

World Health Assembly

Iran minister urges int'l community to oppose healthcare sanctions

Social Desk

Iran's Minister of Health and Medical Education Bahram Einollahi called on the international community to oppose unilateral and illegal sanctions imposed on the healthcare sector worldwide.

He made the remarks during the 77th World Health Assembly, which is currently being held in Geneva, Switzerland, from May 27 to June 1, IRNA wrote.

The theme of this year's assembly is "All for Health, Health for All."

Einollahi emphasized that despite Iran's commitment to prioritizing healthcare for its citizens, the country is facing severe economic

constraints due to unlawful unilateral coercive measures.

Einollahi also highlighted the ongoing suffering in Palestine, describing acts of genocide against the Palestinian people while global health officials convene in Geneva.

The World Health Assembly is an annual event held at the World Health Organization's headquarters, bringing together health ministers from 192 member countries to discuss global health issues.

This year's assembly continues through June 1, focusing on strategies to achieve universal health coverage and improve health outcomes globally.



Moscow hosts Russian artist's exhibition inspired by 'Shahnameh'



An exhibition showcasing the paintings and sculptures of Russian artist Sergey Feofanov, inspired by the characters of Ferdowsi's 'Shahnameh' (The Book of Kings), opened Tuesday at the School of Dramatic Arts in Moscow.

The exhibition, titled 'Eastern Wind,' features 30 paintings and 40 sculptures that draw on the rich myths and legends from Ferdowsi's epic work. The event, being held in the theater hall, marked the commemoration of the renowned Persian poet Ferdowsi.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Iran's Cultural Attaché in Moscow, Masoud Ahmadvand, praised the Russian side for their

collaboration in organizing this cultural event.

"Feofanov has been a pioneer in introducing Iranian art and culture to others," Ahmadvand said, highlighting the artist's ability to blend the lofty concepts of the 'Shahnameh' with modern imagination.

Ahmadvand recalled Feofanov's earlier visit to Iran, where he held an exhibition in Mashhad. For his contributions to global awareness of Ferdowsi, Feofanov was awarded the Ferdowsi Medal. "Today, we witness his beautiful works, both sculptures and paintings," Ahmadvand added.

Feofanov expressed his deep admiration for Iranian culture, particularly

its poets, miniatures, and Ferdowsi's 'Shahnameh'. "Sometimes, I tell myself there is enough work in this field, but I cannot separate myself from Iran's culture and the 'Shahnameh,'" he said, underscoring his enduring passion.

The ceremony also featured remarks from other Russian artists who praised Feofanov's work for its originality and innovative use of various elements and materials. A recitation of the Shahnameh in both Persian and Russian was also part of the program.

The 'Eastern Wind' exhibition will remain open to visitors at the School of Dramatic Arts until June 27.



Iranian artists join 'All Eyes On Rafah' as Israel ramps up deadly attacks

A large number of Iranian filmmakers and artists including Kamal Tabrizi, Parviz Parastui, Payman Maadi, Tannaz Tabatabaei and Amir Jafari along with more than 39 million online activists have joined the 'All Eyes On Rafah' campaign to condemn the Zionist regime's aggression on Rafah in the south of Gaza Strip.

An image depicting tents in a camp arranged to spell out "All Eyes on Rafah," an area in the south of Gaza filled with refugee tent camps – where at least 45 civilians died after an Israeli strike on Sunday – has gone viral on social media.

The phrase holds significance as Israel's war on Gaza continues despite the major global outcry. "All eyes on Rafah" is a phrase that refers to the ongoing genocide in Rafah, Gaza, with over 1.4 million Palestinians seeking shelter," Iran's Embassy in India had earlier shared.

The image, which appears to be AI-generated, was shared more than 37 million times in less than 24 hours.

Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told the country's parliament in Hebrew that the casualties were a "tragic mishap"; his office presented

clarifying comments in English that translated the phrase as "tragic incident."

The image has been shared primarily through Instagram's stories feature, with influencers, athletes and celebrities – including "Bridgerton" star Nicola Coughlan, singer-songwriter Kehlani and one of India's top actors, Varun Dhawan – posting the image.

American singer Kehlani Ashley Parrish, Egyptian singer Bushra Rozza, American actress Marcia Cross, an, Syrian singer Faia Younan, and British singer and actress Leona Lewis are among the international celebrities who have shared the image on their Instagram pages.

The "All Eyes on Rafah" image does not portray

the violence actually occurring on the ground, while it does echo the other content that has repeatedly gone viral and been endorsed by highly followed people on social media over the past eight months.

"The trend of posting 'All Eyes on Rafah' has been something that has been building for a little while," said Matt Navarra, a social media consultant and industry analyst. "We've seen quite a lot of influencers and celebrities and widely followed people on multiple platforms, not just Instagram, that are sharing the sentiment of this message or an almost identical version of it, which will amp up the reach and visibility across many platforms."

