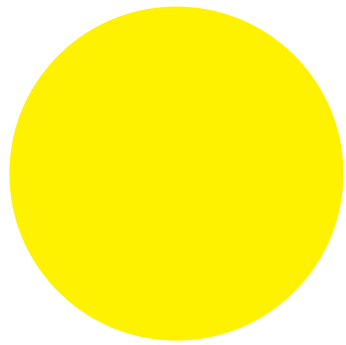


Hezbollah, Hamas stand out in military clout

Nasrallah consolidated Hezbollah's intellectual, managerial foundations

INTERVIEW EXCLUSIVE

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Sheikh Qassem: Hezbollah to vanquish Israel as in 2006

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Intelligence flaws root cause of assassinations in resistance front

By Syed Ali Hassan
Iran Daily's correspondent in Pakistan

In recent weeks, Israel, using its own and its allies' spying resources to the fullest, has systematically assassinated Hezbollah leaders and key commanders in Lebanon. This has demonstrated that Israel's intelligence, along with the reach of its allies, is firmly rooted even within the resistance forces and Tehran itself. At this point, not only Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Yemen but also the resistance forces like Hezbollah and Hamas need to implement counter-intelligence measures. This is necessary to ensure that Israel and its allies cannot damage the leadership of the resistance through acts of terrorism, rather than engaging in battlefield combat based on intelligence reports. Israel's regime is greatly aided by the exchange of secret information through embassies located in certain Arab countries, Azerbaijan, and Turkey. The United Arab Emirates (UAE), Turkey, and Azerbaijan are countries where many citizens of other Muslim countries travel, and they also serve as business hubs. The presence of Israelis in these countries plays a key role in gathering basic intelligence.

It is worth noting that before the UAE and Israel established diplomatic relations, Israel's Mossad had significantly less capacity to target and assassinate commanders and key members of Arab resistance organizations than in recent years. Azerbaijan established diplomatic relations with Israel just a year after gaining independence from the Soviet Union, on April 7, 1992.

There is no doubt that the assassination of key figures and commanders of Hezbollah and Hamas is evidence of the resistance's intelligence weakness. If the Palestinians are to reclaim their stolen land and restore their human rights, Israel's diplomatic and intelligence influence, which stretches from Iraq to Saudi Arabia and from Egypt to Morocco, must be eliminated. Should we forget the historical fact that in the 1973 war against the Arabs, Israel crippled Egypt's air force through an organized intelligence network of Jewish women, which ultimately led to Israel's success in destroying fighter jets in their hangars? The assassination of Mohsen Fakhri-zadeh, the architect of Iran's nuclear program, on November 27, 2020, near Tehran marked the moment when Iran should have begun the urgent destruction of Tel Aviv's intelligence network. Even now, it is not too late.

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Iran-Russia Gas Deal Signifies 'Excellent' Cooperation: Pezeshkian

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Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian (R) meets with Russia's Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin in Tehran on September 30, 2024. president.ir

How Israel attempts to justify indiscriminate attacks on civilians

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President stresses Iran's resolve to improve ties with world

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Iran ready to link EAEU states to Chabahar Port: Minister

Iran is ready to provide access to Chabahar Port to all EAEU member countries, said Iran's Minister of Industry, Mines, and Trade, Mohammad Atabak during the EAEU-Iran Business Dialogue panel discussion within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Forum in Yerevan on Monday. According to him, the geographical position of the country contributes to the organization of cargo transit to Europe. Various transportation corridors connecting the Black Sea with the Caspian Sea and the Indian Ocean pass through Iran, as reported by alphanews.am.

Atabak noted that access to the Chabahar Port in the Indian Ocean is one of the directions of cooperation with the EAEU.

Speaking at the event, Armenia's Minister of Economy Gevorg Papoyan reminded that Armenia is the only EAEU country that has a land border with Iran.

According to the statistical committee of Armenia, the trade between Armenia and Iran is about \$700 million, the export to Iran is about \$100 million, and the import is \$600 million, the minister said.

Also, during the panel discussion, Armenia's Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure Hakob Vardanyan provided details about the construction of the third power transmission line between Armenia and Iran.

Vardanyan reminded that the 400-kV transmission line will have a capacity of 1,200 megawatts per hour. According to him, the project is in its final stages, with 85% of the line already completed.

The total length of the line will be 280 km, stretching from Razdan to the border with Iran, and a 400 kV substation will be built in the Syunik region. Additionally, there are plans to construct another transmission line toward the border with Georgia.

"Upon completion of the entire project, it will be possible to connect four countries: Iran, Armenia, Georgia, and Russia, with a particular emphasis on linking Iran and Russia. For the first time, there will be an opportunity to connect two such large energy systems," Vardanyan noted.

The deputy minister believes that the third Armenia-Iran power transmission line will benefit the entire EAEU region. According to him, once the new lines are built, Armenia will be able to export electricity in two directions.

"We already have a surplus of electricity; we can produce almost as much as we consume domestically," Vardanyan concluded.

Draft of sea-oriented development plan prepared by gov't: VP

Economy Desk

First Vice President Mohammadreza Aref said on Monday that the draft of Iran's sea-oriented development plan has been prepared by the government. The new government is determined to formulate and implement additional and more comprehensive plans in the field of sea-oriented development," IRNA reported.

In a message on the World Maritime Day, the vice president also congratulated the day to members of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

"Those countries that have access to sea have the potential to become powerful in various regional and global arenas, as well as enjoying the capacity to develop faster. Having access to sea is a great opportunity for progress and maintaining national interests," Aref wrote in his message.

He has also called on the Iranian authorities in charge of the country's maritime sector to strengthen logistics and



corridor routes, facilitate entering new markets, use smart technologies, strengthen employment, create large and small-scale production units in ports and coastal areas, modernize the commercial fleet and port equipment as well as the railway and road lines.

Aref also called for concentration on efficient workforces for sea-oriented

development while preserving and safeguarding the marine environment in compliance with international regulations and conventions.

He also emphasized the necessity for the country's scholars and think-tanks to help the government realize its plans for developing the maritime sector.

The geopolitical features of Iran are considered one

of the most important indicators of its empowerment, including turning the country into a regional magnet for commerce and investment.

The ancient region of Makran located in the southeast of the Iranian plateau and on the northern shores of the Sea of Oman has been in the crosshairs of the enemies which coveted its resources

or tried to choke off Iran's access to its wealth throughout history.

Since 2008, when Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei underlined the significance of Makran, the development of the strategic region has been put on the frontline of Iran's drive to reorient its economy.

The general policies of sea-based development call for

a whole-of-government approach to develop Iran's coasts, especially Makran beyond the strategic port of Chabahar.

The geopolitical, geostrategic and geoeconomic advantages of Makran hosting a comprehensive sea, road, rail and air transportation network along oil and gas transmission lines would enormously fortify Iran and upgrade its status.

