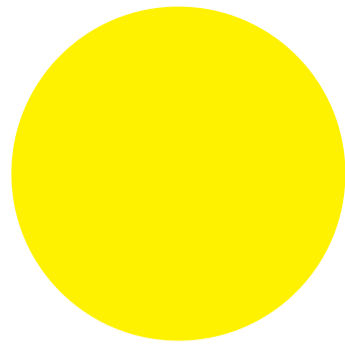


Sheikh Qassem:
Hezbollah
not to be
vanquished



EU, UK bans aimed at diverting attention from Israeli genocide: *Iran*



Iranian military and government officials, including President Masoud Pezeshkian and IRGC's Quds Force commander Brigadier General Esmail Qa'ani, are seen in a funeral ceremony for Major General Abbas Nilforoushan in the capital Tehran on October 15, 2024.

● SNN

Huge Farewell to IRGC General Martyred in Lebanon



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Iran aims for expanded power trade with neighbors

Tavanir ready to set up wind farm near Afghan border



Economy Desk

Iran's energy officials have expressed determination to ramp up electricity swaps with neighboring countries, including Azerbaijan and Afghanistan. During a meeting with Azerbaijan's Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Mustafayev in Tehran, Iranian Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi pointed to an "electrical connection" between the two countries that was already in place, hoping that cooperation in the power sector would pick up steam by next summer, ILNA reported on Tuesday. Aliabadi told Mustafayev that there were "many plans on the agenda" to boost power cooperation.

Iran struggled with an electricity shortage of 18,000 megawatts per day during the past scorching summer. The authorities are bracing themselves for a shortfall of up to 26,000 MW next summer.

Iranian energy officials are working to bring new thermal and renewable power plants online as well as to swap electricity with regional countries, including Russia, to narrow the deficit.

Last month, Aliabadi proposed, at a meeting of BRICS energy ministers in Moscow, that Russia's national grid be connected to those of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates via Iran. He also expressed Iran's interest in expanding electricity trade and transit with its neighbors.

The Iranian minister raised the issue again during his meeting with the Azerbaijani official, who, in turn, welcomed the idea of "synchronizing the power grids of Iran, Azerbaijan, and Russia."

According to Mustafayev, an Iranian company has been tasked with conducting a technical and economic feasibility study of the project.

Border wind farm

Meanwhile, the head of Iran's state-owned power producer and distributor, Tavanir, said Iran was ready to build a wind farm on the border with Afghanistan to promote electricity trade.

Tavanir CEO Mostafa Rajabi Mashhadi said that the unique wind patterns on the Iran-Afghanistan border had piqued the interest of both sides in building a wind park and developing transmission lines, with investment from Iranian and foreign companies.

Iran has been exporting electricity to Afghanistan since 2002. According to Rajabi Mashhadi, Afghanistan has settled all its debts for electricity purchases and has been paying its bills on time.

Recently, Iranian investors have announced their willingness to carry out Afghan power projects and relevant companies have held talks on bilateral projects.

Iran posts highest output surge in OPEC amid crude devaluation

Economy Desk

Iran took the lead among OPEC member states with the largest increase in oil production in September, posting a modest uptick of 0.6% last month, the oil cartel's monthly report showed.

The latest report by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries said Iran churned out 3.316 million barrels of oil per day (bpd) in September, which works out at 21,000 barrels more than in August.

Iran's slight rise bucked the trend of a 2.3% overall decline in OPEC's total output in September which amounted to above 27 million bpd - 604,000 less compared to August. Iran held onto its position as the third-largest

producer within the organization, coming in behind kingpin Saudi Arabia, which pumped 8.971 million bpd and Iraq that accounted for 4.112 million bpd.

Saudi Arabia and Iraq both saw drops of 23,000 bpd and 155,000 bpd in their outputs respectively.

As per the Iranian Oil Ministry, the country rolls out around 3.4mn bpd. Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad has vowed to ramp up output by 400,000 barrels within a year.

According to international analytics companies, Iran's oil exports hover around 1.7mn bpd, with more than 90% ending up in China.

The latest data released by Iran's customs office suggest that the country

raked in around \$46.4bn from oil exports in the first half of the Persian calendar year (March 20-September 21).

Given the current export trend, it is expected that Iran's oil revenue will reach \$46.4bn by the end of the year, a 29% surge compared to last year's figure of around \$36bn.

Heavy crude plunging Meanwhile, Iran's oil prices took a nosedive for the second consecutive month in September with its heavy crude plummeting by 5.2%, shedding over \$4 to settle at \$73.6 per barrel.

It followed a sharp drop of more than 8% in August when prices tumbled from \$84.5 to \$77.6 per barrel.

On a yearly basis, the



average price of Iranian heavy crude dropped by 52 cents to \$81.85 per barrel compared to a year earlier.

The decline in Iranian oil prices comes on the heels of a slump in the value of OPEC's basket of crude. In September, the OPEC

Reference Basket (ORB) value slid by \$4.82 per barrel, or 6.1%, month on month, to an average of \$73.59 per barrel.

Renewables can help ease electricity shortfall: *Iranian MP*



By Sadeq Dehqan
Staff writer

Renewable energy sources can play a crucial role in bridging the gap in Iran's electricity supply, a senior lawmaker told Iran Daily on Tuesday. Chairman of Parliament's Energy Committee Mousa Ahmadi said the legislative chamber had a "keen eye" on green energy production. "Parliament is trying to boost the share of renewables in the country's

power mix to ease the mismatch between electricity supply and demand, which has led to power outages in recent years," Ahmadi added. According to a study by the Parliament Research Center, the gap between electricity supply and demand has surged to around 12,000 megawatts in recent years, exacerbated by growing consumption and a series of hurdles including

failure to increase power production capacity due to a lack of funds and shortages of fuel supply for thermal power plants.

Given Iran's considerable potential for clean power production, one of the ways to get the country out of the ongoing predicament is to invest in renewables.

The Energy Ministry estimates that Iran has a potential to churn out 124,000 megawatts of renewable energy per day, with 71,000 MW coming from solar energy and 49,000 MW from wind energy.

Despite the emphasis on developing renewable energy in Iranian laws,

regulations, and policies, the country currently cranks out only 1,200 MW of green electricity per day. According to international statistics, by 2050, global electricity demand is expected to soar sixfold, with renewables accounting for 43% of the total power output. "Iran has considerable potential for developing renewable energy sources and is actively pursuing the development of infrastructure for these energy sources," Ahmadi said.

The MP touched on the various types of renewable energy resources and explained that the use of renewable energy sources, including solar and wind power, was on the rise globally as the world would face huge

energy challenge in the future particularly with regard to electricity.

