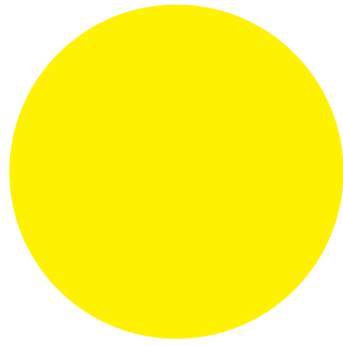




Leader:
Muslim
unity key to
countering
belligerent
plots

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Iran Daily

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Pezeshkian: No Choice But to Resolve FATF Dispute



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said the country has no choice but to resolve disputes surrounding the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the 2015 Iran nuclear deal to address Iranians' economic woes and achieve the country's long-term goals.

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دولت وفاق ملی

Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran Mohammad Eslami speaks during a media briefing on the new nuclear energy projections, at IAEA's General Conference in Vienna, Austria on September 16, 2024.
● JOE KLAMAR/AFP

Pezeshkian's message ahead of New York visit



By Ebrahim Beheshti
Staff writer

OPINION

Iranian President Massoud Pezeshkian outlined his government's stance on the most pressing domestic and foreign issues during his first press conference yesterday. The conference was held on the eve of the president's trip to New York to attend the United Nations General Assembly. The General Assembly has always been an opportunity for the world leaders to expound on their views and engage in intense diplomatic negotiations with representatives of various countries. Pezeshkian's announcement of his government's foreign policy positions and responses to key questions from journalists, which spanned a range of critical issues including engagement with the West, US negotiations, allegations of missile transfers to Russia and Yemen, the Gaza conflict, and relations with neighboring countries, China, and Russia,

was noteworthy as it provided countries engaging with Iran on the sidelines of the General Assembly with a clearer understanding of the president's and his government's stances. The president once again highlighted his main foreign policy program, emphasizing the need to develop cooperation and strengthen relations with neighbors, and stressed the continuation of good relations with China and Russia. In response to allegations of sending missiles to Russia and Yemen, he denied these claims while defending the country's defense capabilities and the need to strengthen them. Regarding the nuclear issue and the sanctions imposed on Iran, he emphasized that Iran has never sought to manufacture nuclear weapons. Iran has adhered to its JCPOA commitments, and it was the Western side that withdrew from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and failed to uphold its obligations.

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Iranian children win 20 accolades at Japan painting contest

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Ataei's Foolad lifts second trophy after win in all-Iranian showdown

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Finance minister calls for implementation of INSTC

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Int'l Day of Peace, solidarity among Muslim countries



EXCLUSIVE
SPECIAL ISSUE

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CBI allocates \$1b for car imports

The Central Bank of Iran (CBI) has allocated a sum of \$1 billion for imports of cars, said Mohammadreza Farzin, the governor of the chief lender.

He also added that it is a fixed policy by the CBI to provide foreign exchange to import cars that will continue by the end of the current Iranian year (March 20, 2025) and also next year.

Economy Minister Abdolnaser Hemmati wrote on his X page that the barriers facing car imports have been removed by President Masoud Pezeshkian's decision which was made in a meeting of the Economic Council on Sunday. All [domestic] industries have to compete with their foreign rivals, according to Hemmati. The Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) has recently announced that 20,000 passenger cars (sedans) had been imported since the beginning of the current Iranian year (started March 20, 2024).

IRICA put the value of the passenger cars imported into the country in the period at \$390 million. A total of 1,647 passenger cars, valued at \$35 million, had been brought into the country from March 21 to September 22, 2023, IRICA added.

Iran-Turkey trade tops \$6b in five months: IRICA



The value of non-oil trade between Iran and Turkey stood at \$6.01 billion in the first five months of the current Iranian year (March 20-August 21), according to the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA).

The IRICA report put the weight of the non-oil trade between the two countries at 6.698 million tons, reported Mehr News Agency. Iran-Turkey's five-month non-oil trade indicates a six percent rise in value and a 23 percent growth in weight year on year.

Turkey was the second top trade partner of Iran among the Islamic Republic's neighbors in the first five months of the present year.

Finance minister calls for implementation of INSTC



Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance of Iran Abdolnaser Hemmati stressed the need to implement the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) as a transit route to boost cooperation between the Islamic Republic, Russia, India, and the Persian Gulf states.

Hemmati made the remarks on Monday in a meeting with the visiting aide to the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin, Igor Levitin, IRNA reported. It is expected that Russia will seriously support the mega project of the INSTC, he pointed out. The government of the Islamic

Republic supports the investment of other countries in the project, he said, voicing Iran's readiness to facilitate the participation of other countries in the INSTC by providing specific investment incentives.

He expressed hope that Russian investments in Iran, especially in

oil and logistics and transit infrastructure projects, would expand. For his part, the Russian side said that the implementation of the INSTC is underway on the special order of the president of Russia. Levitin said that his country is to allocate a budget for the Rasht-Astara railway.



Iranian Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Abdolnaser Hemmati (R) meets Igor Levitin, an aide to Russia's President Vladimir Putin, in Tehran on September 16, 2024.

IRNA

Development of renewables key to electricity industry boom: Minister



Renewable energy is one of the main ways to compensate for the shortages of electricity in Iran, Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi said, calling for taking more serious steps to develop renewable energy. Speaking in the induction ceremony of the head of the Iran's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA) on

Monday, he stated that electricity consumption has increased compared to production capacities, IRNA reported. "Most of the countries, especially developed ones, realizing the importance of renewable energy development, have invested a lot in this field," Aliabadi noted. He went on to say that due to the limitations we have in the field of

fossil fuels, we need to take more serious steps in the development of renewable energy.

One of the important tasks of SATBA is to find reliable and sustainable methods for the development of electrical energy in accordance with the environmental considerations of the country, the minister said.

Up-to-date and accurate monitoring of the latest developments related to clean energy in the world is another important agenda of SATBA, he added.

Aliabadi also stated that it is necessary for our colleagues in the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization to have coherent measures in the field of clean energy by using the potentials of universities as well as technology-based companies.

Iran's largest petchem company eyes 15% rise in annual output

Iran's largest petrochemical company PGPIC aims to increase its annual output by more than 15% this calendar year despite the continued pressure of US sanctions on the country's petroleum industry.

CEO of the Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industries Corporation said that the company eyes to hit an annual output target of 28.6 million metric tons (mt) by late March, Press TV reported.

Abdulali Ali-Asgari said that PGPIC's output had reached 12.8 in the five and a half months to September 5.

Ali-Asgari said the company's annual output had been at 20 million mt in the calendar year to March 2020, a year after the United States toughened its sanctions on Iran's oil industry.

