



# Mastaneh Mohajer wins Best Editor Award at Turkish Festival

## Arts & Culture Desk

Mastaneh Mohajer, the editor and producer of the film 'While Time Follows', won the Best Editing Award for the film at the Boğaziçi Film Festival in Turkey. The film, directed by Selim Öncü, was screened at the festival's closing ceremony on October 25, IRNA reported. Öncü accepted the award on behalf of Mohajer, who was unable to attend the ceremony due to illness. He praised Mohajer's work, saying, "Mastaneh Mo-

hajer was supposed to be here tonight, but unfortunately, she couldn't make it due to her health. However, I'm happy to report that she's doing well. I had a great collaboration with her, and she's a valuable filmmaker. I also recently traveled to Iran, and I'd like to thank the jury on her behalf. She'll be thrilled to receive this award." 'While Time Follows' was screened at the Iranian film festival, Masterclass of Cinema, last week, and is set to be released internationally. The film, pro-

duced by Mohajer, was completed in Turkey and features Turkish actors, including Özge Gürel. Öncü, the film's director, is also the founder and artistic director of the Akbank Short Film Festival, which he co-organized with Mohajer. Other crew members of 'While Time Follows' include Cevahir Şahin (cinematographer), Ajm Öncü (makeup designer), Mohammad Reza Loghmani (production manager), and White Dreams Pictures (international distributor). Last year, Mohajer's film 'Hedgehog'

was released to great acclaim. The Bosphorus Film Festival aims to promote the development of film ethics, aesthetics, and technical aspects, as well as provide support to young producers and directors. The festival also aims to promote Turkish cinema both domestically and internationally. The 12th Boğaziçi Film Festival took place in Istanbul from October 18 to 25.



## Tehran metro hosts Japan culture photo exhibition

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A photo exhibition showcasing Japan's culture was launched on October 26 at the Jihad Square metro station in Tehran, with the attendance of Japan's ambassador to Iran, Tamaki Tsukada. According to Reza Hashemi, acting deputy of Tehran Urban and Suburban Railway Operation Company (TUSROC), the exhibition is a great opportunity to promote cultural exchange between Iran and Japan, Mehr News Agency reported.



"We are delighted to host this exhibition at one of our most iconic stations, which is a symbol of traditional Iranian architecture," he said. "With millions of passengers passing through our metro system daily, we have a unique chance to introduce them to the rich culture of Japan." Hashemi added that the exhibition features stunning photos of Japanese culture and customs, and that Japan is a pioneer in public transportation, with Tokyo's metro system being one

of the most advanced in the world. He expressed hope that the exhibition would lead to cooperation between the Tehran and Tokyo metro systems, allowing them to learn from each other's experiences. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, deputy of international affairs at Tehran Municipality, said that the exhibition is

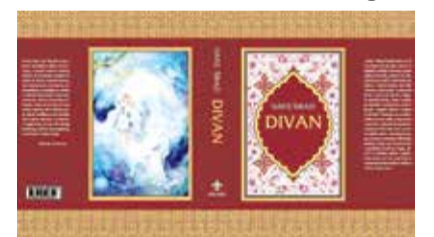
a chance for Tehran citizens to get to know Japan better. He announced that a similar exhibition will be held at Tajrish Square station, and expressed hope that a similar exhibition on Iranian culture would be held in Japan soon. Japanese envoy thanked the TUSROC for hosting the exhibition and said that it was a pleasure to showcase everyday life in Japan to Iranians. He also announced that a screening of Japanese films would take place at the Asman Art Center next week. Despite tensions on the previous night, Tsukada expressed relief that the ceremony went smoothly and according to plan. He praised Iran's high standards in education and technology, and noted that the Tehran and Tokyo metro systems share similarities in terms of passenger density. The photo exhibition, 'A Look at Japan's Culture,' will run from October 26 to November 1 at Jihad Square and Tajrish Square stations on lines 3 and 1, respectively.

