

# Iran's Maqsoudlou crowned at Reykjavik Open



## Sports Desk

Iranian chess grandmaster Parham Maqsoudlou was crowned champion at the Reykjavik Open 2025 in Iceland.

World No. 42 Maqsoudlou shared the spoils with Indian grandmaster Abhijeet Gupta in the ninth and the final round on Tuesday to finish atop

the table with 7.5 points – thanks to six wins and two draws after nine rounds of matches. Ukraine's Vasyl Ivanchuk, Azerbaijan's Mohammad Muradli, and Serbian Velimir Ivic stood behind the Iranian, respectively, with the runner-up to 11th-placed players finishing on seven points.

The Iranian began his

campaign with a victory over German Georg Tscheuschner, and went on to beat British FIDE master Sohum Lohia, Lukasz Licznarski of Poland, American Brandon Jacobson, Azerbaijani GM Muradli, and Shreyas Royal of England, while settling for a draw against Ukrainian Ivanchuk.

The Iranian was not

paired with any opponent in the fourth round. The latest triumph took Maqsoudlou's FIDE rating to 2684 points. More than 200 players from 52 countries took part at the seven-day event. This was the 39th edition of the chess tournament in the capital of Iceland.

# FIBA Women's Asia Cup Div. B qualifiers: Iranian girls off to flyer against Syria



## Sports Desk

Iran got off to flying start at the FIBA Women's Asia Cup Div. B – WABA Qualification Tournament, defeating Syria 65-55 in the Group A opener in Amman, Jordan. Iranian guard Roxy Barahman, who plays for French club Tarbes Gespe Bigorre, contrib-

uted with a game-high 25 points – including five 3-pointers – and seven rebounds in 31 minutes of play for the country, with Delaram Vakili chipping in 14 points, 12 of which came from behind the arc. Bervin Jajo (13pts) and Alicia Magarian (11) finished in double figures for Syria.

Iranian girls won the first quarter 23-12, before it finished 38-26 at half-time. Iran again dominated the third quarter for a 19-7 advantage, as the Syrians' fightback in the final quarter proved too little, too late. Next for Iran in the three-team group is a game against Jordan today.

## Asian U18 Athletics Championships:

# Iran's Ahanin-Maram wins bronze in boys' hammer throw

## Sports Desk

Iranian Amirreza Ahanin-Maram won a first medal for the country at the Asian U18 Athletics Championships, grabbing a bronze medal in the boys' hammer throw event on Day 1 of the contests in Dammam, Saudi Arabia. The Iranian began the final showpiece with a 67.74m effort, and then went on to register 69.88m, before his final

attempt of 70.83m saw Ahanin-Maram finish on the third podium. The host's Mohammed Siraj Alzayer walked away with the gold medal thanks to a 79.11m attempt, with Chinese Wang Ankang settling for the silver with 74.81m. The sixth edition of the competition will continue until Friday in the Saudi coastal city. Kiarash Kaboli, Arman Amini, Amirreza Moradi,

Mohammad-Hassan Darvish, and Mohammad-Saleh Kamareh are the other Iranians in the men's competition, with Umm ul-Banin Tehrani, Hasti Siahmansouri, and Samia Shahpari taking part in the women's events. Elsewhere on Day 1, Siahmansouri finished fourth in the hammer throw final with 56.14m, while Tehrani also missed out on the shot put event, standing fourth with 14.44m.



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# Iranian Qassemi named Saudi FS wrestling head coach

## Sports Desk

Former Iranian super-heavyweight wrestler Komeil Qassemi was appointed as the new head coach of Saudi Arabia freestyle national team. This is a second coaching job overseas for the two-time Olympic medalist, who led the

Cambodia to an all-time best haul of 19 medals – three golds and silvers apiece – at the 2022 Southeast Asian Wrestling Championships. Qassemi, who is also a United World Wrestling (UWW) educator, retired from wrestling in 2019, with a 2014

world silver, as well as a gold medal and double silvers at the Asian Championships under his belt. Qassemi won the freestyle 120kg bronze at the 2012 London Olympics, before his medal was upgraded to the gold seven years later, when the two

original finalists Artur Taymazov and Davit Modzmanashvili were stripped of their medals after testing positive for banned substances. Qassemi settled for a superheavyweight silver in Rio 2016, following a final defeat against Turkish great Taha Akgül.

● UWW