress in the negotiations for a ceasefire in Gaza. Blinken's visit and the US's objectives in the region were the subjects of our interview with Mehdi Motahharnia, a university professor and the head of Simorgh Future Thinking Institute in Tehran. According to him, the United States is determined to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

**IRAN DAILY:** The US Secretary of State's current regional trip appears to prioritize discussions on the Gaza war and review the ceasefire situation. What is the US currently pursuing in West Asia?

**MOTAHHARNIA:** Although Joe Biden's administration assumed office in 2020, it is following the policies of the previous administration. In the United States, macro policies undergo minimal change with presidential transitions. While specific strategies or tactics may occasionally change, macro policies generally follow a consistent trajectory. Therefore, evaluating the performance of the Biden administration requires considering US policies after September 11, and even earlier, stemming from the collapse of the Soviet Union and the US endeavor to establish a New World Order centered around American hegemony. Consequently, the US adheres to a continuous path aimed at shaping a new order that secures Washington's dominance in the 21st century. The focal point of this macro policy is the "new heartland" centered around the Iranian plateau, which extends from the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Aden and further to the Bab al-Mandeb Strait. Gaining access, dominance, or influence over this region is vital for the continuation of Washington's hegemony. Thus, Page 7 >  
Iran holds a crucial position within US's macro policies.



## The Islamic Republic Is Not the Pahlavi Regime

A glimpse into the aspects distinguishing the Islamic Republic from the Pahlavi monarchy on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution of Iran

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An Iranian family walk past an anti-US mural covering the wall of a building in the heart of the Iranian capital Tehran.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

FDI from China rises tenfold in one year: **Official**



China's investment in Iran increased tenfold in the year ending on March 20, 2023, announced the head of the Organization of Investment, Economic and Technical Assistant of Iran (OIETA) on Tuesday.

Talking to IRNA, Ali Fekri referred to China's investment in Iran, saying the value of the investment made by China in Iran last Iranian year stood at \$3 billion.

The official emphasized that the country has managed to remove trade barriers in line with encouraging other countries to invest in Iran with peace of mind.

He also pointed to the country's reimbursed debt to the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and said \$300 million worth of the country's debt was fully paid during the current administration.

Developing and expanding relations with neighboring countries is the main strategy of the current administration, Fekri further emphasized.

Tehran, New Delhi to sign deal on development of Chabahar port: **Bazrpash**

Iran and India will sign a contract on the development of the southeastern Iranian port of Chabahar soon, announced Roads and Urban Development Minister Mehrdad Bazrpash on Tuesday.

The new long-term agreement is intended to replace the original contract, which only covers India's operations at the Shahid Beheshti terminal in Chabahar, and is renewed annually. The new agreement will be valid for 10 years and automatically extended.

The minister added that almost all development projects of Iranian ports will receive foreign direct investment, IRNA reported. The Chinese show more willingness to invest in our ports, especially in the north of the country, Bazrpash noted, adding that after the opening of the Caspian port project, they have presented new proposals for investment in Anzali port.

In May 2016, Iran, India and Afghanistan signed a trilateral transit agreement in Tehran to open new routes of connection by turning Chabahar into a transit hub.

## Oil minister inaugurates seven energy projects in SW province of Khuzestan

Iranian Oil Minister Javad Owji inaugurated seven projects in the fields of oil and gas in the southwestern province of Khuzestan on Tuesday.

By launching the projects, a total of 150,000 barrels of oil as well as 28 million cubic meters of gas were added to the production capacity of the country on a daily basis, IRNA reported.

Among the seven projects was the plant to increase crude output in Cheshmeh Khosh field, which was aimed at boosting the oil field's cumulative production to around 167 million barrels.

The field, along with Dalpari and East Paydar fields, is among the fields operated by the West Oil and Gas Production Company (WOGPC) – an affiliate of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) – and was put into operation in 2011, Shana reported.

Following the introduction of NIOC's new generation of contracts, titled Iran Petroleum Contract (IPC), a 10-year contract aimed at improving recovery, increasing output, and boosting cumulative production in Cheshmeh Khosh, Dalpari, and East Paydar fields was awarded to Iran's Iran Ofogh Industrial Development Company (IOID) and Kayson, as well as Russian company ZN Vostok (ZNV).

The strategic project was delivered to the Petroleum Engineering and Development Company (PEDEC), the main arm of NIOC dealing with the development of offshore oil fields.

The project was signed in February 2019, and started after going through legal procedures and obtaining the necessary permits from the Supreme Economic Council in 2019.



Labor Ministry committed to complying with ILO standards: **Mortazavi**



The Iranian Labor Ministry is committed to complying with standards set by the International Labor Organization (ILO), said the Iranian labor minister on Tuesday.

Speaking at a conference on work safety training, Solat Mortazavi added, "All of us have a responsibility to reduce workplace accidents, so we must make the utmost effort to increase the level of safety at workplaces," IRNA

reported.

From the early days of this administration, the government has tried to solve problems by controlling inflation along with increasing payments, the minister noted, adding that there are still problems due to illegal sanctions.

Our colleagues significantly reduced the number of workplace accidents, with measures taken in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as well as in large companies, Mortazavi stated.

Organized by the Center of Research and Training for Occupational Safety and Health of Labor Ministry and Iran Employers Center, the First Conference of Headquarters of Explanation of the Training on Workplace Safety & Empowerment of Employers with Less than 10 Employees was held in Tehran and across the country via videoconference.

Iran among top six countries loading radioactive sources: **AEOI**

Iran is among the only six countries globally in loading gamma radioactive sources in large irradiation facilities, announced the deputy head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI).

Pejman Shirmardi told IRNA on Tuesday that the AEOI has achieved the technology to carry out that process in a short time frame and render high-quality results.

"Within the Atomic Energy Organization, we have two large irradiation facilities that utilize Cobalt-60 sources, with one source producing two high-energy gamma rays," he said.

He emphasized that loading Cobalt-60 radioactive sources involves a "very complex, intense, and highly sensitive process."