He said that the PGPIC, currently the second larg-



est petchem company in West Asia and the 27th largest in the world, seeks to join the global club of 20 largest petrochemical companies within the next five years.

The senior Oil Ministry official said that that company plans to hit an annual sales target of 5,090 trillion rials (\$8.6 billion) by the end of the year to late March, down from 5,170 trillion rials report-

ed in the previous calendar year.

However, he said that profits will increase to 1,150 trillion rials (\$1.95 billion) this calendar year from 101 trillion rials reported last year.

PGPIC's annual investments would reach 500 trillion rials in the year to late March, down from 720 trillion rials in the previous year, Ali-Asgari said.

Pezeshkian's message ahead ...

It appears that in analyzing the framework of the president's announcement on foreign policy, based on what he outlined in yesterday's press conference, two points should be noted, which can be considered the president's clear message to foreign parties. The first point is that the new government's interactive poli-

Page 1 >

cy in Iran is based on dialogue and diplomacy to resolve disputes and establish peace. Accordingly, the president spoke about the need for efforts to establish peace in Ukraine and Gaza, and reminded Western countries that their excessive demands and power lust are among the reasons for the formation of conflicts and wars. In this framework, Iran's inter-

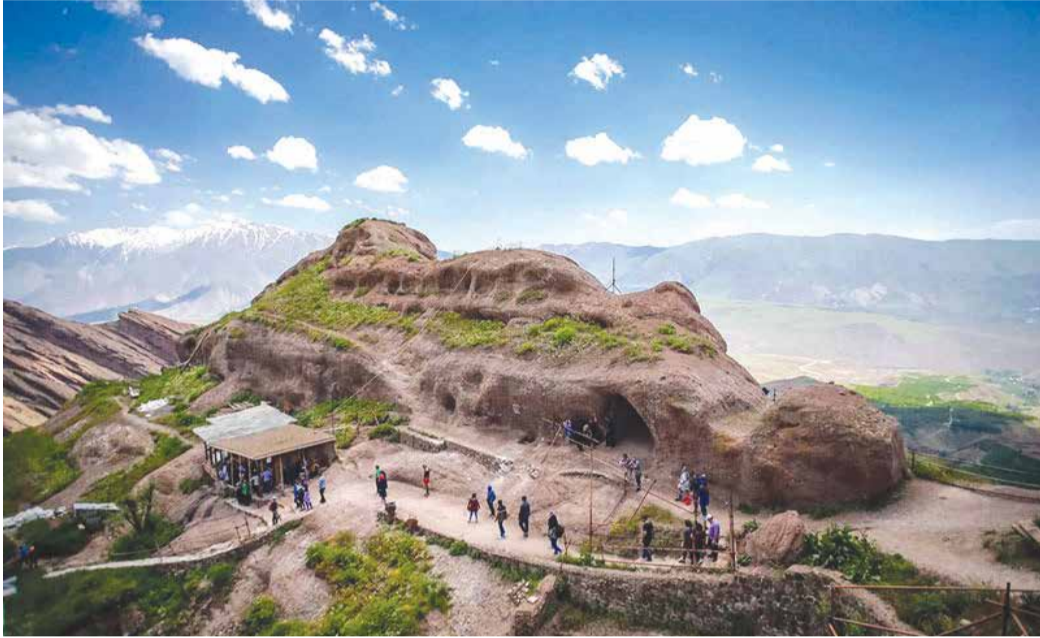
action with other parties will not be based on excessive demands, but rather on securing interests and mutual respect. Prior to Pezeshkian, Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi also outlined the framework for Iran's diplomacy and potential future talks with Western parties in a televised interview, stating that Iran's interests would be secured. He empha-

sized that Iran is ready to negotiate with foreign parties to resolve disputes and secure national interests, and that it does not matter who becomes the president of the United States. Another notable point in the president's press conference was his defense of the country's military capabilities. This defense was based on a logical and justifiable frame-

work. In a turbulent region where much of the tension is rooted in the policies of extra-territorial countries and the Western-backed arming of the Israeli regime, Iran is forced to strengthen its defense system. The president noted that Iran has not initiated any wars in the past 200 years, but has stood up to foreign aggression. Therefore, the message of the

Islamic Republic to foreign parties was twofold: first, emphasizing Iran's readiness to engage in dialogue and resolve disputes within the framework of mutual respect and securing interests, and second, defending Iran's defense capabilities, with the explanation that these capabilities are not intended to be used to invade another country.

Secrets of Alamut Castle, a fortress of knowledge and history



● borna.news



● wikipedia.org

Alamut Castle is a historic fortress nestled in the stunning Alborz Mountains of northern Iran. The name 'Alamut' is believed by some to mean 'eagle's nest' in the ancient Tati language; others suggest it refers to a tame eagle. Situated in Gazor Khan village in Alamut Valley of Qazvin Province, the castle is approximately 105 kilometers from the city and is a top attraction for visitors to Qazvin.

History

The castle was constructed in 865 CE by Hasan ibn Zayd, who founded the Zaydid dynasty. Chosen for its steep slopes and difficult terrain, Alamut Castle was designed as a military stronghold, surrounded by cliffs, with the only access route located to the northeast, facilitating its defense.

In 1090 CE, Hassan-e Sabbah, leader of the Nizari branch of Ismaili Muslims, acquired the castle without bloodshed, winning over the villagers, guards, and even the local governor's deputy.

By 1092 CE, Sabbah renovated and fortified the castle, constructing food and water storage facilities to create a self-sustaining refuge capable of withstanding prolonged sieges.

Architecture

Alamut Castle showcases various architectural styles from different periods, primarily built with stone, baked bricks, plaster, limestone, ceramics, clay pipes, and wooden frames. Most of the fortifications date back to the time of Hassan Sabbah.

The castle is divided into western and eastern sections, containing two main castles and originally featuring four towers, although the western tower has since collapsed. The sole visible entrance lies below the western tower, with a tunnel leading to the southern tower.

Sabbah designed hidden rooms and underground tunnels that connected the castle to concealed exits away from the perimeter. A deep moat was excavated around the southern wall for added defense against



● borna.news

invaders, while an open area between the two castles served as a space for training and social gatherings. Guard rooms were built into the cliff on the southern wall, while a residential area for guards and their families was established in the eastern section, which included three water reservoirs, a stable, and multiple living quarters.