New investment by petchem to raise gas output by 200 mcm: APIC



Economy Desk

With the finalization of 10 gas field development agreements between petrochemical complexes and the National Iranian Oil Company, about \$8 billion will be invested in the country's gas fields, which will add nearly 200 million cubic meters to the country's gas

production. Announcing the above, the director general of the Association of Petrochemical Industry Corporation (APIC) added that the petrochemical industry plays a fundamental and significant role in non-oil exports and the capital market, so it is necessary to help the development of the industry in order to

increase exports, earn forex and create sustainable employment, IRNA reported.

"Iranian petrochemical complexes produced 15.864 million tons during the first six months of the current Iranian year (March 20-September 21), while the corresponding figure for preceding year stood at 15.204 million tons," Ahmad Mahdavi-Abhari stated.

He went on to say that Iran earned \$6.85 billion through the exports of petrochemicals during the six months to September 21, indicative of 12-percent rise compared to the relevant figure for the six-months to September 21, 2023.

CBI chief attends forum of OIC-COMCEC central banks in Istanbul

Economy Desk

Governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) Mohammadreza Farzin, heading a high-ranking delegation, participated at the 6th Meeting of OIC-COMCEC Central Banks Forum in Istanbul on Monday.

Participants at the forum discussed the latest situation of the economic growth and inflation of the OIC member states and review the dimensions of using new technologies in electronic banking (e-banking), IRNA reported.

Developing and expanding bilateral relations and monetary and banking cooperation with the member states were among the main objectives of Farzin's visit to Turkey.



The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) is the main multilateral economic and commercial cooperation platform of the Islamic world. COMCEC serves as a central forum to address the common development problems of the Islamic Ummah and

provide solutions to them. The meeting was also attended by the representatives of OIC member states, including Algeria, Azerbaijan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Chad, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Pakistan, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda and Uzbekistan.

Iran's fishery exports up by 33% in five months

Iran saw a major increase in its exports of fishery products in the five months to late August amid continued efforts by the government to diversify its revenue sources.

Head of Iran Fisheries Organization said that fisheries exports from the country had reached nearly 119,000 metric tons (mt) worth \$187 million in the five months to August 21, Press TV

wrote. Citing figures from Iran's customs office, Seyyed Hossein Hosseini said that fisheries exports from the country had increased by 33% in value terms and by 43% rise in volume terms compared to April-August 2023. Marine fish exports accounted for some 40.7 % of the shipments registered by the Iranian customs in the five months to late August, followed

by commercial fish feed at 21.4% and shrimps at 17.1%, said Hosseini. He added that Iran's exports of caviar had also increased over the same period to reach 2.328 kilograms while exports of carps and trouts had reached 9,651 mt and 5,711 mt, respectively. The official said that Iran's imports of products and ingredients needed in the fisheries industry

had amounted to nearly \$61 million in the first five months of the current calendar year. Iran has reported major increases in its non-oil exports in recent years amid efforts to diversify the economy away from crude oil revenues. Reports suggest the country has earned billions of dollars from agricultural exports in the past couple of years.

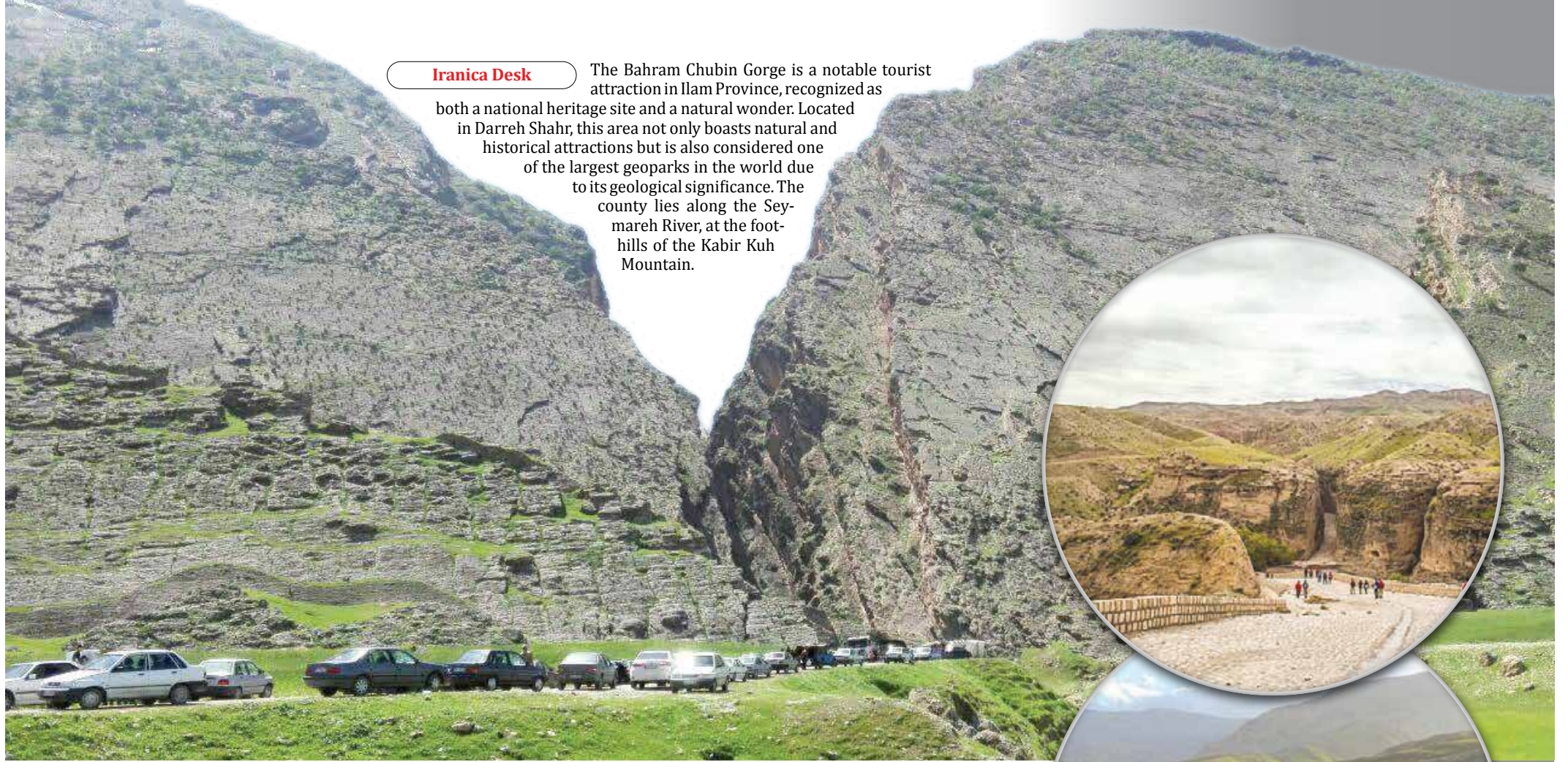


The expansion of fishery and aquaculture activities in Iran has also led

to increased consumption of seafood products inside the country, allowing

the government to cut back on imports of staples like red meat.