"The main cause of this energy shortage is linked to issues such as cryptocurrencies, artificial intelligence, and other emerging technologies which require huge amounts of electricity," he said.

"If this trend continues and no alternatives are found to replace the consumed energy, the world will face a monumental challenge," he warned. Ahmadi proposed that one possible solution for each entity, including industrial units, could become self-sufficiency in energy production. "This is what Parliament is calling for," the lawmaker pointed out. He noted that Iran had vast areas with pro-

longed periods of direct sunlight throughout the day, as well as numerous regions with substantial wind resources, all of which could be leveraged to produce electricity.

"Parliament is working to raise awareness about the need to address the country's electricity needs through renewable energy sources and is pushing executive bodies to invest in renewable energy production," Ahmadi said.

"Currently, about 37% of the country's electricity is generated from fossil fuels, while a smaller portion comes from nuclear power plants. However, the share of renewable energy in electricity production is tiny, standing at around 1.2%."

Revolutionizing Iran's trade in 'red gold'



Iran produces over 90% of the world's supply of saffron, the most expensive spice sometimes called "red gold" because of its vibrant hue and high value.

Currently, saffron is cultivated in more than 27 provinces over 123,000 hectares of land, producing 450-470 tons of the strategic commodity per year, Press TV wrote on Tuesday.

It is a medicinal and spice plant known to Iranians more than 4,000 years ago. The word saffron was originally called 'zarparan' consisting of

the two Persian words of zar meaning gold and paran meaning flower blossoms referring to purple crocuses of the plant.

Saffron is mainly used to season and color dishes. It is a strategic product in many aspects, chiefly harvested in the vast plains of Khorasan, but it is being promulgated to other provinces across Iran in recent years.

Saffron is a labor-intensive crop which needs 250,000 flimsy crimson red strands to be plucked laboriously by hand from about 75,000 crocus blooms to make a pound. The flowers must be picked early in the morning before the scent is lost to the heat of the day and then dried.

Each kilo of the Iranian saffron can retail for \$1,400-\$2,000 in global markets, showing its

comparison with gold is not without a reason. It can even cost more than the precious metal, with each gram of the premium Iranian crop able to fetch \$65.

Currently, 67 countries import saffron from Iran. In 2023, the country exported 221 tons of saffron worth \$207.7 million. Officials say Iran can conveniently raise this figure to \$1 billion if it removes certain domestic hurdles and foreign sanctions.

Saffron, apart from being valued as a culinary condiment, has long been used as a dye, perfume and as a medicinal herb. Its medicinal uses have ranged from treating eye problems to genito-urinary and many other diseases in various cultures. It has also been used as a tonic agent and antidepressant drug among many nations.

The sanctions, however, are a constant challenge to the import of technology and equipment to establish processing units.

According to one Iranian deputy agriculture minister, Iran's share of the \$11-billion saffron trade does not exceed \$400

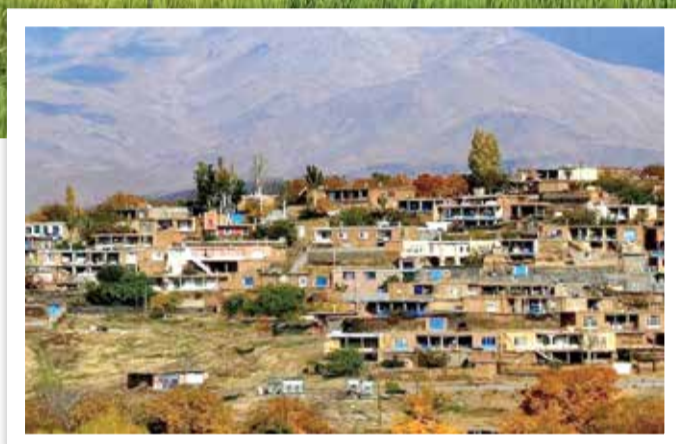
million in the best harvest years. This is while medicinal plants are notable sources of income in many countries.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Hamedan Province; home to numerous tourist villages

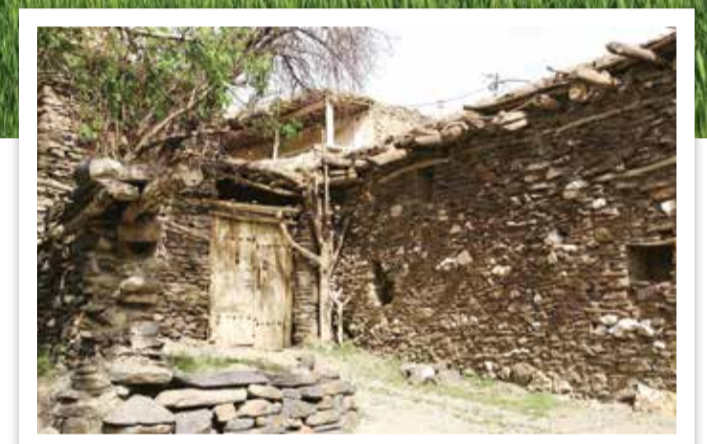
Akanlu village
● balad.ir



Gashani village
● iranbomgard.com



Simin-e Abaru village
● tasnimnews.com



Varkaneh village
● visitiran.ir

Iranica Desk

Hamedan is one of the ancient provinces of the country, designated as the capital of the history and civilization of Iran, attracting many tourists annually to visit its stunning attractions. From historical sites to the most beautiful natural landscapes, Hamedan has become a suitable destination for tourism. One of these natural attractions is its villages, which are unique in their own right and offer a perfect place for wandering and finding peace.

Many tourists recognize Hamedan for its famous historical and natural landmarks, such as the tombs of Avicenna and Baba Taher, the ancient site of Hegmataneh, the Ali Sadr Cave,

and the Ganjnameh Complex. Others know it for the world-renowned pottery town of Lalejin or the globally recognized furniture and woodcarving city of Malayer. However, Hamedan also has numerous tourist villages that leave lasting memories for visiting tourists, chtn.ir wrote.

Exploring the heart of nature in Hamedan's villages offers a chance to indulge in the green gold of tourism, reaching a dreamlike peace far from environmental pollution, the hustle and bustle of urban life, and the fatigue of a mechanized existence. The unique attractions of the villages, combined with pristine nature and hospitable people, resonate with a calm and soothing rhythm in the

minds of those weary from city living.

Green tourist destinations of Hamedan

Currently, 21 villages in Hamedan Province, each with unique attractions, are considered green tourist destinations, offering visitors a memorable experience through their special features.

Ali Sadr village: Located 80 kilometers west of Hamedan, this village is home to the largest water cave in the world and is surrounded by fruit orchards. It also features the shrines of Imamzadeh Hashem and Imamzadeh Zeyd for visitors.