Library

Hassan Sabbah also estab-

lished a library within the castle, amassing one of the rarest collections of ancient books. Sadly, much of this library was destroyed during Hulegu Khan's invasion of Alamut. According to a book entitled Tarikh-e Jahangushay, penned by Ata-Malik Juvayni, the library contained 400,000 volumes of vital scientific manuscripts. Renowned scholars such as Naser al-Din al-Tusi dedicated years to research in the castle's laborato-

ries, documenting their findings in manuscripts stored in the library. During the Mongol invasion, Juvayni implored Hulegu Khan to spare some of these invaluable manuscripts from destruction.

Mongol invasion

After Hassan Sabbah's death, Alamut remained an Ismaili stronghold until 1256, when Hulegu Khan besieged the fortress. Rukn al-Din Khurshah ultimately surrendered the castle. The Mongols subsequently burned and razed the castle and its extensive library, repurposing it as a prison in the following years. In 1257 CE, the Nizari forces briefly recaptured the castle, re-establishing Ismaili rule. However, in 1282, they were once again ousted by Abaqa Khan, Hulegu's son.

The castle is steeped in mystery due to the secretive nature of the Ismaili sect that governed there for centuries. Following the Mongol destruction, many secrets were lost along with the original structure. Although it

now lies in ruins, visitors can still explore the site and ponder its enigmatic past.

Location

As mentioned earlier, Alamut Castle is situated in the Alborz Mountains within the Alamut Valley. It is accessible through tour packages or individual travel, with approximately a three-hour drive from Tehran leading to this historical site.

The Alamut Valley, renowned for its historical significance, is located about four hours north of Qazvin. It provides a unique glimpse into rural life in Iran. Like many villages in the valley, Gazor Khan is abundant with orchards filled with apple, apricot, and cherry trees. In spring, visitors can witness the stunning cherry blossoms that blanket the gardens in a snowy white hue.

There are several hikes you can do around Gazor Khan and in the Alamut Valley. Basically, you can follow any path and have spectacular views all around you.

Rudbarak Forest, a renowned destination for nature tourism



Iranica Desk

Rudbarak Forest, located 70 kilometers northeast of Shahmirzad, Semnan Province, is a celebrated destination for nature tourism, particularly in the summer, when its lush vegetation and cool climate attract numerous visitors. Known locally as La'loom, the forest features a

cave believed to be linked to the cult of Mithras. To fully explore the expansive jungles of Rudbarak and its cave, tourists are encouraged to seek assistance from a local guide.

The forest is characterized by its towering oak and beech trees, as well as snowy winters. Its diverse plant species and proximity to the Parvar Pro-



tected Area contribute to a rich and unique fauna. As a result, visitors may encounter various wildlife, including wild goats, brown bears, and a variety of bird species such as partridges, cormorants, eagles, and vultures.

Rudbarak Forest Park spans over 8,000 hectares, with 3,000 hectares designated as pasture

and more than 1,500 hectares devoted to agriculture and horticulture. This forest is recognized as one of the protected areas and natural parks in Iran, drawing numerous tourists each year due to its scenic beauty.

Two routes lead to Rudbarak Forest, both starting from the Shahmirzad-Foulad Mahaleh Road. After exiting this road



● chtn.ir

and passing through Gardaneh-ye Bashm, signposts for Rudbarak Village appear approximately 50 kilometers later. The village path is a dirt road that leads north. By driving through Rudbarak Village for three kilometers, visitors can reach Rudbarak.

Moreover, Rudbarak has hosted a festival celebrating the

traditions and local games of Iranian tribes for many years. Each spring, various Iranian ethnic groups, including Kurds, Lor, Turkmen, Arab Turks, and Baluch, gather to celebrate the arrival of summer. This three-day event features local dances, handicrafts, and traditional foods, showcasing the region's rich cultural heritage.

Int'l Day of Peace, solidarity among Muslim countries



By Laleh Eftekhari
Former Iranian lawmaker

EXCLUSIVE
OPINION

"O you who have believed, enter into peace completely and do not follow the footsteps of Satan" (Qur'an 2:208)
This year, the International Day of Peace arrives at a time when the world is witnessing two vastly different currents. One of the currents claims to be peaceful and peace-seeking, but in practice has shown itself to be warlike, bloodthirsty, merciless, and a violator of human rights, women's rights, children's rights, and the rights of the innocent. This current, which is the same global arrogance and international Zionism, claims to be peaceful and has held meetings, programs, conferences, and seminars, issuing statements and resolutions, but in practice acts against them. This current, under the pretext of spreading peace and democracy, violates the sovereignty of countries and occupies their territories, bringing war and bloodshed. But in contrast, there is the Resistance Front. Whether in Gaza, Yemen, Lebanon, or anywhere else in the world, its supporters are all the free people of the world, whether in American universities, Europe, Asia, or Africa.

This year, the International Day of Peace is being held under circumstances where the one-year resistance of the people of Gaza against the aggression and genocide of the so-called peaceful current is a tangible example of the verse "How many a small company has overcome a large company by permission of Allah" (Qur'an 2:249) and their heroic resistance is an embodiment of the verse "Indeed, those who have said, 'Our Lord is Allah' and then remained steadfast, the angels will descend upon them, [saying], 'Do not fear and do not grieve but receive good tidings of Paradise, which you were promised.'" (Qur'an 41:30)

With their patience and perseverance, they have exposed the true nature of the so-called peaceful current and have become the vanguard of the victory of the oppressed over the oppressors. They have foreshadowed the defeat and destruction of the Zionist regime and the decline of their illegitimate and unlawful life. The final victory and triumph will be for the people of Gaza and the Resistance Front.

On the other hand, the brutal attacks on Gaza have cre-

ated solidarity among the countries of the Resistance Front and have raised awareness among people around the world, introducing the false front to freedom-loving and enlightened people.

Another event that occurs every year, especially in recent years, and was held with great splendor this year, is the great Arbaeen gathering. This unparalleled event is, in fact, a true and complete model of peace (beyond mere claims) in various fields. In it, a miniature and unparalleled model of global peace is formed among nations, religions, sects, and different groups, and without any banners or claims of peace, people from all walks of life, including government officials and ordinary citizens, women, children, men, veterans, and the elderly, gather around a single axis and move towards a single goal, that of Imam Hussein, whose audience is the free people of the world, and whose heart and nature have transcended 14 centuries and found their audience.

If an International Day of Peace is to be celebrated, it should be on the day of Arbaeen. And if a peace treaty is to be written, it should be based on the path and ideology of

Aba Abdullah (third Shia Imam, Imam Hussein PBUH). And if a peace prize is to be awarded, it should go to those who gather in the Arbaeen ceremony with complete peace and security. It should be awarded to the noble people of Iraq, who have been good hosts, and to the people who came from different cultures to Iraq but became one with them, and with one voice and one unit, rejected the claims of the so-called peaceful current and questioned their ideology.