## Hafez's 'Divan' in Serbian published in Belgrade

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A Serbian version of the 'Divan' a collection of verses by ancient Persian poet Hafez (1325-1389) was published in Serbian with a foreword featuring the valuable statements of Iran's Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, delivered at the 1988 International Hafez Congress. Divan is Hafez's major work and the collection is regarded as a pinnacle of Persian literature. It is found in the homes of most Iranians who learn his poems by heart and even today use them as proverbs and sayings, IRNA wrote. The publication is the result of the efforts of the Iranian Cultural Center in Serbia, in collaboration with the Center for Translation and Publication of Islamic and Humanitarian Sciences of Iran's Culture and Relations Organization. The book was published by the Serbian publishing house "Okrugla" in a 552-page volume. In his speech, Ayatollah Khamenei not-

ed, "Hafez is undoubtedly the brightest star of Persian literature. He is a poet for all centuries and all social classes. His influence extends deep into our society and the hearts and minds of our people. Despite being translated into many languages and studied extensively, Hafez remains largely unknown in his entirety." This is the second edition of the 'Divan of Hafez' to be published in Serbian, and adapted into Serbian by the Slobodan Jolovic, Serbian literary scholar and translator. The new edition has been graphically and linguistically adapted for a wider audience, making it accessible to readers across Serbia and the Balkan region.



## A hollow attack...

For decades, Israel has routinely exaggerated external threats, especially from Iran, while simultaneously attempting to project an image of invincible military power. However, Iran's well-established defense capabilities—including advanced missile, drone, and radar technologies and a robust military force—make it a formidable regional actor. Any military action against Iran would invite a swift and forceful response, highlighting Iran's commitment to regional stability and sovereignty. The potential for escalated conflict carries serious consequences not only for Israel but for the entire region and even Western powers. Consequently, Israel limits its actions to minor, largely symbolic attacks intended to draw media attention without provoking a full-scale confrontation.

**A brazen show of weakness**  
Amid prolonged conflicts in Gaza and Lebanon, Israel's internal crises, includ-

ing deepening public protests against corruption and Netanyahu's regime, persist. As domestic issues such as inflation, social inequality, and political corruption threaten his cabinet's stability, Israeli leadership appears to believe that refocusing the public's attention on perceived external threats may serve as a tool to mitigate internal pressures and bolster national morale. By exaggerating the threat posed by Iran, Israel seeks to gain domestic support and mask its failures in the home front. However, this misguided strategy underscores structural weaknesses within the Israeli administration, which, rather than addressing genuine challenges, prefers to manipulate public perception. Such actions expose a regime which is increasingly unable to handle the repercussions of its policies in the Palestinian territories. Creating a fabricated sense of external threat thus serves as a distraction from these issues, aiming to consolidate power while evading ac-

countability for domestic challenges.

### Erosion of Israel's image

Israel's Saturday attack, largely inconsequential from a military standpoint, could still have a significantly negative impact on its international reputation. The global community is well aware of Israel's inability to subdue Iran and other resistance movements, and this recent aggression is seen more as an attempt to garner domestic approval than as a meaningful military or diplomatic success. International condemnation has been widespread, with numerous nations describing Israel's actions as violations of international law. In light of these reactions, Israel's aggressive actions seem not only strategically hollow but also diplomatically counterproductive. Instead of reinforcing its standing, these actions have triggered harsh criticism from the global community, damaging Israel's already strained international reputation.

### Iran's growing power and strategic restraint

Israel's repeated, ineffective attacks underscore a more profound reality, Iran is fully capable of defending itself against such threats. Esteemed think tanks worldwide acknowledge Iran as a resilient regional power with the capacity to respond decisively when necessary. Iran's emphasis on deterrence and regional security, coupled with its restrained and measured responses, demonstrates the effectiveness of its defensive strategies in countering external threats. Furthermore, Iran's domestic advancements in defense technology and expertise have created a serious obstacle for Israel, which refrains from significant military actions due to the anticipated heavy costs. Iran's advanced defense systems stand as a substantial deterrent, preventing Israel from freely targeting strategic sites within the Iranian territory.

### Israel's internal crises cloaked as external threats

Despite its persistent threats, Israel's actions—including Saturday's largely symbolic attack—appear less about achieving military objectives and more about redirecting global and domestic attention away from its involvement in Gaza and Lebanon. By leaning on media tactics, Israel continues to frame itself as under threat, maintaining an illusion of military threat toward Iran to mask its internal struggles. Iran, meanwhile, has consistently demonstrated a calm and rational approach to such provocations, using its defensive strength to deftly manage threats. This measured posture reflects the sophistication of Iranian leadership in navigating regional realities and secures Iran's reputation as a formidable adversary. With continued strategic foresight, Iran is well-positioned to impose further setbacks on Israel and its allies, reinforcing its stance as a central power in the region.