Expedition into an ancient fortress and scenic landscapes in Bahram Chubin Gorge



Iranica Desk

The Bahram Chubin Gorge is a notable tourist attraction in Ilam Province, recognized as both a national heritage site and a natural wonder. Located in Darreh Shahr, this area not only boasts natural and historical attractions but is also considered one of the largest geoparks in the world due to its geological significance. The county lies along the Seymareh River, at the foothills of the Kabir Kuh Mountain.

Historical significance

This narrow and elevated gorge features the remnants of a historical fortress from the Sassanid era. At the entrance, a very narrow passage indicates oversight of entry and exit from the area. Military fortifications attributed to Bahram Chubin can be seen at the highest points of the rocky walls. Although a significant portion of this ancient structure has been destroyed, staircases and towers made from common materials of the Sassanid period remain visible.

Fortress design

Accessing the upper points and the remnants of the main fortress is quite challenging. Many believe this intelligent design was intended to ensure the fortress's impregnable nature during wartime, protecting the forces during Bahram Chubin's attacks and his rebellion against Khosrow Parviz. Despite its natural features and fortifications, the Bahram Chubin Gorge houses one of the most impregnable ancient castles in Iran.

Natural habitat

The environment surrounding the gorge provides a pristine habitat for various animal and bird species. According to some accounts, Bahram Chubin, the Sassanid general, had a passion for hunting and pleasure, which led to the construction of the current fortifications. However, other historians argue that this fortress served as an impregnable sanctuary during wars and uprisings. This gorge is also known as a hunting ground for Bahram.

Structural features

The Bahram Chubin Gorge is a fortress carved into the rocky walls of the mountains. The entrance lies between the eastern and western faces of the mountain. In the past, before entering the gate and over the Seymareh River, which originates from Kabir Kuh Mountain, there was a bridge, of which only the foundations remain today. The remaining foundation of this bridge measures three meters wide and four meters high.

Eastern wall

The eastern wall of the fortress is perched on a rocky ledge that rises 200 meters high. Constructed from stone and sarooj, a type of waterproof mortar, this wall features a two-meter-high watchtower that remains today, with both the eastern and western entrances accessible via a winding path.

Water reservoirs

On the eastern side of the Bahram Chubin fortress, you will find a water spring with four stone reservoirs, each approximately three to four meters high. These cisterns, carved from the mountain, were used for water storage. Notably, one cistern resembles the torso of a bull. The cisterns in the Bahram Chubin Gorge are located in a part of the fortress that is virtually inaccessible to enemies due to the winding paths, eliminating the possibility of conspiracies from adversaries.

Shahneshin fortress

At the highest point of the Bahram Chubin Gorge, you can see the ruins of walls that some researchers suggest were the residence of Bahram Chubin himself. In the middle levels of the gorge, stone structures resembling dwellings can also be found. Additionally, unglazed pottery with various simple designs has been discovered around the Bahram Chubin fortress.

Anahita Temple

On the western side of the Bahram Chubin Gorge, opposite the caves, there is a temple located 10 meters above ground level, believed by some documents to belong to the ancient Iranian goddess Anahita. This temple features a central room flanked by two additional rooms.

Carvings and stone steps

Remnants of stone steps can be seen at the entrance of the Bahram Chubin Gorge. These steps have been carved into the sloping rocky surfaces to guide visitors to the upper levels of the fortress. In various sections of the Bahram Chubin Gorge, carvings

depicting images of humans, plants, and animals can be observed, dating back to different historical periods. Notably, the image of a goat is prominent in the engravings on the walls of this area, as the goat was historically a symbol of fertility and the continuation of the human race.

Best time to visit

The ideal time to visit Ilam and the Bahram Chubin Gorge is during the spring. At this time, the weather is cooler, the landscape becomes lush and vibrant, and the stone cisterns of the fortress fill with water from melting snow and spring rains. Late summer and early autumn also offer pleasant conditions for exploring the gorge.

Nestled at the foothills of the Kabir Kuh, the gorge is surrounded by stunning natural scenery. Visiting this ancient site does not require any specific permits or fees. However, since the Bahram Chubin Gorge is located in a natural environment, it is advisable to check the weather conditions prior to your visit to ensure a comfortable experience for picnicking and camping.

Travel equipment

When planning a trip to the Bahram Chubin Gorge, it's essential to prepare adequately. The final stretch of road leading to the gorge is paved, allowing you to drive close to the site and park your vehicle in the designated parking area.

If you intend to camp or stay overnight in the surrounding plains, be sure to bring appropriate camping gear, suitable footwear, and clothing for the season. It's also important to verify that the weather conditions are favorable. A water spring is available in the parking area, providing access to fresh water for your needs.

For those wishing to explore the upper sections of the Bahram Chubin Gorge or the stone cisterns of the fortress, a higher level of physical fitness is required, and climbing or mountaineering equipment may be necessary. If you plan to spend an extended period at the foothills and entrance of the Bahram Chubin fortress, don't forget to pack sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat to protect yourself from the sun.

How Israel attempts to justify indiscriminate attacks on civilians (and why it's failing)



By Craig Mokhiber
An American former
UN human rights
official

OPINION

In the wake of Israel's brutal mass terror attack on Lebanon, deploying internationally proscribed booby traps through pagers and other communication devices distributed in communities across Lebanon (and Syria), and predictably resulting in the death and maiming of large numbers of civilians, the international legal and human rights community, shocked by the blatant criminality of the attack, roundly condemned it.

▶ Palestinians mourn their relatives killed in the Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip, outside the hospital in Khan Younis, on Nov. 14, 2023.
● FATIMA SHBAIR/AP



And blatant it was. International humanitarian law (IHL) explicitly prohibits the use of booby traps or other devices in the form of apparently harmless portable objects (like pagers) that are specifically designed and constructed to contain explosive material.

It also prohibits indiscriminate weapons, tactics, and attacks, such as distributing booby-trapped devices across a population in circumstances where the originators of the weapons would have no way of knowing who was holding or close to the device when it detonates.

It prohibits the intentional spreading of terror among the civilian population, as was clearly intended in this case, and in the low-flying Israeli jets that followed, emitting sonic booms and dropping flares to frighten the already terrified population.

It prohibits the targeting of non-combatants, a status held by many of those who received the pagers.

It is a clear violation of the IHL principle of precaution, as no effort was apparently made to protect civilians who were in the vicinity of the explosions.

And international human rights law prohibits extrajudicial executions.

As was clearly intended, dozens were killed and thousands more were wounded, many suffering severe, traumatic injuries, and a significant number were permanently disabled. Victims included children, women, passersby, medical personnel, civilian workers, and others.

Even among the people affiliated with Hezbollah (which is not only a military force but also a political party, part of the elected government, and administrator of several civilian programs and services), many were reportedly not involved in any way with military operations or functions.

