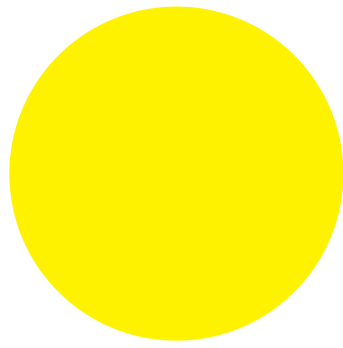


Leader urges young poets to nurture revolutionary spirit in poetry



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A plume of smoke billows during a US strike on Yemen's capital Sana'a early on March 16, 2025. MOHAMMED HUWAI/AFP

Iran has plan to offset Trump's maximum pressure



By Mostafa Matourzadeh
Iranian lawmaker

OPINION EXCLUSIVE

As widely expected, US President Donald Trump wasted no time in pressing ahead with his maximum pressure campaign against Iran upon his return to the White House. His strategy aims to clamp down on Iran's peaceful nuclear program, curtail its defense capabilities, and further shut it out of the global economy. In line with this approach, Washington recently did away with Iraq's waiver from US banking sanctions, preventing Baghdad from purchasing Iranian energy (electricity). In 2018, when the Trump administration slapped energy sanctions back on Iran, exemptions were granted to certain countries, including Iraq, so they could meet their energy needs.

This move comes at a time when Iraq is grappling with severe electricity shortages, making energy security a top national priority. Iran's neighbors—especially Iraq—have expressed a strong desire to continue working with Tehran. Not only do they seek to meet their own needs, but they also aim to help Iran push back against what they see as Washington's cruel sanctions. Page 2 >



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Why Iran experiencing severe land subsidence?

Implications, solutions

ANALYSIS Iran is sinking fast as land subsidence picks up speed at an alarming rate. Decades of draining underground water reserves have hollowed out vast areas, causing the ground to give way and wreak havoc on infrastructure, farmland, and even historical sites. Cities like Tehran and Isfahan are bearing the brunt, with deep cracks tearing through roads and buildings, forcing residents to pack up and leave. Experts warn the crisis is spinning out of control, with Iran now ranking among the worst-hit countries, as some regions sink more than 15 cm per year. Climate change and poor water management have piled on the pressure, while sanctions have tied Iran's hands, limiting access to water-saving technology. Satellite data shows the problem has snowballed, tripling in just five years and putting nearly half the population at risk. With the government scrambling to contain the damage, land subsidence is no longer a problem Iran can sweep under the rug—the consequences are already coming home to roost. For more on the crisis, check out page 4. See page 4 >