Shirmardi further noted that if Iran lacked domestic capabilities in this field, it would have to reach out to countries such as Russia, China, or India at a high cost. Now, Iran is one of the six countries that load radioactive gamma sources and can export the services to other countries, he added.

Radioactive sources have a broad range of applications, from radiotherapy machines used in hospitals for cancer treatment to gamma radiography devices used in industry.



Gov't to pay more subsidies for three months: **Deputy minister**

A total of 61 million Iranians will receive greater subsidies for three months, under the new plan of Iran's Ministry of Cooperation, Labour, and Social Welfare.

Speaking at a press conference in Tehran on Monday, Alireza Asgarian, the deputy labor minister for welfare and economic affairs, said his ministry is cooperating with 211,000 markets across the country to implement the new subsidy plan.

"Large chain stores across the country cooperate with the Ministry of Cooper-



ation, Labour, and Social Welfare in the implementation of the economic project," the official noted.

Asgarian added that the main goal of implementing the subsidy plan is to ensure meeting people's

needs.

The more purchases Iranians make, the greater the possibility of identifying and solving the problems of the plan, he said, noting that in the future there is a possibility of adding other

groups as beneficiaries of the plan.

The official concluded that 11 main products of milk, cheese, eggs, chicken, cooking oil, rice, dairy products, beans, pasta, sugar, and beef have been included in the subsidy coverage of the ministry.

According to earlier announcement by the Ministry of Cooperation, Labour, and Social Welfare, 70 percent of Iranians are included in the new subsidy plan as the country hands out the monthly \$6 in cash to 90 percent of Iranians.

Fiber optic services available to 6m Iranian households

Iran's Minister of Information and Communications Technology said that some six million households are currently using internet services provided by the country's high-speed fiber optic network. Issa Zarepour made the announcement on Monday in a ceremony in the city of Meybod, in central Yazd Province, where he inaugurated several optical fiber projects, IRNA reported.

He added that a total of 20 million people in Iran will have access to fiber optic services by August 2025.

According to government statistics, over 91% of Iranian villages with a population of over 20 households have been connected to a high-speed network.



# Chamkhaleh Beach, an ultimate tourist destination in Gilan Province



pinorest.com

## Iranica Desk

### Chamkhaleh Beach in Gilan Province

awarded the title of the best beach in the province in 2011. It is renowned as one of the most stunning, well-equipped, and safest beaches in Iran. The town of Chamkhaleh is a highly sought-after tourist destination in Gilan Province, drawing numerous visitors annually and is considered the second tourism hub in the province, after Bandar Anzali.

Chamkhaleh Beach offers various recreational and welfare facilities, making it an attractive destination for picnicking, photography, water activities, and swimming. Chamkhaleh is 10 kilometers east of Langerud, 20 kilometers east of Lahijan, and 40 kilometers west of Rudसर. The beach is conveniently situated 1.6 kilometers (a four-minute drive) from the center of Chamkhaleh, and approximately 370 kilometers (four hours and 50 minutes) from Tehran.

Chamkhaleh was a village located in a district called Chaf, and was part of Langerud until a few years ago. The beach of this village was one of the most popular sandy beaches in Iran prior to the Islamic Revolution. In the early years after the revolution, tourism in Chamkhaleh declined, and its beach went underwater due to sea advancement. Several years later, as the sea calmed down, the beautiful beach of Chamkhaleh reappeared and gradually regained its former popularity. In 2019, the village of Chamkhaleh was merged with several other villages and is now known as the city of "Chaf and Chamkhaleh," although the locals and tourists still refer to this area as Chamkhaleh. In the following, we will introduce you to the recreational activities of Chamkhaleh Beach.

### Walking, picnicking, and photography

Strolling along the sandy shores of Chamkhaleh Beach, playing with sand, and constructing sandcastles are among the delightful experiences to be had at this beach. Additionally, you can spread a picnic cloth in the beach shelters with your family and loved ones; please be aware that some of these shelters may require a fee for use.

Don't miss the opportunity to capture stunning photos at Chamkhaleh Beach, particularly during sunrise and sunset, when the sunlight creates breathtaking images on the sea. The beach also features a series of red-colored tunnels, creating a unique setting for capturing enchanting images by the sea.

### Water activities

Chamkhaleh Beach offers a variety of water activities:

**Boating:** Boating in the vicinity of the beach and navigating the wavy waters with a motorboat is a popular activity for people of any age.

**Jet Skiing:** Jet skiing is an exhilarating water activity, particularly enjoyable for young people, providing an adrenaline-pumping and thrilling experience.

**Shuttle riding:** Shuttle riding is a popular water activity at the beach. The shuttle is an inflatable tube tied to the back of a motorboat and pulled along the sea's surface.

Shuttles are available for two or four people.

**Swimming:** Visitors can enjoy swimming and snorkeling in the safe and designated areas of Chamkhaleh Beach.

**Cycling and ATV:** Tourists can rent bicycles from the recreational complexes at the beach and delight in its beauty by pedaling along designated paths, experiencing one of the best cycling routes in Iran. ATV riding is also a popular option, especially among children.

**Soccer and volleyball:** Chamkhaleh Beach provides soccer and volleyball fields, offering the opportunity for group games.

### Best time to visit Chamkhaleh

For many tourists, the prime time to visit Chamkhaleh is from mid-spring to late summer, as it offers a range of water activities on the beach. It's worth noting that Chamkhaleh summers, like those of other northern cities in the country, can be humid and warm. If you prefer milder temperatures, consider planning your trip for other seasons of the year.

The Persian New Year (Nowruz) and early spring, as well as early to mid-autumn, are also excellent times to visit Chamkhaleh. During these periods, the weather is delightful and idyllic. From mid-autumn to late winter, the weather turns cold. However, some tourists opt to visit Chamkhaleh during this time to avoid the crowds and relish the tranquil winter beach view.



Persian painted cotton fabric, Weltmuseum Wien, Vienna

## Evolution of collecting in Vienna and influence of Persian objects

Many of the transformative developments of the 19th century are reflected in the history of collecting in Vienna.

In this period, the exclusive privilege of collecting opened up to a larger part of society and the audience for viewing art broadened. Private collections gradually became more public.