In other words, many of the victims— including some of the persons actually targeted— were civilian non-combatants, and thus protected persons under international humanitarian law. Indeed, so clear was the criminality of the act that unequivocal statements of condemnation and calls for legal accountability were quickly issued by authoritative voices from across the globe. International organizations, human rights groups, humanitarian law scholars, and prominent international lawyers all agreed: this was a crime under international law, and one marked by exceptional cruelty and audacity.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 22 of the UN's mandated independent human rights experts, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and a broad array of prominent international lawyers all quickly condemned the attacks as clear violations of international law. The strong reaction of these authoritative voices was predictable in a case of such obvious criminality. This was not an act that fell within the gray areas of international law. This was the kind of clear violation of fundamental rules of international law (and on a mass scale) that could be prosecuted by any first-year law student.

Nor was Israel's perpetration of this kind of horror a surprise. Israel has been infamous for decades for the transnational assassination of its adversaries. Emboldened by decades of Western-sponsored impunity, lawlessness has been the hallmark of Israeli operations since its creation by the West some 76 years ago.

Of course, given the ubiquity of Israeli propaganda in Western media and social media, we should not be surprised by the phalanx of legal propagandists who were quickly deployed to do damage control in the public discussion for Israel.

Israeli playbook to justify war crime

Many, predictably, deployed the tired old "collateral damage defense." But you cannot claim that civilians were merely "collateral damage" if the underlying act was itself a crime. The use of prohibited booby traps is a war crime.

A nine-year-old girl killed by a booby trap that she was holding (as was the case in Lebanon) is not collateral damage. She is the victim of a war crime.

Then there is the "magic-word defense." Here, Israel's defenders try to use certain nouns as trump cards. By saying that the targets were "Hezbollah" or "terrorists", (just as they have tried to do with "Hamas") they seek to create a law-free zone in which the rules of international law (or even basic morality) don't apply. But calling someone a "terrorist" or saying that they are affiliated with a group that you dislike or consider to be terrorist, is not a legal argument. At

the very heart of international humanitarian law is the distinction between combatants and non-combatants.

Superimposing another label on top of a civilian population that you do not like does not make them legitimate targets. Indeed, even attempting to re-label combatants in this way does not relieve Israel of its obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law. Unlawful weapons and tactics remain unlawful, regardless of the labels the attackers apply to their targets.

All countries accuse their adversaries of terrorism. However, many across the globe do not consider the Palestinian and Lebanese resistance groups to be terrorists, while they do consider Israel to be a terrorist state.

Does the mere utterance of these "magic words" entitle attackers to deploy unlawful booby traps, to attack civilians and civilian infrastructure, and to commit the crime of murder? Of course not, and international law is clear on this point as well. To apply a racist lens in order to deny the same protections of international law to the Lebanese (or Palestinians) is both morally reprehensible and a breach of the law itself.

And then of course, "the smear", the familiar fallback tactic of Israel apologists has also been widely (and predictably) deployed. Where their arguments fail on the law, facts, and logic, they simply resort to the charge that critics of Israel's crimes are "antisemites" or "supporters of terrorism." But the smear has been so fre-

quently, automatically, and disingenuously deployed against every critic and every critic of Israel, that it no longer has any impact among thinking people.

It is generally understood, rather, as a confession of defeat in an argument on the merits, and a transparent attempt to shift attention away from the facts and the law.

Of course, these carefully crafted distortions, ungrounded as they are, are not designed to win a legal argument in court. Rather, they are intended to muddy the waters in the public conversation to shore up Israeli impunity and preserve the continuous flow of weapons, money, and diplomatic cover from Western countries.

And these distortions are not new. They have been a key element in Israel's propaganda arsenal for years.

As Israel's proxies in the West dutifully inject them into the public discourse, major media outlets repeat them non-critically, without the slightest pretense of journalistic due diligence. As clear crimes disappear behind intentionally muddied waters, Israel moves on to its next atrocities, encouraged by the repeated shoring up of its impunity in the West.

But those tricks are beginning to fail.

Challenging Israeli impunity

Israel's crimes are now under review by both the World Court and the International Court of Justice. Abundant evidence has been collected by the UN and by international, Palestinian,

and Israeli human rights organizations. And the international community is calling them out. Francesca Albanese, the UN's Special Rapporteur on human rights in occupied Palestine, has documented how "Israel has [deployed] IHL concepts such as human shields, collateral damage, safe zones, evacuations and medical protection in such a permissive manner so as to gut these concepts of their normative content, subverting their protective purpose and ultimately eroding the distinction between civilians and combatants in Israeli actions in Gaza." And she reveals how "Distorting IHL customary rules, including distinction, proportionality and precautions, Israel has de facto treated an entire protected group and its life-sustaining infrastructure as 'terrorist' or 'terrorist-supporting', thus transforming everything and everyone into either a target or collateral damage, hence killable or destroyable."

As absurd as they are in legal terms, such distortions by Israel and its proxies must be addressed seriously. Israeli impunity is a common threat to Palestine, Lebanon, the wider region, and the world. Those working to buttress that impunity must be held to account.

And, beyond the direct victims of Israel's unchecked crimes, we must also be concerned about the erosion of international law that can result both from these repeated campaigns of distortion and from Israeli impunity itself.

If Israel can sneak into the supply chain and booby-trap personal devices, so can everyone else. If Israel can commit audacious acts of transnational terrorism, so can everyone else. If Israel can maim and murder civilians, label them "human shields" or "collateral damage" and walk off scot-free, so can everyone else.

Is this the world the West wants to build for itself, all in the name of protecting one violent and oppressive foreign regime?

We will soon find out. There will certainly be an independent investigation into these crimes. No doubt Israel will refuse to cooperate, and its Western sponsors will do all they can to block it.

But when the day in court comes, as it must, the ridiculous arguments and obvious distortions that Israel and its proxies have put forward to justify the criminal attack on Lebanon will not save them.

There is a growing drumbeat in the Hague, at the UN, on college campuses, and in the streets of capitals around the world. Justice can see through the smoke. And justice is coming.

The article first appeared on [Mondoweiss](#).

Peace appeals of Israel's Western enablers are a cynical charade



By Andrew Mitrovica
Al Jazeera columnist

OPINION

You cannot negotiate a ceasefire, let alone peace, with a man who prefers to wage war. That is the conundrum facing a host of suddenly fretting Western leaders, led by retiring US President Joe Biden, who insist – publicly, at least – that they are working hard to prevent another, cataclysmic war from engulfing the Middle East.

Let's pretend for a moment that their "concerns" are sincere. Then, these same Western leaders ought to acknowledge finally that they are, in large measure, responsible for that pressing conundrum.

Smoke billows over southern Lebanon following Israeli strikes, amid ongoing cross-border hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, as seen from Tyre, southern Lebanon, on September 23, 2024.
● AZIZ TAHER/REUTERS



Long before October 7, 2023, Biden and company have, at every turn, enabled, armed, and provided diplomatic cover for their "man" in Tel Aviv – Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his extremist cabinet.