They came from all over the world to show that the promise of peace, tranquility, and security made by the Qur'an and the prophets is a promise that can be achieved, and its tangible example is seen in the Arbaeen ceremony. And God willing, its global and complete realization will be seen in the future in the global government of the Mahdi, and the realization of the verse "O you who have believed, enter into peace completely" (Qur'an 2:208) will be achieved.

Securing just peace between Baku, Yerevan



By Mohsen Pakaein
Iran's ex-envoy to Azerbaijan

EXCLUSIVE
OPINION

The United Nations has declared September 21 as the International Day of Peace. This date was chosen at the 57th session of the UN General Assembly. From the perspective of peace-seeking countries, resolving conflicts through peaceful political negotiations is the best way to establish peace and tranquility. The establishment of peace in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict was one of the pleasant events of 2024 and is considered to be the result of the wills of the top officials of Azerbaijan and Armenia to resolve their differences and achieve lasting peace. The two countries, on the eve of the new year, signed a bilateral statement without the presence of external mediators, expressing their readiness to establish lasting peace. Regarding the importance of this event, the following points should be noted:

1 Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, in a message on the occasion of the new year, announced Yerevan's decision to deepen its relations with neighboring countries and said, "All my decisions and actions must be based on the state interest of the Republic of Armenia. This is the reason why I consider it a priority to find formulas for the

normalization and deepening of relations with our neighbors in our region." Political observers considered the message to be addressed to Azerbaijan and Turkey and saw it as a green light from Armenia to establish peace.

Subsequently, Hikmat Hajiyev, assistant to the president of Azerbaijan and close to Ilham Aliyev, told the TRT news network that Pashinyan and Aliyev's informal conversa-

tions on the sidelines of the CIS summit in St. Petersburg, Russia, were "constructive," and the Azerbaijani side considers this meeting a step toward establishing peace between the two countries. "We don't see any major obstacles to the completion of a peace treaty," Hajiyev said.

Elchin Amirbayov, assistant to the first vice-president of Azerbaijan, expressed hope that the next round of peace talks

would be fruitful as Azerbaijan had prepared a draft peace treaty and presented it to Armenia. The wills of Baku and Yerevan to hold direct and unmediated talks, which showed their confidence, strengthened the likelihood of a final agreement for peace.

2 Given the willingness of both sides to accept the territorial integrity of the other side and agree on the establishment of international borders, which led to the return of Nagorno-Karabakh to Azerbaijan, the main obstacles to achieving peace were removed. The parties also decided to discuss border disputes and the return of military forces, as well as the security of Armenians and their relationship with Armenia. The issues of prisoner exchange and mutual access to transit routes will also be discussed at peace talks.

It was predicted that, given the likelihood of prolonged negotiations, the parties would first sign a peace treaty and continue the rest of the talks in a peaceful atmosphere. At the same time, the unprecedented agreement to support each other's candidates in international forums confirmed Yerevan and Baku's will to overcome this era of hostility.

3 The possibility of interference by third parties, especially extra-regional countries, to disrupt the peace process was one of the worrying points that Armenia and Azerbaijan had to consider.

France's interference in the South Caucasus and its desire to sell arms to Armenia, as well as provocative actions such as joint military exercises with this country, were among the concerns. France, which had taken no constructive action on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict during its presidency of the Minsk Group, adopted a policy contrary to most EU member states on the eve of the Baku-Yerevan peace talks, trying to disrupt the peace process.

The United States, the other passive leader of the Minsk Group, aimed to isolate Russia under the pretext of supporting Armenia through intervening in the South Caucasus. That was why the US Senate passed the Armenian Protection Act of 2023, which would have halted military aid to Azerbaijan. Yerevan and Baku wisely monitored the situation and were aware of the competition between major powers in the Caucasus, which naturally clashed with the peace process and the interests of these two countries.

4 Meanwhile, the Islamic Republic of Iran took the initiative and held a meeting of foreign ministers of Iran, Russia, Turkey, Azerbaijan, and Armenia in the 3+3 format, titled "The Turn of Peace, Cooperation, and Progress in the South Caucasus," in Tehran. There, the Islamic Republic tried to persuade Russia, Turkey, and even Georgia to contribute to bringing Azerbaijan and Armenia's views closer together through constructive actions.

Iran believed that establishing just and lasting peace in the Caucasus would lead to stability on Iran's northern borders and discourage extra-regional countries from interfering in the Caucasus, while also ending unconstructive regional competitions and inspiring friendly cooperation.

At the same time, the wise statements of the Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution and his emphasis on the need for a just peace was principled and decisive. One of the discourses of the Leader has been just peace. He believes that peace without justice is not sustainable, and no land can be occupied justly. When the foremost problem, i.e., occupation, is resolved, negotiations become meaningful.

Another notable aspect of the Leader's speeches was the security of minorities. He stressed that Azerbaijan must ensure the security of the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh. Highlighting the inviolability of international borders, Ayatollah Khamenei also referred to the need to combat terrorists who have entered the region. The Leader's statements were grounded in human, moral, and accepted international principles. The peace plan proposed by Iran was based on these statements, which greatly contributed to establishing peace in the Caucasus.



Strategies for institutionalizing peace



Teenagers educated about peace by the Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light (HWPL) non-governmental organization pose for a photograph with their certificates in a Zambian school in 2022. [hwpl.kr](#)

By Mohammad Reza Dehshiri
Scholar
EXCLUSIVE OPINION

Institutionalizing peace means striving for peace-making through the creation of sustainable structures for achieving global peace or positive peace. Peace-making means creating social institutional cohesion and empowering governments and societies to establish sustainable and legitimate peace. This requires strategic planning with the goal of creating a long-term commitment to the rule of law and the peace-making process, assisting in the reconstruction and capacity-building of government and civil institutions, creating basic infrastructure for peace, and strengthening good governance.

All members of the global community, including nation-states, international organizations, local organizations, civil institutions, and all citizens as main actors participating in peace-making, must strengthen the economic and political infrastructure to create a framework for maintaining sustainable peace in the long term.