Akanlu village: One of the famous villages in Kabudarahang, located 75 kilometers west

of the center of Hamedan, is abundant in fruit orchards and springs, as well as being a center for sheep farming.

Gashani village: Situated in the central part of Tuyserkan, 35 kilometers from Hamedan, this village boasts terraced architecture and is next to the shrine of Imamzadeh Ibrahim, with numerous mineral springs and cherry and walnut orchards, especially beautiful in the fall.

Oshtoran village: Located 37 kilometers from the center of Hamedan along the Ganjnameh to Tuyserkan route, this village features an ancient inscription in Kufic script, an ancient hill, and abundant handicrafts such as woodcarving and carpet-weaving.

Shahrestaneh village: Another

village near Oshtoran in the central part of Tuyserkan, it has terraced structures and a rocky cave, along with cherry and sour cherry orchards, as well as mineral springs.

Kohnush village: Known for its agricultural diversity and ancient architecture, this village in Tuyserkan attracts many tourists.

Simin-e Abaru village: Located 10 kilometers east of Hamedan, this village has been registered nationally due to its historical and natural significance, making its name known throughout Iran.

Khaku village: This southeastern mountainous village is known for its cherry, sour cherry, and apple orchards, featuring beautiful rocky terrain.

Varkaneh village: Located 22 kilometers east of Hamedan on the Ekbatan Dam Road, this village features terraced rocky structures, an ancient bathhouse, and a variety of handicrafts and agricultural products.

Molham Darreh village: In Asadabad, this village is home to Kurdish and Persian residents and is rich in tourist attractions, diverse agricultural products, and terraced architecture.

Manizan village: Located in Malayer, this village is famous for traditional rituals such as grape syrup preparation, offering products like syrup and raisins. It also features a unique variety of handicrafts, including weaving, and always welcomes numerous tourists.

Restoration project launched for historic Zaboli Castle

Iranica Desk

A project to preserve and restore Zaboli Castle in Mehrestan, Sistan and Baluchestan Province has been launched, as announced by the deputy head of the Provincial Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Organization.

Mojtaba Sa'adatian noted that the castle, which has a history spanning 400 years, is situated on the outskirts of the city, adjacent to agricultural lands and atop a natural hill. He explained that the castle comprises two sections: the rulers' section and the public section, chtn.ir wrote.

The main structure features two floors, with some areas extending to three floors. It includes a central courtyard measuring approximately one



● chtn.ir

thousand square meters. The roof is constructed from palm trunks and branches. Sa'adatian further indicated that the restoration

and preservation project commenced this year, following a damage assessment conducted by provincial experts. The identified damages in-

clude material deterioration and damage to the roof structure.

He elaborated that the restoration project will involve repairing the roof,

walls and adobe sections of the structure, as well as thatching the roof and walls.

Castles are significant architectural structures from

the past, and today, few buildings resemble them in style and design. Primarily, castles were built for safeguarding cities, villages, or roads. In some

instances, they served as bases for ruling authorities or their residences; often, these structures acted both as seats of government and living quarters for rulers.

Such castles are abundant in Iran, with small examples found throughout the country. These structures have survived from various historical periods, making it difficult to determine definitively which era saw the most castle construction. However, it is noteworthy that most remaining castles in Iran date back to the Qajar era, which is closely related to the later period of this rule and its proximity to modern times.

Sistan and Baluchestan Province, one of the earliest regions of human habitation, is rich in historical artifacts, including the Zaboli Castle.

Hundreds of Israeli buildings marred by Iran's Oct. 1 attack

Damage to private property from Iran's recent missile barrage on Israel amounted to 150 million to 200 million shekels (\$40 million to \$53 million), according to figures provided by Israel's tax authority, making it the most costly since the start of war a year ago. Some 2,500 claims were submitted in the two weeks following the Oct. 1 attack, more than half for damage to apartments and several businesses in the vicinity of north Tel Aviv.



A man checks the damages at a restaurant in the aftermath of an Iranian missile attack on Israel, on October 1, 2024 in Tel Aviv. ● AFP



Damage to the Israeli airbases of Tel Nof and Nevatim aren't included in the calculations.



A projectile is seen in the sky after Iran fired a salvo of ballistic missiles, as seen from Tel Aviv on October 1, 2024. ● REUTERS

One of the epicenters was the town of Hod Hasharon, where over 1,000 homes were damaged, according to the insurance claims.

Another was a commercial and living complex near north Tel Aviv's coast, where dozens of apartments and a restaurant were hit. The rest of the damage was concentrated in other parts of central Israel, south of Tel Aviv, including to an empty school. It's not clear how much of the damage was caused by direct hits and how much from falling debris as missiles were intercepted.

Damage to the Israeli airbases of Tel Nof and Nevatim aren't included in the calculations.

The Israeli Tax Authority said it has paid out 1.5 billion shekels in compensation for damaged properties since Oct. 7, 2023, and estimates that payouts of some 1 billion shekels more are pending, including for damages not yet claimed, mostly in Israel's north.

Some 60,000 Israelis have left their homes in the northern region over the past year, when Israel's war in Gaza started and Hezbollah fighters based in Lebanon stepped up cross-border strikes in support of Hamas.

Hundreds of thousands of residents have also had to evacuate from south Lebanon as a result of increased fighting between Israel and Hezbollah over the past month.

The US is sending an advanced missile defense system and associated troops to Israel to help shield its ally from attacks by Iran, the Pentagon announced

Sunday. Deployment of the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense battery will buttress Israel's own air defenses, which have been stretched by Iranian attacks at least twice this year. THAAD will work as a counterpart to Israel's Arrow system at the top level of a multitier missile shield that includes the mid-range David's Sling and the short-range Iron Dome. A THAAD battery consists of 95 soldiers, six truck-mounted

launchers, eight interceptors per launcher and associated equipment.

The Oct. 1 ballistic missile attack was launched by Iran in what it said was retaliation for the assassination of Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah by Israel in Beirut, and the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran.

The Oct. 1 strikes were Iran's second direct attack on Israel, following an initial hit in April

that involved 300 drones and 100 ballistic missiles.

At that time, only four or five missiles managed to penetrate Israel's air defense shield. Reports in Israel suggest that this time, Iran used advanced weaponry and that more of its missiles entered Israel's airspace. One person was killed near the town of Jericho in the occupied West Bank and a few people were lightly wounded elsewhere. More missiles in-

crease the risk of debris hitting the ground and causing damage. Arrow, the most advanced of Israel's defense systems, helped the country and its allies — including the US — intercept the bulk of roughly 200 missiles fired on Oct. 1. The head of IAI, the Israeli manufacturer of Arrow, told Bloomberg that the system performed as expected. Israeli officials declined to give interception rates, though, and the low number of casualties was also attributed to the wide availability of bomb shelters throughout the country.