In the Austrian Habsburg context, this transformation began already in the 16th century, when the Viennese imperial collections, such as those of Ferdinand of Tyrol at Schloss Ambras in Innsbruck and Rudolf II's collections in Prague, were made accessible to a very select, or even exclusive, public. These collections revealed their owner's tastes and were used to impress foreign diplomats and gentlemen travellers, who in turn could spread their fame. In 1601 parts of the Ambras armoury were sumptuously published, making its content known to the public. Gradually the number and nature

of visitors to Viennese collections increased.

Catalogues to the collections were written and during the 18th century visitors were charged entry fees to visit some spaces, such as the imperial armoury in Vienna. The imperial collections constantly grew in volume and were often moved within the palaces where space was usually scarce.

Many items were lost, given away, worn out or disposed of over the centuries. The continued accumulation, reorganisation, specialisation and systematisation of the single parts of the collections intensified during the reigns of Emperor Franz Stephan (ruled from 1745-65) and his sons, Joseph II (ruled from 1765-90) and Leopold II (ruled from 1790-92). The latter had also reorganised the Medici collections in Florence where he ruled as grand duke before he became emperor in 1790. Emperors continued to increase their collections and scholarly

studies about them increased.

The creation of the large Viennese museums during the second half of the 19th century can thus be seen as a consequence of enlightenment attitudes developed during the preceding centuries. It is necessary to contextualise the provenance of the Persian objects in 19th-century Viennese collections in order to demonstrate their complex history. Objects of Persian origin permeated Habsburg collecting from the later Middle Ages onwards.

Over the centuries Persian artistic items were conceived of as relics, functioned as reliquaries, inspired court artists, and acted as valuable merchandise and as historical documents of diplomatic exchanges. Occasionally they also represented pieces of booty. As the arch-enemy of two of its neighbours, the Habsburg dominions and the Safavid Empire, the Ottoman army took rich booty from both. But at the same time, it

also traded intensively with them. Weapons were often recycled and refurbished by those who captured them and because of this, Persian weapons that were used by the Ottoman army occasionally fell into the hands of Habsburg soldiers.

Valuable Persian textiles were used as burial shrouds and church vestments as early as the 14th century. This is the date of the earliest surviving textile from the Persian cultural sphere that possesses an uninterrupted provenance in the Viennese context. Objects from the Islamic world, hence often also from modern-day Iran, were an integral part of the encyclopaedic concept of the early modern Kunstkammern, as well as the more specialised baroque Antikenkabinett. The history of Persian objects in Vienna mirrors the history of the exchange, both direct and indirect, between eastern and western powers over some six hundred years.



# The Islamic Republic is not the Pahlavi regime

A glimpse into the aspects distinguishing the Islamic Republic from the Pahlavi monarchy on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution of Iran



Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei tours an exhibition displaying Iran's homegrown products and new technology-based firms' capabilities in Tehran on January 29, 2024.  
khamenei.ir

Essentially, the Islamic Republic system cannot be compared to the Pahlavi monarchy, and this statement is not necessarily an exaggerated one or aimed at glorifying the Islamic Republic. The incomparability here is not a matter of value judgment; rather, it is descriptive and stems from the fundamental differences in the nature of the two political systems. As political science experts also acknowledge, a republic-based political system and a monarchy-based political system have fundamental structural and functional differences. Therefore, they cannot be compared in a way that identifies specific key components and establishes a form of correspondence between them. However, a comparative analysis in terms of characteristics may be possible.

The audience for this discussion is not necessarily limited to defenders of the Islamic Republic; in fact, it is particularly important for opponents of the Islamic Republic and even those who, according to their own claims, pursue ideas such as revolution, overthrow, coup, transformation, or any other fundamental change. This is because enmity towards a phenomenon without a proper understanding of it does not lead anywhere and may even be counterproductive. This article seeks to answer the question of why the Islamic Republic is different from the Pahlavi monarchy and why, just as revolutionaries managed to overthrow the Pahlavi regime, current radicals and overthrowers cannot overthrow the Islamic Republic.

## Difference in the establishment of political systems

The rulers who come to power are not the same; the second Pahlavi followed the first Pahlavi to power, and the first Pahlavi regime was relatively entrenched itself. Therefore, even if we do not consider the second Pahlavi government as entrenched, it cannot be claimed that it came to power with the social support and will of the people. So, it is natural that if people have no involvement in the ascension of the ruler, they probably won't have a clear preference or interest in it either. During the time of the second Pahlavi, people were merely observers, and since they lacked effective

tools proportional to the political and social conditions of the time, they couldn't interfere in who came to power. However, the Islamic Republic emerged from a social revolution; it was the people who brought this system into power with their own will. Therefore, this system, whether willingly or unwillingly, has its roots in common values with society and cannot be easily uprooted because it would require engaging with the entire society or at least the majority of the society that shares common values with the government, which is very challenging for opposition movements.

## Difference in the politics of persuasion in dealing with public opinion

The Islamic Republic system has tried from the beginning to communicate with the people in their language; hence, at least superficially, it has had the will to persuade public opinion. This is in contrast to the Pahlavi monarchy, where not only was there not much continuous communication with public opinion, and no di-

alogue was formed with society, but there was also no will to engage with the people. The personal nature of the Shah's power and the aura of monarchy had led both the Shah and his entourage to see themselves as detached from the people, and fundamentally, they felt little reason to be accountable to the public opinion of society.

## Difference in the presence of authoritative media and the presentation of official narratives

During the Pahlavi era, modern forms of social communication were not extensively developed, and the concept of media did not exist. Consequently, people had limited understanding of events and relied solely on hearsay and rumors to stay informed about current affairs. Additionally, written media were very restricted and did not have widespread influence across all segments of society. As a result, the government was unable to provide an accurate narrative of events, and essentially, the concept of narrative did not exist; at best, there was dissemination of information and reporting of events. However, with the emergence of new media platforms and the expansion of social networks and written media, the Islamic Republic seized the opportunity to firstly inform the public about its nature and secondly to explain

its achievements for the society. Furthermore, the proliferation of new media space has rendered rumors and falsehoods less effective compared to the Pahlavi era, unable to significantly impact public opinion. Therefore, during the rule of the Islamic Republic, it is not possible to sway public opinion or incite against the government with misinformation and falsehoods. Controlling official media and regulating the interaction of society with official media have led to the news authority being associated with state broadcasting, which can be considered as a winning card in the hands of the Islamic Republic. Whereas, the Pahlavi monarchy did not have such a widespread and influential news authority.