Netanyahu has reciprocated by telling the chumps in Washington, London, Paris, Berlin, Brussels, and Ottawa who, at every turn, have enabled, armed and provided him and his fanatical coalition cabinet with diplomatic cover to – let me put this as politely as I can – take a hike.

True to obstinate form, Netanyahu has rebuffed efforts to arrange for a 21-day ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah with a view to crafting a more sustainable truce.

A strutting Netanyahu made his opposition to any brokered settlement plain in a typical "I am the toughest dude on the block" address to the United Nations General Assembly on Friday where he warned that the "long arm of Israel" can "reach... the entire Middle East".

The chumps in Washington, London, Paris, Berlin, Brussels, and Ottawa have feigned surprise and disappointment at Netanyahu's grating intransigence. Now, belatedly, Biden et al want to play "peacemaker" when, all along, they have remained true to the West's defining Middle East doctrine: Kill first, think later.

They have been joined lately in this predictable bit of chicanery by Western news organisations who, despite their

history of blatant support for the disastrous "kill first, think later" policy, wish Netanyahu would cease what he has been doing with their explicit and hearty approval.

And if he can't be stopped, some of them want him toppled to prevent "Lebanon from turning into Gaza".

It's too funny. Netanyahu – the saint turned apparent sinner – isn't going anywhere. The bulk of Israelis support what their beloved prime minister has done and is doing in Gaza and the occupied West Bank with an evangelical thirst and zeal.

If it is necessary to bludgeon Lebanon until it resembles Gaza and cause the deaths of tens of thousands of innocents, well, so be it. The Lebanese

"asked for it" and they're going to get a stinging taste of "Israel's wrath", too.

Netanyahu isn't going to "change course" because he is incapable of changing course. He knows that war is his golden ticket to remaining prime minister and, by convenient coincidence, helps him stave off those troublesome pending criminal indictments.

Time may also be his ally. Netanyahu is banking on former US president Donald Trump soon returning to the Oval Office. If that happens, America's vacuous rhetorical reservations vis-à-vis his genocidal destruction of Gaza and planned invasion of Lebanon will evaporate.

Netanyahu is loath, as well, to

hand Trump's opponent, Vice President Kamala Harris, a foreign policy "victory" on the eve of the presidential election.

Harris keeps repeating, like a metronome, that she and the president are "working around the clock" for a ceasefire between Hamas and Israel. It is a ridiculous pantomime and Harris, I suspect, realises it.

The chumps in Washington, London, Paris, Berlin, Brussels, and Ottawa embraced Netanyahu – knowing, full well, that their disagreeable man in Tel Aviv has had a lifelong allergy to diplomacy.

Still, they held him tight to their welcoming bosoms. And they told him, again and again, that he could, in effect,

kill as many Palestinians as he wanted to, for as long as he wanted to, whenever he wanted to.

Lebanon's fate was sealed in that instant. But the chumps in Washington, London, Paris, Berlin, Brussels and Ottawa didn't possess the good sense or foresight to recognise what would inevitably follow.

Remember, these are supposed "statesmen" and "statewomen" who tout their phantom credentials as foreign policy "experts". That's too funny, part two.

But, as I alluded to earlier, I'm not convinced that Biden and his compliant confederates are really that upset by Netanyahu's plans to kill more people in more places since they share

the same geopolitical aim to "destroy" Hezbollah. Towards that impossible end, Israel has assassinated Hassan Nasrallah, the secretary-general of Hezbollah, proving the West's kill first, think about the consequences later strategy for the combustible region still reigns. The deaths of more than 41,000 Palestinians and counting – most of them children and women – haven't prompted Biden and friends to halt arming, defending, and giving Israel diplomatic shade at the United Nations.

Only last week, Germany, the UK, and Canada abstained from a UN motion – sponsored by the State of Palestine – demanding that Israel end its illegal occupation of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. The US voted against.

The resolution was based on a ruling by the International Court of Justice in July that said Israel's presence in the Palestinian territory is unlawful and must end.

The supposed "split" between Israel and its steadfast allies in the West is an exercise in cynical, self-serving posturing. It is a mirage designed to suggest that Western capitals are concerned about the destiny of people they have never been that concerned about.

The truth is just as Western presidents and prime ministers have been content to permit Israel to vent, unrestrained, its "killing rage" and bomb Gaza into dust and memory, they will allow Netanyahu to do the same to Lebanon in due and deliberate course.

Lebanese civilians are as forgettable and disposable as Palestinian civilians. Their lives, their hopes, their dreams don't matter. All that matters is Israel's "right to defend itself".

So, Benjamin Netanyahu will continue to strut as Palestinian and Lebanese innocents continue to die.

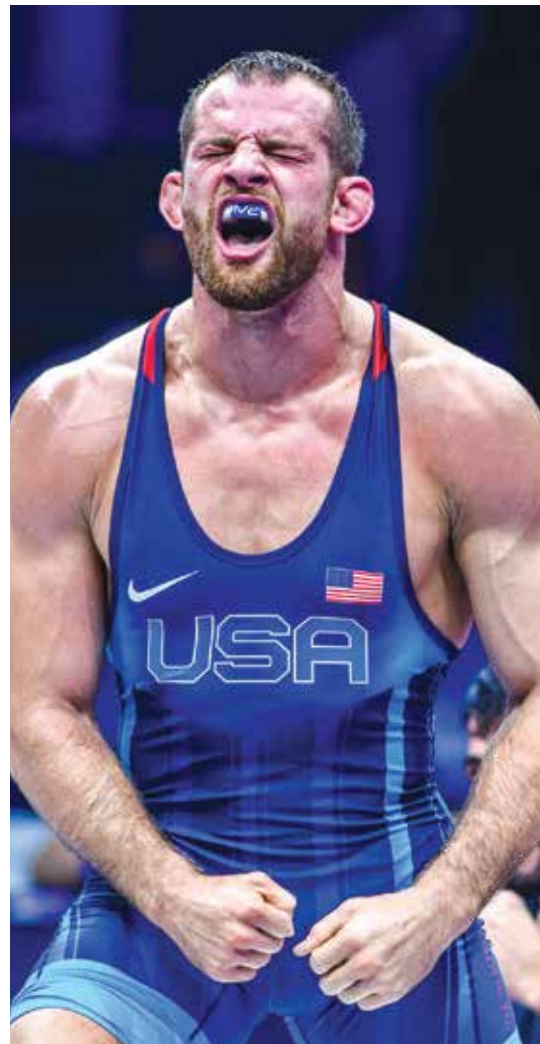


People stand on the rubble at the site of the Israeli air raid that assassinated Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in Beirut, on September 29, 2024.
● ALI ALLOUSH/REUTERS

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For the West, Lebanese lives are as disposable as Palestinian lives. Its calls for a ceasefire are no more than a sham.

Three-way battle to headline Wrestling World Championships



The 27-year-old appeared to be a shadow of himself in January's Ranking Series event in Zagreb, where he was out-muscled by American Kyle Snyder, but seemed to have regained his form in the Iranian national team trials in September, comfortably beating Amirhossein Firouzpour – a winner of four world age-group titles – to secure a place in Tirana.