Israel vowed to retaliate against Iran for the missile barrage and has been discussing its options with the US. The decision-making security cabinet convened last week, but hasn't yet voted on Israel's response. A planned visit by Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant to Washington last week to meet with his US counterpart was postponed at Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's order. The premier requested to first speak to US President Joe Biden and conclude domestic discussions.

As of Sunday at noon, there was no further scheduled meeting of Israel's security cabinet.

Biden has made it clear that he wants Israel to refrain from attacking Iran's oil and nuclear facilities. If Israel agrees, it would be left with a choice of military targets or others associated with the Iranian state. Gallant said last week that the strike will be powerful, precise and, above all, contain the element of surprise.

"They will not understand what happened and how it happened," he said.

The article first appeared on Bloomberg.



US THAAD System not to change Israel's vincibility

By Syed Ali Hassan
Iran Daily's correspondent in Pakistan

OPINION

The Biden administration signed documents on Sunday for sending troops to Israel along with an advanced US anti-missile system, in a highly unusual deployment meant to bolster its ally's air defenses following missile attacks by Iran on October 1. The US took this step as Hezbollah's relentless drone strikes have caused devastation in central Israel, killing dozens of Israeli soldiers and injuring over a hundred. The Pentagon announced that it is sending a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) battery to the occupied territories to protect the regime from Hezbollah's missiles and drones. Meanwhile, the number of Israeli soldiers wounded in Lebanon's attacks has increased, resulting in underground hospitals in Israel reaching full capacity. Every injured soldier is opting for treatment there, citing perceived safety concerns. In the wake of intensified Israeli airstrikes on Lebanon last month, lethal attacks against Israeli forces have surged, with estimates indicating that over 200 Israeli soldiers have been killed and nearly 1,000 wounded, of whom approximately 700 are no longer fit for duty.



A Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) interceptor is launched, in this undated handout photo. **REUTERS**

Pentagon spokesperson Major General Patrick Ryder described the deployment as part of "the broader adjustments the US military has made in recent months" to support Israel and defend US personnel from attacks by Iran and its allies. However, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi warned that Washington was "putting [the] lives of its troops at risk by deploying them to operate US missile systems in Israel." "While we have made tremendous efforts in recent days to

contain an all-out war in our region, I say it clearly that we have no red lines in defending our people and interests," Araghchi wrote on social media earlier on Sunday, implying that any US casualties would be the responsibility of Biden's administration. A single THAAD battery typically requires about 100 personnel to operate, comprising six truck-mounted launchers with eight interceptors each, along with a radar system. THAAD complements the Patriot system, which has a range of 150-200 ki-

lometers. On Sunday, the Israeli military acknowledged the destruction caused by a drone strike in central Israel, which targeted a military base near Binyamina, south of Haifa. An Israeli paramedic, Rafi Shiva, described the scene as horrific, with Israeli soldiers pressuring medical teams to move the injured to modern underground hospitals. Over the past year, Hezbollah has launched almost daily drone and rocket attacks on Israel, but the Sunday's attack caused the

highest casualties, injuring at least 67 people. This attack was in retaliation for recent Israeli strikes on central Beirut. The US decision to supply THAAD to Tel Aviv is the latest manifestation of its unwavering support for Israel's escalating regional military actions. The Biden administration has also allocated billions of dollars in additional military aid to Tel Aviv during its aggression in Gaza, and is now deploying advanced air defense systems and troops, despite Israel's ongoing

attacks on Lebanon. As long as the military aid continues to flow to Israel, it is unlikely that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will heed US calls for de-escalation or refrain from a broader regional conflict. This contradictory stance by the US is perpetuating the conflict and exacerbating the mass casualties among innocent civilians. In April 2024, Israel and its allies incurred a cost of \$1 billion in efforts to counter Iran's retaliatory strikes, equivalent to 4% of Israel's defense budget. Following

Iran's launch of nearly 180 ballistic missiles on October 1, Israel is confronting an existential threat. The Iranian ballistic missiles, which descend at five times the speed of sound, pose an intractable problem for Israel, particularly after its second wave of attacks. The challenge is further exacerbated by Israel's insufficient stockpile of interceptors to defend Tel Aviv, coupled with its inability to rapidly produce more, while Hezbollah continues to target Israel's weapons manufacturing facilities.

A vision for freedom is more important than ever

By Haidar Eid
Scholar

PERSPECTIVE

When I was asked by the editors of Mondoweiss to write my reflections on the one-year anniversary of October 7 invasion of Gaza by Israel, while the genocide continues with no end in sight, I thought of all the hundreds of relatives, comrades, friends, colleagues, and students who have been killed by Israel over the last year - each and every one of them! From the 5-month-old Ellen Eid to my former students Khail Abu Yahya, Tasneem Thabet, and Reem El Farra, to my friend and Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. Adnan El Bursi, my colleague Refaat El Areej, my two cousins Takween and Haifaa and their families, my nephews Fouad and Mustapha and their whole families...

I thought of writing all the names, but that will not be enough to do them justice. I have tried to count how many people I personally have lost, a task I do not wish on my worst enemy. I even wrote a while ago that "I've lost count of the number of people I have lost!" They have become torches on our long walk to freedom from occupation, colonialism, and apartheid. I, together with my family, have been displaced four times, three of them in Gaza itself, until I was evacuated by the South African government from Rafah in the second month of the genocide, December 2023. I have been living with a survivor's guilt complex since then.

So much has been written on the events of October 7, and more will be added. I have my own take too, a position that goes against the decontextualized analysis of the mainstream media, which happens to be white and colonial and which tends to fully endorse the Israeli narrative. After 76 years of Israel's existence, we have arrived at the point of no return for all living in historic Palestine. The colonial West refuses to see the objective conditions of being subjugated to occupation, settler colonialism, and apartheid. It refuses to see Gazans as human beings entitled to their basic rights like the rest of human beings only because they are not born to Jewish mothers. As Salman Abu Sitta reminds us on his Facebook page: There are two million Palestinian refugees in the Gaza Strip, who came from 247 towns and villages in southern Palestine, expelled by Israel in 1948, through dozens of massacres. They are crammed in a concentration camp called the Gaza Strip at a density of 8000 persons/km2. Its area is 1.3% of Palestine, or 365 km2. They are now forced by Israel to move down south, then up north in the tiny strip at a density exceeding 20,000 p/km2. Then he goes on to ask: "Who occupies their home?" East European settlers from Romania, Poland, Ukraine and Russia. Their number is only 150,000, at a density of only 7 persons/km2, one thousand times less than the owners of the land, who are the refugees