## Difference in structural complexity

During the Pahlavi era, political and economic structures were not as extensive and complex, whereas in the Islamic Republic, structures are extensive and intricate. While this complexity poses challenges from various perspectives, ultimately it has made it difficult to easily overthrow or paralyze the Islamic Republic politically and economically. The complexity and expansiveness of political and economic structures have made calculations and planning by opposing governments very intricate, rendering them unable to significantly affect key points or threaten them. The status of cultural, political, economic, and social institutions differs between the two periods of the Islamic Republic and the Pahlavi era. During the Pahlavi era, due to various reasons including the simplicity of societal structures, low population, and lack of bureaucratic organs and institutions, cultural, political, economic, and social institutions were not well-

established, and society lacked structural cohesion. However, in the Islamic Republic, with the will for political and social development, it can be said that cultural, political, economic, and social institutions have relatively taken shape, and this has led to a significant distribution of power and authority among institutions rather than individuals. Therefore, during the Pahlavi era, activists and revolutionaries were only fighting against one person or at most a group of individuals who formed the court and aristocracy, and their work was simpler. But currently, if opponents want to fight against the Islamic Republic, they must contend with all existing institutions, or at least if they do not want to fight with institutions, they must recognize them officially and in a way engage in negotiations or exchanges with them, which is very difficult and almost impossible due to the complexity of institutions and the complexity of values and culture.

## Difference in regional influence and the possibility of regional consensus against Iran

The Islamic Republic plays a significant role in the region, which could be considered an anchor of stability. Consequently, achieving regional consensus against the Islamic Republic is challenging, making it difficult for neighboring countries to perceive Iran as a threat. Iran's neighbors have realized that to maintain their own power, they are compelled to include Iran's influence and power in their calculations. Even for safeguarding their own country's situation, they tend not to align with for-

ign powers attempting to weaken the Islamic Republic. This factor has significantly contributed to the stability of the Islamic Republic and its stable position in the region. Naturally, it also aids in enhancing domestic stability. However, during the Pahlavi era, regional relations took a different shape. The Shah's reliance on external powers in military matters on one hand, and the lack of effort to develop relations with neighbors on the other, made the Pahlavi government very vulnerable.



Mass demonstrations of people protesting against the Shah and the Pahlavi government on the Day of Ashura on December 11, 1978, at College Bridge (now Hafez Bridge), Tehran, Iran. [sajed.ir](http://sajed.ir)



Soldiers point guns at revolutionary demonstrators in Iran in the summer of 1978. [sajed.ir](http://sajed.ir)

### Difference in military and armament independence

The Islamic Republic enjoys complete independence in military power and armaments. Mohammad Reza Shah purchased the necessary armaments from foreigners, mainly from the United States and European countries, which resulted in him not having full operational control at times. However, from the outset of the Islamic Republic, policymakers sought to establish the basis of military power and armaments domestically. Therefore, it can be said that military independence and non-reliance on external sources for armaments have played a major role in Iran's military and political independence. Additionally,

the Shah's dependence on America in military matters led to transparency in arms information. This means that America and European countries knew how much weaponry they sold to the Shah and were aware that, besides them, the Shah had no other weapons. But currently, because military information is within the country and there is no such transparency for foreign powers, they do not know the extent of Iran's military capability. In fact, the Islamic Republic has based part of its foreign policy on the doctrine of ambiguity, and this itself has created grounds for speculation, fear, and lack of confidence of foreign governments in any military action.

### Difference in the demographic structure of Iranian society

During the Pahlavi era, the country's population was relatively low, which itself could be considered a threat to governance. However, in the current situation with the Islamic Republic in power, the population has gradually increased over time, leading to relative security. Naturally, the higher the population of a country, the more stable its economic and political structures will be. Because the complexity of mutual interests and their intertwining

neutralizes threatening forces and, on the other hand, society based on internal contradictions somewhat finds cohesion and power, which, in total, not only is not destructive but also constructive. However, during the Pahlavi era, mutual interests in society were not so intertwined; rather, the concentration of interests on one side and power monopoly on the other made these interests one-sided and non-constructive.

### Difference in the nature of political opposition

During the Pahlavi era, there was a strong and persuasive opposition that could establish communication with all segments of society. A clear example of this was the clergy and the university body, which could promote revolutionary values in the society and involve significant segments of society in their activities throughout the country. However, currently, the Islamic Republic does not have a strong and persuasive opposition. Consequently,

a significant portion of the population cannot oppose the Islamic Republic even if they want to. This is because there is essentially no movement or personality that they can align with or use their statements. The lack of opposition itself is a clear reason for fears in parts of society about the future. Because the idea that there will be a worrying future after the Islamic Republic is present in the minds of a considerable portion of Iranians.

### Difference in the level of experience and resilience

A wealth of experience and resilience contributes to the survival and endurance of the Islamic Republic; experience gained through various crises in different periods. This is while the previous government lacked significant experience in dealing with crises, which led to improper handling of popular protests and an inability to identify their causes. However, the numerous events that have occurred for the Islamic Republic over the decades, including political,

economic, and even cultural crises, have somehow made the Islamic Republic effective and resilient. Naturally, this wealth of experience is generated and reproduced through various ideological and research centers and is subject to debate, leading to the formulation of newer, more efficient models. This is in contrast to the Pahlavi era, where such events did not occur, and the rulers were distant from centers of thought and paid no attention to them.