In this regard, creating peace-making structures to promote sustainable peace requires encouraging civil participation for human development, strengthening comprehensive peace education through formal and informal methods, integrating peace values into the educational system, and supporting indigenous and endogenous capacities for peace management and conflict resolution. Peace education is the process of acquiring knowledge, attitudes, skills, and behaviors for living in harmony with others and with the natural environment. Peace education for building peace in post-conflict situations aims to reduce

economic, social, and ethnic polarization, institutionalize peaceful coexistence, and create conditions for sustainable peace, and strengthen the culture of dialogue. Peace education is essential in that it emphasizes the need for peaceful conflict resolution and promotes universal values based on human dignity, preventing the occurrence of conflicts and disputes. In conclusion, it should be noted that the institutionalization of peace is achieved in the light of justice, as just peace is based on positive peace, but also encompasses cultural elements within its framework. Such institutional peace, meaning the institutionalization of peace and the cre-

ation of a legal foundation for sustainable peace, leads to systemic development that promotes values, norms, and peace culture for all countries, societies, and individuals, based on the principles of coexistence and interdependence of the global community. Peace-seekers, in order to establish just peace, must not only understand how to resolve misunderstandings between political and economic groups but also minimize potential cultural conflicts that may threaten human societies. It is only then that the combined efforts of governments and civil society will lead to the creation of a legal foundation for sustainable peace and the institutionalization of peace culture.

Arbaeen inclusivist worldview symbol of peace, justice

By Habibullah Golmohammadi
Scholar
EXCLUSIVE OPINION

The United Nations has declared September 21 as the International Day of Peace. Every year, it also sets a goal. The official title for its previous goal was "Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions". One can see that the titles the UN comes up with for these goals are very beautiful and correct every year. However, do they actually implement them? In practice, the UN itself is arguably one of the main violators of peace in the world. Despite its mission and goals as stated in the UN Charter, we have recently witnessed several instances of massacre and injustice in Gaza, Yemen, and other places.

The governments that devised the UN's structure are the main violators of peace. After World War II, the UN was established to maintain global peace and security and prevent a third world war, but in practice, the United States and Britain — i.e. the Western bloc — formed the Global North themselves and divided up the Global South among themselves.

In international relations, four "Great Debates" have taken shape. Out of these debates, various paradigms including idealism, realism, behaviorism, and pragmatism came out on top for a while. It must be acknowledged that the new world order emerging from the UN's structure has failed to establish peace, justice, a healthy and sustainable environment, and welfare for individuals worldwide. So, it is in need of fundamental reforms. This flawed structure still has rotten power centers, both in the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly, which supported the occupation of Palestinian lands and the massacre of Palestinian lives by the Zionist regime. Today, we are also witnessing the promotion of state and international terrorism and the strengthening of extremist groups, fueling genocides, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. Yet, the UN, with all its international judicial structures like the ICJ and the ICC, has failed to create sustainable peace. In today's world, we are seeing fundamental shifts in regional perspectives, actions, connections, and integrations in political, cultural, economic, and other dimensions. This indicates the ineffectiveness of the power-based UN. As a result, global powers are now seeking to create new legal institutions. However, in its stated Sustainable Development Goal, the UN is trying to cover up the flaws in its

structure, using its self-made symbols at a great cost, and continuing to maintain its flawed system. Of course, looking at the realities on the ground through the lens of realism, we are in need of giving more strategic depth to the intellectual foundations of international relations. To attain the UN's previous Sustainable Development Goal on the occasion of the International Day of Peace, one need not look further than the inclusivist worldview of Arbaeen. It is a new global paradigm in the field of international relations that has brought peace, tranquility, and justice. It must be acknowledged that the power paradigm of Arbaeen, with its goals and components, is strengthening public diplomacy and global public opinion, as well as promoting intersubjective commonalities between states and nations based on human nature. This paradigm can play a crucial role in creating new structures through research and reinforcing commonalities and cohesion among nations by triggering a robust identity-building process. Arbaeen diplomacy is a new process for today's world. The world needs a power paradigm that can bring cohesion and create a coherent world order based on global inclusivism. However, this requires regional connections, strengthening connections between Middle Eastern humans, European humans, African humans, and others. Of course, the focal point of these global connections is a humanistic world based on the Arbaeen thought and ideology. This new power that has come out of Shia jurisprudence has assumed a significant role in bringing cohesion to all of humanity. This powerful intellectual and ideological approach can be formulated in a manifesto, similar to the UN Charter. This means that intersubjective commonalities between states and nations can take the form of strong institutions within the new global structure. We believe that in today's

paradigm of soft power, commonalities have been reinforced. Today's world needs to expand these dimensions in thought, ideology, and practice, creating new structures based on the Arbaeen inclusivist paradigm. This paradigm will strengthen intersubjective commonalities and create coherent relationships between nations and governments, forming a new composition of the UN. This can be the future of peace, justice, and strong institutions as the Arbaeen inclusivist thought uses force solely against the oppressor, not the oppressed. Through this paradigm and thought, governments will not be against each other, and a solidarity-based, development-oriented cooperation will be formed based on sustainable peace, security, and justice.



Devotees hold up Palestinian flags and wear keffiyeh scarves in support of Gaza as they take part in a ritual at the shrine of Hazrat Abolfazl Al-Abbas in Iraq's Karbala. [MOHAMMED SAWAF/AFP](#)

Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship:

Ataei's Foolad lifts second trophy after win in all-Iranian showdown

Sports Desk

Foolad Sirjan won a second title in three years at the Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship thanks to a straight-set victory (25-20, 25-18, 25-23) victory over fellow-Iranian side Shahdab Yazd.

The emphatic performance in a packed Shahediyeh Indoor Hall in Yazd rounded off a dominant tournament for Behrouz Ataei's men, who stepped into the showdown on the back of five successive wins, losing only two sets in the process against Jakarta Bhayangkara Presisi in the semi-finals.

Opposite-spiker Ali Hajipour contributed with 16 points for Foolad, with veteran middle-blocker Seyyed Mohammad Mousavi scoring 11, while Shahdab's Amir Ghafour chipped in a game-high 17 points.

The much-anticipated showpiece was a repeat of the Iranian Super League final in April, where Foolad had also come out on top in back-to-back five-set thrillers. Foolad's combination of physical power and tactical precision ultimately proved too much to deal with for Shahdab, as Ataei's men kept their composure throughout the game, much to the dismay of the home fans in Yazd, though they will still be thrilled to see their team join Foolad in representing the continent in December's FIVB Men's Club World Championship in India.

Earlier in the day, Jakarta Bhayangkara Presisi came out victorious in straight sets (25-15, 25-14, 25-19) against Pavlodar VC to add the bronze medal to last year's silver in Manama. Star player Earvin Ngapeth, who had only joined the Indonesian club days after winning the Olympic gold with France, was pleased with his second experience of visiting Iran.

"The level of the competition was very high, and while we did not make it to the final, I am still happy we finished third. It is always a pleasure to play in Iran. The atmosphere here is incredible,



and the fans are amazing," Ngapeth said, reflecting on his previous time in the country in 2022, when he helped Paykan win the Asian club title in its own backyard in Tehran.