in Gaza. One also ought to ask tough questions within the historical context of the unfolding events. Would the genocide have taken place had the Oslo Accords not been signed in 1993? I believe that post-Oslo, Palestine is struggling to overcome the past because the material conditions of occupation, apartheid, and settler colonialism at present are hegemonic, but also because the intellectual conditions created by Oslo have legitimized those conditions. The accords themselves are a Trojan horse that has turned out to be little more than a war machine with which we have come to make a premature "peace". Since then, we have been searching for a form of freedom that points towards an exit from the constraints of apartheid,

occupation, and settler colonialism. Unfortunately, the founders of contemporary Palestinian nationalism never grasped the form of Zionism they were dealing with when they signed the accords. That led to the spread of a form of false consciousness among a large portion of the population that Oslo would lead to "independence" for Palestinians by 1999. Yasser Arafat's arrival in Gaza in 1994 was met with the thunderous euphoria and welcome of the post-occupation (postcolonial!) world that so eagerly awaited a new promise of the future. Since then, we have been dealing with the sophistry of a mastery political narrative that claimed to have established peace through partition, the two-state solution. It has become very obvious now

that no solution to the so-called Israeli-Palestinian "conflict"—to use mainstream media's favorite term— can be envisaged under these terrible circumstances created by genocidal Israel in historic Palestine. Surely, you cannot expect colonized Palestinians to compromise on their basic human rights. There remain two, really three, opinions. One is the one above that argues for statehood on a portion of the land of historic Palestine which does not guar-

antee Palestinian basic rights, and which ultimately prolongs the oppression of the Palestinian people. This is the position adopted by mainstream political organizations in Palestine, western countries, and a tiny section of liberal Zionism. But why are we Palestinians expected to accept solutions that take no account of the reality of our situation? The second perspective argues for implementing international law, which would give Palestinians their right of return, right to equality, and ultimately their right to self-determination like any other people on Earth. And, a third genocidal position is being implemented right now by apartheid Israel and expressed openly by its fascist PM and ministers. For them, the objectives of the ongoing genocide are:

1. Reoccupying the Gaza Strip
2. Forced removal of a large portion of the population and encouraging them to leave by preventing any food from entering Gaza, by bombing institutions of education and health care, and by obliterating the right to security and work....
3. Slicing the Strip onto cantons like in the West Bank and invading and carrying out regular massacres inside these cantons
4. Creating a loyal, local government

While it is important to focus on the present, as things on the ground are getting worse every day, having a clear strategy and political vision is crucial if we

want people around the globe to see what is possible. People keep asking the same question: "what is the future of Gaza?" How can that be discussed without relating it to the future of Palestine in general? And what kind of Palestine do we want to see in the future (the day after)? Can Palestinians and white, Ashkenazi settlers coming from Europe share the same land, like what happened in South Africa, without dismantling apartheid and settler-colonialism? Working on this piece while Israel is indiscriminately carpet bombing my people in Gaza has been extremely difficult. One source of inspiration, or rather motivation behind these thoughts, is Edward Said's "Permission to Narrate" in which he called upon us Palestinians to take our struggle to the world of representation and historical narratives. As he argued very eloquently, the existing imbalance of political and military powers does not mean that the subaltern, the marginalized, do not possess the ability to struggle over the production of knowledge. Sometimes I seriously wonder: Am I the only one who has been unable to read a book, watch a movie, enjoy a meal, play with my kids, since October 7? Let me close with a quote from the late martyr Shireen Abu Akleh: "We're in it for the long haul, keep your spirits up!"

The article first appeared on Mondoweiss.

Shadi Rezaei named Persepolis women football team headcoach



● TASNIM

Shadi Rezaei was appointed the headcoach of the newly-established team Persepolis women football club. Rezaei, 33, has previously worked as head coach in the Tehran-based team Ava, Tasnim News Agency reported. Persepolis will start its presence in The Kowsar Women Football League 1st Division next month. The Kowsar Women Football League is a women's football league, run by the Football Federation of the Islamic Republic of Iran. At the top of the Iranian football league system, it is the country's primary competition for the sport. It was established in 2007.

Iranian teams learn fate at ICF Canoe Polo World Championships



● MEHR

The best Canoe Polo teams are ready to fight for top honors as the 2024 International Canoe Federation Canoe Polo World Championships begins in Deqing, China. Iran's men's team are drawn in Group F along with France, Portugal and Singapore, Mehr News Agency reported. Iran's women's team are also pitted against France, the Netherlands and Chinese Taipei in Group B. Stakes are high as six men's and women's teams can also seal a spot at the World Games 2025 in Chengdu. Set to run until October 20, a total of 71 teams from 27 countries and all five continents will give it their best to be crowned world champions. Germany will enter the World Championships as the defending champions among men and women. The tournament was inaugurated on Monday with a spectacular Opening Ceremony, including a parade of the athletes and traditional Chinese dance performances.

Iran's table tennis players advance in ITTF ranking

Iranian table tennis players Noshad Alamiyan, Nima Alamiyan, Benyamin Faraji, and Shima Safaei have moved up in the new ranking of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

Following the table tennis competitions in the 2024 Asian Championships, the latest international tennis player rankings were released, showing that four Iranian table tennis players have improved their positions, reported Mehr News Agency.

Iran's leading table tennis player, Noshad Alamiyan, has advanced two places after delivering an acceptable performance in the Asian competitions and qualifying for the World Championships, now standing at 48th place. His brother, Nima, also moved up two places in the new ranking and is now at 151st place. Another Iranian table



● IRNA

tennis player, Benyamin Faraji, has advanced 33 places after a remarkable performance in the Asian

competitions, putting him at 177th place. Additionally, Iranian female table tennis player

Shima Safaei has advanced 74 places, now standing at 385th place.

Meanwhile, IRNA report-

ed that Iran has voiced support for Palestine at a meeting of the Asian Table Tennis Confederation,

which was held at the end of the 27th edition of the continentwide championships.

Mehrdad Ali-Qardashi, head of Iran's Table Tennis Federation voiced strong support for Palestine at the meeting which was also attended by Petra Sörling, the president of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), among others.

Ali-Qardashi strongly condemned Israel for its crimes against people of Gaza and Lebanon, and called for Israel's withdrawal from international sports federations.

He also held a separate meeting with Radwan Al-Sharif, president of the Palestine Table Tennis Federation, saying that Iran and Palestine are two brotherly countries.

The 27th Asian Table Tennis Championships were held in Astana, Kazakhstan on October 6-13.