A man washes "Yankee Go Home" and "Death to the Traitorous Shah" from a wall in the capital city of Tehran on August 21, 1953. The new Iranian Prime Minister Fazlollah Zahedi requested the cleanup after the overthrow of his predecessor, Mohammad Mossadeq. [AP](http://AP)

### Difference in the distribution of power between structural and non-structural sectors

Another significant difference between the Islamic Republic and the previous government is the diversity of power and the high level of its distribution among various structural and non-structural sectors. During the Pahlavi era, there was a concentration of power, and power was monopolized by the Shah and his associates. However, in the Islamic Republic, power is not institutionalized in one person; rather, it is distributed among a set of structures and institutions in various fields. When

power is concentrated in one or a few individuals, it can easily be eliminated or confronted, but when power is distributed among various sectors of society and some aspects of power are structural and non-personal, it cannot be easily confronted or eliminated. Additionally, in Iran today, power, in the sense of influence, is not limited solely to structured institutions; rather, power diversity in non-structural institutions, especially social institutions, is observable.

### Difference in the model of alternative for the political system

Until now, there is no agreed-upon alternative model for the post-Islamic Republic governance among the elites, and even opposition movements have not been able to propose a specific alternative in this regard. Even the discussions presented in foreign media indicate the level of differences between different models such as constitutional monarchy, authoritarianism, republicanism, or democracy. This is in contrast to the period of 1978 and even the years before that when the revolutionaries, led by Imam Khomeini, knew what model of government they were seeking.

Imam Khomeini had presented the theory of Wilayat al-Faqih years before and advocated it in his explanatory speeches during the struggles leading to the victory of the revolution. Even after the establishment of the Islamic Republic, Imam clearly knew what model of Islamic government was to be presented to the people. Historically, evidence shows that ambiguity and confusion among the revolutionaries of 1978 were minimal. However, currently, the opposition has somewhat fragmented intellectually to the extent that they sometimes clash over their own proposals.

### Difference in the level of representation of society by political factions

In the Islamic Republic, almost all political currents that have emerged represent a significant portion of the society's political tendencies. In other words, the political tastes of society, which are diverse and varied, have seen themselves represented in the government in various periods, and each of these tastes has had representatives in various governance matters. This is in contrast to the Pahlavi era, where essentially there was no such thing as republicanism and democracy, and the people did not consider the government as their representa-

tive. The rule of the Shah and the governance culture were such that there was no room for people's participation in governance and holding various political positions. The emergence of various representatives as representatives of different tastes of society in the Islamic Republic has led to some kind of partisan conflict and political guarantee for the Islamic Republic. In the Pahlavi era, due to the existence of a dictatorial and single-party system, people had to accept what the Shah decided, and there was no room for political diversity.

### Difference in the source and nature of loyalty to the government

In the Islamic Republic, loyalty to the government is based on religious beliefs and values. Individuals who love or support the Islamic Republic have not aligned themselves with individuals but with values and ideals they consider spiritual and divine. It is clear that such loyalty is much stronger, to the extent that they are even willing to sacrifice their lives for it. This loyalty to the Is-

lamic Republic is not only resilient but also not easily undermined. However, loyalty to a monarchical system is based on personal values, and such loyalties are often based on personal interests. Naturally, as long as these interests are secured, such loyalties exist; otherwise, they will disappear, and even with the weakening of interests, such loyalty will be weakened.

# AFC Asian Cup: Time for Iran to move on from Japan jubilation



By Amirhadi Arsalanpour  
Staff writer

"The occasion is worthy of a final showdown," Iran head coach Amir Qalenoeei said ahead of last Saturday's AFC Asian Cup quarterfinal clash featuring two of the continental heavyweights in Iran and Japan.

And when Alireza Jahanbakhsh smashed home from the spot deep into stoppage time to seal a 2-1 victory, capping one of the most emphatic 45 minutes in the history of the national team, the scenes of euphoria among the Iranians on the pitch and in stands resembled the celebrations of winning the ultimate prize itself.

After all, Qalenoeei's men stepped into the game at the Education City Stadium less than 72 years after a draining shootout win against Syria, no to mention missing their talisman Mahdi Taremi through suspension, while pretournament favorite Japan, for all its group phase struggles, had walked away with a comfortable victory over Bahrain.

Qalenoeei went on to relish in a first triumph over the formidable foe in 19 years as a "turning point" for the Iranian football.

And that might be the case as the pivotal outcome of the contest could mark "a fresh belief in the homegrown coaches in the country", as Qalenoeei insisted, while many believe it restored the bond between Team Melli and part of its supporters all around the world, which had been tarnished for certain reasons over the past 18 months.

Still, the massive result only



Iranian players celebrate the AFC Asian Cup last-eight victory over Japan at the Education City Stadium, Al Rayyan, Qatar, on February 3, 2024.  
● THAIER AL-SUDANI/REUTERS

meant another semifinal spot for Iran in the continent's flagship international event and the manager will have to make sure his players are not carried away by the last-eight jubilation when taking on the defending champion and host Qatar today for a place in the final showpiece. For all the praiseworthy performances in the previous editions, three-time champion Iran is no

stranger to last-four heartbreak at the Asian Cup, losing at this stage on five occasions – the most recent of which came against Saturday's opponent in 2019.

The manager should realize that his tactical acumen as well as the players' trademark passion and heroics, showcased in the second-half dominance against Japan, will count for nothing, should his side fail to go all the

way to lift the trophy, one that has been eluding the Iranian football for nearly five decades, at the Lusail Stadium in three days.

## Lineup dilemma

Taremi's late red card against Syria was perhaps a blessing in disguise for Qalenoeei in the Japan game. Saman Qoddous was pushed forward to join up with Jahan-

bakhsh and Mohammad Moehebbi and provide support for loan striker Sardar Azmoun in frustrating the Blue Samurai's backline.

Veteran Omid Ebrahimi, meanwhile, was called into action and did a superb job in helping fellow-holding midfielder Saeid Ezzatollahi outplay the Japanese trio in the middle of the park. In an interview after the game,

Taremi acknowledged the outcome could have been different with him on the pitch as Iran's gameplan "was in stark contrast to the one that features me."

It is hard to believe that the prolific Porto man, chasing his fourth strike in Qatar, will not restore his role in the starting XI today, meaning Qoddous could be back in the midfield duo alongside Ezzatollahi, with Ebrahimi returning to bench.