Two-time Olympic champion Sadulaev missed out on defending his 97kg title in Paris after he was ruled ineligible to compete in the European OG qualifiers in April for what was deemed by the international governing body of the sport as "his support of the Ukraine-Russia war." Nicknamed 'the Russian Tank', Sadulaev was given the go-ahead by the UWW to participate as a neutral athlete in the upcoming event and he has wasted no time in pursuing a sixth world title. former Russian head coach Dzhambolat Tedeyev, however, maintained last week that Sadulaev will return to the 97kg class for the future competitions.

New rivalry?

Wrestling fans may have already seen the last chapter of the rivalry between Taylor and Hassan Yazdani, with the American holding a 3-1 head-to-head advantage against the Iranian in four major finals, including the 86kg showdown at the Tokyo Olympics three years ago. Iranians are now eager to see another one of their countrymen lock horns with Taylor, who also failed to make it to the Games in Paris after a shock defeat against Aaron Brooks in the US Olympic trials.

In a press conference that introduced him as the new head coach at Oklahoma State University back in May, the 33-year-old said his "competition career" was over, but made a U-turn on his decision to compete in September's trials for the World Championships, where he cemented his Team USA spot thanks to a victory over Zahid Valencia in a best-of-three series.



L-R: Iranian Kamran Qasempour, Russian Abdurashid Sadulaev, and American David Taylor will compete in the freestyle 92kg competitions in October's Wrestling World Championships in Tirana.

Sports Desk

All eyes will be on the freestyle 92kg contests when the Wrestling World Championships – featuring non-Olympic weight categories – get underway in Tirana, Albania, on October 28. Having been absent at the Paris Olympics earlier in the summer for different reasons, three of the sport's greatest in Russian sensation Abdurashid Sadu-

laev, American David Taylor, and Iranian Kamran Qasempour will make their long-awaited return to the global stage in the Tirana Olympic Park. Sadulaev and Taylor, who have won a remarkable 11 world and Olympic golds between them in the 97kg and 86kg contests, will be looking to add further glory to their already-impressive medal haul, though Qasempour will be out to prove the weight class remains his territory.

World champion in 2021 and 2022, Qasempour dominated the 92kg event for two years before a groin injury ruled him out of last year's World Championships in Belgrade. Qasempour then switched his weight class in a bid to compete in the Paris Games, but he eventually stood behind Amir-Ali Azarpira, who went on to win the Olympic bronze, in the pecking order of the Iranian 97kg berth.

Iranian archers win four medals in Asian Youth Championship

Sports Desk

Iranians won a silver as well as three bronze medals at the inaugural edition of the Asian Youth Archery Championships in Taipei City, Chinese Taipei. The Iranian trio of Amirreza Azizi, Ehsan Sha'bani Bahar, and Abolfazl Soltaninejad settled for a runner-up finish in the boys' junior compound team event after a 221-208 loss to India in the final. In the cadet age category, Mahdi

Asheqzadeh, Farhang Khodaparast, and Moein Karimi won the boys' compound bronze, courtesy of a 215-204 win against South Korea. Khodaparast won his second bronze when he teamed up with Ronia Razaivi to edge out the South Korean duo 152-151 in the mixed team event. Iranians Faez Mohammadi and Maryam Mousavi bounced back from a last-four defeat against South Korea to beat India 5-4 in the third-place matchup of the cadet recurve mixed team contests.

Monday's medals came after Mohammad-Hossein Golshani had opened the account for Iran on the preceding day with a bronze medal in the men's under-21 recurve contest. Golshani came out on top against opponents from Hong Kong (6-2), Vietnam (7-1), and Kazakhstan (6-5), before a 7-1 loss to a Bangladeshi archer sent him into the third-place encounter against another Kazakhstani athlete, whom the Iranian defeated 7-1 to finish his campaign with a bronze.



ISNA



Simeone says players who provoke fans should be punished

REUTERS – Atletico Madrid manager Diego Simeone said on Sunday fans that hurled objects onto the pitch causing their derby against Real Madrid to be suspended for over 20 minutes should be punished, as well as players who he suggested encourage such action. While Real players celebrated Eder Militao's opener in the 64th minute, Atletico ultras Fondo Sur, who are located in the south lower stands, threw objects towards visiting keep-

er Thibaut Courtois, who alerted the referee and he decided to temporarily halt the match. After the delay, Angel Correa equalised deep in added time as the game ended with a 1-1 draw. "My opinion is that people who have committed incidents should be sanctioned by the club. We don't need these people. We need the people who accompany and support us. They harm the club, but be careful: that does not justify generating situations that we,

the protagonists, generate," Simeone told DAZN. "We all have to help. The people who have thrown those lighters, it's not right. But maybe it doesn't help when us, the protagonists, undermine people, charge against people, provoke people and then people get angry. "People have no other way of doing it, in a bad way, which is not right, but we also have to try to be calm, to understand the situations, that you can celebrate a goal by celebrating

it, but not by celebrating it by staring at the stands, charging against the stands, making gestures... because then people get angry. "Of course it's not justified, but neither is the initial thing justified because otherwise we'll always be victims. The one who throws the cigarette lighter should be sanctioned and the one who provokes should also be sanctioned. This way there is no more laughter and things like that, as you are not sanctioned, you are allowed to do things."

EPA

Iran-Russia gas deal signifies 'excellent' cooperation: *Pezeshkian*



Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian (R) meets with Russia's Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin in Tehran on September 30, 2024. president.ir

International Desk
Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian described a gas supply deal between Tehran and Moscow as an excellent example of coop-

eration between the two countries to secure their interests and create sustainable development in the region. Iranian president made the remarks in a meet-

ing with visiting Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin in Tehran on Monday. If important joint projects between the two countries are implemented, there

will be ample opportunities for both countries to confront "cruel sanctions" imposed by the West, Pezeshkian said. He also praised an agreement to turn Iran into a re-

gional transit and gas hub as a good example of joint cooperation between Iran and Russia. Pezeshkian also said regional cooperation in the framework of international organizations such as BRICS and Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has led to the empowerment of independent countries such as Iran, Russia and China to confront the US unilateralism. Iran has been harboring the idea of becoming a regional "gas hub" in recent years. The National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) and Russia's energy giant Gazprom signed a 30-year-long deal in June to transfer Russian gas to Iran. Under this "strategic"

agreement, Iran will receive 300 million cubic meters of Russian gas per day through a new pipeline that Moscow plans to build in the Caspian Sea. Iranian officials have said that the Russian supply will help address domestic gas shortages, sustainably bolster the country's gas export capacity and turn Iran into a regional gas hub. Most of Iran's gas production is consumed domestically as the country faces a daily deficit of 200 mcm that surges to 300 mcm in winters when demand skyrockets. Last winter, an average of 851 mcm of gas was pumped into the national trunk line per day. During the Monday meeting, the Russian official emphasized his country's interest in expanding interactions with the Iran, especially in the fields of energy, industry, transportation, agriculture, health-

care, and cultural affairs. Despite considerable increase in trade exchanges between the two countries over the past months, there are still great capacities for further cooperation, Mishustin said. He also emphasized the necessity of expansion of cooperation between Iran and Russia in order to realize the new world order for the benefit of all the countries. The Russian official said his country is waiting Pezeshkian's visit to sign the comprehensive strategic agreement between the two countries and participate in a BRICS summit in Russia. Mishustin also expressed his concern about the escalation of tensions in West Asia region with the support of the US, saying that Washington is seeking to secure its interests by inflaming tensions and conflicts in different parts of the world.