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Relief for Ataei

A continental trophy was perhaps what Iranian Ataei needed to restore his reputation as a top volleyball coach.

When he took over the national team job from Russian Vladimir Alekno in the summer of 2021 – following a pool-phase exit at the Tokyo Olympics – he enjoyed a flying start to his reign.

A first homegrown coach on Iran's bench in more than a decade, Ataei steered his rejuvenated side to the Asian title – at the expense of host Japan in the final – before Iran made it to the quarterfinals of the 2022 Volleyball Nations League.

The Iranian, however, was faced with the harsh reality of his job when his team finished third from bottom in the 16-team table of the VNL preliminary round a year later and was then outclassed by Japan in the Asian Championship final on home soil.

A gold medal in last year's Asian Games did little to protect Ataei against his critics as he felt unfairly treated for being made a scapegoat for his team's failures.

Ataei was eventually convinced to step down from his role midway through the Olympic qualifiers in Rio de Janeiro last October, though there was no change of fortunes for the national team in its quest for an Olympic berth in this year's Nations League.

When asked about future goals as a coach after Sunday's triumph, 54-year-old Ataei said: "I'll just keep doing what I know best and that is delivering top volleyball players."

"Iranian volleyball lacks exceptional and game-changing players. We have been missing the prime years of a fine generation of players in Shahram



Skipper Seyyed Mohammad Mousavi holds aloft the trophy as Foolad Sirjan players and coaching staff celebrate winning the title at the Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship in Yazd, Iran, on September 15, 2024.

● volleyball.ir

Mahmoudi, Amir Ghafour, Mohammad Mousavi, and Saeid Ma'roof and it takes some time to replace them with the next group of young talents. I just hope the Iranian federation will devise the right plan to make sure the national team is back in its top level of seven or eight years ago."

Iran aiming high in Asian Karate Championships



Sports Desk

Iranian male and female karatekas left the country for China on Monday ahead of the 20th AKF Senior Championships – starting Thursday in Hangzhou.

Iran is eager to improve on last year's result in Malacca, Malaysia, where a haul of 12 medals – including three golds – saw the country finish behind Kazakhstan and Japan, which also bagged triple golds apiece.

Behnam Dehqanzadeh will head into the men's -55kg contests as the defending champion, while Pouria Aghdasi will be looking to add to his two Asian bronzes in the -60kg class. A four-time world team and individual champion, Bahman Askari is keen to grab a fifth Asian gold and make up for last year's setback in the -75kg final. Mahdi Khodabakhshi will be the Iranian representative in the

-84kg class, with Saleh Abazari going after a second +84kg gold after his 2018 triumph.

Askari, Khodabakhshi, and Abazari will be joined by Mahmoud Ne'mati, Morteza Ne'mati, Mahdi Ashouri, Alireza Heidari, and Mahdi Ganjzadeh in the men's kumite team event.

Ali Zand will be the Iranian in the men's individual kata contests and will team up with Abolfazl Shahrjerdi and Milad Farazmehr for the team competition.

In the women's draw, Atousa Golshadnejad will headline the Iranian squad as the reigning Asian -61kg champion. Sara Bahmanyar will chase a more colorful medal in the -50kg competitions, having settled for back-to-back bronzes in the previous two editions. Two-time gold medalist Taravat Khaksar will be after a fifth Asian medal on his return to the national team when par-

ticipating in the -55kg bouts. Mobina Heidari – silver medalist in 2021 – and Leila Borj-Ali, who were part of the Iranian silver-winning kumite team in Malacca, will take part in the -68kg and +68kg weight classes respectively.

Golshadnejad and Heidari will be part of the Iranian kumite team – also featuring Shima Al-e Sa'di, Mobina Kaviani, and Fatemeh Sa'adati.

A bronze winner last year, Fatemeh Sadeghi will again have a shot at glory in individual kata, with Sepideh Amini, Melika Ez-zati, and Zeinab Hosseini eyeing success in the team event.

Seyyed Shahram Heravi will be the head coach of the Iranian male karatekas, with Leila Bahrami in charge of the women's squad in this year's Asian Championships, which will serve as a crucial part of qualification for November's Karate World Cup in Pamplona, Spain.

Pezeshkian: No choice but to resolve FATF dispute



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said the country has no choice but to resolve disputes surrounding the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the 2015 Iran nuclear deal to address Iranians' economic woes and achieve the country's long-term goals. Pezeshkian made the remarks on Monday while fielding Iranian and foreign reporters' questions during his first press conference since taking office late August.

National Desk

Iran has for long been on the FATF's blacklist for what the financial watchdog claims to be Iran's not adhering to transparency and international conventions against money laundering and terrorism financing. Pezeshkian said that he will certainly ask the country's Expediency Council to reactivate the FATF case in a bid to remove sanctions on Iran and improve the people's livelihood.

Ready for negotiations

He also said that Tehran is ready to negotiate with the West and remains committed to all international regulations, but will never bow to pressure. "We are not in conflict with anyone," the Iranian president stated. He said that his administration will negotiate with the West on contentious issues and expand relations with neighboring countries to improve the economy and achieve long-term objectives. However, he added that the United States first needs to prove it is prepared to negotiate in good faith and is committed to its international obligations. The president noted that the Americans have so far "closed all avenues to us." Pezeshkian emphasized that Iran is obligated to the agreements it signed with the US and Europe. "We do not seek atomic weapons, but they (the West) are threatening us and say Iran should not possess any missile." He was referring to the 2015

nuclear agreement that Iran signed with the US, France, the UK, China, Russia and Germany. He said Iran will pursue every possible path leading to the removal of obstacles. At the first step, the president said, Iran will create common views and language with its neighboring countries to establish a region full of peace and tranquility. It is the foreign powers which are hindering the establishment of peace in the region by creating economic, cultural and ethnic conflicts, Pezeshkian said.

UNGA meeting

The Iranian president said his attendance at the 2024 meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in New York will be "to defend the rights of our people because we do favor peace and not war." Asked about the possibility of his meeting with the US president during his visit to the US to attend the UN General Assembly meeting, Pezeshkian said the US must prove its sincerity in prac-

Iran's military power Referring to Iran's military power, Pezeshkian said Iran



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian speaks during his first press conference since taking office on September 16, 2024.
● AFP

has never started any war but needs defense power to ensure the safety of its people. "We will not abandon our defense power unless we live in a world or region where everyone is disarmed," he added.