The Brentford player's creativity and contribution to the team when going forward has been second to none but his lack of defensive qualities has, nonetheless, made Iran look vulnerable at times – even against minnow group oppositions – and that may cost Iran dearly against the deadly Qatari duo of Akram Afif and Almoez Ali in Doha's Al Thumama Stadium.

However, history is on Iran's side today as the Asian powerhouse enjoys a prefect record in the previous six meetings between the two teams, including a one-goal win in the 2015 Asian Cup group stage and, most significantly, a 4-0 crushing in a friendly tournament in Jordan last October – a statement victory for Qalenoeei over his Portuguese predecessor Carlos Queiroz, who was shown the exit door by his employers in the aftermath of the humiliation.

An Asian Cup crown could be a fitting international finale for the most players in one of the finest generations of the Iranian footballers, and standing between them and eternity will just be a couple of more matches.

In the meantime, let's keep fingers crossed.

## Djokovic, Nadal to headline 'Six Kings Slam' in Saudi Arabia

REUTERS – Saudi Arabia will host a new elite tennis exhibition featuring Novak Djokovic and Rafa Nadal with three other Grand Slam winners in October, the country's General Entertainment Authority has announced. Carlos Alcaraz, Jannik Sinner, Daniil Medvedev and Holger Rune will also play at the 'Six Kings Slam', which will form part of the Saudi cultural and entertainment festival Riyadh Season, organisers said. With Sinner having recently won the Australian Open, Dane Rune is the only player

on the six-man roster without a Grand Slam title. Spaniard Nadal, who signed up as an ambassador for the Saudi Arabian Tennis Federation last month, said he was looking forward to the event. "After some other tennis players have done so, I am very excited to play for the first time in Riyadh," the 22-times Grand Slam champion said in the press release. While exhibition events in the Persian Gulf are nothing new, they are usually played during breaks in the ATP season or after it has finished.

The ATP has a full schedule in October, including mandatory Masters 1000 tournaments in Shanghai and Paris. Saudi Arabia will also host the season-ending Next Gen Finals for men's under-21 players in Jeddah from 2023 to 2027, the ATP announced last August. The oil-rich country has invested heavily in sports like soccer, Formula One and golf over the last few years. However, critics have accused the country of using sport to cover up its poor record on human rights and equality

issues. The debate over Saudi Arabia potentially hosting the women's WTA Finals has intensified, with tennis greats Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova objecting to the move, prompting heavy criticism from Saudi ambassador to the US last week.



● MIKE FREY/USA TODAY SPORTS



● TABNAK

## Khadem-Haqiqat, ex-Iran wrestling chief, dies aged 94

### Sports Desk

Seyyed Mohammad Khadem-Haqiqat, the former chairman of the Iranian Wrestling Federation, passed away at the age of 94.

Laid to rest in Tehran on Tuesday, Khadem-Haqiqat was in charge of the country's wrestling governing body on three spells between 1966 and 1978, playing his part in helping

Iran emerge as a global force of the sport.

Serving as a referee at numerous major events, including the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome, Khadem-Haqiqat was also the chef de mission of the squad at the 1961 World Championships in Yokohama, Japan, where Iran dominated the freestyle competitions.

Legendary wrestlers Gholamreza

Takhti, Emam-Ali Habibi, Mohammad-Ali San'atkar, Ebrahim Seifpour, and Mansour Mahdizadeh walked away with the ultimate prize of their respective weight classes, while Nasrollah Soltaninejad settled for a flyweight silver and Hamid Tavakkoli took a bronze as Iranian freestyle team celebrated a maiden world title.

# Blinken on peace mission amid US arms flow to Israel

## International Desk

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken visited Egypt on Tuesday in an effort to end Israel's war on Gaza, which has been strongly supported by his country since October 7.

Blinken – on his fifth regional tour since the bloodiest ever Gaza war broke out – met Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, a day after he held talks with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in Riyadh.

The US top envoy then left for Qatar and was later to head to Israel, hoping to shore up support for a truce deal that was hashed out in

Paris in January but has not yet been signed off on by either Hamas or Israel.

The United States, on one hand, tries to secure a truce in Gaza and, on the other hand, provides crucial military aid for Israel's deadly offensive on Gaza. Washington has also vetoed UN resolutions for a cease-fire. Israel has so far killed more than 27,500 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip since October 7, when Hamas's attack on the occupied territories triggered Israel's onslaught on Gaza.

According to the Gaza Health Ministry on Tuesday, heavy strikes and fighting killed at least 107 people in

just 24 hours, mostly women and children.

Fears grew for more than a million Palestinians crowded into the far southern Rafah area as the battlefield draws ever closer in Israel's campaign to destroy Hamas. Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant warned on Monday that the military "will reach places where we have not yet fought... right up to the last Hamas bastion, which is Rafah," on the Egyptian border.

Israeli troops, with air and naval support, have been engaged in heavy urban combat centered on Gaza's main southern city of Khan Younis.



## 'No place is safe'

An AFP journalist said overnight strikes rocked Khan Younis and that two air strikes also struck Rafah.

"No place is safe, no place at all – where shall we go?" one Palestinian, Mohamad Kozaat, said after six members of his family, including his daughter, were wounded in an Israeli strike on the border town.

The truce Blinken is hoping to seal proposes a six-week pause to fighting as Hamas frees captives held in Gaza in exchange for Palestinian prisoners held by Israel, and more aid enters Gaza, according to a Hamas source.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has faced divisions within his cabinet and public fury over the fate of the

remaining captives, said Israel "will not accept" demands Hamas has made for an exchange involving thousands of prisoners.

The premier's right-wing Likud party quoted him as saying the terms "should be similar to the previous agreement" in late November, which saw a more limited ratio of Palestinian prisoners exchanged for captives.



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken (L) meets with Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi in Cairo on February 6, 2024.

● AFP

## Kazakh-Qatari cooperation is an example of an economic interaction between two regions

The multi-vector foreign policy of Central Asian countries has led to increased attention from a new player to the region. Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, including Qatar, are collectively and individually forging new diplomatic and economic ties with the states of Eurasian region.