Firouzpour favorite to grab gold in U-23 World Competitions

Amir Hossein Firouzpour will be in Tirana, Albania for his third U-23 World Championships. The Iranian freestyler won bronze in 2021 and gold in 2022. Firouzpour will be the favorite for the gold with Mustafagadzhi Malachdibirov (AIN) offering competition, wrote Tasnim News Agency.

Malachdibirov won the gold medal at the U-20 World Championships this year.

The U-23 World Wrestling Championships 2024 will be held in Tirana, Albania from October 21 to 27.

The tournament will bring more than 600 wrestlers together.



● TASNIM

Esteghlal-Al Nassr to be held in Dubai's Rashid Stadium



● AFC

A Football match between Esteghlal of Iran and Saudi Arabia's Al Nassr will be held in Dubai's Rashid Stadium.

The match was moved from its original venue in Tehran due to security concerns, reported Tasnim News Agency.

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) had informed Esteghlal to find a neutral ground for its AFC Champions League Elite match against Saudi Pro League side Al Nassr.

Al Nassr and Esteghlal sit fourth and fifth respectively in the 12-team table. The 2024-25 AFC Champions League Elite (ACL Elite) is the 43rd edition of Asia's premier club football tournament, organized by the Asian

Football Confederation, and the first since it was rebranded as the AFC Champions League Elite.

The revamped format, along with the rebranding, sees 24 teams playing eight games against different opponents in the brand-new league phase.

The final stage will be played in Saudi Arabia from April 25 to May 4, 2025.

The tournament winner will qualify for the 2025 FIFA Intercontinental Cup and FIFA Club World Cup. Additionally, the winner will enter the league stage of the 2025-26 AFC Champions League Elite, if they have not already qualified through domestic performance.

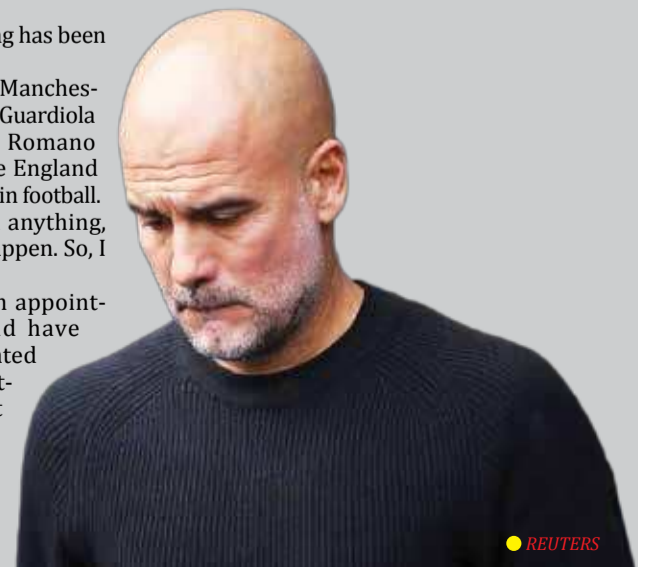
Guardiola has 'not ruled out' taking over England

Man City's Pep Guardiola has not ruled out becoming the next manager of England as Lee Carsley's time as interim head coach of the Three Lions is set to come to an end. The position has been vacant since Gareth Southgate left the role during the summer following England's defeat to Spain in the final of Euro 2024, which allowed the FA to hand the job over to Carsley temporarily for the UEFA Nations League campaign. The 50-year-old's time overseeing the England national team is set to come to an end in November and ahead of the Three Lions' 3-1 win over

Finland on Sunday, it was reported by The Telegraph that Carsley does not want to coach the national team long-term. The former Everton star has directly informed the FA of his wishes and hinted as such during his press conference ahead of the Finland match. "I don't see this as an audition. I have got three more games left," the former Everton star told the press via The Telegraph. This will require the FA to find a new coach ahead of 2025 and Man City's Pep Guardiola would be their dream, although he won't be available

until the end of the current campaign. Guardiola's contract with Man City expires at the end of the 2024/25 campaign and it remains unclear if he will sign a new deal. Speaking about this to Che Tempo Che Fa, the Spanish coach said via Fabrizio Romano: "Let's see on my future. With the 2026 World Cup being the next major tournament for England, the role of manager could excite Guardiola as it will also give him a break from the day-to-day of club football. The Spanish coach did not rule that possibility out during his interview,

stating that nothing has been decided yet. "It's not true. I'm Manchester City manager," Guardiola said via Fabrizio Romano when asked if the England job is his next role in football. "I've not decided anything, everything can happen. So, I don't know." This would be an appointment that would have everyone associated with English football excited but it is clear that Guardiola is fully focused on his role as Man City manager at present.



● REUTERS

Huge farewell to IRGC general martyred in Lebanon

International Desk

Iran held a funeral ceremony on Tuesday for Major General Abbas Nilforoushan who was assassinated in an Israeli airstrike on Lebanon last month. Nilforoushan, a general in Iran's Revolution Guards Corps, was killed in an Israeli strike alongside Hezbollah chief Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah on September 27. Nilforoushan's casket

was paraded through the packed streets of Tehran after a funeral ceremony at Imam Hossein Square in the city center. Thousands attended the funeral procession, many of them carrying yellow Hezbollah banners and Iranian and Palestinian flags and chanting "Death to Israel." Memorial services were also held for Nilforoushan in Iraq on Monday.

Iran's Foreign Ministry said Monday the country would use "all its capacities" to bring Israel to account over the assassinations. On October 1, Iran launched 200 missiles on Israel in retaliation for the death of Nilforoushan and Nasrallah, in its second-ever direct attack on Israel's military positions in the occupied territories. The commander of the IRGC's Quds Force



Iranians take part in a funeral ceremony held for Major General Abbas Nilforoushan in Tehran on October 15, 2024.

● IRNA

Brigadier General Esmail Qa'ani also participated in the funeral ceremony in Tehran, ending rumors by some Western media that he had been targeted in an Israeli strike on Lebanon.



