



Tehran Int'l Book Fair spotlights Yemeni culture, religion, and politics



By Hamideh Hosseini
Staff writer

INTERVIEW

Yemen is presenting 200 book titles at the 36th Tehran International Book Fair, with a focus on religious and political issues, the Ansarullah movement, and the cultural resilience of the Yemeni people, the head of the Yemeni pavilion told Iran Daily.

Abdulrahman Rajeh said the books aim to introduce Iranian readers to Yemeni history, traditions, and resistance culture. "We've been coming for several years to build understanding between our two nations," he said, adding that visitor interest has been strong.

The Yemeni pavilion offers mostly Arabic-language titles, but Persian-language brochures summarizing the content are available.

Two books in Persian are also on display — one exploring the ideas of Hussein Badreddin al-Houthi, founder of the Ansarullah movement, and the other focusing on the group itself.

Visitors can also learn about Yemen's September 21 revolution, the socio-political context surrounding the rise of the Houthis, and the movement's core values.

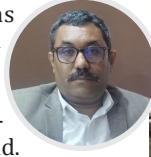
Rajeh described the fair as a "bridge" between Iran and Yemen, helping to "pave the way for deeper cultural awareness." The exhibit also reflects Yemen's solidarity with Palestinians and resistance against foreign military interventions.

"The bravery of the Yemeni people stems from our literature and identity," Rajeh said. He pointed to the role of Ansarul-lah's leader, Abdul-Malik al-Houthi, as a symbol of defiance.

Rajeh praised Iran's strong record in literary translation, noting that many Persian works have been rendered into Arabic and are now read widely in Yemen. He said this has enhanced Yemenis' knowledge of Iranian history, the Islamic Revolution, and Persian poetry.

He also highlighted growing cooperation in publishing and translation between the two countries, saying such efforts could lead to "richer cultural ties."

The Tehran International Book Fair opened on May 7 and runs through May 17, 2025, under the slogan "Let's Read for Iran."



Iran, Qatar news agencies sign cooperation agreement



Arts & Culture Desk

The heads of Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) and Qatar's state-run Qatar News Agency (QNA) signed a cooperation agreement in Doha on Tuesday. Hossein Jaberi-Ansari, CEO of IRNA, met with QNA Director-General Ahmed bin Saeed Al-Rumaihi to formalize the deal. The agreement aims to boost media ties between the

two countries through the exchange of news, photos, and video content, IRNA reported. The signing took place in the presence of Iran's ambassador to Qatar, Ali Salehabadi, and other officials from both agencies. The memorandum is expected to "deepen cooperation" and ease access for journalists operating across borders. Describing Tehran-Doha ties as "close," the two sides stressed the need to put the agreement into action across various sectors.

Jaberi-Ansari later toured QNA's newsroom, technical departments, and training facilities, gaining insight into its use of artificial intelligence and current

media projects.

Earlier in his visit, Jaberi-Ansari also held talks with Sheikh Hamad bin Thamer Al Thani, founder and chairman of Al Jazeera.

The veteran media leader expressed readiness for "full cooperation" with IRNA and affiliated cultural institutions.

Jaberi-Ansari's itinerary included a meeting with Palestinian thinker Azmi Bishara, founder of the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies.

The two exchanged views on regional developments, including the war in Gaza and what was described as the "legendary resilience" of the Palestinian people.



CEO of the Islamic Republic News Agency, Hossein-Jaberi Ansari (L), and Qatar News Agency Director-General, Ahmed bin Saeed Al-Rumaihi, hold the agreement signed in Doha, Qatar, on May 13, 2025.

● IRNA

Iran's kidney stone rate high, expert warns of risk factors



By Sadeq Dehqan
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INTERVIEW

Iran lies on the "kidney stone belt," with around seven in every 100 Iranians likely to develop kidney stones in their lifetime, according to Amir Hossein Kashi, a urologist and assistant professor at Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences.

In an interview with Iran Daily, Kashi explained that Iran's geographic location, climate, genetics, and diet contribute to the high prevalence of kidney stones, which have become widespread in the region.

"Due to these factors, the area is often referred to as the kidney

stone belt," he said.

Kashi noted that the rate of kidney stones in Iran is comparable to that of Western countries such as the United States, with lifestyle and dietary habits worldwide increasing the risk of the condition. Genetics is a significant factor, he added. "If a family member has had kidney stones, you're also at risk," Kashi explained. Other contributing factors include hot, dry climates, which further elevate the likelihood of developing kidney stones.

The expert also emphasized the role of diet in preventing kidney stones. "Proper intake of dairy products, fruits, vegetables, and avoiding excessive protein consumption can help prevent kidney stones," Kashi said.

He recommended consuming between 2.5 to 3 liters of water daily as well.

He also advocated for the Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) diet — a heart-healthy, low-sodium eating plan, which has shown to help prevent kidney stones. "This diet encourages high consumption of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy," Kashi said. "It limits saturated fats, cholesterol, and sodium."

Kashi noted that urological issues, including kidney stones, are widespread in Iran. "Someone with a history of kidney stones has a more than 50% chance of developing them again within 5 to 10 years," he said, urging ongoing prevention and treatment.

Prostate problems are also common, particularly among men over 60, with benign prostate enlargement affecting more than half of men in this age group. By age 80, up to 80% of elderly men experience this condition. Kidney cysts are another prevalent issue, affecting about 60% of people in their 60s, although most are treatable with simple procedures. Kashi stressed the importance of attention to urological cancers, such as bladder and prostate cancer, which, though relatively rare, are among the five most common cancers in men.

"These cancers require careful monitoring due to their potential severity," he said.



● IRNA