Thus, one of the most important signs of the increasing role of the Arab monarchies of the Persian Gulf in Central Asia has been the sharp development of interaction and bilateral relations over the past three months. During this period, a significant number of meetings between high-ranking officials as well as economic events took place between the countries of the two regions.

In this context, on July 19, 2023, a summit of the heads of state of Central Asia + GCC was held in Jeddah city (Saudi Arabia), where the Gulf countries expressed interest in investing in the energy sector of the region. The event was attended by the heads of the states of the Persian Gulf (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar) and Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan). Against the backdrop of growing interaction between regions, Qatar's cooperation with the leading Central Asian country – the Republic of Kazakhstan – stands out. Nowadays Astana is becoming a key partner for Doha in the CIS region, as evidenced by regular meetings between the heads of the two countries. The upcoming on February 11, 2024 trip of President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev to Doha marks his fourth meeting with the Emir of Qatar Tamim bin Al Thani over the past 2 years.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Doha and Astana, there has been mutual support for the initiatives of the two countries in regional and international forums, including Qatar's membership in the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) in 2015, as well as the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS).

At this stage of the development, Qatar and Kazakhstan signed an agreement on mutual protection of investments. The parties are already working on mutual promising projects in various sectors of the economy. To strengthen cooperation, Doha and Astana signed a corresponding agreement. Countries began to implement projects worth \$1.3 billion. For example, with the participation of Qatari investors in the Akmola region of the Republic of Kazakhstan it is planned to build a grain processing plant. The estimated cost of the project is \$200 million.

Due to the fact that Qatar has in recent years attached great importance to its own food security, the development

of cooperation with Kazakhstan in the field of agro-industrial complex (given the huge potential of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the field of agriculture) can help Doha diversify the supply of important agricultural goods in the face of an unstable situation in the global food market and disruption of supply chains.

Thus, the Qatari company «Hassad Food» – the largest food security enterprise in the emirate, became interested in the capabilities of the Kazakh agro-industrial complex. Chief Executive Officer of «Hassad Food» Mohammed al-Sada noted that his company intends to strengthen trade relations between the Central Asian countries to ensure food security.

Along with this, the Qatari partners «Power International Holding», represented by its subsidiary «Baladna», will act as a technological partner. The created fund will become one of the ten largest processors of dairy products in the world. According to international economic observers, this will attract long-term investments and give a new impetus to the development of not only the dairy industry, but also the entire agro-industrial complex of Kazakhstan.

In this context, it should be noted that Astana also intends to increase mutual trade with Doha, increasing the export of domestic products to Qatar for 60 commodity items worth more than \$243 million.

In addition, Qatar's current military cooperation agreements with Central Asian countries could help expand Qatari-Kazakh security cooperation, which includes joint military exercises, intelligence sharing, and concerted counter-terrorism efforts, thereby making a significant contribution to ensuring regional stability. The tourism industry of cooperation between the two countries is also constantly growing. In November 2021, «Qatar Airways» opened direct scheduled flights between Doha and Almaty, which will contribute to the expansion of mutual economic and trade relations in the future.

Finally, taking into account the growing interest of the world's leading countries in Central Asia, the prospects for cooperation between Kazakhstan and Qatar seem quite extensive and promising. Considering emerging global trends, Qatar, as one of the richest countries in the Persian Gulf, is interested in investing in the Kazakh oil and gas and agricultural industries, as well as in other areas, including tourism, finance and construction. In this regard, according to journalistic circles, the upcoming visit of the President of Kazakhstan K. Tokayev to Qatar confirms the commitment of the parties to build up bilateral relations and will give fresh impetus to new joint projects in various areas of economic cooperation.

## New York Jews ...

October 7 marked a pivotal event for the United States. It was not

an unforeseen incident for the US. Now, Washington seeks to create a controlled tension through this event to secure its long-term interests. Since September 11, the US has pursued three specific agendas for West Asia: Creating insecurity, creating a balance in the countries' weaknesses, and ensuring relative security. The invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq was the stage of exporting insecurity to the region. Proxy wars utilizing oil money of certain regional countries helped the establishment of a balance of weakness in the US's favor. Israel serves as a military stronghold for the US in the region. Now, in the third stage, the US is seeking to create a state of relative security in order to manage its long-term policies against Iran and China.

**Do you mean that the US is trying to establish a cease-fire in Gaza by creating a relative security? Do you believe that this cease-fire is a form of preparation for confronting Iran and China?**

Yes. US strategic objectives include restraining Iran while controlling China. China takes priority for the US; however, Iran is the US's primary problem. That's because US interests in the 21st century greatly depend on its presence and influence in the new heartland, centered on the Iranian plateau. Currently, the US has put the West Asia region, Iran, and even the international system in a state of "suspended war". This war



spans from the Caucasus region to the Persian Gulf, West Asia, and continues to Taiwan. Within the framework of this suspended war, the US first aims to establish a relative security in the New Heartland.

The visits by American officials to the region, including Antony Blinken and Jake Sullivan, along with expert teams, are aimed at paving the ground for creating relative security.

**Does the establishment of relative security and the realization of US goals hinge on resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?**

Certainly. I am not pessimistic about the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. How have Arab nations, as supporters of Palestine, reacted to Israel's atrocities against Palestinians in recent months? Not much. Contrary to some predictions that assumed October 7 would mark the end of Arab-Israeli normalization, discussions now revolve around the resumption of Israel's normalization of ties with Saudi Arabia. Capitals of the Arab countries have been hosting representatives from the US and Israel to end the conflict in Gaza. While Is-

rael opposes the establishment of a Palestinian state, the United States and Britain insist on the creation of an independent Palestinian state. Recent news suggests that negotiations have made progress in ending the conflict. These developments indicate the US is trying to resolve the Arab-Israeli issue.

**Americans have advocated for a two-state solution for many years, but Israel has yet to accept this idea. Do you believe the US can exert pressure on Israel to accept the independent state of Palestine this time?**

Israel is no longer an important partner for the US. It remains an ally, but under US's 21st-century strategy, Israel no longer holds a strategic ally status. America's doctrine concerning the region and the Israel-Palestine issue is a strong and manageable Israel and the establishment of a weak Palestinian state. Even Britain, which played a significant role in Israel's formation, now insists on recognizing the independent state of Palestine. Therefore, Netanyahu does not have the final say here. While the Jewish lobby wields influence in the US, New York Jews will ultimately control Tel Aviv Jews.