Relations with China

Pezeshkian hailed Iran's relations with China and said Tehran is determined to implement the 25-year partnership agreement with Beijing. "We have very good relations with China and a large part of our relationship is with China, Russia and the neighboring countries." Iran and China signed the landmark 25-year partnership agreement in March 2021 in a bid to strengthen their long-standing economic and political alliance. Pezeshkian said China took a "major step" in mediating between Iran and Saudi Arabia to resume mutual relations and creating coordination in the region.

Missile transfer to Russia

Pezeshkian also answered a question about accusations leveled by some Western countries against Iran on the delivery of ballistic missiles to Russia in September. He said that his government had not transferred any weapons to Russia since it took office in August.

Yemen missiles

Pezeshkian also dismissed claims that Iran has provided Yemen with hypersonic missiles or the technology to manufacture the weaponry. "It will take one week for a person to go to Yemen. How did the missile go there [to Yemen] and no one saw it? In Iran, we do not have the hypersonic missiles of the type used by Yemen's Ansarullah against Israel."

"We have the missile power but we do not give missiles to Yemen. Before the war [in Gaza], Yemen had acquired the technology to manufacture missiles and was producing them."

Ties with Egypt, Saudi Arabia

Asked about Iran's policy on relations with Egypt, Pezeshkian said his administration will initiate contacts with senior Egyptian officials as soon as possible. "We will welcome relations with the friendly and brotherly country of Egypt." He also reaffirmed the need to settle differences between Iran and Saudi Arabia and said he welcomes any measure which will bring the two Muslim countries closer together. More than 300 journalists from both domestic and international media outlets participated in the Pezeshkian's press conference, who won the run-off presidential vote on July 5 against former nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili. He replaced Ebrahim Raisi who died in a helicopter crash in May.

Leader: Muslim unity key to countering belligerent plots



● khamenei.ir

Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei highlighted the importance of the issue of Muslim unity, describing it as a "Qur'anic principle" and a key to countering ill-wishers' conspiracies against Muslims. He made the remarks during a meeting with Iranian Sunni scholars on Monday, marking the beginning of the Islamic Unity Week which coincides with the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

The Leader referred to attempts by ill-wishers to fuel religious discord in the Muslim world, especially in Iran.

The ill-wishers, Ayatollah Khamenei added, are using intellectual, propagandistic and economic means to separate the Shias and the Sunnis in Iran and elsewhere in the Islamic region and make them vilify each other.

The Leader said relying on unity is the way to deal with the conspiracies, noting, "The issue of unity is not a tactic but a Qur'anic principle."

"The issue of the Islamic Ummah's identity is a fundamental issue beyond nationality, and geographical boundaries do not change the truth and identity of the Islamic Ummah."

Pointing to the hostile efforts that are meant to make Muslims indifferent about their Islamic identity, he said, "It is against Islamic teachings that a Muslim is oblivious to the suffering of another Muslim in Gaza or other parts of the world."

Today, the Leader asserted, one of the "definite obligations" is to support the oppressed people of Gaza and Palestine.

Ayatollah Khamenei further expressed regret at some measures which are intentionally or unintentionally seeking to destroy the unity of among the Shias and the Sunnis.

JCPOA implementation should not be confined to one party: Eslami

International Desk

The head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) said the 2015 Iran

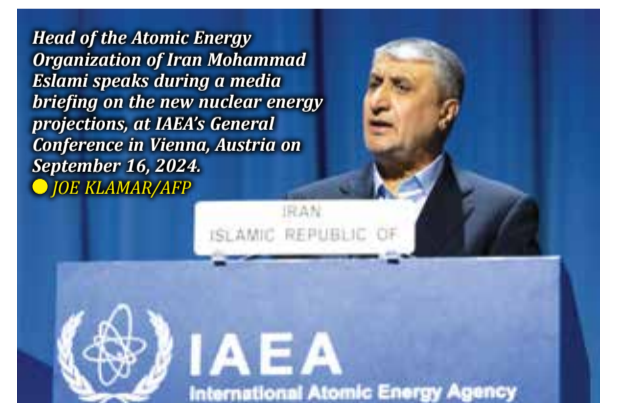
deal, known as the Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), should not be implemented at the expense of only one party.

Addressing the 68th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in the Austrian capital Vienna on Mon-

day, Mohammad Eslami said that there are "political and psychological pressures" to force Iran to live up to its JCPOA obligations regardless of the lack of commitment by other parties on removal of anti-Iran sanctions.

Eslami said that Tehran's voluntary implementation of nuclear-related measures under the agreement was in exchange for the removal of cruel sanctions against the Iranian nation. He highlighted Iran's full cooperation with the IAEA, pointing out that while nuclear installations in the country make up only three percent of the world's total, more than one-fifth of the world agency's inspections in 2023 took place in Iran. Iran's nuclear chief stressed that Tehran's suspension of its commitments under the JCPOA, including halting the international oversight of non-nuclear production,

followed the illegal US withdrawal from the deal and the failure of the European parties to the JCPOA and the European Union to uphold their obligations. Eslami also pointed to the assassination of Iranian nuclear scientists and acts of sabotage and terrorism against Iran by Israel, stating that the regime is spearheading propaganda against Iran's peaceful nuclear program in a bid to divert the world public opinion away from its atrocities. The AEOI chief went on to say that nuclear disarmament is the main priority of the international community, stressing that nuclear-weapon states are required to fulfill their obligations under Article 6 of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Eslami also underscored the importance of the creation of a Middle East free of nuclear munitions, add-



● AFP

ing that Israeli authorities, over the past year, have frequently threatened the Iranian nations and Palestinians in the Gaza Strip with nuclear bombardment while continuing to refuse to join the NPT. Israel's continued refusal to join the NPT and subject its nuclear facilities to the International Atomic Energy Agency's safeguards pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

he said. Eslami stated that Iran is determined to increase its generation capacity of nuclear electricity to 20,000 megawatts by the year 2040. The IAEA, under its chapter, is therefore obliged to and support all member states and facilitate their access to necessary technology and equipment without any discrimination, the AEOI chief said.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Iranian children win 20 accolades at Japan painting contest



Arts & Culture Desk

Twenty Iranian children won awards at the 22nd Kanagawa Biennial World Children's Art Exhibition held in Japan in 2023. The contest, which was held with the theme of "Free", received over 11,000 paintings from 6 countries around the world, IRNA reported. The Iranian Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (IIDCYA) participated in the contest by submitting 346 paintings, and 20 members of the institute's cultural and artistic centers across the country won awards. Among the winners, 8-year-old Baran Ahmadi from Behbahan, Khuzestan, 14-year-old Pahram Goodarzi from Kermanshah, and 12-year-old Maryam Rahimi from Ardebil won special prizes. Other winners included 15-year-old Zahra Mo'tamedi from Shiraz, 15-year-old Sahar Mazraefard from Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad, 11-year-old Hassan Hashemi Nejad and 11-year-old Yeganeh Ashrafganjavi from Kerman, 7-year-old Anita Dorosti and 11-year-old Nesa Aboobakri from West Azarbaijan, 6-year-old Elena Fatemi from Tehran, and 11-year-old Mehrsa Zandi from Sanandaj, Kurdistan. Moreover, 7-year-old Sadra Tandis from Dezful, Khuzestan, 10-year-old Setayesh Abdi, 12-year-old Amirreza Jamshidi, and 11-year-old Raha Moradi from Kermanshah, 9-year-old Setayesh Mirahmadi from Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari, 6-year-old Mahna Shokri, 11-year-old Mohammad Mehdi Aali, 12-year-old Hestia Sahraei, and 13-year-old Kimia Ebrahimi from Ardebil also received awards at the 22nd edition of the Japanese event.

