



Pezeshkian calls for inclusive, transparent cultural strategy

Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian called for a “precise and effective” approach to cultural policy-making, urging officials to move past ideological confines and draw on the country’s full human capital. Speaking during a visit to the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance on April 13, Pezeshkian underscored the need for inclusive planning and greater accountability. He urged authorities to create a level playing field for all cultural contributors, regardless of political or social affiliations. “Government must rise above narrow mindsets,” he said, adding that a healthy, competitive environment should be made available for all groups aiming to serve the public. The president sharply criticized the lack of clarity in Iran’s cultural output, especially in publishing. “It is not clear what types of books are being produced, for which audience, and with what aim,” he remarked. He pressed for cultural planning rooted in “clear targets” and measurable impact. Addressing the ministry’s leadership, Pezeshkian stressed that decision-makers should listen to the full spectrum of

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian addresses officials during a visit to the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance on April 13, 2025.
● president.ir

voices — “not only the loudest.” He called for broader outreach to underserved communities and a shift from selective engagement to more equitable service delivery. “These challenges are structural,” he noted, warning that a fragmented view of public service would prevent real progress. He urged the ministry to take a lead role in countering social imbalances, emphasizing the influence of media, cultural figures, and religious leaders in shaping national discourse. Citing the example of the 13th-century document in Tabriz, Pezeshkian praised historical models of self-sustained education and governance. He called for a renewed focus on “substance over form” in institutional reform. He also pointed to the extensive mosque network — more than 80,000 across the country — as a largely untapped asset for community support. “This is a unique opportunity,” he said, suggesting that with proper coordination, these religious centers could ease



economic strain and strengthen social unity. Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Abbas Salehi, speaking at the same meeting, reaffirmed the ministry’s

commitment to the administration’s “national unity” agenda. He described key societal groups as vital bridges between the government and the public.

Salehi called on the president to reaffirm the ministry’s central role in shaping cultural policy and to restore its “influential position” within the government framework.

30 countries join Tehran Publishing Fellowship

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A total of 66 publishers from 30 countries have expressed interest in attending the first Tehran Publishing Fellowship, according to Alireza Nourizadeh, the Director-General of the Office of Cultural Associations and Organizations. The registration process,

which started recently, has drawn participation from a diverse range of countries, IRNA reported. Publishers from Albania, Algeria, Australia, Bangladesh, China, Brazil, Uzbekistan, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Kuwait, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, the Philippines, Hungary, Mongolia,

North Macedonia, and Kazakhstan are among the confirmed participants. Nourizadeh emphasized the international scope of the event, noting that the fellowship would serve as a platform for cultural exchange. “This is a unique opportunity to showcase Iran’s publishing industry, particularly in the children’s and young adult

literature sectors,” he said. The registration for foreign publishers will remain open until April 19, with a total of 60 publishers—30 international and 30 local—set to be selected by a panel of judges. The Tehran Publishing Fellowship will be held from May 12 to 15, in conjunction with the 36th Tehran International Book Fair.



Iran to host int’l cartoon exhibition condemning Israeli atrocities



Arts & Culture Desk

Iran to launch an international cartoon and caricature exhibition denouncing Israel’s military operations in Gaza and Lebanon. Titled “Zero Year,” the exhibition will open on April 14, at the Felestin Contemporary Arts Museum in Tehran, ISNA reported. The show features 60 selected works out of 700 submissions from 65 artists representing 42 countries. The pieces sharply criticize what organizers describe as Israel’s “crimes” in recent

conflicts. The exhibit was arranged by North Khorasan’s Art Bureau in collaboration with the Palestinian Museum of Contemporary Art and the Society for the Defense of the Palestinian Nation. The exhibit will run from April 15 through May 5, excluding Thursdays and public holidays. Organizers say the event aims to amplify global outrage over Israel’s recent military campaigns and to highlight what they call human rights violations in the occupied territories.

First Announcement

N.I.S.O.C.
NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-38-0040003

The National Iranian South Oil Company (NISOC) is seeking to procure the specified goods listed in the table below through a Qualitative Evaluation Call for conducting a public tender via the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD). All stages of the tender process including the receipt of tender documents, submission of bidders' proposals, and the opening of bid envelopes, shall be carried out exclusively through the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD) portal at www.setadiran.ir. Bidders who have not previously registered must complete the registration process on the aforementioned portal and obtain an Electronic Signature certificate to participate in the tender.

Items	Material Description	Quantity
04	ROCK BITS 8-1/6 IN., JET TYPE, LESS NOZZLES, 2 MOTOR TYOE, HIGH RPM, MIN RPM: 250	30NO&30ST

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.setadiran.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded.

The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 33,942/95 EURO or 15,858,859,544 RIAL, in favor of NISOC.

ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS CFR, NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, BANDAR IMAM KHOMEINI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.O.D., SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

NOTE: Based on enactment notified by Nisoc's Tender committee, foreign companies must submit a Bid Bond Guarantee amounting to aforementioned (paragraph 2) Euro amount. Otherwise, their quotations will not be considered.

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
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