# Fajr Music Festival, reflection of Iran's diverse musical landscape: *Secretary*



● IRAN DAILY

## Arts & Culture Desk

The secretary of the 39th Fajr International Music Festival Reza Mahdavi expressed his broad perspective on the festival, considering it a reflection of Iran's diverse musical landscape. He made the statement during the press conference of the 39th edition of the festival held at Tehran's Rudaki Hall on February 6, IRNA wrote. He highlighted the festival's potential to contribute to the cultural and economic development of Iranian society. He underscored efforts to make the festival more accessible to the public and emphasized the role of educational institutions in promoting cultural awareness. Mahdavi also acknowledged challenges

in international promotion and called for increased efforts in publicizing both international and youth performances. He expressed optimism that by providing necessary platforms for international competition, the festival could better showcase Iranian artists. Amir-Hossein Samiei, the director of the music department at the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance also provided insights into the event's organization. Samiei stressed the festival's commitment to cultural justice, ensuring a balanced representation across different regions of the country. A significant focus was placed on the inclusion of children and youth in the musical program, showcasing performances by

these age groups, including special performances by music academies, Samiei added. The festival also aimed to create a dynamic space by featuring women's musical groups and various orchestras. The festival, spanning Tehran and 15 other provinces, will begin with performances by the Nahal women's group and the National Orchestra of Iran, according to Amir-Abbas Setayeshgar, the CEO of the Iran Music Association. The 39th Fajr International Music Festival, organized by the Iran Music Association in collaboration with the Rudaki Foundation and led by Reza Mahdavi, will run from February 12 to 17, featuring competitive (Barbad Award) and non-competitive sections across Tehran and other provinces.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
 Cartoonist



# Hamedan Cultural Week to be held in Armenia

## Arts & Culture Desk

The Hamedan Cultural Week is set to take place in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia, from February 7 to 16. The event is organized by the Embassy and the Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Department in Hamedan Province, ISNA wrote. The opening ceremony, coinciding with the 45th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution's victory, and Iran's National Day, will be attended by Mehdi Sobhani, the Iranian Ambassador to Armenia, the head of Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Department in Hamedan Province, and a delegation of Armenian tourism and cultural officials, Iranian residents in Yerevan, and the cultural commu-



nity of Armenia. An exhibition showcasing the talents and handicrafts of skilled Hamedani artists will be held in the Blue Mosque Hall, aiming to introduce the cultural capacities of Hamedan, featuring crafts such as leatherwork, pottery, and Mat weaving (Morvar bafi).

The traditional music ensemble "Ayeen" from Hamedan will participate in cultural events throughout the week, performing at locations including the Armenian State University, and the National Library of Armenia, as well as the Shahid Fahmideh Educational

Complex. On February 20, the group will perform on the National Day in Yerevan, while on February 21, it will entertain the audience in the Syunik Province city of Kapan. Naqqali performances from the 'Shahnameh' (Book of Kings) will be among the cultural week's programs, engaging the audience with selected tales. According to the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Mohammad Asadi Movahed, Iran's Cultural Attaché, emphasized the promotion of cultural and artistic capacities of different Iranian provinces to boost cultural economy. He said "It is hoped that in the coming year, similar cultural weeks from several other provinces will be held in Armenia."

# Three Iranian artists to stage concert in Russia during Nowruz

In a special concert on the occasion of Persian New Year, three Iranian artists are set to perform at the renowned Mariinsky Opera House in St. Petersburg, Russia. The concert, scheduled for March 22, will feature collaborations with the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra, presenting compositions made by Ali Rahbari, IRNA wrote. The artists, invited by Ali Rahbari, a distinguished conductor and a permanent guest at the Mariinsky Opera, are Amin Ghaffari, a talented violinist, and Reza

Fekri, a tenor vocalist. The concert will showcase three compositions by Rahbari. The first part, 'My Mother Iran No. 1' (Lament), will be performed by Amin Ghaffari on the violin, accompanied by the symphonic orchestra. Ghaffari, recently awarded the first prize in a violin competition in Japan, will interpret this piece that dates back around 50 years to its premiere in Vienna by Bijan Khadem-Missagh, based on traditional and religious Iranian music. The 'Lament' section will be dedicated to Iranian musician Hossein

Alizadeh. The second part, 'My Mother Iran No. 8' (Arabization), is a critical commentary on the influence of Arab music in Iranian compositions. This piece is crafted for the

symphonic orchestra. In the third and final section, 'My Mother Iran No. 11' (Thus Spoke Zoroaster), Reza Fekri, accompanied by the Iranian chorus and the symphonic orchestra, will perform.



# UN tourism chief to attend Iran's flagship tourism show



Iran's Deputy Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Ali-Asghar Shalbafian has said that Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization Zurab Pololikashvili will participate in the 17th Tehran International Tourism and Related Industries Exhibition (TITE). At the press conference of the exhibition on Tuesday, Shalbafian said that the TITE, which is one of the largest exhibitions in the country, will be held in 20 halls with 982 participating booths in an area of 60,000 square meters from February 12 to 15, 2024, IRNA re-

ported. He added that the 17th Tehran International Tourism and Related Industries Exhibition will be held in 20 halls with 982 participating booths in an area of 60,000 square meters. He further noted that representatives and tourism industry activists from Russia, Turkey, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Tajikistan, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, and Sri Lanka have pavilions in this exhibition. Also, 69 foreign travel agencies mostly from Russia's Kazan and St. Petersburg, apart from the agencies that have booths, have put in a request to take

part in the exhibition, he added. He underlined that appropriate places are provided for bilateral and multilateral business cooperation talks for foreign participants. Referring to the hosting visitors from Malaysia, Indonesia, Iraq and Tunisia, Iran's Deputy Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts said that the UN tourism chief and his entourage as well as the Secretary-Generals of the ECO and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the head of the Tourism Committee of Uzbekistan will attend Iran's flagship tourism show.