Sheikh Qassem: Hezbollah not to be vanquished



International Desk

Hezbollah deputy chief Sheikh Naim Qassem warned Israelis on Tuesday that the only solution to the current war is a cease-fire, saying the Lebanese resistance movement would not be defeated. "Since the Israeli enemy targeted all of Lebanon, we have the right from a defensive position to target any place" in Israel, "whether the center, the north or the south," Sheikh Qassem said in the speech, adding, "I am telling the Israeli home front: the solution is a cease-fire... the resistance (Hezbollah) will not be defeated because this is its land." "We are not seeking a cease-fire because we are weak," he said. The speech marked his third appearance since Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah was assassinated by an Israeli airstrike in Beirut's southern suburbs on September 27. He said that the group is now focused on "hurting the enemy," exemplified by targeting the Israeli city of Haifa and areas beyond it, including Tel Aviv. "We will defeat our enemies and drive them

out of our lands," Qassem said. If Israel continues its bombardment and ground invasion in Lebanon, he said, Hezbollah's strikes will expand over a geographically wider area and "more than 2 million will be in danger." Qassem linked the ongoing conflict in Lebanon to the broader struggle of the Palestinians, and to the ongoing Israel's war in Gaza. "We cannot separate Lebanon from Palestine, or Palestine from the world," he said. "Israel is a usurper and an occupying regime, and a real danger to the entire region and the world," he said. "This regime does not limit its occupation to Palestine; it seeks to expand its control as Palestine alone is insufficient for its ambitions. Israel also aims to dominate the territories of Arab and Muslim states." The Hezbollah official emphasized the importance of resistance in the face of the massacres Israel and its backers perpetrate. "Israel and those behind it wage war and commit massacres, leaving us with no choice but to take a stand," Sheikh Qassem asserted.

'New Middle East'

He also exposed the joint US-Israeli scheme in West Asia, stating, "America, the biggest devil, wants a new Middle East. Netanyahu shares the same vision. This means the US and Israel are deliberately carrying out this genocide." In his address, Sheikh Qassem referred to Operation al-Aqsa Storm - the October 7, 2023 attack on the Israeli entity - saying that the Palestinians, led by Hamas, "tried to get rid of the occupier." He noted that the Palestinian Resistance sent a message to the world, saying, "Seventy-five years have passed, and the occupation is still there on our land, killing us." Instead of questioning why the al-Aqsa Storm occurred, he urged the world to ask, "Why is the occupation still there?" After almost a year of tit-for-tat exchanges between Hezbollah and Israeli forces along the Lebanese border, Israel on September 23 intensified its strikes against targets in Lebanon and sent ground troops across the frontier a week later. More than 2,300 Lebanese have been killed in Israel's strikes on Lebanon since October 2023.

EU, UK bans aimed at diverting attention from Israeli genocide: Iran

Iran condemned new sanctions by the European Union and the United Kingdom against the Islamic Republic as an attempt to divert the public attention from Israeli genocide of Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip and the warmongering acts of the regime. In a statement on Tuesday, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei stressed that the new sanctions by Britain and the European bloc against several Iranian individuals and entities were based on false and unfounded pretexts, Press TV reported. He strongly denounced the move as an unjustifiable action that violates the international law, especially human rights. Over the alleged transfer of ballistic missiles to Russia

for use in the Ukraine war, the EU imposed sanctions against flagship carrier Iran Air, Saha Airlines and Mahan Air, Iran's Deputy Defense Minister Seyyed Hamzeh Ghalandari, prominent officials of the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, and the IRGC Aerospace Force. This is while Tehran has strongly rejected such allegations. The UK also announced sanctions targeting senior figures in Iran's Army, Iran's Air Force and organizations linked to Iran's ballistic and cruise missile development, claiming that the sanctions came after what it alleged to be Iran's dangerous and destabilizing activity across West Asia.

"The position of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the Ukraine conflict is clear and principled. From the very beginning of the conflict, Iran has opposed the war and emphasized the importance for all countries to respect each other's territorial integrity and national sovereignty, while advocating for a diplomatic solution to resolve the disputes between Russia and Ukraine," Baghaei said. He described the anti-Iran accusations by the European Union and the UK as hypocritical and an attempt to divert public attention away from the most pressing issue of the day, that is the genocide of the Palestinian people and the warmongering acts of the Zionist regime in the West Asia region. Iran's Foreign Ministry

spokesman pointed to the role of some European countries, including the UK and Germany, in supplying lethal weapons used by the Israeli regime for genocide and aggression in Gaza and Lebanon, describing such countries as complicit in the crimes committed against the Palestinian and Lebanese people. Iran's Foreign Ministry also summoned the ambassador of Hungary, which holds the rotating presidency of the European Union, to condemn the block's sanctions. The ministry announced in a statement Iran's "strong objection" and said, "Resorting to illegal and coercive methods such as sanctions against the Islamic Republic of Iran is not acceptable in any way and will lead nowhere."

Dozens killed in Israel's new strikes on Gaza, Lebanon

Israel's military continued its deadly attacks in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon on Tuesday, killing dozens more Palestinians and Lebanese. The strikes killed at least 50 Palestinians across the Gaza Strip as Israeli forces tightened their squeeze around Jabalia in the north of the Palestinian territory on Tuesday. Jabalia has been the focus of an Israeli offensive for more than 10 days, with troops re-

turning to areas of the north that came under heavy bombardment in the early months of the year-long war. The operation has raised concerns among Palestinians and UN agencies that Israel wants to clear residents from the north of the crowded territory. Residents said Israeli forces destroyed dozens of houses in the past 10 days. Meanwhile, Lebanon's Health Ministry said on Tuesday that 41 people had

been killed in Israeli strikes a day earlier, more than half of them in a northern Christian village outside Hezbollah's strongholds. "Forty-one people have been killed and 124 injured" the ministry said, in "Israeli strikes on Lebanon yesterday," including 21 in the northern village of Aito. The latest figures bring the overall death toll since Israel on September 23 launched an intense air campaign in Lebanon to 1,356.



The Middle East director of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Rema Jamous Imseis, also said new Israeli evacuation orders for 20 villages in southern Lebanon mean more than one-quarter of the country is now affected.

Notice of tender for export sale No. 18/1403/Z

GolGohar Mining and Industrial Company

Hereby GolGohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 70,000 metric tons of Iron Ore concentrate (%Fe:66.5) on basis of F.O.B at Shahid Rajaei Jetty Bandar-Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at GolGohar website: www.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 9:00 A.M. on 26th Oct.2024 to GolGohar office in Tehran (Fatemi Ave. opposite of Laleh hotel building No. 273). Bidders are invited to the mentioned address of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 9:00 A.M. on 26th.Oct. 2024 at the office of the Seller.

Analysis %		
Fe%	66.50	Ave
FeO%	Min 24 Max 28	Min Max
P%	0.05	Max
S%	1	Max
SiO2%	3.0	Max
Al2O3%	0.7	Max
CaO%	0.9	Max
MgO%	3.0	Max
Moisture%	3	Max
Size ave	98%<3 mm 80%<0.45 mm	

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Iran's 'Cause of Death: Unknown' awarded in Italy

Iranian director Ali Zarnegar film 'Cause of Death: Unknown' picked up the top prize at the Torino Underground Cinefest in Italy, organizers announced. The film, which was produced by Majid Barzegar, took home the award for Best Feature Film at the 11th edition of the festival, which ran from September 26 to October 7 in Turin, ILNA wrote. According to festival officials, audience demand was so high that a second screening of the film was added to the schedule. The film has also been making the rounds at other international festivals,

including the Pigeon International Film Festival (PIFF) and the Monadnock International Film Festival in the United States. 'Cause of Death: Unknown' follows the story of seven passengers who embark on a journey to Kerman before dawn, only to be halted by an unexpected event. The film features a cast of Iranian actors, including Banipal Shoomoon, Ali Mohammad Radmanesh, and Neda Jebraeli. The international distribution rights for the film are held by Raft Films.