Sheikh Qassem: Hezbollah to vanquish Israel as in 2006

International Desk
Hezbollah's Deputy Secretary General Sheikh Naim Qassem pledged that the Lebanese resistance group will win the current war with Israel just as in the confrontation in 2006. He made the remarks on Monday as he delivered a televised speech broadcast live in Beirut in commemoration of late Hezbollah chief Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, who was assassinated by the Israeli regime in the suburbs of Lebanon's capital Beirut on Friday. "We will win, just as we won in our confrontation with Israel in 2006," Sheikh Naim Qassem said. Qassem also vowed that the Lebanese group will continue the path paved by its late leader Nasrallah, and will achieve the goals he set. "Despite the loss of our leaders and the great sacrifices, we will not renounce our stances and the resistance will continue to assist Palestine. We have persevered despite all the attacks," he said. "We will continue Nasrallah's path and Hezbollah will continue its goals. Hezbollah's operations continued after its late leader's assassination," he underlined. Israel has not hit Hezbollah's military capabilities, said Sheikh Naim Qassem. Despite the setbacks suffered during the bombardment of Lebanon by Israel in recent days, he insisted that the group will continue to fight. Hezbollah's operations have continued at the



same pace and more since the killing of leader Hassan Nasrallah on Friday, Qassem asserted. He added that Hezbollah will install a new leadership soon via "internal mechanisms". The choice of new leadership is clear, Qassem continued, without offering further details. "We are quite ready, if the Israelis want a ground incursion, the resistance forces are ready for that," Qassem declared. Hezbollah will continue with its main goals despite Israel's aim of creating chaos with aggression and massacres against civilians in Lebanon, Qassem continued. "Israel is committing massacres in all areas of Lebanon until there is no house left without traces of Israeli aggression in it," he said. "Israel attacks civilians, ambulances, children and the elderly. It does not fight fighters, but rather commits massacres." Qassem also underlined the role of the US, which he called "a partner with Israel, through unlimited military support - culturally, politically, financially." Israel has in recent days been mounting heavy air

strikes in Lebanon against Hezbollah, killing more than 1,600 people, including several senior officials of the movement and a top commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. For the first time since stepping up its attacks on Lebanon, Israel on Monday struck a central area of Beirut, signaling further potential escalation towards an all-out war. With signs indicating a likely Israeli ground offensive, Lebanon's caretaker prime minister, Najib Mikati, said on Monday in a news conference that the government remains committed to an immediate cease-fire. With that in mind, he said, Beirut is prepared to deploy the army in the south of the country to implement a United Nations resolution aimed at preventing war with Israel by ending Hezbollah's armed presence south of the Litani River. Mikati said Lebanon was ready to fully implement UN Security Council Resolution 1701 and deploy the army south of the river, which lies about 30km (20 miles) from Lebanon's southern border.

President stresses Iran's resolve to improve ties with world

International Desk
Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian emphasized Iran's resolve to improve the level of relations with its neighbors, regional countries and other countries in the world based on mutual respect and benefits. The Iranian president made the remarks in separate meetings with new ambassadors of Qatar, Niger, Sudan, Germany, Norway and Denmark in Tehran where he received the credentials of the ambassadors. During his meetings with new ambassadors of Germany, Denmark, Norway, Pezeshkian also said his government seeks to restore "friendly" relations with European countries. "In the past, we had good relations in the economic, commercial, cultural and social fields, and the 14th government of Iran is seeking to restore those friendly relations and expansion of cooperation, especially in the economic and commercial fields", the Iranian president said.



Since taking office in July and during the election campaigns, Pezeshkian has repeatedly emphasized his determination to improve the country's relations with the world, especially with neighboring countries. Relations between Iran and some European countries have soured over the past years after the countries' lack of compliance with the 2015 nuclear agreement under the US pressure, from which Washington unilaterally withdrew in 2018 and reimposed illegal sanctions against Iran.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Iran, India to hold joint naval drill in Persian Gulf

International Desk
An Indian naval fleet has berthed at Iran's southern port city of Bandar Abbas for a joint exercise with the Iranian Navy in the Persian Gulf's waters. The Indian Navy's "peace and friendship" fleet includes three destroyers under the command of Captain Anshul Kishore. According to Iranian Navy officer Captain Masoud Beigi, the naval forces of the two countries are going to hold a joint exercise north of the Hormuz Strait. The visit would also include training and sports events between the navies of both countries. Beigi said that the Indian forces will also tour the cultural sites of Bandar Abbas during their four-day stay in Iran. The Iranian commander said such visits would strengthen the friendly relations between the navies of the two countries. The relationship between Iran and India is centuries-old. There is a great deal of commonality in their language, culture, and traditions. In the past, the two countries' naval forces have participated in joint military drills. Iran's Navy has in recent years achieved self-sufficiency in manufacturing surface and sub-surface vessels. It has also increased its presence in international waters to protect naval routes and provide security for merchant vessels and tankers.

Hezbollah, Hamas stand out in military clout

Nasrallah consolidated Hezbollah's intellectual, managerial foundations



Hezbollah Secretary-General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah delivers a speech in Beirut on May 8, 2023.
● SHUTTERSTOCK

refugees, victim families, medical care, and basic necessities. The situation is similar for Hezbollah, to some extent. By assassinating Nasrallah, Israel also dealt a managerial blow to Hezbollah's structure. It is only natural that the elimination of a charismatic leader like Nasrallah would inflict damage on the organization, especially since it is currently at war.



Mostafa Moslehzaadeh

Does this mean that Hamas and Hezbollah have reached the end of the road?

Not by a long shot. Guerilla organizations around the world have typically imploded when faced with the kind of crises that Hamas and Hezbollah are grappling with. A prime example is the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which Israel drove to the brink of collapse by imposing a peace treaty. Ironically, the PLO's demise has become a template for Israel, which is now trying to replicate this strategy by imposing vari-

ous crises on Hezbollah and Hamas in the hopes of driving them to break up as well.

However, these two organizations are the exception to the rule. The circumstances that Israel has imposed on them over the past year would, according to conventional military wisdom, have spelled their demise by now. But that has not happened. Hamas is still alive and kicking, and Hezbollah remains a force to be reckoned with. Neither organization has thrown in the towel, even in the worst of times, and it is highly unlikely that they will do so in the future. The PLO's experience will not be repeated with Hamas and Hezbollah.