Iranian students awarded 1 medal, 8 medallions at WorldSkills Lyon 2024



Iranian students were awarded a silver medal and eight medallions from the WorldSkills Lyon 2024 competition in France. According to Iran's Technical and Vocational Training Organization (ITVTO), Hassan Mohammadi and Hamidreza Hamidi won the silver medal in the cybersecurity category, IRNA reported. Eight other Iranian students, Alireza Pouchali,

Aryan Taheri, Armin Taheri, Amir Mohammad Abouei, Mohammad Hosseini, Amir Abbas Ghaseemi, Mehrdad Shirvani, and Reza Gholami, received medallions in various fields, including cloud computing, graphic design technology, network system administration, and mobile software development. The 47th WorldSkills Competition, which was

held from September 10 to 15 in Lyon, France, drew over 1,400 competitors from more than 70 countries. The event is held every two years and provides an opportunity for young professionals to showcase their skills on a global stage. Competitors must be under the age of 23 to participate in the competition, which features 62 skill categories.

Bullet hole disfiguring king's face

King of western Iran a regal model 4,000 years ago

Arts & Culture Desk

Anubanini, the powerful king of the Lullubi, had his own image and that of the goddess Ninni carved into the Mount Bater in the city of Sarpole-Zahab, 120 kilometers from Kermanshah, in west of Iran; he who erases this inscription and this tablet shall be cursed by Anu, Anatum, Bel, Belit, Raman, Ishtar, Sin, and Shamash [several powerful deities from ancient Mesopotamian mythology], and his dynasty shall be destroyed. But his curse did not have much effect. His 4,500-year-old tablet was riddled with bullets, so much so that it is now difficult to make out his true image. The soldiers who served in the Dasht-e Zahab district, in Sarpole Zahab, between 1975 and the early 1990s, brought this disaster upon the inscription. They mistook it for a target practice board. We are looking at the oldest rock relief and inscription in Iran. Anubanini, the king of the Lullubi, stands with a hatchet in his left hand and a bow and arrow in his right, facing the goddess Nini, or Ishtar, the goddess of war and guardian of herds and flocks. Above

them, a sun shines, symbolizing Ishtar. Ishtar has brought him a ring of power, but that's not all. The goddess of war has also brought him two prisoners, their noses pierced by a ring that is attached to a rope she holds. The two prisoners, naked and kneeling before the king, have their hands tied behind their backs. Anubanini stands with authority. He has been victorious in battles that he now wants to commemorate on Mount Bater, now known as Mian Kall. He has brought the Lullubi to the highest level of power and controls trade from present-day Kermanshah and south of Lake Urmia to the other side of present-day Sulaymaniyah in Iraq. They were neighbors of the Kassites and Gutians and were in contact with the Akkadians, Hurrians, and Sumerians in Mesopotamia. They were a Zagros-dwelling people who were probably the first powerful Iranian tribes that lived in the west and parts of northwestern Iran, up to present-day Sulaymaniyah, and are now showing their authority in the region with this inscription. This authority is evident under Anubanini's feet. Six naked

prisoners, their hands tied behind their backs, walk with difficulty. All of them wear similar hats, just like the ones worn by the prisoners brought by the goddess Nini. We don't know who they are, but recent research suggests that they were probably local rulers who were captured and then killed by Anubanini. Among them, one person wears a different hat, a crown-like hat, and may be a king. What he wears reminds us of the soldiers and officers of the Achaemenid Empire, with the difference that they came to power 2,000 years after this inscription. We don't know who he is, but it is possible that he is from the eastern Pars region. The authority of the Lullubi lasted for over two centuries. The rulers after Anubanini also left their own inscriptions, most of which are in Sarpole Zahab. This one is his son, who, like his father, has placed his foot on the chest of a prisoner, a sign of his victory. The other Lullubi inscriptions are similar, and all of them have their feet on the prisoners they have defeated. Like the one in Horin Shikhan, a place near the Iranian border that once belonged to Iran, which shows Tarduni,



the king of the Lullubi, bringing his enemies to their knees. Enemies who wear similar hats to those defeated by his ancestor, Anubanini. The Lullubi were Zagros-dwellers and culturally not dissimilar to the Mesopotamians. They probably knew and respected the Mesopotamian gods and goddesses. But these cultural similarities did not bring about eternal peace between the Zagros-dwellers and the Mesopotamians. About 200 years after Anubanini's death, Satuni was the king of the Lullubi. He fought against Naram-Sin, the grandson of Sargon the Great of the Akkadians. Anubanini never dared to fight against Sar-

gon the Great. The Akkadians had become the most powerful tribe in Mesopotamia during his time. But Satuni rose up against Naram-Sin's grandson. Naram-Sin depicted the war in this way. He is shown climbing a stone wall with a two-horned hat, and the Lullubi are being killed one by one under his feet. He has an arrow in his left hand and a bow in his right, and two shining suns above his head. Naram-Sin, after defeating the Lullubi, orders another inscription to be carved on a mountain that is now in modern-day Iraq. He had seen Anubanini's inscription and depicts himself similarly. A powerful man with a hatchet in his right hand and a bow

in his left, the Lullubi are being killed under his feet. The Lullubi in this depiction have pointed beards and long, braided hair. What Anubanini carved on Mount Bater, now known as Mian Kall, gave similar ideas to many kings after him. But it was not just his children and descendants, and even his enemies, who wanted to be like Anubanini. 2,000 years later, when Darius of the Achaemenid came to power, he also ordered the carving of the Bisotun inscription, inspired by Anubanini's relief. He is depicted exactly like Anubanini, holding a bow, with his foot on the chest of Gaumata the Magus, and nine bound prisoners standing before him.