Iran celebrates Hafez's legacy with manuscript restoration, global events

Arts & Culture Desk

The world celebrated the life and works of renowned Persian poet Hafez Shirazi on October 11, with events and tributes held in several countries, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russia, and Kazakhstan, to mark the poet's enduring legacy. A rare 400-year-old manuscript of the Divan of Hafez, containing Persian miniatures, was restored by Iranian and Bosnian authorities and returned to Bosnia and



Herzegovina, where it is kept under UNESCO supervision, IRNA reported. The restoration, carried out by the Iranian Cultural Center in Sarajevo, the Gazi Husrev-Bey Library, and the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization, in collaboration with the Astan Quds Razavi cultural institution, marks a turning point in the two countries' library cooperation. As part of the global celebrations, Iranian Cultural Center in Russia organized an exhibition, 'Getting to Know Hafez Shirazi,' at Saratov State University, featuring the poet's life, works, and legacy. The event drew students and scholars, who learned about Hafez's contribution to Persian literature and his enduring popularity worldwide. In Kazakhstan, a ceremony was held at the Iranian Cultural Center in Astana to commemorate Hafez's legacy, attended by students of Persian language and literature. The Iranian cultural attaché, Ali Akbar Talebi Matin, highlighted Hafez's life, works, and impact on Iranian culture, and recited a poem by the poet. These events demonstrate the significant cultural impact of Hafez's works, which continue to inspire and unite people across the world. As Iran celebrates its rich cultural heritage, it also strengthens its cultural ties with other nations, promoting mutual understanding and appreciation.

Iranian director's film 'Requiem for a Tribe' picked for Czech festival

A joint production of Iran, Spain, and Qatar 'Requiem for a Tribe,' directed by Marjan Khosravi Baldi, has made the cut for the 28th Ji.hlava International Documentary Film Festival in the Czech Republic. The feature-length documentary, produced by Milad Khosravi Baldi, will have its European premiere at the festival, which runs from October 25 to November 3, 2024. Considered one of Europe's leading documentary film events, the Ji.hlava festival is a major platform for documentary filmmakers and has been accredited by the Academy Awards. The festival hands out awards for best film, cinematography, editing, sound design, and best article, among others. 'Requiem for a Tribe' explores the impact of modernity on the nomadic culture of Iran's Bakhtiari people through the story of a Bakhtiari woman. The film's selection for the festival marks a significant milestone for Iranian cinema, which has been gaining international recognition in recent years. "We are thrilled to have 'Requiem for a Tribe' selected for the Ji.hlava festival," said Khos-

ravi Baldi. "This is a great opportunity for us to share our story with a wider audience and showcase the rich cultural heritage of Iran's nomadic communities." The Ji.hlava festival has a reputation for showcasing innovative and thought-provoking documentaries from around the world. This year's edition is expected to attract filmmakers, industry professionals, and film enthusiasts from across Europe and beyond.



70th case of Bombay blood group identified in Iran

A 42-year-old man in southeastern Iran has been identified as having the rare Bombay blood type, the first such case in the province of Kerman and the 70th nationwide. According to Iraj Shokouhi, director general of the provincial department of the Iranian Blood Transfusion Organization, the



man's blood type was pinpointed after he donated blood in the city of Sirjan. Additional tests were carried out to confirm the diagnosis, IRNA reported. The Bombay blood type, characterized by the absence of the H antigen and the presence of anti-H antibodies, is extremely rare, occurring in only one in

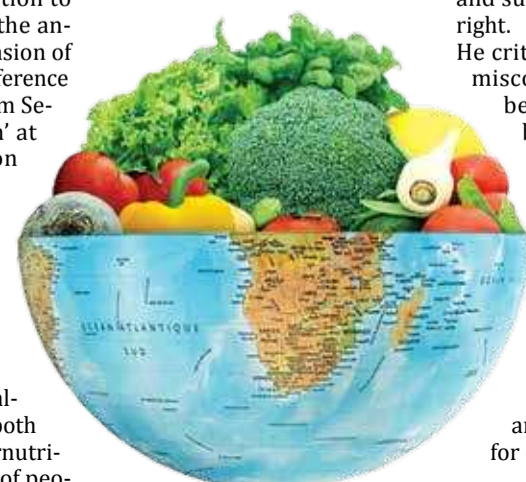
a million people. Patients with this blood type can only receive blood from a donor with the same type. Shokouhi said the organization has frozen the donated blood for future use, as the blood type is extremely rare and hard to come by. He emphasized that timely and accurate diagnosis of the blood type is crucial, as transfusion of incompatible blood could be life-threatening. The Bombay blood type was first discovered in 1952 in the Indian city of Bombay, now known as Mumbai. Iran has identified 70 cases of this rare blood type to date. In related news, officials at the Iranian Blood Transfusion Organization have called on people with rare blood types to come forward and donate blood to help those in need.

Iran sees improvement in malnutrition rankings, up 12 spots

Social Desk

Iran has improved its ranking in the global malnutrition index, moving up 12 spots to 90th place out of 167 countries, according to a senior official. Ameneh Zare', deputy head of the National Association to Combat Hunger, made the announcement on the occasion of World Food Day at a conference titled 'Healthy Food, from Selection to Consumption' at the country's Nutrition and Food Industry Research Institute, IRNA reported. Zare' noted that global events such as political conflicts and water scarcity have led to food insecurity worldwide. She emphasized that malnutrition encompasses both undernutrition and overnutrition, citing the example of peo-

ple who overconsume carbohydrates due to food scarcity, leading to obesity. Zare' also highlighted that some regions in eight provinces in Iran face food insecurity, with the provinces of Kerman,



Sistan and Baluchestan, Khuzestan, and Khorasan having the highest rates of food insecurity. At the conference, Tirang Neyeystani, a member of the scientific board of the Nutrition and Food Industry Research Institute, stressed that access to healthy and sufficient food is a human right. He criticized common dietary misconceptions, such as the benefits of whole wheat bread, and warned about the risks of consuming brown rice due to its high arsenic content. Another speaker, Samira Rabiei, emphasized the importance of healthy cooking methods, recommending the elimination of solid fats and the use of healthy oils for cooking.