What makes Hezbollah and Hamas stand out from the rest, particularly in the case of Hezbollah in Lebanon? Is their longevity due to the legacy of their late leader Nasrallah?

Hezbollah and Hamas share some key characteristics that have contributed to their endurance. First and foremost, their reliance on religious ideology has been a game-changer. Unlike the secular Arab nationalism of the past, their ideology instills a sense of "fearlessness" in both the organization and its members. This is a strong suit for both Hamas and Hezbollah, and a weak spot for the Israeli regime. Secondly, the leaders of these organizations have been instrumental in their success. Nasrallah, in particular, had a certain je ne sais quoi, a selfless spirit that resonated with his

followers. He was willing to go the extra mile, to take the heat, and make the ultimate sacrifice for his people, country, and faith. This kind of leadership has been a hallmark of both Hamas and Hezbollah.

Thirdly, their management style has been a key factor in their success. They have adopted a more enlightened approach, blending science and management, which has allowed them to stay ahead of the curve. These organizations have managed to balance their military and political wings, and their experience has shown that this approach has been a winning formula. Nasrallah's 30-year leadership of Hezbollah has solidified the party's ideological and managerial foundations in the face of crises

A great example of Nasrallah's management genius was the prisoner swap deal in 2000. Hezbollah managed to secure the release of hundreds of Lebanese, Palestinian, and Syrian prisoners in exchange for just four Israeli prisoners. When Israel refused to release a prisoner named Samir Kuntar, Nasrallah predicted that Israel would eventually regret its decision. Six years later, in 2006, Israel launched a war to free two of its own prisoners, but ultimately had to free Kuntar as part of a prisoner exchange deal.

So, while Israel has managed to land some heavy blows on Hamas and Hezbollah, this does not mean the end of the road for these organizations. They will bounce back, because their goals are not tied to a specific individual or group.

By Ebrahim Beheshti
Staff writers

INTERVIEW

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu issued another terrorist order, assassinating Hezbollah's leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah. Several Hezbollah commanders had already been assassinated. Head of Hamas's political bureau Ismail Haniyeh was also killed in an act of terror blamed on Israel in Tehran. The question now arises: do Israel's appalling atrocities in the Gaza Strip and the assassination of Hezbollah's leaders and commanders spell the end of these two politico-military movements? Iran Daily has talked to Mostafa Moslehzaadeh, an expert on West Asian affairs, to hear his take on the issue. Moslehzaadeh had served as Iran's ambassador to Jordan.

IRAN DAILY: It has been a year since Israel's devastating attack on Gaza and its war with Hamas and Hezbollah. What, in your opinion, has been the Israeli's strategy over the past year, which has ultimately led to the assassination of Nasrallah and other Hezbollah leaders and commanders?

MOSLEHZADEH: When we talk about Israel's strategy, we must take note that it is essentially the same as the US strategy. Over the past year, and especially since October 7, the two have been on the same page. Although the US appears to support a cease-fire, this claim is also part of their joint strategy. Basically, the Israeli army is an integral part of the US army, or "CENTCOM," in normal circumstances. In crisis situations and wartime, this connection becomes even more pronounced. After Hamas's severe blow

on October 7, the Israeli army was caught off guard, particularly in terms of morale. Western leaders scrambled to Israel to support the regime and boost its morale. If the US genuinely sought a cease-fire, it would have sufficed to halt its daily shipments of arms and military equipment to Israel. Therefore, it is a misconception to think that Israel's military strategy against Gaza and southern Lebanon differs from the US strategy.

How successful has this strategy been for them after a year of fighting?

The joint strategy between Israel and the US has multiple components. The first component was to boost Israel's morale and demonstrate its destructive power. After October 7, the taboo of the Israeli army's invincibility was shattered, despite its state-of-the-art military hardware and foreign

backing. To restore it, Israel sought to flex its muscles, which is why it targeted everything from hospitals to schools and refugee camps. It appears that Israel has been successful in this aspect of its strategy, showing its destructive clout in a frenzied manner. The second component of this strategy was to take out the leaders and commanders of Hamas and Hezbollah. Although they did not fare well in Gaza, they were successful in southern Lebanon, where they managed to assassinate key Hezbollah leaders.

The third component was to create internal crises within Hamas and Hezbollah. As a military and political movement, Hamas was also responsible for administering the Gaza Strip, which meant it had to juggle fighting the Israeli army with seeing to

Intelligence flaws root ...

While resistance forces are capable of effectively confronting Israel in ground battles and missile attacks, they are clearly and openly lacking in counter-intelligence capabilities. The Islamic resistance forces are in a state of war with Israel, yet the priority should be to destroy the Israeli intelligence network. There is a need to restrict the activities of British and French diplomats in Tehran, while also considering the intelligence cooperation that some Muslim countries have with Israel. Lebanon has a long history of French influence, and France openly displays hostility toward Islam while showing sympathy for Israel. The Lebanese government is aware of this fact, but now is the time to ensure no mistakes are made at any level. Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nas-

rallah, was like a nurturing father to the Axis of Resistance, and his absence will always be felt. Nasrallah transformed Islamic resistance into an international power. His assassination is also a significant blow to Iran's regional influence. Through the brutal use of US-provided bunker-buster bombs, Israel has committed an act of terrorism by assassinating him. This marks the beginning of an unending war, which will ultimately result in Israel's destruction. By committing this terrorist act, the Israeli leadership has created a difficult situation for its people and pushed a large portion of the region's population to the brink of war. After October 7, when Israeli aggression escalated in Gaza, Hezbollah confronted the occupying forces on the northern front,

keeping Lebanon's security in mind, and proved that Israel can be brought to its knees. Israel is under immense pressure in the north due to Hezbollah's resistance, and its security is now at risk. Israel has martyred dozens of Hezbollah commanders in Lebanon and Syria, but it does not fully understand that every fighter and leader in Hezbollah is driven by the message of Imam Hussein (AS), which echoes in their ears, inspiring them with unwavering courage and determination against oppressive forces. This message compels them to continue their journey of jihad and martyrdom, despite all challenges and adversities. When Israel assassinated Abbas al-Musawi, God gave the resistance movement Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, who over the last 32 years has spread Hezbollah's



ideology to every corner of the Muslim world. This is why Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has stated that he does not care about the Palestinians but is afraid of establishing diplomatic relations with Israel because of Arab youth. The American magazine The Atlantic

recently published a leaked conversation between Mohammed bin Salman and Antony Blinken during a meeting in Riyadh in January this year. In the conversation, he said, "Do I personally care about the Palestinian issue? I don't, but my people do, so I have to make sure the kingdom

doesn't fall into chaos." Notably, the crown prince has not denied this leaked conversation. As October 7 approaches, marking the one-year anniversary of Israeli aggression, various sources suggest that this day will prove to be another surprise for Israel.